

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



Photography by Annette Wong

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
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**Lou Hei - 12:00- 12:30 PM**



**Clarence Ling**  
**Founder and Principal, Allspice Institute**

Clarence is an educational and culinary leader dedicated to cultural preservation, wellness, and community engagement. He founded the Allspice Institute (ASI) in 2008, which has become one of Southeast Asia's top culinary schools. Under his leadership, ASI has received numerous accolades, including the World Gourmet Summit Awards (2018) and Top 10 Culinary School recognition from Asia Business Outlook (2023).

Clarence's initiatives, like the "Special Tok Panjang," celebrate Southeast Asian heritage, while the ASI Heritage Cookbook preserves traditional recipes. He collaborates with organisations like the Singapore Heart Foundation, co-publishing the "Cook Right Eat Right Cookbook" in 2016, and hosting wellness events.

In community leadership, Clarence has held roles such as Vice President of the China Society (2022-2024) and District Governor for Y's Men International (2023-2024). He founded "Circle of Friends" in 2014, assisting at-risk youth through counselling and community participation.

Previously, Clarence practised law as an IP specialist (1995-2003), representing clients like Microsoft, and later ventured into the F&B sector. His commitment has earned him awards, including the Community Spirit Merit Award (2024) and multiple recognitions for cultural preservation and community engagement.

His vision is to elevate educational and sustainability standards across Asia, empowering individuals in culinary arts, heritage appreciation, and wellness.



**Ms Tanya Pillai-Nair**  
**Game Changer, Training Circumference**

Tanya began her career in hotel management in 1992 after acquiring a diploma from Switzerland and a degree from the University of Buckingham in hotel management. Midway in her career, she retooled with an E-Cornell Revenue Management course.

Her vast experience in the hotel industry includes operational and leadership roles in chains such as The Hilton, Hyatt and Fullerton.

She spent the last 20 years as a Performance Consultant, specializing in revenue management with major hotel chains across Europe, Asia Pacific and the Middle East. She has delivered training programs to more than 130 clients globally.

Tanya is also a specialist in personality profiling and has designed her own online profiling tool. This helps her get the best out of front-line staff in all hotel types across different cultures.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Currently, she also lectures at the SDH Institute, focusing on developing young adults for the hospitality industry.

**Sustainable Rural-Urban Development, Stewardship of Dignity, Culture of School of Life - 12:30- 12:45 PM**



**Prof Khoo Peng Beng**  
**Head, Architecture & Sustainable Design, SUTD**

Prof Khoo Peng Beng is a visionary architect and educator, renowned for his transformative designs and unwavering commitment to sustainability. As the Head of the Architecture and Sustainable Design (ASD) pillar at the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD), Prof Khoo leads with passion and purpose, inspiring the next generation of architects to think beyond the conventional.

With over 31 years of experience, Prof Khoo co-founded ARC Studio Architecture + Urbanism in 1998 alongside his wife, Belinda Huang. Their practice has garnered international acclaim for its bold, community-centric projects, including the iconic Pinnacle@Duxton, which redefined high-rise, high-density public housing in Singapore.

Prof Khoo's work extends beyond Singapore, with impactful projects in Malaysia, China, India, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, and Rwanda. His designs are celebrated for their innovative approach to sustainability, biodiversity, and social responsibility. In 2020, Prof Khoo and Belinda were honoured with the prestigious President's Design Award Designer of the Year, recognising their outstanding contributions to the field.

As a thought leader, Prof Khoo has curated exhibitions at the Venice Biennale and other international platforms, showcasing Singapore's architectural prowess on the global stage. His research interests span quantum consciousness, holarchy, trans-contextuality, deep sustainability, and integral ecology, reflecting his holistic approach to architecture.

Prof Khoo Peng Beng is not just an architect; he is a champion of sustainable living and a mentor to aspiring architects, driving the future of architecture with creativity, compassion, and a deep respect for nature.



**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Ms. Peng-Ean Khoo**  
**Co-founder & Director, Bilberries Blue | One Love | The Kind Grower | 1000 ROSEHuts+ Campus Zero**

Peng-Ean Khoo read economics at the University of Cambridge and has been a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales since 1997. She trained at Pricewaterhouse in London and PricewaterhouseCoopers in Boston, gaining experience in audits, IPO preparation, and M&A support.

In 2000, Peng-Ean co-founded Bilberries Blue with her brother, aiming to support sustainable enterprises and enable economic development. She has served as a finance consultant and interim CFO for various entities, including NTUC Social Enterprises in Singapore.

Peng-Ean founded One Love Ltd in 2014, creating birth-to-lifelong support platforms to foster meaningful livelihoods and responsible access. She has led numerous initiatives, including Emergent Poetry, The Happy Heart School, and BB Studio, all focused on sustainable education and human development.

Notably, One Love completed an inclusive prototype for adolescents and young adults through Bilberries Blue LightHouse between 2021-2023. This typology for a fully inclusive live-play-work space aims to be scalability-ready by 2026.

Peng-Ean co-founded The Kind Grower in 2022 to pivot Food Forest Farm towards global food sustainability. In 2023, the Bilberries Blue ROSEhut paradigm emerged to address innovation adoption gaps, creating a sustainable rural-urban development model aligned with SDG2030 goals.

Peng-Ean's work embodies a commitment to sustainable, inclusive development across economic, social, and ecological spheres, fostering meaningful change and resilience for communities worldwide.



**Khoo Peng Keat**  
**Co-founder & Director, Food Forest Farm | Bilberries Blue | Moonriver Lodge | The Kind Grower**

Peng Keat champions kindness, innovation, and resilience in sustainable agriculture and healthier ecosystems. With nearly 30 years of business start-up experience, he specialises in agribusiness development spanning agricultural production, value-added processing, packaging, distribution, and marketing.

