

Collaborative Urban Sustainability Transition in Southeast Asia: Bridging Research, Policy, and Action for Inclusive Sustainability (CUST-SEA 2025) Workshop

Date: 27 November

Location: Chinese Pavilion @ SUTD

Workshop Aims:

1. Provide a collegial space for structured conversation among peers to understand issues of importance to each participant
2. Explore where interests intersect and how to converge on a few compelling ideas fit for further development
3. Experiment with the creation of a regional consortium that can credibly and collectively collaborate towards a large, multi-country research grant.

1. PROGRAMME OUTLINE

27 Nov 2025

Transport from hotel to SUTD will be provided for overseas participants:
Pick-up will be at **9:00 AM** from Village Hotel Albert Court.

Welcome, Framing & Aims

Create a shared starting point and makes the diversity of wicked problems visible early on.

10:00 am – 10 mins WELCOME ADDRESS

10:10 am Prof *CHEONG Koon Hean*
Chair
Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities
Singapore University of Technology and Design

10:10 am – 10 mins WORKSHOP SCOPING

Dr. Harvey NEO
Professorial Research Fellow
Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities
Singapore University of Technology and Design

10:20 am – 10 mins INTRODUCING ISEAS

Dr. Christopher LEN
Visiting Senior Fellow
ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute

10:30 am – 30 mins Participant Introductions

Session #1: Singapore Heat & Inequality Frontiers

Aim: Showcasing heat-related projects in Singapore to generate discussions about Southeast Asian urban heat research.

11:00 am – 11:20 am	20 mins	<i>Urban heat & human health</i>
		<i>Ms. Pearl TAN</i> Project Manager and Research Associate Human Potential Translational Research Programme National University of Singapore
11:20 am – 11:40 am	20 mins	<i>Health, equity & the built environment</i>
		<i>Dr. TAN Shin Bin</i> Assistant Professor Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy National University of Singapore
		<i>Dr. Nathan PENG</i> Assistant Professor of Political Science School of Social Sciences Singapore Management University
11:40 am – 12:00 pm	20 mins	<i>Understanding values in collaboration</i>
		<i>Prof Marie HARDER</i> Distinguished Professor Fudan University
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm		LUNCH
1:30pm – 1:50 pm	20 mins	<i>Microclimate & urban form</i>
		<i>Dr. Yuan CHAO</i> Associate Professor Department of Architecture National University of Singapore
Session #2: ASEAN wicked problems & where heat fits		
Where does heat fit inside these other ASEAN realities?		
Aim: Build a regional picture of wicked problems, and test whether urban heat is a viable anchor, or needs to be part of a broader “urban climate risk / justice” framing.		
1:50 pm – 2:50 pm	1 hr	REGIONAL ISSUES MAPPING
		Each participant takes 5 minutes to present a snapshot of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One wicked urban problem in your city/country• How (if at all) heat intersects with it• One existing project/data source that could plug into a regional study

Note to participants: If you would like to include any pictures or data to support your sharing, please prepare **no more than 2 slides** and send them to Dolphie Bou at dolphie_bou@sutd.edu.sg by **24 November 2025**.

2:50 pm – 3:20 pm BREAK

Session #3: Designing a multi-sited research agenda in/of Southeast Asia

Aim: Combine learnings from sessions 1 & 2 (frontier & realities) into researchable modules.

3:20 pm – 4:35 pm 1 hr 15 min PROPOSAL SKETCHING

4:35 pm – 5:20 pm 45 mins GROUP SHARING

5:20 pm – 5:30 pm 10 mins CLOSING: summary, gratitude, future plans

6:00 pm END OF PROGRAMME

Transport from SUTD to the dinner venue will be provided.
Pickup will be at **6:00 PM** sharp from SUTD (8 Somapah Rd).

**7:00 pm DINNER @ Permata Singapore
73 Sultan Gate
Singapore 198497**

28 Nov 2025

Transport from hotel to ISEAS will be provided for overseas participants:
Pick-up will be at **9:00 AM** from Village Hotel Albert Court.

