

## Youths and community partners get into Water Week action

*Doing its part as a responsible corporate citizen, SIWW also initiates a collaboration with WEworkz to recycle used banners into bags for the delegates and student ambassadors.*

**Singapore, 31 May 2012** – Almost 10,000 youths and community partners are getting into the action at this year's Singapore International Water Week (SIWW), as part of efforts to engage and interest the youths and community in water related issues and raise water consciousness amongst them.

Comprising a host of events and initiatives ranging from conferences to site visits targeted at the youths and community, Youth@SIWW will provide all organisers and participants a unique learning experience, as well as nurture the next generation of water professionals. This community-centric segment of SIWW will take place from 30 June to 8 July 2012.

The series of programmes under the Youth@SIWW umbrella include the annual Singapore International Water Festival, the Young Water Talents Symposium and Young Water Professionals Networking Reception cum Award Presentation, Environment and Water Technologies (EWT) PhD Scholarships, Water Showcases and Education day at Water Expo.

"With Youth@SIWW, we want to drive a concerted effort to promote greater ownership in water sustainability and encourage greater youth and community participation. We also want to showcase the exciting potential of the water industry and the possible career opportunities it presents, while allowing the youths to network and learn from the best in the global water industry," said Mr Maurice Neo, Managing Director, SIWW.

To kick start Youth@SIWW, the annual **Singapore International Water Festival (SIWF)**, a platform that brings young people together to celebrate Singapore's achievements in the world of water, will take place on 30 June 2012 at the Marina Barrage and Marina Reservoir. Organised by Singapore Polytechnic and national water agency PUB, the theme for this year's SIWF is "*Splashing Good Times!*" To be graced by Mr Chan Chun Sing, Acting Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports, SIWF 2012 will feature a variety of exciting land and water activities including, the popular Raft Races, adrenaline-pumping Dragon Boat Races, as well as the telematch and carnival.

Another key highlight of Youth@SIWW is the **Young Water Talents Symposium (YWTS)** on 1 July 2012. This is a one-day symposium which aims to encourage scientific enquiry and interaction amongst young, budding scientists and engineers in the water industry. It seeks to provide a stage for young water experts from Singapore and around the world to convene, network and share their knowledge.

Following the symposium is the **Young Water Professionals Networking Reception cum Award Presentation**. At the award presentation ceremony, winners of the Sembcorp Water Technology Prize and Singapore Junior Water Prize will be sharing their winning projects. This event will be graced by guest of honour, Senior Minister of State for Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Ms Grace Fu.

To allow the community an opportunity to dive into the buzz of SIWW 2012, the **Water Expo** will open its doors on Education Day for all to explore on 4 July 2012. Guided tours will be available for the public to view inspiring and innovative products and services by leading water-industry players.

**Water Showcases** such as the ABC Waters Learning Trails @ Water Sites, National Environment Quiz and guided trails and tours are also organised during SIWW to garner greater community awareness of the island's water resources. These events and activities are organised by different community partners, from schools to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to showcase best practices and contribution towards greater water stewardship.

“Through these water showcases, we hope to inspire other like-minded individuals and organisations to do their part for water sustainability by learning and adopting ideas on how they can help spread the importance of conserving, valuing and enjoying our waters in this changing urban environment,” said Mr Neo.

### **From banners to bags**

Building on its efforts to involve more sectors of the community in SIWW and to do its part as a responsible corporate citizen, SIWW will also be working with Women Enterprise Workz (WEworkz) to design and produce bags and cardholders from past SIWW street lamp banners.

A total of six hundred bags and 2,200 cardholders were produced from more than 500 banners. These bags and cardholders will be presented to the delegates and SIWW ambassadors as special commemorative gifts to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> year of SIWW.

“This green initiative allows these used street banners which would otherwise be discarded, to be recycled into meaningful mementos to mark our 5-year milestone,” added Mr Neo.

WEworkz is an assistance programme under the Comcare Local Network for South West CDC that encourages and empowers women of lower-income backgrounds to acquire skills and business opportunities for economic independence. This collaboration allows Weworkz to take a step forward in achieving its goal of economic independence for lower-income women and environmental conservation.

### **Social media**

To generate a buzz about water amongst the youths, SIWW will tap on three main social media platforms – the Singapore Water Dialogue blog, hosted in collaboration with Black and Veatch; SIWW Facebook page and SIWW Twitter to put out news and photos on the week's happenings.

### **SIWW Ambassadors**

To allow students to cultivate greater awareness and ownership of water issues, SIWW will be working with more than 400 local polytechnic and university students who will act as SIWW ambassadors. These students will act as liaison officers to foreign delegates, serve as guides for educational tours as well as provide logistics support for the main events. A comprehensive training programme will be provided to empower participants with the relevant knowledge and information about water issues. They will also be given training in service etiquette so as to ensure a good experience for their delegates and guests.

For more information please visit [Youth@SIWW](#).

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### **About Singapore International Water Week**

The Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) the global platform for sharing and co-creation of innovative water solutions. Comprising the Water Leaders Summit, Water Convention, Water Expo and Business Forums, it culminates in the presentation of the Lee Kuan Yew Water Prize, a prestigious international water award to recognize outstanding contributions towards solving global water problems. Themed “Water Solutions for Liveable and Sustainable Cities”, the Singapore International Water Week is organised in conjunction with the 3rd World Cities Summit and the inaugural CleanEnviro Singapore.