In 2000, Peng Keat co-founded Bilberries Blue, a sustainable enterprise focused on biodiversity and ecosystem sustainability, providing strategy and advisory services across various industries. In 2009, he co-founded Moonriver Lodge, a highlands farm stay that serves as a refuge of hope and inspiration.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Since 2005, Peng Keat has led Sigar Highlands' 948-acre sustainable township development, focusing on rainforest conservation and climate resilience.

In 2012, Peng Keat co-founded Food Forest Farm, which has grown into the largest certified pesticide-free farm in Peninsular Malaysia. The farm's practices integrate plant nutrition, renewable energy, sustainable processing, and zero-waste principles.

In 2022, Peng Keat co-founded The Kind Grower to expand the global pesticide-free food supply chain, promoting sustainable agriculture. His efforts include branding, product development, and ensuring fresh, pesticide-free vegetables reach the market.



**Ms Kwek Pei Xuan**  
**Executive Director**  
**Head of Sustainability & Corporate Affairs, Hong Leong Asia Ltd**

Pei Xuan is currently the Head of Sustainability and Corporate Affairs of HLA where she oversees the Group's strategic direction in its management of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues, sustainability reporting framework and corporate communication. Her experience includes business development, marketing communications and investment.

Pei Xuan holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree, majoring in Marketing and Finance from the University of Melbourne, as well as a Masters in Hospitality Management from Les Roches International School of Hotel Management, Switzerland. She has also been awarded certifications of completion for Business Sustainability Management and Supply Chain Management from the University of Cambridge.



**Himal Ruparel**  
**Experiential Learner | Social Impact Leader | Inclusive Communities Advocate**

With over 30 years of leadership across corporate and social sectors, Himal is a champion of inclusive, heart-centered communities. Her journey spans India, Singapore, London, Vietnam, and Indonesia, where she has empowered individuals with special needs, fostered sustainable relationships, and driven meaningful change.

As Co-founder of Tattva Learning Labs (India) and a Governing Board Member of FMR India (L'Arche Internationale), she leads initiatives in lifelong learning, community healing, and cultural transformation. Her work with One Love Pte Ltd, Bilberries Blue, and Human Engagement Studio reflects her dedication to integrating learning, well-being, and compassionate leadership into organisations worldwide.

From early childhood development to corporate leadership training, Himal's expertise is rooted in the belief that authentic connections—grounded in love, respect, and service—create a more inclusive and sustainable world.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Her lifelong pursuit of learning and service is reflected in her academic achievements, including a B.A. in English Literature (University of Madras), certification from Stanford's Compassion Institute, and extensive professional training in communication, leadership, and pedagogy.

Himal's impact transcends borders—wherever there is a need, she answers with hope, love, and unwavering commitment.



**Vashima Goyal**  
**Edu-traveler | Educator**

Vashima Goyal is an edu-traveler and passionate early-years educator dedicated to transforming education through innovative, collaborative learning journeys.

As co-founder of Human Engagement Studio, she designs transformative experiences that enhance educational research and documentation. In 2008, she launched EduRetreat, curating immersive Travel & Learn conferences that foster global dialogue among educators. Her commitment to child rights is evident in her work with the World Forum Foundation, where she co-produced the documentary 'Voices of Children,' premiering at the 2017 World Forum Conference in Auckland.

With a Master's in Education from Sheffield University and participation in Harvard's Project Zero, Vashima's pedagogical approach is deeply influenced by Reggio Emilia principles. Her 18+ years with Child at Street 11 in Singapore have led to young children authoring and illustrating publications like 'The Chandelier: Ring Around the Worlds' and '11 Street 11 Stories.'

Vashima's journey exemplifies an unwavering pursuit of educational excellence, inspiring both educators and children to venture beyond their comfort zones and embrace transformative learning.



**Saifudin Hamjuri Samsuri**  
**Public Service Leader | Diplomat | Scholar**

Saifudin is a distinguished diplomat and public service leader with extensive experience in policy analysis, international relations, and governance. A graduate of Social & Political Sciences from Magdalene College, University of Cambridge, he is a recipient of the prestigious Singapore Public Service Commission (PSC) Overseas Merit Scholarship.

Saifudin has served 15 years in the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), managing Singapore's bilateral relations with African countries and overseeing diplomatic privileges, state visits, and international conferences. He pursued a Master in Public Management at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS, and was a Lee Kuan Yew Fellow at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

With diplomatic postings in Vietnam, Cambodia, and France, Saifudin's expertise spans politics, security, economics, and social domains. He speaks multiple languages, including English, Malay, Bahasa Indonesia, and French, and his compassionate nature drives his dedication to public service.

Saifudin served at the Civil Service College (CSC) for over 10 years until 2020, leading teams in developing practitioner-oriented curriculum and programmes to prepare Singapore's Public Service officers. His commitment to learning, digital capabilities, and giving back to society is unwavering.



**Dr. Twardzik Ching Chor Leng**  
**Distinguished Artist & Art Educator**

Dr Twardzik Ching Chor Leng is a distinguished installation and land artist with over a decade of experience. She has exhibited extensively both locally and internationally, showcasing her innovative site-specific installations and sculptures.

As the founder of the arts group Landing Space, she actively promotes Land Art in Singapore. Her public commissions include installations at the Esplanade, the Singapore Art Show, and the National Museum of Singapore.

Dr Ching holds a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Regina, Canada, and has lectured at institutions such as Lasalle College of the Arts and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. In 2009, she joined the National Institute of Education as a lecturer, continuing her dedication to art education and practice.



