



MEDIA RELEASE

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15 YOUNG TALENTS AWARDED SINGAPORE SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARSHIP 2023

Singapore, 24 July 2023 – Aspiring engineers, would-be chemists and even a budding physicist were among the 15 outstanding young individuals who received the Singapore Sustainability Scholarship (SSS) from Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Sustainability and the Environment, at an award ceremony this morning. The SSS, jointly offered by the National Environment Agency (NEA), national water agency PUB, and the Singapore Food Agency (SFA), plays a vital role in supporting sustainability development under the Singapore Green Plan 2030.

2 Each year, the SSS identifies and nurture future leaders who will tackle the challenges posed by climate change, energy efficiency, water resources and food security in Singapore. These scholars will pursue studies in engineering, environmental, food and science-related disciplines in either a local or overseas university, or polytechnic. Upon graduation, they will begin fulfilling careers with NEA, PUB, or SFA, where they will play an integral role in driving sustainability initiatives and contributing to the nation's ambition towards a greener and more sustainable future. Since the inception of the SSS in 2008, a total of 239 scholarships have been awarded.

3 During the ceremony, Ms Fu also presented certificates to 13 in-service scholars from the three agencies, in recognition of their commitment to enhance their skills and professional expertise. In-service scholarships are part of the agencies' efforts to foster a skilled and future-forward workforce that possess the relevant knowledge to tackle the increasing demands of sustainable development.

4 Ms Saadhana Ramesh, a 19-year-old who will be pursuing a Bachelor of Environmental Studies at the National University of Singapore, is one of the scholarship recipients from NEA. Saadhana has long viewed science as a fascinating domain and discovered a genuine affinity for the research process. Her family's early encouragement towards environmental stewardship further kindled her commitment to preserving natural ecosystems. Her aspiration is to engage in a profession that employs research to tackle intricate issues, effectively connecting academic insights with practical applications in the industry. She eagerly anticipates collaborating with skilled colleagues, aiming to make meaningful impact on Singapore's environmental landscape. She said, "To be offered a scholarship from NEA is a dream come true, because it is a blessing to work with an organisation that aligns with my values. I really look forward to making a difference in the environmental sustainability sector, both in Singapore and the world at large."

5 Mr Wong Kang Jet, Chief Executive Officer of NEA, said, "As we embark on a journey towards a cleaner, greener and more sustainable future, these pursuits are made possible only by the many people at NEA who serve with passion, commitment and ingenuity. The Singapore Sustainability scholarship is one of the ways to grow our talent pool and create opportunities

for individuals who choose to pursue a career in these fields. This year, we warmly welcome four SS scholars to our fold and congratulate our two in-service scholars. We are confident that they will make the most of these opportunities and look forward to their contributions in time to come.”

6 Ms Tan Xi Shi Angel, 21, who will be pursuing a Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering at National University of Singapore, is one of the scholarship recipients from PUB. With an interest in electrical engineering, she looks forward to applying her expertise and contributing to PUB’s mission to ensure a sustainable and resilient water supply for Singapore. She said, “I chose to pursue electrical engineering as I am amazed by the endless possibilities in the cross-implementation of power systems and circuits with machine learning, to achieve more efficient and effective operational outcomes. My internship at PUB gave me the chance to research on cost-effective water supply management tools, and to appreciate the potential of applying engineering expertise in enhancing our water system. I hope to apply my passion and knowledge in my future work at PUB, in developing digital solutions and smart technologies for sustainable operations and better water savings.”

7 Mr Goh Si Hou, Chief Executive of PUB, said, “With climate change, ensuring water security and protecting our island from extreme weather and the rising seas are enduring priorities for Singapore. Our Water Story has been one of turning vulnerability to strength, and this will continue to require long-term planning, innovation and technical mastery. We are heartened that a new generation is rising to the challenge and joining PUB in this journey. We welcome and look forward to nurturing our young talents as they pursue a meaningful career with PUB, and chart a sustainable future for Singapore.”

