

Client : RICOH ECO ACTION DAY 2019
Publication : The Straits Times
URL : Print
Date : 31 May 2019
Headline : Stakeholders share ideas for a zero-waste S'pore

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019 | THE STRAITS TIMES |

HOME | B7

S'pore, Denmark can learn from each other on eldercare: Danish envoy

The highlights importance of tech, but says greater emphasis must also be placed on community-driven care

Rei Kurohi and Marcia Lee

Denmark and Singapore can draw lessons from each other's approaches to eldercare as both countries face similar challenges associated with ageing populations, Denmark's ambassador to Singapore said yesterday.

Although Denmark currently has a higher average age, Singapore is likely to surpass it by 2030, when it

is projected that one in four Singaporeans will be over the age of 65. Denmark's average age last year was 41.5, while Singapore's was 40.8 as of the end of June last year.

Speaking at the Lifelong Living Conference, held at the Parkroyal on Pickering hotel, ambassador Dorte Bech Vizard said technological innovations will be needed to make up for the manpower shortage in the healthcare sectors of both countries, but there will also be a need to put greater emphasis

on community-driven care.

Citing Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Health Amy Khor, who was guest of honour at the event organised by the Royal Danish Embassy, Ms Vizard said Singapore's Silver Generation Office (SGO) was inspired by a Danish social service programme under which government nurses visit people over 65 at their homes to offer free preventive care.

In Singapore, SGO volunteers go out to meet seniors in the Merdeka and Pioneer generations and inform them about the healthcare benefits that they qualify for.

This is one area where Denmark could, in turn, learn from Singapore and expand its own community

care, Ms Vizard said.

Dr Khor said many of the SGO volunteers are themselves seniors who play crucial roles at home, at work and in the community. "We must champion active contribution, harness their social and economic potential, and celebrate their contributions to society," she added.

The importance of a sense of agency and ownership for seniors was a key theme at the conference.

Ms Chan Su Yee, chief executive of NTUC Health and one of the speakers, said it was challenging to get seniors to join activities at the Active Ageing Hub in Kampung Admiralty when they were launched. But participation quickly grew, attracting hundreds of seniors, after more efforts were made to consult seniors on their preferences and to encourage them to develop their own events and activities.

Ms Barbara Lisemose, director of Langgjedehus Care Home in Copenhagen, said every decision made at the home is evaluated on whether it aligns with the residents' needs.

"The elderly need to feel that they have a purpose in life and that their lives still matter," she said.

"This is what I think about every day when I go to work."

rei@sph.com.sg
marcia@sph.com.sg

Stakeholders share ideas for a zero-waste S'pore

Vanessa Liu

Stakeholders joined forces yesterday to devise ways to boost low recycling rates, which are falling to keep up with the rising amounts of waste produced here.

Representatives of government agencies and environmental groups, as well as business owners, gathered for a panel discussion to find ways to make Singapore a zero-waste nation. The key points included defining manufacturers' role in waste management, as well as social behaviour and policymaking.

The event was organised by Japanese multinational Ricoh Asia Pacific and held at Ricoh Printing Innovation Centre in Penang Road.

It was attended by National Environment Agency (NEA) chief executive Tan Meng Dul, executives from firms such as Johnson & Johnson and Deloitte Singapore, and representatives from the non-profit Zero Waste Singapore and sustainability publication Eco Business.

Mr Tan said the NEA will provide the policy, regulatory and legislative framework to support the adoption of a circular economy. However, he added, individuals and businesses can play their part by building a strong 3R - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - culture and "adopt a zero-waste mindset in all that they do".

Circular economy approaches consist of minimising waste and converting waste material into resources, thus creating a closed production loop.

Recycling rates here were 22 per cent last year, far behind countries such as Germany and South Korea.

The amount of waste generated annually has risen sevenfold over the past 40 years or so, with Singapore's only landfill on Semakau Island projected to reach maximum capacity by 2035, a decade earlier than expected.

Mr Tan said the zero-waste masterplan would be launched later this year.

Its three focus areas are electronic waste - or e-waste - as well as food waste and packaging waste.

E-waste can harm the environment if improperly disposed of, while food and packaging have high waste-generation and low recycling rates.

Mr Tan added that the Extended Producer Responsibility programme will come into effect by 2021.

This will compel producers of electrical and electronic equipment to collect their products for recycling or disposal at the end of the items' lifespans.