**Jeremy Sim**  
**Innovation Director, Mistletoe | Global Innovation Catalyst**

Jeremy is a visionary leader dedicated to fostering sustainable innovation and community development. He currently serves as an innovation director at Mistletoe, a global impact investor, and concurrently a strategic advisor to SBVA (formerly SoftBank Ventures Asia).

He has served on three Temasek Foundation climate-tech committees from 2023-2024 and was director of the strategic partnership between Mistletoe and Singapore state infrastructure developer JTC from 2019 to 2023.

Jeremy's extensive experience includes roles as lead administrator of the EU/ERDF industrial innovation programme for Nordic Europe and the UK, as well as audit and risk positions in Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Berlin, Chicago, and Hanoi.

He has collaborated with notable figures such as Hans Eichel, co-founder of the G20 and former chair of the G7.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Jeremy is deeply engaged in addressing climate and technological disruptions, drawing inspiration from a diverse range of thinkers and exploring concepts like beneficent nationalism to inform a refreshed, principles-based global order.

Outside of his professional endeavours, he enjoys team sports, Gandharan sculpture, Grothendieck topoi, and playing the saxophone.



**Vincent Twardzik Ching**  
**Visual Artist**

Vincent is a Canadian-born artist who has been residing in Singapore since 2001. His artistic practice, rooted in drawing and painting, extends to environmentally conscious installations that often incorporate sustainable power generation.

He holds a Master's in Visual Arts Education and is a passionate advocate for the arts in society and education. Vincent has exhibited at venues such as the Singapore Art Museum and the Private Museum and internationally in Japan at the Tenjinyama Artist Residency and Nica Gallery. He is also an accomplished arts educator, working across various settings, including higher education, early childhood arts education, and special needs arts education.



**Jaquelin Low**  
**Artist & Educator**

Jaqueline is a distinguished Singaporean ceramic artist and educator. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 1991.

Upon returning to Singapore, Jaqueline worked as a graphic artist and served as an art director at Leo Burnett. She later became the Lecturer-in-Charge of the Ceramic Department at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Art and also lectured part-time at the LaSalle International School.

In 1999, she established her own ceramics and design studio, Cerawix Studio, where she conducts classes for both adults and children and creates her ceramic artworks.

Jaqueline continues to contribute to the Singaporean art scene through her innovative ceramic creations and dedication to art education.



**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

**Sustainable Pioneers' Capsule - 12:45 - 1:00 PM**

- Khoo Peng Beng
- Khoo Peng Keat
- Peng-Ean Khoo



**Belinda Huang**  
**Architect of Human Connection | Co-founder, ARC Studio**  
**Architecture + Urbanism**

Belinda is a visionary architect whose work transcends traditional boundaries to create spaces that inspire and transform lives. As the co-founder and director of ARC Studio Architecture + Urbanism, she has been instrumental in shaping Singapore's skyline with iconic projects like Pinnacle@Duxton, a groundbreaking 50-storey public housing development that reimagines high-density living.

Beyond architecture, Belinda holds a Master's in Counselling and volunteers as a pro bono counsellor, assisting youths and young adults in finding purpose and meaning in their lives.

In recognition of her contributions, she was named Designer of the Year at the President's Design Awards in 2020 alongside her husband Khoo Peng Beng.

Belinda's multifaceted approach to design and her dedication to enhancing the human experience continue to leave a lasting impact on communities and the architectural landscape.



**Billie Tan**  
**Co-founder & Director, Moonriver Lodge | Food Forest Farm**

Billie is a trailblazer in sustainable living and supply chain management. She holds a BEng(Hons) in Chemical Process Engineering with Biotechnology from the University of Sheffield and an MSc in Integrated Management Systems from the University of Birmingham. Certified as a Supply Chain Professional (CPIM) and an accredited trainer under HRDCorp, Billie has made significant strides in both corporate and entrepreneurial realms.

In her first decade, Billie worked at ExxonMobil and GlaxoSmithKline in Singapore, gaining comprehensive supply chain management experience and leading numerous strategic projects.

In 2009, she co-founded Moonriver Lodge, Malaysia's first rainforest highlands farmstay, fostering sustainable living and agroforestry. The lodge has grown organically, earning accolades such as the 2013 TripAdvisor Best Specialty Lodging Award and the 2016 International Star Award for Quality.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

In 2012, Billie co-founded Food Forest Farm, an ESG enterprise focused on safe, sustainable food, agroforestry, and technology. As COO, she streamlined the end-to-end business supply chain and operations, securing essential certifications like MESTI, MyGAP and MYFoodTag.

Billie is also a sustainability steward at Bilberries Blue, co-creating a biodiversity-ecosystem of sustainability. She continues to drive initiatives like the Sigar Biodiversity Park, partnering with organisations such as The Untamed Paths Singapore and the Jane Goodall Institute to conserve and protect biodiversity in the Lojing Highlands.



**Khoo Teik Rong**  
**Architect | Educator | Sustainability Advocate**

Teik Rong is an architect and educator passionate about sustainable design and community impact. With a master's degree in architecture, he focuses on creating spaces that balance functionality, aesthetics, and environmental responsibility. His work emphasises energy efficiency, eco-friendly materials, and designs that harmonise with nature while improving lives.

Teik Rong believes architecture should inspire well-being and address global challenges like climate change. His philosophy centres on designing spaces that foster connections, promote sustainability and leave minimal ecological footprints. This vision drives his commitment to innovative, human-centric solutions in every project.

Beyond his professional practice, Teik Rong actively engages in community initiatives. He collaborates with local organisations to develop affordable, sustainable housing and participates in programs that raise environmental awareness. Through workshops and public talks, he empowers communities to embrace sustainable living and design principles.

As an educator, Teik Rong inspires future architects to think critically about their role in shaping a better world. He encourages students to explore creative, sustainable solutions that balance human needs with environmental stewardship. His teaching emphasises empathy, collaboration, and the transformative power of thoughtful design.