8 Mr Feng Jianguo, 21, who will be embarking on an integrated masters in chemistry at the University of Oxford, is a scholarship recipient from SFA. With a deep-rooted interest in Chemistry, he hopes to apply knowledge from his studies to his future work in ensuring food safety for Singapore. “I am honoured to be embarking on this purposeful career with SFA. I look forward to contributing meaningfully to the organisation and playing a part in securing a safe food supply for generations ahead.”

9 Mr Lim Kok Thai, Chief Executive Officer of SFA, said, “Since SFA’s inception in 2019, a total of 64 scholars have benefited from this scholarship. These include six new scholars this year (amongst which three are in-service officers). Congratulations to all our scholars as they embark on their respective learning journeys, and we look forward to their contribution towards a sustainable and resilient food future.”

10 Under the SSS, NEA, PUB and SFA offer both undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships. Both undergraduates and fresh graduates are given the opportunity to pursue a Mid-Term and Master’s scholarship. SFA also offers diploma scholarships to students in our polytechnics.

11 NEA focuses on environmental-related domains such as Environmental Engineering, Environmental Science, Environmental Management, as well as Sciences such as Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth Sciences and Meteorology, amongst others. PUB focuses on engineering disciplines, including Civil, Electrical, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering, as well as environmental and natural sciences. SFA focuses on Sciences such as Agricultural and Aquacultural Sciences, Chemistry, and Food Science.

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About the National Environment Agency

The National Environment Agency (NEA) is the leading public organisation responsible for ensuring a clean and sustainable environment for Singapore. Its key roles are to improve and sustain a clean environment, promote sustainability and resource efficiency, maintain high public health standards, provide timely and reliable meteorological information, and encourage a vibrant hawker culture. NEA works closely with its partners and the community to develop and spearhead environmental and public health initiatives and programmes. It is committed to motivating every individual to care for the environment as a way of life, in order to build a liveable and sustainable Singapore for present and future generations.

For more information, visit www.nea.gov.sg

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About PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency

PUB is a statutory board under the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment (MSE). It is the national water agency, which manages Singapore's water supply, water catchment, and used water in an integrated way. From April 2020, PUB also took on the responsibility of protecting Singapore's coastline from sea-level rise as the national coastal protection agency.

PUB has ensured a diversified and sustainable supply of water for Singapore with the *Four National Taps* (local catchment water, imported water, NEWater, desalinated water). PUB leads and coordinates whole-of-government efforts to protect Singapore from the threat of rising seas and the holistic management of inland and coastal flood risks.

PUB calls on everyone to play a part in conserving water, in keeping our waterways clean, and in caring for Singapore's precious water resources. If we all do our little bit, there will be enough water for all our needs – for commerce and industry, for living, for life.

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About Singapore Food Agency




As the lead agency for food-related matters, the Singapore Food Agency's mission is to ensure and secure a supply of safe food for Singapore. SFA works hand-in-hand with the industry and consumers to grow our "food baskets" – Diversify import sources and Grow local, as well as ensure food safety from farm-to-fork.


SFA also partners food businesses to strengthen capabilities, tap on technologies to raise productivity, undertake research to develop new lines of business, and catalyse industry transformation to ensure food security.

For more information on SFA, visit www.sfa.gov.sg.
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Profiles of SSS Recipients




National Environment Agency (4 recipients)

