

September 2015

Dear friends,

[15 teams](#) comprising 31 young social entrepreneurs had been selected from the 2015 Young Social Entrepreneurs (YSE) Workshop in March this year to embark on the rest of the eight-month programme with us. The journey will culminate in the **Pitching for Change 2015** on **Friday 23 October**, where all teams will return to Singapore for a chance to pitch for funding. The top five teams will obtain up to SGD 20,000 each to launch or scale up their social enterprises. To inspire the youth from around the world to become changemakers in society, we will also be holding a dialogue session on “Nurturing Young Leaders for a Better World”. This session explores the various initiatives and collaborations in the region to support the next generation of changemakers. We invite you to join us for an insightful discussion, culminating in the announcement of the five deserving winners, from **4pm to 7pm** at the **Suntec City Convention Centre**. You may register by signing up at [yse@sif.org.sg](mailto:yse@sif.org.sg).

Since March, our young changemakers from China, Malaysia, India, Indonesia, Singapore and Vietnam have started on a mentorship scheme with leading consultants from McKinsey & Company to enhance their business plans, and participated in two study visits to India and Malaysia as part of experiential learning.

#### **YSE Study Visit to Mumbai, India - 7 to 13 June**

SIF worked closely with partners in the social, corporate and academic sectors including Ashoka, Intellectap, Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Tata Institute of Social Sciences, UnLtd India, Taj Hotels and Tata Motors to create valuable learning opportunities for the YSE 2015 participants.



The Social Entrepreneurs Exchange Session conducted in the Tata Institute of Social Sciences saw founders of five successful social enterprises and Mr Vishnu Swaminathan, Leader - South Asia of Ashoka sharing tips and insights with the young changemakers, as well as an overview of the Indian social enterprise landscape.

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CSR managers from the Tata Group shared their experience on how social enterprises can work with corporates for greater impact.



At the workshop conducted by UnLtd India, YSE participants learned about team dynamics and the roles each of them play in their own social enterprises.



Participants visited social enterprises in various sectors, learning about their business models and the communities they engaged. From left: Greenway Grammen Infra, Barefoot Slums, Reality Tours & Travel.

### YSE Inaugural Study Visit to Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru, Malaysia - 4 to 10 September

The YSE participants regrouped in Kuala Lumpur to learn how to leverage the efforts of the government, corporates and local communities to further their work, through site visits and sessions with industry leaders such as British Council Malaysia, MaGIC and Scope Group. The young social entrepreneurs were also part of the lively dialogue session at SIF Connects! KL, where they were encouraged to collaborate across countries to effect positive change in the ASEAN region and beyond. A trip down to Johor Bahru was also arranged for the group to learn about the economic and social development projects conducted by the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) across the causeway from Singapore.



YSE participants visited the Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC) in Kuala Lumpur to learn about the new Malaysia Social Enterprise Blueprint. New friendships were formed with fellow aspiring social entrepreneurs and YSE alumni.



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Sparks flew amongst the attendees at *Feast on Good*, organised by Scope Group to discuss the global issue on food waste.



YSE participant Azizon, from Indonesia, learning about the social development plans in the Iskandar region from Mr Isma Ezwan Safri, Vice President of Social Innovation IRDA.



Participants interacted with social enterprises and NGOs representing various causes, and with different communities to understand what it takes to truly impact lives. From left: Community walk to gain insights into the issue of homelessness, organised by YSE 2014 alumni Ubuntu; sharing by Eats, Shoots & Roots on empowering urban individuals to grow their own food, and interaction with the students in Dignity for Children Foundation, which provides underprivileged children with education.

The week-long study visit ended in Singapore, where the second group mentorship session was held. Dedicated volunteer mentors from McKinsey & Company offered practical advice on improving the participants' business plans. Fellow participants also shared their feedback and encouraged one another towards the final pitch.

We look forward to having you meet these young social entrepreneurs at the *Pitching for Change 2015* on **Friday 23 October**.

Warmest wishes,  
**Singapore International Foundation**



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