
GREEN ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR



MS. ESTHER AN

Chief Sustainability Officer
City Developments Limited

Ms Esther An joined CDL in 1995 to establish its Corporate Communications department and subsequently CDL's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) portfolio. She has been instrumental in building up CDL's leadership in sustainability. A forerunner in CSR and a member of the management committee of Global Compact Network Singapore since 2005, she also sits on board the Corporate Advisory Board of World Green Building Council. A founding member of the Singapore Business Council for Sustainable Development, she is a signatory of the UN Caring for Climate initiative and a member of the Urban Land Institute Women's Leadership Initiative Singapore Steering Committee. Her latest appointment includes the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Finance Initiative Investor Work Group.

AN ENDURING ONUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

Even before BCA launched the Green Mark Scheme to rate buildings for their environmental sustainability, CDL – under the direction of Ms An – has integrated sustainability and conservation into their day-to-day business and operations. As the bridge between senior management and operational staff, Ms An is able to turn CDL's "Conserving as we Construct" ethos into reality, resulting in the first eco-condo launched in 2002, along with the target to build each new development at a minimum Green Mark GoldPLUS level. To date, CDL has the most number of properties with Green

Mark certification in Singapore, numbering 87 buildings that cover a variety of uses and types.

Ms An helped CDL launch the first Green Bond in Singapore, linking best green practices with green financing. This green financing taps fast-growing demand for socially responsible investment products and paves the way for more Singapore firms to finance climate-resilient infrastructure projects, with potential market for future issuances. Additionally, Ms An published the first GRI-checked Sustainability Report in 2008, followed up with the first Integrated Report released by a developer in 2015.

Alongside the corporate initiatives, Ms An also spearheaded a great number of sustainability achievements, including trailblazing community engagement initiatives such as Project EcoOffice, One Degree Up, E-Generation Challenge, CSR Young Leaders Award, CDL Sculpture Awards, Singapore Young Photographer Award, Let's Live Green, EcoBank, Create4Good and CoLab4Good. She coordinated the construction and launch of My Tree House in 2013, the world's first green library for children. As a Green Mark Platinum facility, My Tree House is not only refurbished with eco-friendly and recycled materials, it also boasts an eco-centric book collection, interactive green features as well as education programmes for children aged 2-12. In 2016, My Tree House has received a visitorship of over 312,500. 🍃