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
1	Charmaine Tan 19 years old 	Bachelor of Environmental Studies National University of Singapore, Singapore	<p>Charmaine's peers and family have always referred to her as a "Future Thinker". After realising the unsustainable practices adopted by industries and nations, and the undesirable consequences that follow. Charmaine has become a passionate advocate for positive change, determined to dedicate her life to sustainability.</p> <p>Pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies at the National University of Singapore, Charmaine wishes to contribute to Singapore with the skills and techniques she will gain through her studies. In particular, she is interested in exploring opportunities and solutions that can maintain Singapore's cleanliness and eco-friendly culture in the long run.</p>
2	Saadhana Ramesh 19 years old 	Bachelor of Environmental Studies National University of Singapore, Singapore	<p>Saadhana has long viewed science as a fascinating domain and discovered a genuine affinity for the research process. Her family's early encouragement towards environmental stewardship further kindled her commitment to preserving natural ecosystems.</p> <p>Saadhana will be pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies at the National University of Singapore. Her aspiration is to engage in a profession that employs research to tackle intricate issues, effectively connecting academic insights with practical applications in the industry. She eagerly anticipates collaborating with skilled colleagues, aiming to make meaningful impact on Singapore's environmental landscape.</p>
3	Jonas Chia Jun Le 21 years old 	Bachelor of Ecology and Environmental Biology Imperial College London, United Kingdom	<p>Jonas' interest in the ecological environment was strengthened after he joined the Raffles Ecological-literacy programme. He noticed how people were unconcerned about their surroundings, which gave him a sense of urgency to inform people about Singapore's rich biodiversity.</p> <p>This inspired him to write and illustrate <i>The Sea Slug Who Could Cook</i>, a children's book introducing the diets of various sea slugs found in our coastal waters. The book can be found in Singapore's national libraries and is used by NParks for outreach to kindergarten students.</p> <p>Through the study of Ecology and Environmental Biology, Jonas hopes to be equipped with the broad-</p>





S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
			based understanding required to tackle complex environmental issues. He wishes to contribute to Singapore with the knowledge he will gain from his studies.
4	Viktor Loh 19 years old 	Degree in Physics Overseas University	<p>Viktor has a strong desire to pioneer new knowledge in the fields of science, particularly solar and nuclear physics. He is interested in technical improvement that can prevent or mitigate environmental catastrophes.</p> <p>Additionally, a deep immersion in sci-fi literature such as <i>The Three-Body Problem</i> further spurred him towards ideas such as clean energy and future sciences.</p> <p>Viktor wishes to synthesise his understanding of Physics and the fresh information he will gain from his overseas studies to usher in a sustainable future and contribute to Singapore in the areas of clean energy and future sciences.</p>


PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency (6 recipients)

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
1	<p>Ang Nian Ci</p> <p>19 years old</p> 	<p>Renaissance Engineering Programme</p> <p>Nanyang Technological University</p>	<p>In secondary school, Nian Ci had the opportunity to participate in several STEM innovation challenges and social innovation development programmes. Throughout the experience, she was intrigued by how a particular technology or system can have different applications and utilisation, and help improve lives in a sustainable manner.</p> <p>Nian Ci chose her course of study in Renaissance Engineering, as the curriculum in engineering and business will provide a strong foundation in design, implementation, and IT. She looks forward to working on projects that could impact the local community and playing a role in strengthening Singapore's water resilience through innovative solutions.</p>
2	<p>Arun Raghavendren</p> <p>23 years old</p> 	<p>Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering</p> <p>Nanyang Technological University</p>	<p>Arun chose to pursue a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering, specialising in mechatronics and robotics, as he has always loved to tinker with technology. For one of his academic projects, his team built a robot prototype that could deliver food and return trays and used utensils. He is currently interning at a food waste management start-up in Singapore that helps F&B businesses and hotels reduce their food waste using mechatronics and data analysis.</p> <p>He hopes to put his knowledge and innate interest in technology to good use by actively contributing to PUB's digital twin and R&D efforts.</p>
3	<p>Chloe Sim</p> <p>19 years old</p> 	<p>Bachelor of Engineering in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering</p> <p>Nanyang Technological University</p>	<p>Sciences and Mathematics have always been Chloe's interest and forte, hence she decided to pursue chemical and biomolecular engineering at NTU.</p> <p>She aims to broaden her perspective by exploring and learning in various environments, especially in exchange programmes when the opportunity arises. She hopes to bring forward different perspectives and skillsets to promote innovation and to solve problems that will arise in the future.</p>

