October 2017

Dear friends,

**YSE Pitching for Change 2017**

The eight-month Young Social Entrepreneurs (YSE) 2017 journey for 16 social enterprises culminates in Pitching for Change on 3 November, Friday. These young changemakers representing 8 countries and territories – Australia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and the USA – will regroup in Singapore to pitch for up to SGD20,000 each to launch or scale their projects. Join us as they present their innovative ideas to create a better world through sustainable businesses in the areas of energy and environment, education, agriculture and digital technology. Learn more about the founders vote for your favourite SE at the YSE showcase!

Beneficiaries are often left out in the conversations around solutions to social problems. How can we truly empower beneficiaries to create the most effective change for themselves, the social organisation, and society at large? Together with the public, private and people sectors, how do we co-create a more inclusive society involving marginalised groups as key partners beyond mere clients and recipients of help? Discuss and explore with us in “Changing the Conversation”!

Find out more and register for YSE Pitching for Change 2017 [here](#).

YSE 2017 shortlisted teams, with SIF Chairman Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, SIF Executive Director Ms Jean Tan, Special Advisor to the SIF YSE Programme Ms Elim Chew and SIF Director of Programmes Division Mr Reginald Wee.

**YSE 2017 Journey**

Following a four-day workshop in March, 37 young social entrepreneurs from 16 teams were to continue the eight-month programme. Since then, they have gone through a customised mentorship scheme with leading consultants from McKinsey & Company, Temasek International as well as experienced entrepreneurs to enhance their business plans and gain industry expertise and network.
In June, the teams regrouped in Singapore for their first Group Mentorship session, where they got to meet their Business Model and Entrepreneur mentors face to face to receive feedback on their progress, as well as attend a personality profiling workshop to help them understand their personal and team strengths and weaknesses. They were then joined by the winner from YSE Workshop | Jakarta 2016 on a week-long experiential study visit to Mumbai, where they learned from academic institutions like the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, established SE capacity builders such as Ashoka India, Dasra and FSG, corporates, investors, as well as various social enterprises and charities on best practices and different perspectives to local social issues, applying valuable lessons learnt on their own work in different parts of the world.

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Left: Site visit to Forbes 30 Under 30 listed social enterprise Sampurn(e)arth. Right: Visit to Dharavi Slum.

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Left: YSEs got the chance to pitch to representatives from Mumbai Angels, India’s leading angel investment network. Their 3min elevator pitches were critiqued and graded, to help them get more investor-ready.

Center: YSEs were led in a Bollywood dance by their new friends at MANN, a center for individuals with special needs. The session helped them understand what it meant to bring happiness and true value to a marginalised community.

Right: Impact Measurement workshop with Ashoka India.

It was a wonderful experience interacting with amazing problem solvers and entrepreneurs - Pragya Mishra, Senior Intrapreneur, Ashoka India.
Inspiring and Enabling Action for a Better World
You're Invited: Young Social Entrepreneurs
Pitching for Change 2017

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YSEs with their Entrepreneur Mentors and Business Model Mentors from McKinsey & Company and Temasek International.

Warmest wishes,
Singapore International Foundation

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