

Impacts of the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint

The Sustainable Singapore Blueprint was launched on the 9th of November at the Clean and Green Singapore, and it set new targets and goals for the development of Sustainability in Singapore, updating the one published in 2009. SEAS members were among the more than 6,000 people who contributed their thoughts to the blueprint.

The Sustainable Singapore Blueprint 2015's vision and plans to make Singapore a more sustainable city is divided into three sections:

1. A Liveable and Endearing Home
2. A Vibrant and Sustainable City
3. An Active and Gracious Community

Out of these three, a Liveable and Endearing home, and a Vibrant and Sustainable city are the most relevant to the sustainable energy industry.



Smart Technologies in our Home

Smart Building Features: In the section on a Liveable and Endearing Home, the blueprint highlights the efforts to create more sustainable housing estates, where new HDB flats will have smart building features to enhance energy efficiency and

make use of more clean energy. For example, using solar panels, LED lighting, building design that stimulates wind flow, rainwater harvesting, and elevator energy regeneration systems.



Other new smart technologies include Lighting with Sensors, which studies human traffic flow for optimised lighting in common areas. Neighbourhoods will also be encouraged to use electric car sharing schemes.

Not just a Garden City, but an Eco-City as well

Living Labs: As a Vibrant and Sustainable City, businesses in Singapore will be encouraged to adopt greener practices, and Singapore will be a hub for the cutting-edge business of sustainable development, creating more jobs in this sector for Singaporeans. More Living Labs will be created to test-bed ideas that improve standard of living and do not harm the environment.

Green Buildings: As a city with high building density, Singapore also aims have 80% of our buildings achieve the BCA Green Mark standard by 2030, up from

25% today. There is also strategies put in place to raise the solar penetration rate by awarding points in the green mark for renewable energy.

Green Economic Growth: In order for Singapore to have strong economic growth with our limited land and resources, the government will work with local businesses to create an ecosystem of supporting infrastructure and policies to reduce resource consumption, carbon emissions and waste generated from our industries. Singapore will work towards having greener vehicles, greener shipping, and greener industries.

*Positioning Singapore as
The Leader in Sustainable
Energy and Smart
Technology*

The government is placing a lot emphasis on developing smart technology, since we do not have favourable geological conditions for most renewable energies besides solar & bioenergy. Singapore has positioned itself and aims to continue to position itself as a “living lab” to testbed smart technologies, setting up advanced R&D centres and attracting some of the brightest minds in the world to carry out their work here. However, we could be losing this “advantage” of being a leader in using our island state as a living lab. This idea has caught on in many cities around the world especially with increasing political will, enabling policies, and the availability of finance spurring technology development.

Therefore Singapore will need to take advantage of its highly robust power system, high building density, and IT enabled society to create more platforms to pilot solutions using the city infrastructure in an integrated manner. Using smart technologies in HDB estates is already one step forward. Another way would be to integrate smart technology with renewable energy solutions that are feasible in Singapore, such as solar PV, biomass, and biogas. Singapore will then be a vibrant sustainable energy industry hub with an eco-system of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies bringing totally integrated solutions to Asia and the world.



These policies and strategies will then attract many MNCs and technology SMEs from all over the world to set up in Singapore, seeing that we have all the critical ingredients to become the global center for sustainable energy and smart technology.