<p>4</p>	<p>Jayne Peh Hin Peng</p> <p>19 years old</p> 	<p>Bachelor in Geography</p> <p>University College London</p>	<p>While studying geography in Junior College, Jayne was intrigued by topics such as the study of spatial variations in flood risk within Singapore and sustainable urban development. Her interest in the dynamic relationship between humans and the environment is also influenced by her co-curricular activities in arts and culture, which includes theatre and Chinese song writing.</p> <p>Jayne hopes to leverage her geographical expertise to help PUB safeguard and enhance Singapore's water resources.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Tan Xi Shi Angel</p> <p>21 years old</p> 	<p>Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering</p> <p>National University of Singapore</p>	<p>Angel is passionate about electrical engineering as it is one of the core engineering disciplines and is enthused by the potential to incorporate artificial intelligence and machine learning within her work. Having graduated from Ngee Ann Polytechnic, she has interned at Sembcorp and PUB where she had the opportunity to design space- and energy-efficient solar energy systems and carry out research into tools for effective management of customers' water bills.</p> <p>Upon graduation, she hopes to contribute to PUB's smart utility and sustainability journey.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Yek Wen Bin</p> <p>19 years old</p> 	<p>Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering</p> <p>National University of Singapore</p>	<p>Wen Bin chose to pursue Civil Engineering as he has a keen interest in the relationship between the built environment and nature. While Singapore's landscape is highly urbanised, he strongly believes in the potential to enhance liveability through integrating water infrastructure projects with nature.</p>



Singapore Food Agency (5 recipients)

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
1	Feng Jianguo 21 years old 	Integrated Masters in Chemistry University of Oxford, UK	Jianguo likes to volunteer, try out new things and meet new people. He would read the food container labels to look for chemical compounds and figure out their roles in flavouring his favourite snacks and drinks. SFA is one of the organisations he can relate to and he finds Chemistry appealing as it is intellectually challenging. He understands its importance in the food industry in that quality controls and checks done on batches of food directly impact individuals' livelihoods and knowledge in it would help ensure that the food consumed is safe and toxin-free.
2	Tan Jie Quan 23 years old 	Bachelor of Science in Life Science & Nutrition National University of Singapore	Jie Quan interest lies in the scientific development of cell-based protein, modern farming techniques especially in vertical farming, and in SFA's role as a national authority in food safety and security. He hopes to help Singapore ensure sustainable and viable sources of food.
3	Jillinda Toh Yi Ling 32 years old 	PhD in Food Science and Technology National University of Singapore	Jillinda loves to troubleshoot experiments, identify problems and revolve issues. She hopes to contribute to SFA in various areas of work in food safety by sharpening her expertise in the knowledge on pathogen testing and in areas of food safety and risk assessment.
4	Tan Hong Rong Felix 19 years old 	Diploma in Biotechnology Republic Polytechnic	Felix has a strong interest in plants and animals, particularly insects, and areas of agriculture and aquaculture. He wants to use his knowledge to explore and create new sustainable food-growing techniques. He also hopes to promote food safety through education, by raising consumer's knowledge of its significance and motivating them to actively contribute to the preservation of a safe food supply.

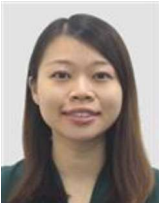


S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
5	Phua Jia Xin Amy 19 years old 	Diploma in Food Science & Nutrition Nanyang Polytechnic	<p>Amy wants to contribute back to society and is a member of her school's community service club. She participated in a food rescue event to reduce food waste, where she helped distribute food to members of the public.</p> <p>By taking up the scholarship, it would give her the opportunity to be part of SFA's operations and enforcement work in ensuring safe food for all.</p>

Profiles of in-service scholars




National Environment Agency (2 recipients)