9:30 am – 10:00 am 30 mins Registration at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute

10:00 am – 10:10 am 10 mins WELCOME REMARKS

Mr. CHOI Shing Kwok
Director and Chief Executive Officer
ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute

10:10 am – 10:20 am 10 mins OPENING REMARKS

Prof. CHEONG Koon Hean
Chair
Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities
Singapore University of Technology and Design

10:20 am – 10:50 am 30 mins *Is Southeast Asia getting up to speed on its climate ambitions?*

Dr. Janil PUTHUCHEARY
Senior Minister of State
Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment, Singapore

Followed by Q&A moderated by

Mr. CHOI Shing Kwok
Director and Chief Executive Officer
ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute

10:50 am –	1 hr	SURVEY FINDINGS AND PANEL DISCUSSION
11:55 am	5 mins	Presenters: <i>Ms. Melinda MARTINUS</i> Lead Researcher ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute
		<i>Dr. Samuel CHNG</i> Research Assistant Professor Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities Singapore University of Technology and Design
		Moderator: <i>Ms. Sharon SEAH</i> Senior Fellow and Coordinator ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute
		Discussants: <i>Prof. Mely CABALLERO-ANTHONY</i> Professor of International Relations Associate Dean (International Engagement); Head of Centre, Non-Traditional Security Studies S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies Nanyang Technological University
		<i>Ms. Paramita MOHAMED</i> CEO Communication for Change
		<i>Dr. Harvey Neo</i> Professorial Research Fellow Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities Singapore University of Technology and Design

12:00 pm – 2:00 pm		NETWORKING LUNCH
2:00 pm –	45	Transport from ISEAS to URA will be provided for overseas participants.
2:45 pm	mins	Pickup will be at 2:00 PM sharp from ISEAS (30 Heng Mui Keng Ter)
2:45 pm –	2 hrs	TOUR AT URA BEGINS
4:45 pm		Led by <i>Bert WEE Jin Sin</i> Senior Assistant Director Centre for Liveable Cities
4:45 pm		END OF PROGRAMME

Transport from URA to hotel will be provided for overseas participants.
Pickup will be at **5:00 PM** sharp from URA (45 Maxwell Rd)

2. OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS' PROFILES

Dr. Try THUON

Dr. Try Thuon is an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator for the Department of Sustainable Urban Planning and Development (DSUPD), Royal University of Phnom Penh. His research interest includes urban sustainability, resource politics, urban land use planning, infrastructure development, resilience building for community and urban just transition, and the process becoming urban among rural-urban migrants. His recent publications include: Sihanoukville's Socio-Spatial Dynamics and Urban Development transformation, How formalization of urban spatial plan affects marginalized groups and resilience practices in Cambodia secondary town: A case study from Battambang. He also co-authored a paper on, "Cambodia's Integration into Planetary Urbanization: Current Trends and Future Prospects". He is leading three initiative projects: (i) Phnom Penh Urban Journal for DSUPD, (ii) co-founders for the Urban Climate Justice School Training Program for policy makers in Cambodia, and (iii) Research team leader for the project on, "Building Urban Climate Resilience among Urban Flood Prone Areas in Phnom Penh" funded HEIP2, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport. He holds a PhD in Social Sciences with an international program of Chiang Mai University.

Ms. Samedy SUONG

Samedy Suong is a Deputy Director at the Center for Khmer Studies (CKS), a non-governmental organization dedicated to strengthening research and building research capacity in the social sciences, arts, and humanities in Cambodia and the Mekong region. She manages and oversees all CKS program operations, including its research fellowship programs.

She has coordinated several collaborative research initiatives, such as the Urban Mobility Study in Phnom Penh and the Resident Survey on Citizen Well-Being in Phnom Penh, commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) in 2019, as well as the Transformation in Sihanoukville study in 2020, funded by the Australian Government.

Before joining CKS, she served as Project Coordinator for the UNDP-supported Clearing for Results Project Phase III, a mine action initiative. She has also worked as a Research Fellow at KHANA, a local NGO addressing HIV/AIDS, and as a freelance researcher focusing on gender issues. She holds a Master's degree in Rural Development from Belgium, obtained through the Erasmus Mundus Program in 2009.

In the upcoming workshop, she is particularly interested in current and emerging issues related to urbanization in Cambodia and Southeast Asia that researchers should focus on in the coming years.

