

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Nominations open for Sustainability Impact Awards 2026

**Singapore, 9 March 2026** - The fourth Sustainability Impact (SI) Awards, jointly presented by The Business Times (BT) and UOB, is open for nominations from now till 29 May 2026.

Launched in 2023, the SI Awards recognise leaders and companies that serve as pillars of inspiration in sustainability development, through their contributions to the environment and society. The Centre for Governance and Sustainability at the National University of Singapore Business School is the Knowledge Partner for the Awards.

This year, the Awards also aim to recognise and celebrate enterprises that act as catalysts in advancing sustainability by enabling other organisations to strengthen their sustainability practices, highlighting collaborative leadership and ecosystem-building efforts that multiply impact.

Ms Chen Huifen, Editor of The Business Times, said, "With active participation seen in the Sustainability Impact Awards over the past three years, it is important for us to further showcase businesses which had influenced others in advancing sustainability this year. As we continue to recognise our sustainability leaders, we hope that the Awards will also inspire more enterprises to join the sustainability journey."

Mr Eric Lim, Group Chief Sustainability Officer, UOB, said, "Meaningful, scalable impact happens when businesses and individuals come together to collaborate, innovate and uplift the broader ecosystem. UOB is proud to continue supporting the Sustainability Impact Awards, to honour outstanding enterprises and individuals with strong purpose, leadership and partnerships that shape a more resilient and sustainable future for all."

Professor Lawrence Loh, Director, NUS Centre for Governance and Sustainability, said, "As we mark our fourth year serving as Knowledge Partner for the Sustainability Impact Awards, we look forward to more individuals and organisations submitting their stories and evidence of how they have enabled sustainability impact. Sustainability is an interconnected landscape, like a garden which thrives when everyone tends to it. Going forward, the Awards will recognise enterprises that excel in sustainability and spearhead others on this journey. Through assessing and showcasing best practices, we can cultivate a blooming impact."

The Awards will be assessed by a panel of judges, chaired by Dr Amy Khor, former Senior Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment, including:

1. Ms Chen Huifen, Editor of BT;
2. Ms Eliza Tan, Senior Vice President, and Head, IPO Admissions and Sustainable Development Office, SGX RegCo;

3. Mr Geoffrey Yeo, Assistant Managing Director, Capabilities, Urban Systems & Solutions, Enterprise Singapore;
4. Professor Lawrence Loh, Director of NUS Centre for Governance and Sustainability;
5. Ms Melissa Kwee, Director, Pontiac Land Group; and
6. Mr Tan Swee Yiow, President, Real Estate Developers' Association of Singapore.

Dr Amy Khor, Chairman of the Judging Panel, said, "Even as countries grapple with geopolitical tensions, trade barriers and economic uncertainties, the realities of climate change do not pause — and may in fact intensify if global climate action loses momentum. The Sustainability Impact Awards serve as a powerful reminder that individuals and enterprises in Singapore have both the agency and responsibility to lead, innovate and act decisively in mitigating and adapting to climate risks. I encourage organisations of all sizes and passionate changemakers to step forward, share their journeys, and inspire others through their commitment to creating lasting environmental and social impact."

As an extension of the SI Awards, a series of Sustainability Impact Dialogues will be held to spotlight emerging sustainability trends, share best practices, and foster cross-sector collaboration.

Interested individuals and businesses can submit their applications via the Awards website by downloading the [application form](#). The judging criteria can be found in the [Annex](#).

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***For more information, please contact:***

Wu Wan Ying  
External Communications  
SPH Media  
DID: +65 6319 1025  
Email: [wuwanying@sph.com.sg](mailto:wuwanying@sph.com.sg)

Eileen Wee  
Group Strategic Communications & Brand  
UOB  
Mobile: +65 9223 5321  
Email: [Eileen.Wee@UOBgroup.com](mailto:Eileen.Wee@UOBgroup.com)

**About SPH Media**

SPH Media is a leading media group, with operations in the publishing of newspapers, magazines, and books in both print and digital editions. It also owns and operates other businesses such as radio stations and outdoor media. The mission of SPH Media is to be the trusted source of news on Singapore and Asia, to represent the communities that make up Singapore, and to connect them to the world. The businesses are held by SPH Media Trust, a public company limited by guarantee. For more information on SPH Media, please visit [www.sph.com.sg](http://www.sph.com.sg), and our social media channels on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#).

**About The Business Times**

Singapore's only financial daily, The Business Times (BT), is the authoritative guide on local, regional and international business markets. In addition to corporate news and [commentary](#), BT covers the [startup](#), [wealth](#), [property](#), [lifestyle](#) and [SME](#) scenes, and tells you what you need to know about [Asean](#) and the [world](#). It also has a young audience initiative known as [Thrive](#). BT is part of SPH Media. For more information, please visit [bt.sg](#).