**Simone Lim**  
**Co-founder, City Sprouts**

Simone is a driving force behind City Sprouts, an urban farm rejuvenating city spaces and connecting people with nature. As the Creator of Opportunities and the business development head, Simone fosters a vibrant community through innovative programmes and sustainable practices.

With a degree in International Business and Management Studies from the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, she brings a wealth of experience from her background, including founding GWS Green Affairs and conducting eco-workshops.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Simone promotes sustainability awareness in community spaces, balancing urban farming with community needs in Singapore's limited space. Her dedication and creative approach have made City Sprouts a hub for sustainability and social impact. Simone's commitment to reconnecting people with their food and environment and her collaborations with organisations like YMCA and Touch Community inspire others to promote environmental stewardship and build stronger communities.



**Peter Ortner**  
**Assistant Professor, SUTD**

Peter is an Assistant Professor of Architecture and Sustainable Design at the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD). His pioneering research delves into the role of architecture in enhancing urban resilience and explores the transformative potential of computational design across various urban scales.

Peter's academic journey is both distinguished and global. He holds a PhD in Architecture and Sciences of the City from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL), a Master of Architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design—where he was honoured with the Faculty Design Award—and a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture with distinction from Yale University.

With practical experience in Geneva and Boston, Peter combines scholarly excellence with hands-on architectural practice, driving the future of sustainable urban environments forward.



**Yee Shuen Hwee**  
**Co-founder, Terraformers**

Shuen Hwee is a dedicated environmental advocate and co-founder of Terraformers, a social enterprise dedicated to regenerative tourism and empowering Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs). Her passion for sustainability was ignited during a transformative backpacking trip in Mongolia in 2019, where she witnessed the profound impacts of climate change on local

communities.

Before founding Terraformers, Shuen Hwee was actively involved in Singapore's Audacity community, focusing on climate technologies. This experience deepened her understanding of sustainability challenges and solutions.

Through Terraformers, Shuen Hwee collaborates with local communities to develop sustainable tourism initiatives that preserve cultural heritage and natural ecosystems. Her work exemplifies a steadfast commitment to environmental stewardship and community empowerment.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

**Biodiversity: Sundaland - 1:00 - 1:15 PM**

- **Khoo Peng Keat**
- **Billie Tan**



**Dr Francis Ng**  
**Distinguished Botanist**

Dr. Francis Ng, at 85, is a renowned botanist with six decades of excellence in forestry. Graduating from St Michael's Institution in Ipoh in 1959, he holds a BSc from the University of Tasmania and a PhD from the University of Oxford. Francis joined the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in 1964 and became its Deputy Director-General in 1986.

In 1991, Francis joined the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) as Chief of its Service for Forestry Research, Training, and Education. He has been pivotal in projects like the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak and forest restoration in Sabah, and served as Director at CIFOR, Indonesia. In 2009, he received the David Fairchild Medal for Plant Exploration.

Francis is not just a researcher but a passionate advocate for sustainable forestry and community engagement. His collaborations with international organisations promote biodiversity and educate future generations. Francis's visionary leadership continues to inspire and drive environmental stewardship.



**Dr. Gretchen Christina Coffman**  
**Ecologist, Geographer, Educator**

Dr Coffman is a distinguished wetland restoration ecologist and Senior Lecturer at the National University of Singapore. As a National Geographic Explorer, she leads the Tropical Restoration Ecology Lab, focusing on conservation biogeography and developing strategies to restore tropical ecosystems such as mangroves, rivers, and coral reefs.

Dr. Coffman's hands-on, experiential teaching approach covers courses in Conservation Biogeography, Aquatic Ecosystems, and Restoration Ecology. Beyond academia, she is an avid scuba diver, open-water swimmer, and ocean enthusiast, embodying her commitment to environmental conservation.



**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Peter Ong**  
**Biodiversity Advocate | Wildlife Photographer**

Peter's journey blends passion, purpose, and impactful advocacy. Holding a Bachelor of Law from the University of Bristol and a Master's in International Business Law from the London School of Economics, he began his career in advertising with McCann-Erickson Malaysia before transitioning to the performing arts.

Inspired by a deep love for wildlife and the environment, Peter shifted to wildlife photography and conservation. In 2019, he founded Project Monyet, documenting Malaysia's 26 primate species, many of which are endangered. His initiatives empower local communities to protect their natural environments and showcase Malaysia's rich biodiversity.

Peter's achievements include the "Wang Kelian, Perlis – The Forgotten Valley" project, which highlighted a biodiverse and culturally significant region through a book and documentary. He also authored "PRIMUS – The Primates of Peninsular Malaysia," the first Asian publication featuring a foreword by Dr. Jane Goodall.

A global advocate, Peter serves on Dr. Jane Goodall's Legacy Foundation council and as Head of Outreach and Education for Roots and Shoots Malaysia. His writings and talks inspire audiences locally and globally.

Currently, Peter is documenting Malaysia's biodiversity with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) at Sabah's Deramakot Forest. He is also revitalising the Denai Warisan (Heritage Trail) in Perlis, a historic limestone forest trail in the 130-million-year-old Nakawan Range. Peter's work celebrates Malaysia's natural heritage, fostering a sustainable future through conservation and education.



**Benoit Lancelot**  
**Co-Manager, Terra Botanica Butterfly Houses**

From educating blind teenagers to becoming a leading voice in butterfly conservation, Benoit Lancelot has built his career around understanding the intricate relationship between fauna and flora. A passionate French botanist and entomology enthusiast, he spent 12 years as a gardener, guide, and educator at Terra Botanica, Europe's premier plant-themed park, before stepping up to co-manage its two Butterfly Houses.