Ms. Nadia Ayu Rahma LESTARI

Nadia Ayu Rahma Lestari is a lecturer in the Department of Urban Planning and Real Estate at Universitas Tarumanagara, Jakarta, Indonesia, with an academic background spanning both fields.

Her earlier research focused on the urban cultural economy and tourism, particularly examining how transnational popular culture and digital media shape urban experiences, cultural consumption, and tourism dynamics in Indonesia. More recently, her work has shifted toward understanding the digital transformation of cities and its implications for the informal urban economy, as well as the evolution of retail spaces in urban environments. These interests reflect

her commitment to engaging with both sides of the urban development spectrum: the social-spatial dynamics central to urban planning and the market-driven forces that underpin real estate.

Looking ahead, she aims to develop research that more deeply integrates these fields, examining how real estate can function not only as a driver of economic growth but also as a strategic tool to address urban challenges. She believes that in rapidly growing Southeast Asian cities, well-designed and context-sensitive real estate development can play a critical role in shaping more inclusive, adaptive, and sustainable urban futures.

Mrs. Meyriana KESUMA

Meyriana Kesuma is a lecturer and researcher at Universitas Tarumanagara, where she collaborates closely with Nadia Ayu Rahma Lestari. Her work spans urban development, commercial and mixed-use properties, and city-scale master planning, with a focus on integrating financial feasibility, policy frameworks, and design strategies into cohesive urban investment models.

She has advised on and analysed development initiatives in several Indonesian cities related to new town planning, transit-oriented development (TOD)-based revitalisation, tourism-driven regeneration, and sustainable property investment, working in partnership with local governments, universities, and private developers. For future research, she is keen to collaborate on comparative studies addressing “wicked” urban challenges such as housing affordability, urban transformation, and spatial resilience within the ASEAN context. She looks forward to contributing to and learning from this workshop through the exchange of experiences, perspectives, and ideas for regional research collaboration.

Ms. Souliphone INSENG

Souliphone Inseng works at the Institute of Public Administration and Organization in Laos, with a focus on local administration. Her work centres on understanding how communities can more effectively engage with development processes, and her past research has examined village development and regulation in Laos.

Looking ahead, she is keen to explore how citizen engagement can be strengthened to address complex, cross-cutting challenges such as climate adaptation and unplanned urban growth. He is particularly interested in the role of digital platforms in fostering collaboration between residents and local authorities.

Dr. Dina C. MAGNAYE

Dr. Dina Cartagena Magnaye is a Professor and Dean of the University of the Philippines (UP) School of Urban and Regional Planning (SURP). She served as Program Chair of the Diploma in/Master of Land Valuation and Management at the UP Open University (2016 to 2019), then as Program Chair of the Diploma in Land Use Planning (2019 to 2022). In 2020, she became the Director of the UP SURP Office of Research and Publication and the concurrent Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Urban and Regional Planning of UP SURP. Dr. Magnaye is a licensed Environmental Planner and a member of the Continuing Professional Development Council for Environmental Planning of the Philippines Professional Regulation Commission.

From 2021 to 2025, Dr. Magnaye served as the Team Leader of the Philippine Team for a research project on Linking Disaster Risk Governance and Land Use Planning: The Case of Informal Settlements in Hazard Prone Areas in the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. This is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and carried out in partnership with

universities in Germany - Technical University of Dortmund (TUDO), University of Stuttgart, Ludwig Maximilian University-Munich, and the Thammasat University, Thailand and Vietnam National Agricultural University, Hanoi Vietnam. She has extensively advanced the planning profession through teaching, research, and professional practice, providing technical assistance to national and local governments, GOCCs, NGOs, and the private sector. Her work covers development planning, master planning, feasibility studies, and capacity building. Her specialization encompasses urban and regional planning, financial and economic analysis, economic and social development, investment programming, and agricultural economics, among others.

Mr. Monin NONG

Monin Nong is a Research Fellow at the Centre for Natural Resources and Environment of Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI). His research interests are water hygiene and sanitation, climate change adaptation, gender equality, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, climate change and mobility, water and natural resource management, forest governance and social-environmental impact assessment. He leads and co-leads in various national and international research publications including working papers, book chapters, policy briefs, research articles, and reports. Monin also coordinates research operations, liaises with research partners and counterparts, and takes a lead in developing research proposals and research frameworks, designing primary data collection tools and conducting quantitative and qualitative analyses. Monin received his Master's degree in International Development from Nagoya University, Japan.