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## **About UOB**

UOB is a leading bank in Asia. Operating through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, UOB has a global network of more than 470 branches and offices in 19 markets in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. Today, UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's Investors Service and AA- by both S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings.

For nine decades, UOB has adopted a customer-centric approach to create long-term value by staying relevant through its enterprising spirit and doing right by its customers. UOB is focused on building the future of ASEAN – for the people and businesses within, and connecting with, ASEAN.

The Bank connects businesses to opportunities in the region with its unparalleled regional footprint and leverages data and insights to innovate and create personalised banking experiences and solutions catering to each customer's unique needs and evolving preferences. UOB is also committed to forging a sustainable future through working with its stakeholders to create positive environmental impact, fostering social inclusiveness and pursuing economic progress. UOB believes in being a responsible financial services provider and is steadfast in its support of art, social development of children and education, doing right by its communities and stakeholders.

## **About the Centre for Governance and Sustainability (CGS)**

The Centre for Governance and Sustainability (CGS), formerly known as Centre for Governance, Institutions and Organisations (CGIO), was established by the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School in 2010. It aims to spearhead relevant and high-impact research on corporate governance (CG) and corporate sustainability (CS) issues that are pertinent to institutions, government bodies and businesses both in Singapore and Asia. This includes corporate governance and corporate sustainability, governance of family firms, government-linked companies, business groups, and institutions. CGS also organises events such as public lectures, industry roundtables, and academic conferences on topics related to governance and sustainability.

CGS is the national assessor for the corporate sustainability and corporate governance performance of listed companies in Singapore. More information about CGS can be accessed at <https://bschool.nus.edu.sg/cgs/>

NUS Business School is known for providing management thought leadership from an Asian perspective, enabling its students and corporate partners to leverage global knowledge and Asian insights. For more information, please visit [bschool.nus.edu.sg](http://bschool.nus.edu.sg), or go to the [BIZBeat](#) portal which showcases the School's research.

The School is one of the 16 faculties and schools at NUS. A leading global university centered in Asia, NUS is Singapore's flagship university which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. Its transformative education includes a broad-based curriculum underscored by multi-disciplinary courses and cross-faculty enrichment. Over 40,000 students from 100 countries enrich the community with their diverse social and cultural perspectives.

## **About the Sustainability Impact Awards**

The inaugural Sustainability Impact Awards was officially launched on 1 February 2023, and the Awards is jointly presented by The Business Times (BT) and UOB to recognise and celebrate the people and businesses that have made a significant positive impact on the environment and societal well-being through their sustainability initiatives. The Centre for Governance and Sustainability (CGS) at the National University of Singapore Business School is Knowledge Partner for the Awards.

## **Award Categories and Assessment Criteria**

### **INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY**

#### **Awards**

1. Impact Leader of the Year
2. Impact Leader Excellence Award

#### **Eligibility**

- Individuals should be based in Singapore.
- Individuals from entities with a clear enterprise purpose, including business enterprises, social enterprises, GLCs, charities and NGOs, are welcomed to participate.
- Individuals should meet the Terms and Conditions stated in the Nomination Declaration form.

#### **Assessment Criteria**

The following framework and criteria will be used to measure Sustainability Impact:

<b>Core Attributes</b>
<p><b>Significance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Individuals should demonstrate the significance of the actual environmental and/or social outcome resulting from the implementation of the projects/initiatives/programmes he/she led.</li><li>● Significance in fulfilling the need for the community should be highlighted and articulated. The need could come from the individual's enterprise or the society.</li><li>● Indirect impact that results in improving profitability need not necessarily be included.</li></ul> <p><b>Leadership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Individuals must demonstrate his/her leadership in effectively implementing the projects/initiatives/programmes.</li><li>● Individuals who have implemented pioneering projects/initiatives/programmes and have influenced a large scale of stakeholders will be awarded bonus points.</li></ul>

## Essential Attributes

### Advocacy:

- Individuals should demonstrate how he/she has advocated to create change as well as how he/she engaged and motivated internal and external stakeholders. For example, how did he/she influence business strategies/decisions/public policy/employees' behaviours/policy makers etc.

### Scope:

- Individuals must demonstrate how the projects/initiatives/programmes he/she led positively affected the local community in Singapore. Individuals who have extended impact beyond Singapore to reach a larger scope will be awarded bonus points, based on how large the impact is.

### Duration:

- Duration of the impact refers to the period that relevant stakeholders experienced the outcome. This award values both short- and long-term impact.

### Depth:

- Depth of the impact refers to the degree of change in the outcome level experienced by relevant stakeholders. Examples could be the degree of improving the lives of local communities, or the degree of improving energy efficiency etc.