These will include items such as batteries, lamps and large household appliances, including electric scooters and power-assisted bicycles. Up to 90 per cent of e-waste will be covered by the scheme.

Mr Tan said the notion of a zero-waste nation would be more feasible if it could include ways to manage incinerated rubbish, such as using it for road construction instead of adding it to landfills.

Eco Business managing editor Jessica Cheam said: "I think that this is a crucial conversation because if you look at global trends in waste generation in the world right now, there is no longer the luxury of exporting your waste or exporting the problem."

She added that countries should look inward to come up with responsible waste management solutions, and that the pioneers of these solutions could generate business opportunities.

liuay@sph.com.sg

Jail for director over scheme in which investors lost \$700k

Shaffiq Akhatib
Court Correspondent

A Singaporean director of two companies ran a fly-by-night operation in which 29 people invested more than \$1 million to buy properties in the United States.

Doris Tan Stephenson, who used to be known as Clara Tan Lixin, made the investment decisions alone and there was no indication of whether she met the minimum competency requirements, a district court heard yesterday.

The investors later lost more than \$700,000, said Deputy Public Prosecutor Magdalene Hwang.

The investment scheme, known as the Capital Multiplying System (CapMS), was conceptualised in 2013 by Tan, director of Singapore-based CTL Group and also CTL Global, which was incorporated in the United States.

Later that year, CTL Group marketed the scheme offered by CTL Global to at least 29 investors in Singapore.

Tan, 43, was sentenced to 12 weeks' jail after pleading guilty to nine counts of offering the invest-

ment scheme without authorisation from the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). She also pleaded guilty to nine counts of offering the scheme without a prospectus.

The case involved the first prosecution of such offences, said Deputy Public Prosecutor Nicholas Khoo.

Tan also admitted to a single charge of running a business dealing with securities without a capital markets services licence from the MAS.

DPP Huang said that as part of the CapMS scheme, the investors' monies were pooled together to buy a group of properties in the US.

Profits would be generated by authorising CTL Global to perform tasks such as acquiring, selling and leasing these properties to tenants.

But the investors failed to receive their promised returns and 10 police reports were filed against CTL Group here.

Yesterday, defence lawyer Jonathan Cho told District Judge Ng Peng Hong: "My client herself sustained quite a significant loss, losing \$3 million of her own."

He also said Tan had been betrayed by the people she trusted and that one of the alleged parties



Doris Tan Stephenson, who used to be known as Clara Tan Lixin, speaking to The New Paper while in the US back in 2015. She ran an operation in which 29 people invested over \$1 million to buy properties in the US. But they failed to receive their promised returns and lost more than \$700,000. INF FILE PHOTO

was her attorney in the US, Mr Scott C. Cole. Mr Cho added: "Even the most unlikely person - her US attorney - committed fraud behind her back by embezzling all her company's money, and (then) disappeared. All he left our client with was a huge burden to bear, and

problems that were not even caused by her to begin with."

The court heard that there is now a civil suit in the US between Tan and the law firm allegedly linked to money that had been embezzled.

ashaffiq@sph.com.sg

Stakeholders share ideas for a zero-waste S'pore

Vanessa Liu

Stakeholders joined forces yesterday to devise ways to boost low recycling rates, which are failing to keep up with the rising amounts of waste produced here.

Representatives of government agencies and environmental groups, as well as business owners, gathered for a panel discussion to find ways to make Singapore a zero-waste nation. The key points included defining manufacturers' role in waste management, as well as social behaviour and policymaking.

The event was organised by Japanese multinational Ricoh Asia Pacific and held at Ricoh Printing Innovation Centre in Penang Road.

It was attended by National Environment Agency (NEA) chief executive Tan Meng Dul, executives from firms such as Johnson & Johnson and Deloitte Singapore, and representatives from the non-profit Zero Waste Singapore and sustainability publication Eco-Business.

Mr Tan said the NEA will provide the policy, regulatory and legislative framework to support the adoption of a circular economy. However, he added, individuals and businesses can play their part by building a strong 3R – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – culture and “adopt a zero-waste mindset in all that they do”.

Circular economy approaches consist of minimising waste and converting waste material into resources, thus creating a closed production loop.

Recycling rates here were 22 per cent last year, far behind countries such as Germany and South Korea.