At Terra Botanica, Benoit oversees over 110 butterfly species across the Tropical Butterflies House and the newly opened Butterfly Garden, where he champions conservation and public awareness initiatives. A disciple of renowned entomologist Jean-Pierre Vesco, he has also represented France at the 2024 IABES conference.

His expertise extends beyond borders—since 2022, he has immersed himself in Malaysia's biodiversity interning, volunteering, and collaborating with leading conservation centres such

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

as Entopia and Tropical Spice Garden in Penang; Moon River Lodge in Cameron Highlands; Draco Nature Camp in Perak; and projects in Thailand.

With fieldwork spanning Malaysia, Thailand, and soon Latin America, Benoit's journey is a testament to his relentless pursuit of knowledge and commitment to protecting the delicate world of butterflies.



**Nathan Laurenz**  
**Entomology Researcher**

Nathan is a passionate entomologist dedicated to sustainable solutions in agriculture. Growing up in Breckenridge, Michigan, his fascination with insects began at age six, leading to a vast collection of species from across the United States. By fifteen, his interest expanded to rearing spiders and praying mantids, which sparked his exploration into insect farming. This journey revealed insects as a sustainable protein source, aligning his passion with the global challenges of food security and environmental sustainability.

After graduating from Cornell University in 2022, where he focused on insect biology and the edible insect industry, Nathan now serves as the Research and Development Manager at Karang Foodie in Singapore, breeding black soldier flies for aquaculture feed. His expertise also encompasses beekeeping, mycology, and public speaking.



**Dennis Chan**  
**Founder & Lead Facilitator, Untamed Paths**

Dennis is anything but conventional. His adventurous spirit has led him down varied paths, from studying veterinary bioscience to mastering the intricacies of business marketing. An accomplished divemaster, he's deeply involved in marine conservation efforts, working on shark conservation, reef restoration, and underwater surveys.

When he's not exploring the ocean depths, Dennis is out in the field, observing and studying local biodiversity. A passionate wildlife enthusiast, he frequently visits rescue centres in Sumatra and Borneo to understand human-wildlife conflicts in rural areas better. Drawing on his extensive field experience, Dennis personally designs and leads regional conservation camps.

With a keen eye for the rare and elusive—be it macro critters, snakes, birds, you name it—Dennis is also an avid wildlife photographer, powerboater, mountaineer, and advocate for sustainable fishing. His life's elements are seamlessly intertwined, making his connection with wildlife second nature.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Christopher Leow**  
**Urban Farmerpreneur**

Chris is a pioneering urban farmerpreneur whose journey from aerospace engineering to sustainable agriculture exemplifies his dedication to innovation and community well-being.

After earning his degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of New South Wales, Chris's passion for food and nature led him to explore urban farming. In 2013, he spent three months on a self-sufficient farm in New South Wales, Australia, where he learned the profound impact of sustainable food cultivation.

Upon returning to Singapore, Chris embarked on a mission to transform urban spaces into thriving, chemical-free farms. He has been instrumental in developing rooftop farms, carpark gardens, and indoor cultivation systems, demonstrating that sustainable agriculture can flourish even in the heart of a bustling city.

Beyond his farming endeavours, Chris is a passionate advocate for food security and sustainability. He founded Future Protein Solutions, focusing on insect farming as a resource-efficient protein source. His commitment to community engagement is evident through his roles as a host and author, where he shares his knowledge and inspires others to embrace sustainable living.

**Pesticide-Free Refugia + Food - 1:15 - 1:30 PM**

- **Khoo Peng Keat**
- **Christopher Leow**



**Steve Capeness**  
**Agronomist**

Steve is a pioneering agronomist with over fifty years of experience transforming agricultural practices. Initially trained in conventional agriculture and pesticide technology, Steve shifted his focus in 1998 to sustainable, biological, and organic farming methods.

As the founder of GrowSafeFood, Steve developed a unique five-step Pathway to Biological Farming, which guides farmers in producing nutrient-dense, residue-free food. Steve's expertise has been instrumental in promoting regenerative agriculture and enhancing soil health.

His work has not only benefited Australian farmers but has also gained international attention, including in India and Malaysia where he introduced 'nutrition farming' to address challenges like costly inputs and soil degradation.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Nithiya Laila**  
**Culinary Anthropologist**

Nithiya is a culinary anthropologist, sustainability advocate, and award-winning TV presenter dedicated to preserving biodiversity and promoting culturally diverse diets. For over a decade, she has educated communities on the value of farm-to-table artisanal produce and protecting the planet's resources.

Nithiya's innovative cultural dining pop-ups and farmers' markets celebrate indigenous ingredients and traditional food systems. As host of the award-winning docu-series "Edible Wild" on Channel News Asia Singapore, she highlights how urbanites in Asia's megacities grow, forage, and cook with native ingredients, spotlighting the region's culinary heritage.

Her current mission focuses on promoting biodiverse diets for the Global South and elevating the value of locally grown ingredients. Through SG Seedxchange, she works to improve access to native edible plants and advocates for equitable food systems.

Nithiya's impactful work has been featured in Vogue, Tatler, Female Magazine, and the Singapore Tourism Board, inspiring a shift in how we grow, source, and value food. By connecting culture, biodiversity, and sustainability, she champions a more equitable and resilient food future where diverse culinary traditions thrive.

**Care: Full Inclusion - 1:45 - 2:00 PM**

- **Peng-Ean Khoo**
- **Himal Ruparel**
- **Vashima Goyal**
- **Twardzik Ching Chor Leng**
- **Vincent Twardzik Ching**
- **Manju Nair**
- **Kenneth Ngo**
- **Jaqueline Low**



**Dr. Alex Khoo Peng Chuan**  
**Paediatrician & Child Neurologist**

Dr. Alex Khoo Peng Chuan is a seasoned paediatrician and child neurologist with nearly two decades of experience in managing complex paediatric and neurological disorders. He has vast experience both in Malaysia and internationally, having worked in numerous government and university hospitals and actively participated in local and international paediatric and neurological associations.