Mr. DANG The Hien

Dang The Hien is a Lecturer at the Institute of Smart City and Management (ISCM) and holds a Master's degree in Sustainable Urban Development. He also serves as Project Manager for the smART Hub Living Labs initiative. His work focuses on leveraging Research by Design and Living Labs as core methodological approaches to address complex urban challenges in the region.

His past work has centred on establishing participatory frameworks for sustainable urban interventions. Looking ahead, he is keen to explore how urban areas can achieve better, more sustainable environmental quality while critically preserving local identity and heritage. He is particularly interested in the role of design-led research and community co-creation in integrating environmental protection with localized cultural preservation in Southeast Asian cities.

Dr. Puthearth CHAN

Dr. Puthearth Chan is President of the ASI Research Group and an Advisory Board and Professor at the Faculty of Engineering, Paragon International University, and a Visiting Professor to an International Dual Master's Program at the French Cooperation Department, RULE and Lumière Lyon 2 University, France. Recently, he has been appointed Singapore Academies Southeast Asia Fellow to be based at Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities.

Dr. Chan is the 22nd Research Laureate of the CHEY Institute for Advanced Studies in South Korea. He obtained a graduate diploma from AgroStudies International Center Ruppin Campus, Israel, and a PhD in urban and regional development, focused on sustainable development goals (SDGs), from Hanyang University Seoul Campus, South Korea. He also got his certified education in core concepts of circular entrepreneurship from the Rochester Institute of Technology, New York, USA.

Prof Marie HARDER

Prof Marie Harder is a Distinguished Professor at Fudan University since 2011, while continuing part-time at the University of Brighton, UK. She was the lead Coordinator of the EU research project ESDinds which first developed the WeValue concept of crystallizing group shared values for interfacing with policy design, which initially focussed on Civil Societies and has since branched into schools, businesses, urban groups, village committees, on issues from climate change to child stunting, and urban planning. She has co-written one book, some chapters, and 35 papers on underlying theory and applications of WeValue, within her 90+ peer-reviewed articles. She recently finished as Co-Investigator on the £18 million UKRI Interdisciplinary Hub, “Action Against Stunting”; a UKRI project on Infrastructure investment in UK coastal towns; and a JPI-China project on urban climate change in China and Vienna. In all these she elicited local shared values to interface with policy development or assessment. She would love new collaborations to scale up (e.g. across a city or rural districts), to overhaul the Asian concept of ESG, and to demonstrate how transdisciplinary science can assist governments to mobilize community capacity building.

Dr. Yanyan HUANG

Dr. Yanyan Huang is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Environmental Science and Engineering at Fudan University. She focuses on transdisciplinary research, integrating philosophy, systems science, and cognitive perspectives, and focusing on externalizing shared values in naturally occurring groups to address sustainability challenges. By advancing the WeValue InSitu methodology on theoretical and practical levels, she bridges dynamic individual agency and static collective value systems, creating actionable frameworks for transdisciplinary collaboration. Grounded in field-based engagement, her work empowers people from different interfaces to navigate complex socio-ecological transitions through intersubjective meaning-making, applied across challenges towards sustainability transformation.

3. SINGAPORE SPEAKER PROFILES

Prof CHEONG Koon Hean

Prof CHEONG Koon Hean is Chair of the Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities as well as Professor of Practice in the Singapore University of Technology and Design. She is concurrently Chairman of the Centre for Liveable Cities Advisory Panel under the Ministry of National Development and Singapore’s Non-Resident Ambassador to Finland.

Prof Cheong has played an active role in the urban transformation of Singapore over the years. She was the CEO of the Housing and Development Board (HDB) from 2010 to 2020, overseeing the development and management of over 1 million public housing flats. At HDB, she introduced a new generation of public housing and implemented large scale sustainability, biophilic and smart features in HDB towns.

Prof Cheong was also the CEO of the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) from 2004 to 2010 and steered the urban planning and development of Singapore, contributing her extensive experience in strategic land use planning, urban design, conservation of built heritage and the real estate market. During her tenure, she uplifted planning and design standards and oversaw the development of major growth areas, notably Marina Bay the new city extension. She was concurrently appointed the

Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of National Development from 2001 to 2016, overseeing urban development, public housing and real estate policies.

