

Block H #02-04, BCA Braddell Campus
200 Braddell Road, Singapore 579700

65 6732 5518 | www.sgbc.sg | enquiry@sgbc.sg



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.



Tay Yanling
Co-Founder
TA.LE Architects

ta.le

How is the company helping to build greener buildings?

At TA.LE Architects, we see sustainability as a fundamental responsibility. Our recent A&A works at City Square Mall, Singapore's first eco-mall, focused on promoting recycled and upcycled material used in construction as an exemplary showcase for the construction industry. Together with projects like the CDL Eco-Train and the Singapore Sustainability Academy Annex, these projects reflect our belief in commercial, educational, community-centric spaces that champion climate action. Across all our work, we prioritise passive strategies, resource efficiency, and designs that stand the test of time—both environmentally and socially.

What drove the founders to set up the company?

TA.LE began from a desire to create meaningful spaces—architecture that is not only well-designed, but also responsible and responsive to its context. We wanted to build a practice that blends creativity with purpose, and where sustainability is embedded in every idea, not added on at the end. The goal was always to make a positive impact—on the city, on people's lives, and on the planet.

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

A key challenge has been shifting client mindsets around sustainability. Often, green features are seen as extras—costly or complex. But through projects like City Square Mall's upgrades or the Sustainability Academy Annex, we've shown that sustainable choices can align with commercial goals and community values. The biggest lesson? Storytelling matters. We need to show clients—not just tell them—how sustainability adds value in ways they might not expect.

Block H #02-04, BCA Braddell Campus
200 Braddell Road, Singapore 579700

65 6732 5518 | www.sgbc.sg | enquiry@sgbc.sg



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

We need to treat sustainability as standard practice. That means better incentives, clearer policies, and more platforms for knowledge-sharing. But beyond frameworks, we also need to inspire a cultural shift—towards curiosity, long-term thinking, and design that puts people and planet first. Collaboration is key, as is involving communities early and meaningfully.

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

We believe the future of our built environment will be shaped by adaptability, resilience, and empathy. Buildings will do more than house functions—they'll respond to climate, support wellbeing, and foster community. Technology and tradition will work hand in hand, with data-driven design complementing vernacular wisdom. Most of all, I hope we'll see a shift from ego-centric to eco-centric thinking, where every project—big or small—contributes meaningfully to a more sustainable and human-centred future.

What's next for the company?

We're looking forward to taking on more projects that stretch the boundaries of sustainable design—whether that's adaptive reuse, green education spaces, or climate-responsive architecture.