Dr. Khoo highlights the importance of the human touch in medicine, emphasising that while diagnosis can be algorithmic, it's the experience, knowledge, and careful application that ultimately shape patient outcomes. He believes in practising gentle mindfulness to ensure that children's journey to healthy adulthood is both safe and meaningful.



**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Dr. Khoo is an Honorary Fellow at the TY Nelson Department of Neurology, Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney, and holds a Fellowship in Paediatric Neurology from the Ministry of Health Malaysia. He is also a Member of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, UK, and has an MBBS from MAHE, India.

In recognition of his contributions, Dr. Khoo received the state medal of Paduka Mahkota Perak from the Sultan of Perak in 2015. Outside his medical career, he is a keen sportsman, participating in marathons, triathlons, and trail running. He also served as the Event Director for the Asia Triathlon Continental Cup and Asia Triathlon Junior Cup events in Perak in 2022 and 2024.



**Hong Kai Ng**  
**Bilberries Blue LightHouse Keeper | Host | Facilitator | Adventurer**

Hong Kai is a passionate facilitator and advocate for inclusion, dedicated to creating safe spaces where people feel seen, heard, and valued. He works with diverse communities in Singapore, including migrant workers, older adults, and students with different learning abilities, fostering belonging and resilience through authentic connections.

A conceptual thinker, Hong Kai embraces unlearning and relearning to understand the unique realities shaping individual lives. Inspired by *'The Book Thief'*, he weaves hope, resilience, and humour into stories that help navigate life's challenges with courage and mindful acceptance.

Committed to fostering dialogue and collaboration, he explores innovative ways to co-create meaningful growth and engagement.



**Natasha Lee Ann**  
**Bilberries Blue Lighthouse Keeper**

Natasha is a creative and community-driven individual with a deep passion for art and giving back. As a co-founder of Bilberries Blue Lighthouse, she plays an active role in organising meaningful activities for special needs students, reflecting her commitment to inclusion and empowerment.

A graduate of ITE East in Business and Services (2020), Natasha has been dedicated to volunteer work and developing her artistic talents. Her experience includes working at "Food for a Social Cause," where she built connections while serving customers and contributing to a greater purpose.

Natasha channels her creativity through pottery, running her online shop, Smiling Tash, to share her handmade creations. Her love for arts and crafts, paired with her dedication to helping others, embodies her inspiring blend of compassion, creativity, and purpose.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Avina Ester Yik**  
**Intern, The Kind Grower | Bilberries Blue**

Avina is an inspiring youth who proves that no challenge is too great to overcome. Born with Down Syndrome, she embodies a "Can Do" spirit, breaking barriers and inspiring others with her determination. Currently pursuing a Higher Nitec in Electronics Engineering at ITE East, with a focus on IoT, Avina aspires to use her skills to improve the lives of the elderly through SMART home solutions.

An active member of the Down Syndrome Association (Singapore), she serves as a DSA Ambassador and delivered the opening speech at World Down Syndrome Day 2022. Recognised for her perseverance, she was the first recipient of Spectra Secondary School's GRIT Award and excelled in coding, earning the top spot in ICT.

Through her internship with Bilberries Blue ROSEHut and The Kind Grower, Avina continues to grow while contributing to sustainable farming and eco-friendly practices. With her passion for innovation, resilience, and community-building, Avina is a rising role model for inclusion and sustainability.



**Allan Cai,**  
**Bilberries Blue LightHouse Keeper**

Allan is a vibrant and confident young man with Down Syndrome. He leads a fulfilling life, balancing his roles as a Bilberries Blue Light Housekeeper and a part-time worker at a mushroom farm.

Allan enjoys reading, dancing, singing, playing the piano, and watching Disney+ in his free time. Beyond his hobbies, he is passionate about making a difference. As an active self-advocate in Singapore, Allan champions inclusion both locally and internationally.

His dedication and impact have earned him the prestigious Goh Chok Tong Enabling Award, a recognition given to individuals with disabilities who inspire and uplift their communities in Singapore.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

**Biodiversity Economy: Field Research Stations I Water & Renewable Energy -  
2:15 - 2:30 PM**

**Biodiversity Trails**

- **Khoo Peng Keat**
- **Billie Tan**
- **Peter Ong**
- **Dennis Chan**



**Sia Sin Wei**

**Naturalist and Volunteer, Jane Goodall Institute Singapore**

Sin Wei is a dedicated naturalist passionate about exploring the wonders of life, both past and present. As a Science Technical and Resource Assistant at Pathlight School in Singapore, he develops engaging science programmes for students on the autism spectrum.

Beyond his work, Sin Wei champions conservation and sustainability through the "Singapore Naturalist" project and his volunteer efforts with the Jane Goodall Institute (Singapore). With a talent for research, outreach, and science communication, he inspires others to connect with and protect the natural world.

**Bees**



**Zhuali Lim**

**Entomologist-in-training**

Zhuali is a passionate entomologist-in-training with a deep love for bees and a commitment to conserving natural ecosystems. Born in Singapore and now based in New Zealand, he holds a Bachelor's degree in Zoology with a minor in Ecology from the University of Otago, and a Master's degree focused on the foraging and nesting behaviours of native solitary bees in

Dunedin.

With a strong belief in the vital role of bees as pollinators for agriculture and ecosystems, Zhuali pursued beekeeping as a hobby, gaining invaluable insights into their care and protection. He aspires to specialise in bee behaviour and apiculture, combining his knowledge and passion to promote sustainability and environmental conservation.

