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SGBCCommunity Spotlight

The SGBCCommunity Spotlight series highlights what sustainability means to SGBC Members and how they are helping to build a greener and healthier built environment.



Ms Nathalie Risteau

Director
SUNOLLO



How is the company helping to build greener buildings?

Sunollo integrates solar energy solutions into Singapore's built environment through innovative Building-Integrated Photovoltaics (BIPV) systems. By working closely with architects and developers, we provide seamless designs that not only enhance building aesthetics but also maximize energy generation through integrating energy-generating building materials into the buildings' designs. Our approach enables buildings to meet Green Mark standards and contributes to reducing carbon footprint.

What drove the founders to set up the company?

Sunollo was founded out of a passion for sustainability and the vision to harness the abundant solar energy in Singapore and Asia. We saw a gap in the market for high-quality, aesthetically pleasing solar installations that could accelerate Singapore's Green Plan 2030. We set out to bridge that gap with innovation and high-performance solutions.

What is the biggest challenge the company has faced? Are there any learning points for the rest of the industry?

The biggest challenge has been overcoming misconceptions about the cost and feasibility of solar energy in dense urban settings. However, through education and partnerships with organizations like SGBC, we've demonstrated that solar technology is a long-term investment that pays off. The lesson for the industry is that collaboration is key—we need more partnerships between technology providers, developers, and policymakers to make sustainable solutions the norm.

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What do you think can be done to move the needle on built environment sustainability?

Public-private collaboration is essential. We need greater incentives for building owners to adopt renewable energy and Building-Integrated Photovoltaics, along with stronger policies supporting green technologies. Additionally, continued advancements in smart energy management systems will allow us to harness solar power more efficiently, helping reduce energy waste and improve overall building performance.

How does the future of our built environment look like to you?

We envision a future where every building in Singapore is generating its own electricity and is therefore energy-independent, powered by renewable sources like solar. Buildings will not only be self-sufficient in energy but also contribute to the grid, creating a dynamic, circular economy. Green buildings will be at the heart of a healthier, cleaner urban landscape.

What's next for the company?

Sunollo is focused on expanding its partnerships across Asia and introducing innovations into the market with energy-generating building materials. We are also working on more partnerships to spread the word on the importance of greening the urban built environment to engage more businesses in the green movement, while supporting Singapore's net-zero targets.