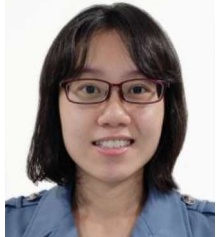


S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
1	Halmie Bin Hussein Mattar 46 years old 	Master of Public Health National University of Singapore	Halmie is currently the Director of Public Health in the Operational Policy Division. His role is to strengthen policies and operational capabilities in the areas of vector control and sanitation to meet current and future challenges. This includes strategically formulating operational policies on environmental sanitation, littering, smoking prohibition, and toilet cleanliness. He will be pursuing a Master of Public Health at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore. The programme will reinforce his knowledge on the tenets of public health and understanding of the impact of policies.
2	Lim Sing Hui, Alexander 49 years old 	Master of Science (Environmental Management) National University of Singapore	Alexander is the Deputy Director of the International Relations Department. His department reviews, assesses, and recommends approaches on issues related to NEA on the international front. This includes formulating strategies to enhance NEA's external engagements at bilateral, regional, and international environmental forums. He is pursuing a Master of Science (Environmental Management) programme at the National University of Singapore. With the domain knowledge and skills gained through this programme, he hopes to contribute to NEA's engagement with the environmental services and innovation industry upon his return.



PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency (3 recipients)

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
1	Leng Ting Fang 29 years old 	Master of Science Environmental Engineering National University of Singapore	Ting Fang is currently a Senior Chemist with PUB's Water Quality department. She is co-leading a project to transform the department's water sample management process by freeing up manpower from repetitive and manual tasks, streamlining processes and centralising information and communication. She was part of the core project team which automated the drafting of replies and internal routing of planning consultations received by PUB. The project was recognised at PUB's annual innovation awards. She chose to pursue a master's in Environmental Engineering at NUS to broaden her science background and accelerate her contribution in the planning and operational engineering areas in PUB.
2	Teh Ming Hwang 34 years old 	Master of Science in Computing Imperial College London	Ming Hwang is a Senior Assistant Director in the Water Supply (Network) department and oversees Instrumentation, Control and Automation systems. He has worked on key projects, such as the use of online sensors in PUB's smart water grid platform for simulation and analytics. He is passionate about PUB's digitalisation efforts and its future as a smart utility. By pursuing a Master of Science in Computing, Ming Hwang hopes to contribute to PUB's digital transformation and smart nation journey.
3	Hew Sock Fang 38 years old 	Master of Computing National University of Singapore	Sock Fang is a Senior Assistant Director with PUB's Water Supply (Network) department. She is the team lead in charge of compiling water supply network data, smart water grid analytics platform and R&D projects. As PUB continues its digital transformation journey, the exposure to IT-related systems and methodologies would only intensify. Sock Fang feels the strong need to equip herself with the relevant knowledge to better manage her team and oversee the smart projects to enhance PUB's operations.

Singapore Food Agency (8 recipients)

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
1	Jenny Loi Yu Zhen 34 years old 	Master of Science in Business Analytics Nanyang Technological University	As the Deputy Director of Risk Management & Surveillance Dept under the Joint Operations Division of the SFA, Jenny works with her team to facilitate food supply diversification efforts through accreditation of new food sources, and also to formulate risk management measures and regulatory policies to ensure safety of imported food. Data analysis is increasingly being utilised to gather actionable insights and drive strategies for the future. Pursuing a MSc in Business Analytics would help her to learn the know-how for more effective interpretation of data to derive policy decisions, and improve the food safety system for Singapore.
2	Too Soon Yee 36 years old 	Master of Public Health National University of Singapore	Soon Yee is the Team Lead in the Operations Management Department under Joint Operations Division. In his role, he coordinates operations and responses to food safety incidents in the Singapore Food Agency. His studies at NUS will help him gain the skills and knowledge to gain a better understanding of public health and improve SFA's response to food safety incidents in future.
3	Jeremy Wee Jian Yang 30 years old 	Master in Business Administration INSEAD Asia Campus, Singapore	Jeremy is an Assistant Director with the 3030 Planning & Development Department where he played a role in coordinating and implementing policies to build up the local agri-food industry's capability and capacity to sustainably produce 30% of Singapore's nutritional needs by 2030. With the business knowledge gained, he foresees himself playing a stronger role in guiding our farms to be operationally resilient and commercially viable, contributing more strongly towards a resilient food future.
4	Cai Panqin 37 years old	Master of Public Health John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA	Panqin is with the Veterinary Office in SFA. The team applies animal health and veterinary public health considerations in our regulatory systems to ensure a supply of safe food. She was part of the team to investigate the disease outbreak in a large pig farm and their report facilitated future food supply planning for Singapore as well as the affected farm and country.