The amount of waste generated annually has risen sevenfold over the past 40 years or so, with Singapore's only landfill on Semakau Island projected to reach maximum capacity by 2035, a decade earlier than expected.

Mr Tan said the zero-waste masterplan would be launched later this year.

Its three focus areas are electronic waste – or e-waste – as well as food waste and packaging waste.

E-waste can harm the environment if improperly disposed of, while food and packaging have high waste generation and low recycling rates.

Mr Tan added that the Extended Producer Responsibility programme will come into effect by 2021.

This will compel producers of electrical and electronic equipment to collect their products for recycling or disposal at the end of the items' lifespans.

These will include items such as batteries, lamps and large household appliances, including electric scooters and power-assisted bicycles. Up to 90 per cent of e-waste will be covered by the scheme.

Mr Tan said the notion of a zero-waste nation would be more feasible if it could include ways to manage incinerated rubbish, such as using it for road construction instead of adding it to landfills.

Eco-Business managing editor Jessica Cheam said: “I think that this is a crucial conversation because if you look at global trends in waste generation in the world right now, there is no longer the luxury of exporting your waste or exporting the problem.”

She added that countries should look inward to come up with responsible waste management solutions, and that the pioneers of these solutions could generate business opportunities.

liuxyv@sph.com.sg

Client : RICOH ECO ACTION DAY 2019

Publication : The Straits Times (Online)

URL : <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/stakeholders-share-ideas-for-a-zero-waste-spore>

Date : 31 May 2019

Headline : Stakeholders share ideas for a zero-waste S'pore

Stakeholders share ideas for a zero-waste S'pore



The zero-waste challenge is stark given recycling rates remain low here at 22 per cent last year, significantly behind countries such as Germany, Austria and South Korea. ST PHOTO: LIM YAOHUI

Stakeholders joined forces yesterday to devise ways to boost low recycling rates, which are failing to keep up with the rising amounts of waste produced here.

Representatives of government agencies and environmental groups, as well as business owners, gathered for a panel discussion to find ways to make Singapore a zero-waste nation. The key points included defining manufacturers' role in waste management, as well as social behaviour and policymaking.

The event was organised by Japanese multinational Ricoh Asia Pacific and held at Ricoh Printing Innovation Centre in Penang Road.

It was attended by National Environment Agency (NEA) chief executive Tan Meng Dui, executives from firms such as Johnson & Johnson and Deloitte Singapore, and representatives from the non-profit Zero Waste Singapore and sustainability publication Eco-Business.

Mr Tan said the NEA will provide the policy, regulatory and legislative framework to support the adoption of a circular economy. However, he added, individuals and businesses can play their part by building a strong 3R - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle - culture and "adopt a zero-waste mindset in all that they do".

Circular economy approaches consist of minimising waste and converting waste material into resources, thus creating a closed production loop.

Recycling rates here were 22 per cent last year, far behind countries such as Germany and South Korea.



The amount of waste generated annually has risen sevenfold over the past 40 years or so, with Singapore's only landfill on Semakau Island projected to reach maximum capacity by 2035, a decade earlier than expected.

Mr Tan said the zero-waste masterplan would be launched later this year.

Related Story

Recycling rate fell during Singapore's Year of Climate Action

Its three focus areas are electronic waste - or e-waste - as well as food waste and packaging waste.

Related Story

6 in 10 S'porean households recycle regularly, though misconceptions about the process remain: Surveys

E-waste can harm the environment if improperly disposed of, while food and packaging have high waste generation and low recycling rates.

Related Story

Eco special: Zero-waste warriors

Mr Tan added that the Extended Producer Responsibility programme will come into effect by 2021.

This will compel producers of electrical and electronic equipment to collect their products for recycling or disposal at the end of the items'

lifespans.

These will include items such as batteries, lamps and large household appliances, including electric scooters and power-assisted bicycles. Up to 90 per cent of e-waste will be covered by the scheme.

Mr Tan said the notion of a zero-waste nation would be more feasible if it could include ways to manage incinerated rubbish, such as using it for road construction instead of adding it to landfills.

Eco-Business managing editor Jessica Cheam said: "I think that this is a crucial conversation because if you look at global trends in waste generation in the world right now, there is no longer the luxury of exporting your waste or exporting the problem."

She added that countries should look inward to come up with responsible waste management solutions, and that the pioneers of these solutions could generate business opportunities.

###