**Butterflies**

- **Benoit Lancelot**

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

**Lar Gibbons**



**Mariani 'Bam' Ramli**  
**Primatologist Specialising in Gibbon Rehabilitation**

Mariani 'Bam' Ramli is a trailblazing primatologist and conservationist, dedicated to protecting Malaysia's endangered gibbons. As founder of the Gibbon Conservation Society (GCS) and the project director for Malaya Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (Malaya GReP) and Borneo Gibbon Rehabilitation Project (Borneo GReP), she has been at the forefront of rescuing and rehabilitating gibbons since 2013, working to give them a second chance in the wild.

With a degree in animal biology and over a decade of hands-on experience rehabilitating gibbons, Mariani's expertise and relentless advocacy have earned her global recognition, including the American Society of Primatologists Conservationist Award and the World Female Ranger Ambassador (2024). Under her leadership, GCS has established Malaysia's only internationally accredited gibbon rehabilitation centre, setting new standards for primate conservation.

Mariani's journey began with a single rescued gibbon, Ellek—an experience that sparked a lifelong mission. Today, she continues to inspire and mobilise others, proving that one person's passion can ignite a movement for wildlife conservation.

Mariani has also contributed to various publications and has been involved in educational engagements, sharing her expertise in gibbon rehabilitation and conservation.

Through her unwavering dedication, Mariani continues to inspire others to join the fight for wildlife conservation, proving that one person's commitment can make a world of difference.



**Ana Jonessy**  
**Operations Director, Gibbon Conservation Society**

Ana Jonessy (they/them) is a creative powerhouse, a relentless advocate, and a visionary force for change. As an AuDHD queer vegan, Ana seamlessly blends tech, activism, and artistry, proving that passion and purpose go hand in hand.

In 2017, Ana co-founded HUSH Collective, using film and interactive workshops to champion LGBTQIA+ rights in Malaysia. Their work has sparked vital conversations and built inclusive spaces for marginalised voices.

Ana's expertise spans digital security, crisis response, and environmental conservation. From training activists at Internews to protecting endangered gibbons through her role as Operations Director at the Gibbon Conservation Society, Ana navigates multiple worlds with impact and intention.



**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

Beyond their advocacy, Ana is an avid gamer, a creative coder, and a collector of uniquely shaped drinking vessels. Through their newsletter, they challenge societal norms, redefining self-worth beyond productivity and profit.

Ana is not just shaping conversations—they're shaping a future where authenticity, justice, and creativity thrive.

## **Renewable Energy**



**Philip Lim**  
**Programme Director, The Asia Corporate Development Council,**  
**The Conference Board**

Philip is a corporate executive-turned-entrepreneur, building sustainability and ESG-focused ecosystems through advisory, impact investments, and business model innovation. With over 33 years of senior management experience across the energy, healthcare, and airline industries, he empowers companies to thrive sustainably.

A Singaporean native, Philip held key roles at Chevron Corporation from 1998 to 2020, spanning Singapore, London, Hong Kong, and Shanghai. He led M&As, corporate business development, strategy, and sustainability initiatives, and founded Chevron's digital venture in China.

Philip has originated and evaluated investment opportunities, secured strategic partnerships, and led deal teams in due diligence, financial analysis, negotiations, and contracting. He also served as Executive Chairman of Chevron Hong Kong Ltd and held roles at Johnson & Johnson and Singapore Airlines.

Philip holds a Master's of International Management from the University of California's School of Global Policy and Strategy and a Bachelor's of Political Science and Economics from the National University of Singapore. He is an alumnus of INSEAD and IMD.



**Adrian Lasimbang**  
**Renewable energy practitioner, innovator and social entrepreneur**

Adrian is an innovative engineer and founder of TONIBUNG, a social enterprise dedicated to capacity building and establishing renewable energy mini-grids for rural communities. He has extensive experience promoting renewable energy solutions and has installed micro-hydro systems in indigenous villages across Malaysia. He also holds a directorship role at the Centre for Renewable Energy & Appropriate Technology (CREATE).

Adrian is a proud member of the Indigenous Kadazan-Dusun community in Sabah, Borneo.

He has dedicated his career to community watershed conservation projects since 1999 and has served as a Malaysian Senator. Recognised for his significant contributions, he has

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

received various awards, including the 2004 Seacology Prize, the 2006 ASEAN Energy Awards, and the 2008 Outstanding Young Malaysian Award.



**Jia Wei Lim**  
**Founder & CEO, Wooden Solar**

Jia Wei Lim is the founder and CEO of Wooden Solar, a company dedicated to making clean energy accessible to all. Growing up in Tawau, Sabah, on the East Coast of Malaysian Borneo, Jia Wei experienced frequent power outages, which inspired his lifelong mission to provide reliable and sustainable energy solutions.

Before returning to Southeast Asia, he spent seven years in the UK, working as an automotive engineer at Jaguar Land Rover in Coventry. Jia Wei holds a degree in Aerospace and Aerothermal Engineering from Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

**Biodiversity Economy: EcoLuxury Hospitality - 2:30 - 2:45 PM**

- **Tanya Pillay-Nair**
- **Clarence Ling**
- **Peter Ong**
- **Khoo Peng Keat**
- **Billie Tan**



**Philip Cyril Raj**  
**Hospitality Leader, Innovator & Strategist**

With a distinguished career in hospitality, Philip Raj has consistently transformed visionary concepts into award-winning realities. His expertise spans new brand creation, strategic positioning, and menu engineering, leading to numerous accolades for his innovative approaches.

Philip's leadership shines in pre-opening initiatives, where he has successfully launched both boutique luxury hotels and large-scale hospitality ventures. His strategic insights and operational excellence ensure seamless executions and enduring success.