Prof Cheong is currently a board member of CapitaLand Group, Surbana Jurong Private Limited, Rector of National University of Singapore College and senior fellow of the URA Academy. She also serves on the Urban Solutions and Sustainability Domain International Advisory Panel (National Research Foundation) and the Keppel Technology Advisory Panel (Keppel Corporation Ltd). She was formerly on the Asia Sustainable Infrastructure International Advisory Panel and was the Senior Advisor for Public Sector Sustainability in the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment. Prof Cheong has served on the boards of the Urban Redevelopment Authority, Housing & Development Board, Jurong Town Corporation, National Heritage Board, Jurong Port, the Civil Service College and the National University of Singapore.

Dr. Harvey NEO

Dr. Harvey Neo's research focuses on urban futures, citizen urban science and policy-making as well as nature-society interactions. He has won multiple awards in his research and teaching in the areas of urban sustainable development, environmental geography and social theory when he was Associate Professor of Geography at the National University of Singapore. Harvey is the Southeast Asian editor of the journal "*Human Geography*" (Sage Publications) and "*Frontiers in Sustainable Cities: Cities in the Global South*". He sits on the International Advisory Boards of "*Geographies of Justice and Social Transformation Book Series*" (published by University of Georgia Press), "*Geoforum*" and "*Progress in Environmental Geography*". He is one of seven appointed to the Housing and Development Board Research Advisory Panel which is the consulting body for research conducted by Housing Development Board, Singapore. He is concurrently Director of the Master's in Urban Science, Policy and Planning programme at Singapore University of Technology and Design.

At the LKYCIC, Harvey leads the Southeast Asian focused "Cities and Urban Science" programme which looks at how a citizen-centric urban science can be practised and sustained in tandem with "big data". This is being studied in Ho Chi Minh City, Jakarta, Manila and Phnom Penh on the interlinked topics of walkability and electric vehicular policies. Harvey is Programme Lead of the "Urban Environmental Sustainability" programme at the LKYCIC where he is the Principal Investigator of the Social Sciences Research Council funded project on human adaptations to urban heat. At the Centre, he also co-leads, with Dr. Samuel Chng, the Tote Board supported "Future Ready Society Knowledge Partnership and Impact Fund" (FRS). The FRS is a first-of-its kind programme in Singapore that bridges research & practice and fosters meaningful partnerships of the 3P+ (People, Public, Private + Academia) sectors to strengthen society's future readiness through novel solutioning.

Dr. Christopher LEN

Dr. Christopher Len is an Associated Senior Research Fellow with ISDP. He is a Visiting Senior Fellow with the Climate Change in Southeast Asia Programme at the Yusof Ishak Institute (ISEAS). He was a Senior Research Fellow and Head of Publications at the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore between 2012 and 2022. He was previously responsible for the Energy and Security in Asia Project under ISDP's Asia Program. He also served as Executive Editor of the China and Eurasia Forum Quarterly journal published by the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute & Silk Road Studies Program, which is a Joint Transatlantic Research and

Policy Center affiliated with the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University and the Stockholm-based Institute for Security and Development Policy. He was a Visiting Associate under the Energy Programme of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore between 2006-2012.

His research interests include Asia energy and maritime security, Chinese foreign policy, Arctic energy security and sustainable development, and the growing political and economic linkages between the various Asian sub-regions. He has spoken at various venues, including Chatham House (Royal Institute of International Affairs, UK); St Antony's College, University of Oxford, UK; the Slavic Research Center, Hokkaido University, Japan; and the National Maritime Foundation, India.

He obtained his doctoral degree from the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (CEPMLP), University of Dundee, Scotland, UK and won the Dean's Medal for Research, awarded by the Graduate School of Natural Resources Law, Policy and Management, University of Dundee. He also has degrees from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and Uppsala University, Sweden.

Ms. Pearl TAN

Pearl Tan is a Project Manager and Research Associate with the Human Potential Translational Research Programme at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore. She specialises in exercise physiology and thermal stress, examining how heat affects human health, performance and productivity in demanding environments and for various populations. In her role as Project Manager, Pearl shapes the programme's research directions and leads efforts to build strong partnerships locally, regionally, and globally.