## Good Governance (Prerequisite)

### Governing Leadership:

- Individuals should show how he/she upholds a strong mission and vision of his/her enterprise, ensuring leaders of every level are committed to fairness, transparency, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

### Engagement of Stakeholders:

- Individuals should demonstrate his/her practices regarding stakeholder engagement. This includes but is not limited to practices to enhance participation of internal stakeholders and actions to engage external stakeholders.

### Compliance:

- Individuals should demonstrate that he/she does not have any outstanding charges.

## Evaluation

- Individuals will be evaluated based on the social and/or environmental outcome attributed to his/her efforts instead of the size or the impact of his/her enterprise.
- The Individual category will honour individuals who have shown singular excellence in environmental or social aspects as well as individuals who have shown excellence in both aspects.

## ENTERPRISE CATEGORY

## Awards

### **Small and Medium Enterprise (SME)**

- Impact Enterprise of the Year
- Impact Enterprise Excellence Award

### **Large Enterprise**

- Impact Enterprise of the Year
- Impact Enterprise Excellence Award

## Eligibility

- Enterprises should be registered and based in Singapore.
- The Enterprise category is further subdivided into awards for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Large Enterprises.
  - According to Enterprise Singapore, SMEs refer to enterprises which have revenue of up to S\$100 million or maximum employment size of 200 employees.
  - Large Enterprises have revenue larger than S\$100 million or employment size of more than 200 employees.
- Enterprises with a clear enterprise purpose, including businesses, social enterprises, GLCs, charities and NGOs, are welcomed to participate.
- Enterprises should meet the Terms and Conditions stated in the Nomination Declaration form.

## Assessment Criteria

The following framework and criteria will be used to measure Sustainability Impact:

<b>Core Attributes</b>
<p><b>Significance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Enterprises should demonstrate the significance of the actual environmental and/or social impact resulting from the implementation of the projects/initiatives/programmes.</li><li>● Significance in fulfilling the need for the community should be highlighted and articulated. The need could come from his/her organisation or the society.</li></ul> <p><b>Leadership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Enterprises must demonstrate leadership in carrying out the projects/initiatives/programmes.</li><li>● Enterprises which have carried out pioneering projects/initiatives/programmes and have influenced other entities such as businesses, media or academic institutions would be awarded bonus points.</li></ul>
<b>Essential Attributes</b>
<p><b>Scale:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Enterprises should demonstrate the scale of the impact, including but not limited to the groups of stakeholders affected, the scale of people reached, the scale of people experiencing the outcome etc.</li></ul> <p><b>Scope:</b></p>

- Enterprises should demonstrate their contributions to Singapore's national priorities/national strategies/national development plans. Enterprises which extend impact beyond Singapore to reach a larger scope will be awarded bonus points, based on how large the impact is.

**Duration:**

- Duration of the impact refers to the period that relevant stakeholders experienced the outcome. This award values both short- and long-term impact.

**Depth:**

- Depth of the impact refers to the degree of change in the outcome level experienced by relevant stakeholders. Examples could be the degree of improving the lives of local communities, or the degree of improving energy efficiency etc.

**Bonus Points**

**Synergy:**

- Enterprises which promote sustainability while collaborating with other entities and actors will be awarded bonus points. Examples include but are not limited to engaging suppliers to promote a green supply chain or engaging consumers to adopt a green lifestyle.

**Innovation:**

- Enterprises would be awarded bonus points if the creativeness and originality of the projects/initiatives/programmes are proven.

**Prerequisites**

**Environmental Practices**

- **Targets:** Enterprises should demonstrate their targets/visions/statements regarding environmental protection. Environmental protection includes but is not limited to waste management, energy conservation, climate actions etc.
- **Strategies:** Enterprises should illustrate the strategies and practices to achieve the above-mentioned targets/visions/statements.

**Social Practices**

**Well-being of Employees:** Enterprises should demonstrate their practices in improving the well-being of employees. These practices include but are not limited to training and education for employees, occupational health and safety practices, diversity, and inclusion practices etc.

**Good Governance Practices**

- **Governing Leadership:** Enterprises should show their commitment to values that are conducive to the success of the enterprise, employees, and stakeholders at large which include but are not limited to fairness, transparency, diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- **Engagement of Stakeholders:** Enterprises should demonstrate practices regarding stakeholder engagement. This includes but is not limited to policies/regulations that ensure the rights of stakeholders, avenues for stakeholders to participate etc.
- **Transparency and Disclosure:** Enterprises should demonstrate the contents of disclosure and their medium for communication. Contents of disclosure include but are not limited to enterprises' financial disclosure, ownership structure, voting rights, remuneration policy, related party transactions, risk factors, issues regarding

stakeholders, governance structure and policies.

### **Evaluation**

- Enterprises will be evaluated based on the social and/or environmental outcomes attributed to its efforts.
- The Enterprise category honours enterprises that have shown excellence in environmental or social aspects as well as enterprises that have shown excellence in both aspects.