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### **Appendix – Key Event Dates for Youth@SIWW**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date and Location</b>
<b>Singapore International Water Festival 2012</b>	Date: 30 June 2012 (Saturday) Time: 8.00am – 2.00pm Venue: Marina Barrage and Marina Reservoir For more details please visit <a href="http://www.siwf.sg">www.siwf.sg</a>
<b>Young Water Talents Symposium (YWTS)</b>	Date: 1 July 2012 (Sunday) Time: 9.00am – 4.30pm Venue: Level 3 - Room 3101& 3102 @ MBS
<b>Young Water Professionals Networking Reception cum Award Presentation</b>	Date: 1 July 2012 (Sunday) Time: 4.30pm – 6.00pm Venue: Level 3 - Room 3101& 3102 @ MBS
<b>Education Day at Water Expo</b>	Date: 4 July 2012 (Wednesday) Time: 12.00pm – 4.00pm Venue: Sands Expo and Convention Center (MBS)
<b>Water Showcases</b>	
National Environment Quiz <i>*Suitable for primary school students. Limited to 40 persons per school.</i>	Date: 30 June 2012 (Saturday) Time: 8.30am – 12.30pm Venue: Nan Hua High School, 41 Clementi Ave 1 Singapore 129956
Bike Patrol with Waterways Watch Society <i>*Suitable for persons 12 years old and above.</i>	Date: 30 June 2012 (Saturday) Time: 5.00pm – 7.30pm Venue: Marine Reservoir  Date: 1 July 2012 (Sunday) Time: 10.00am – 12.30pm Venue: Marine Reservoir
ABC Waters Learning Trail @ Sengkang Floating Wetland with Compassvale Secondary School <i>*Suitable for all age groups. Limited to 40 persons.</i>	Date: 30 June 2012 (Saturday) Time: 8.30am – 10am Venue: Sengkang Floating Wetland (near Anchorvale Community Club)
Guided Walk at Lorong Halus Wetland with Nature Society <i>*Suitable for all age groups. Limited to 40 persons</i>	Date: 1 July 2012 (Sunday) Time: 8.00am – 11.00am Venue: Lorong Halus Wetland, 326 Lorong Halus
ABC Waters Learning Trail @ Yishun Pond <i>*Suitable for all age groups. Limited to 40 persons.</i>	Date: 2 July 2012 (Monday) Time: 2.00pm – 5.00pm Venue: Yishun Pond, Beside Khoo Teck Puat Hospital
ABC Waters Learning Trail @ Alexandra Canal with Crescent Girls' School <i>*Suitable for lower secondary school students. Registration is limited to 40 persons.</i>	Date: 3 July 2012 (Tuesday) Time: 3.00pm – 4.30pm Venue: Alexandra Canal
Primary School Water Festival 2012 <i>*Suitable for primary school students. Limited to 40 persons per school.</i>	Date: 5 July 2012 (Thursday) Time: 2.00pm – 5.30pm Venue: Anchor Green Primary School, 31 Anchorvale Dr, Singapore 544969

<p>ABC Waters Learning Trail @ Bedok Reservoir with Springfield Secondary School *Suitable for secondary school students. Limited to 40 persons</p>	<p>Date: 5 July 2012 (Thursday) Time: 3.00pm – 4.30pm Venue: Bedok Reservoir</p>
<p>ABC Waters Learning Trail at Kallang River @ Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park with Raffles Institute (RI)</p>	<p>Date: 5 July 2012 (Thursday) Time: 3.00pm – 5.30pm Venue: River Plains (Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park along Ang Mo Kio Ave 1)</p>
<p>ABC Waters Learning Trail @ MacRitchie Reservoir with Hwa Chong Institution *Suitable for secondary school students. Limited to 40 persons</p>	<p>Date: 6 July 2012 (Friday) Time: 2.30pm – 5.30pm Venue: MacRitchie Reservoir</p>
<p>ABC Waters Learning Trail @ Lower Seletar Reservoir with Anglican High School *Suitable for secondary school students. Limited to 40 persons.</p>	<p>Date: 6 July 2012 (Friday) Time: 2.30pm – 5.30pm Venue: Lower Seletar Reservoir</p>
<p>MacRitchie EcoRitch with Hwa Chong Institute <i>*Suitable for primary school students. Registration is limited to 40 persons</i></p>	<p>Date: 6 July 2012 (Friday) Time: 2.30pm – 5.30pm Venue: MacRitchie Reservoir</p>
<p>Bird Watching cum Nature Walk at Kranji Marshes with Nature Society (Singapore) <i>*Suitable for all age groups. Limited to 40 persons</i></p>	<p>Date: 7 July 2012 (Saturday) Time: 8.00am – 11.00am Venue: Kranji Marshes</p>
<p>Guided Walk @ MacRitchie Reservoir with MediaCorp <i>*Suitable for all age groups. Limited to 80 persons</i></p>	<p>Date: 7 July 2012 (Saturday) Time: 9.00am – 10.00am Venue: MacRitchie Reservoir</p>
<p>ABC Waters Learning Trails @ Lorong Halus Wetland with Systems on Silicon Manufacturing Co. Pte. Ltd. *Suitable for secondary school students. Limited to 40 persons.</p>	<p>Date: 8 July 2012 (Sunday) Time: 7.45am – 10.00am Venue: Lorong Halus Wetland</p>