A proud alumnus of SHATEC, Philip recently earned his MBA from Singapore Management University (SMU), blending hands-on industry experience with advanced business acumen. As the CEO of Bay Hotels & Resorts, he emphasises Singapore's exceptional hospitality landscape, noting its superior infrastructure and continual evolution through refurbishments and enhanced offerings.

Philip's passion for innovation and excellence positions him as a transformative leader, crafting unparalleled experiences that leave lasting impressions.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**

**Allspice Institute**



**Sakthivel Karuppiah**  
**Chief Operating Officer, Allspice Institute**

Sakthivel is the Chief Operating Officer at Allspice Institute with over 20 years of experience in the culinary, hospitality, and education industries. He holds a Degree in Hotel Management and Catering Technology, a Diploma in Culinary Craft, and a Professional Certificate in Plant-Based Cooking.

Sakthivel has collaborated with the Singapore Heart Foundation and the Peranakan Indian Association on cookbooks promoting healthier food choices and traditional recipes. He has designed nutritious meals for the elderly and underprivileged and trained youth through Project We Care.

Believing that being a chef is about exceptional dishes and societal contributions, Sakthivel's guiding philosophy is, "What you take from nature must be returned in some way".



**Anna Eio**  
**Chef & Facilitator, Allspice Institute**

Anna is a seasoned culinary and hospitality professional with over 20 years of experience.

At Allspice Institute, she delivers WSQ-certified Japanese and Peranakan cuisine programmes alongside short culinary and hospitality courses. She customises hospitality programmes to industry needs and serves as a certified assessor for culinary and baking WSQ courses.

Her experience includes managing restaurant operations, training staff, and ensuring high standards of service and food quality. Her entrepreneurial background includes managing a halal-compliant food stall focused on healthy meals.

Anna also collaborates with community organisations like YMCA and Touch Community, delivering team-building programmes. She combines her expertise with a commitment to excellence, inspiring the next generation of hospitality professionals.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Anup Kumar**  
**Executive Sous Chef (Head of Culinary), Allspice Institute**

Chef Anup Kumar is a culinary professional with over 10 years of experience in the F&B industry, and he is known for his calm and focused approach to creating delightful dishes. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Arts from India, a Pastry Diploma from Le Cordon Bleu Paris, a Diploma in Culinary Arts from Allspice, and a Professional Certificate in Plant-Based Cooking.

His expertise spans both pastry and savoury cuisines, blending tradition and creativity for memorable culinary experiences. Chef Anup has collaborated with the Singapore Heart Foundation on a cookbook to promote healthier eating and supported the "Heritage Food of the Peranakan Indian" recipe book under Chef Sakthivel's guidance. He has also worked with the People's Association (PA) on Project We Care, training and mentoring youth in essential F&B skills.

Passionate about great food and continuous learning, Chef Anup brings innovation and excellence to every dish, positively impacting the culinary world and the community.

### **The Kind Grower**



**Andrea Koh**  
**Manager | Culinary Experience Innovator**

With over 20 years of experience in event operations, project management, and business administration, Andrea is a dynamic leader who excels in turning visions into reality. Her career has spanned 15 major cities, where she has collaborated with global brands like The Michelin Guide, YouTube, Lazada, Credit Suisse, and UBS, building a reputation as a trusted partner across industries.

Andrea plays a pivotal role in driving business development for HORECA (Hotels, Restaurants, and Cafes) and corporate clients at The Kind Grower. She specialises in uncovering opportunities, fostering meaningful relationships, and leading impactful initiatives that align with organisational goals.

A master of culinary and hospitality event planning, Andrea has orchestrated everything from intimate fine dining experiences to large-scale festivals. Her meticulous attention to detail and creative vision ensure every project is seamless and memorable, delivering excellence from concept to execution.

Andrea's passion for collaboration, innovation, and building connections shines through in everything she does, making her an invaluable force in the industry.



**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**Indra Gurung**  
**Omnichannel Manager, The Kind Grower**

Indra brings a wealth of experience and a distinctive blend of journalistic rigour and strategic communication expertise to his role as Omnichannel Manager at The Kind Grower in Singapore. With a rich background in journalism, he has honed his skills in storytelling, stakeholder engagement, and audience-driven communication—key attributes he seamlessly applies to his current domain.

Having worked at five leading PR agencies—including three global firms—Indra has shaped narratives for blue-chip multinationals in banking, investment, and real estate, as well as major government agencies. His strong industry relationships enable him to craft media strategies that maximise coverage, and his experience managing cross-border campaigns spans markets including Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and Vietnam.

He holds degrees from the Quantic School of Business & Technology and the University of South Australia. His global training includes scholarships and fellowships from the Indian Institute of Mass Communications, the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and the Thomson Foundation at Cardiff University, where he graduated as valedictorian.

Beyond his professional pursuits, Indra is a dedicated advocate for food security, environmental sustainability, education, and eldercare. An avid outdoor enthusiast, he finds inspiration in nature and actively contributes to initiatives that promote sustainability and community well-being.

**TOK PANJANG MICROSUMMIT**  
**LOU HEI FEB 11, 2025**  
**Thought Leadership Panel**



**BILBERRIES BLUE**

Bilberries Blue is a sustainable enterprise that co-builds and offers an ecosystem of biodiversity of sustainability, resources, and funding.

The Sustainability Stewards of Bilberries Blue conduct research, develop and co-build – through collaborative knowledge-sharing applications and platforms – the ESG Economy which is guided by our proprietary model of The Economics of Universal Wellbeing (TEUWB).

Bilberries Blue is transdisciplinary: economics, business, finance, technology, care, health & wellbeing, pedagogy, arts, science, ecology, contemplation, global relations, and community.

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