Dr. TAN Shin Bin

Dr. Tan Shin Bin is an Assistant Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Her research focuses on how built environment interventions and public policy can improve social equity, reduce health disparities and strengthen community health. She is particularly interested in applying spatial techniques of analysis to understand how space, place and time interact to (re)produce patterns of health and disease.

Previously, she worked as an urban planner at the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Singapore. She obtained her PhD and Master in City Planning from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2021.

Dr. Nathan PENG

Dr. Nathan Peng is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the School of Social Sciences in the Singapore Management University. His research is dedicated to alleviating poverty and inequality in Southeast Asia, with a focus on Singapore and Indonesia. His work aims to improve understanding of the forces influencing inequality, underdevelopment, and poverty, as well as their consequences. He also researches how political, social, and economic forces interact to determine the long-term developmental potential of a country. To do this, he employs both qualitative and quantitative methodology, switching between interviews, survey experiments, geospatial analysis, clustering, and various regression techniques depending on the specific research question. Prior to his academic calling, Nathan spent five years in public policy as part of the Ministry of Trade and

Industry and the Ministry of Social and Family Development in Singapore working on similar issues of economic strategy, helping the poor, and lowering inequality.

Dr. Yuan CHAO

Professor Chao Yuan is a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture at the National University of Singapore (NUS), where he leads the Urban Climate Design Lab as Principal Investigator. His work bridges climate science, urban design, and sustainability, and has earned him several prestigious honors, including the Presidential Young Professorship at NUS, the NRF Investigatorship from Singapore's National Research Foundation, and the 2025 Timothy Oke Award from the International Association for Urban Climate, in recognition of his cross-disciplinary leadership in urban climate science and design.

Prof. Yuan's research focuses on advancing climate-sensitive strategies for high-density tropical cities, with core expertise in urban wind environments, air pollution, anthropogenic heat, passive cooling technologies, and urban greenery. He leads interdisciplinary initiatives that integrate science, technology, and design to tackle complex urban sustainability and resilience challenges.

His work is highly collaborative, involving international partners such as MIT, ETH Zurich, and the University of Cambridge, with whom he co-develops cutting-edge research on urban climate adaptation and future cities. At NUS, he also serves as Co-Director of NUS Sustainable Futures, a university-level institute dedicated to advancing integrative sustainability research across disciplines.

Prof. Yuan is an Editorial Board Member of Landscape and Urban Planning and Urban Climate (Elsevier) and has published widely in both scientific and design domains. He is also the author of the acclaimed book *Urban Wind Environment* (Springer Nature), which synthesizes empirical evidence and design approaches for shaping urban microclimates.

Dr. Samuel CHNG

Dr. Samuel Chng is Research Assistant Professor and heads the Urban Psychology Lab in the Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities at the Singapore University of Technology and Design. He is also Deputy Lead for the Future-Ready Society programme. With the majority of the world's population residing in cities today, fostering urban lifestyles that contribute towards creating low-carbon, resilient, healthy and equitable cities becomes ever more critical. An applied social psychologist, his interdisciplinary work focuses on developing research-informed policies and initiatives to accelerate this transition in Singapore and the wider Asian region. He is a firm believer in translating academic research and capacity building, and so actively collaborates with partners in government, industry, the labour movement and media in this endeavour. Samuel holds a Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) from James Cook University, Australia and a PhD in Medical Studies from the University of Exeter, United Kingdom.

Dr. Yunjing LI (Jennifer)

Dr. Yunjing Li is a Research Fellow under the Chan Heng Chee Research Fellowship at the Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities (LKYCIC). Her research interest is located at the intersection of urban sustainability policy, climate planning, and urban development politics. She received her doctoral and master's degrees in urban planning from Columbia University in the City of New York. She also holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China. Prior to joining LKYCIC, Yunjing was a post-doctoral fellow in the Geography Department of the University of Hong Kong, where she researched local strategies and action towards low-carbon

transitions in Chinese cities and their relations to China's urbanization process. She also worked as an environmental sustainability consultant at the headquarter of the United Nations Population Fund and an intern planner at the UN-Habitat's New York office. Yunjing's work has been published in Journal of Planning Education and Research, Environment and Planning C, and Journal of Urban Affairs, etc.