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
			<p>She strongly believes her studies will broaden SFA's network and savviness, as we continue our science-based and data-driven approach, inter-connected with many parts of the world.</p>
5	<p>Gwyneth Tey Wen Li</p> <p>43 years old</p> 	<p>Master of Information Technology in Business</p> <p>Singapore Management University</p>	<p>Gwyneth led and kick-started the formation of the Data, Research and Transformation (DaRT) - now known as Data Governance & Transformation Department, which aimed to catalyse SFA's transformation efforts to become a digital-to-the-core and data-driven organization by leveraging on technologies and data for both policy planning and operation decisions.</p> <p>Given that the food sector is critical yet fast evolving, she hopes to be able to acquire the necessary and valuable skillsets in the studies to help in formulating digital transformation strategy, developing products and structures to ensuring proper change management - which are critical building blocks to help advance SFA's mission in ensuring and securing a supply of safe food for Singapore.</p>
6	<p>Germaine Thong</p> <p>26 years old</p> 	<p>Master's in Food Technology</p> <p>Wageningen University & Research, Netherlands</p>	<p>Motivated by her interest in growing her own food, Germaine joined Singapore Food Agency 3 years ago and has since been deeply involved in the transformation of local farms, through linkups with agritech solution providers and available funding options, as well as advising them on regulation and licensing issues. Beyond being a farm account manager at SFA, Germaine is also an integral team member of the Industry Development and Community Partnerships Division that oversees Singapore's "30 by 30" goal planning & development.</p> <p>Through the Master's in Food Technology, Germaine hopes to learn from world class academics and international multinational corporations (MNCs) in diverse aspects of food engineering, food safety, supply chain innovation, project and business management. The program serves as a valuable opportunity for Germaine to gain a broader understanding of the global food chain, foster cross-cultural collaboration, and extract key learning points on sustainable food policy as SFA plans for Singapore's long-term food safety and food security.</p>

S/N	Name and age	Course and University	Profile
7	<p>Angela Li</p> <p>42 years old</p> 	<p>PhD in Food Science & Technology</p> <p>National University Singapore</p>	<p>Angela is the Director of Research and Exposure Science Department under the National Centre for Food Science. Her roles include anticipating food safety risks through early detection of food safety concerns and advancing rapid testing capabilities, as well as leading the risk-based market monitoring programme. It harnesses data analytics to obtain pre-emptive insights on hazards in food with which to proactively track food safety trends and anticipate new/emerging foodborne hazards and risks.</p> <p>She hopes the knowledge gained in her studies can support SFA's effort in tackling emerging food safety risks and strengthening our future-ready integrated food safety system. She also aims to value add to the strategic partnership with key local and international stakeholders in the academia, which is one of the approaches to build SFA's credibility as a progressive and trusted food regulator as well as contribute to SFA's vision and mission.</p>
8	<p>Ho Sim Yee</p> <p>35 years old</p> 	<p>Master of Science in Information Systems</p> <p>Nanyang Technological University</p>	<p>Sim Yee is with SFA's Joint Operations Division's Ops Policy & Development department working on ops-tech/digitalisation and business process re-engineering for the end-to-end food safety regulatory processes including licensing, inspection, sampling and testing, and enforcement.</p> <p>In line with Singapore's vision of being a Smart Nation and Digital Government, technology and analytics are key enablers in achieving SFA's mission of ensuring and securing a supply of safe food. By building up capabilities in these areas, SFA would be able to better anticipate the needs of our stakeholders and deliver more positive/seamless experiences with greater agility.</p>