



# ANNUAL REPORT

2017 / 2018

# LEE KUAN YEW FUND FOR BILINGUALISM ANNUAL REPORT 2017 / 2018

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# ABOUT THE FUND

The setting up of the Fund was announced on 28 November 2011 by Singapore's Founding Prime Minister, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, at the launch of his book *My Lifelong Challenge: Singapore's Bilingual Journey*. The Fund was incorporated on 22 February 2012 as a Company Limited by Guarantee and registered under the Charities Act on 4 March 2012 as a Charity with Institution of Public Character ("IPC") status. The Fund is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

IPC Number  
**IPC000756**

Company Registration Number  
**201204335M**

Registered Address  
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Singapore 138675**

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# CHAIR'S MESSAGE



# CHAIR'S MESSAGE



Since its inception, the Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism has actively supported locally developed, English and MTL resources and programmes designed with Singapore's unique cultural context in mind, to support bilingualism. As of 31 March 2018, the Fund has supported 90 projects amounting to \$15.9 million, of which 47 were approved in FY2017.

Our focus has been on pre-schoolers, because it is best to help children to build a firm foundation in learning the English and Mother Tongue Languages (MTLs) when they are young.

Projects which the Fund supported this year included two reader series for children; the *Poony Series* in Tamil and the 10 translated storybooks of the *Timmy and Tammy series* in Chinese. The Fund also supported a movie, *The Wayang Kids*, and the continuation of *Junction Tree*, the first locally produced, free-to-air television programme for pre-schoolers.

The Fund has also continued to support MTL periodicals by Singapore Press Holdings for pre-school children - *Thumbs Up Little Junior*, *Cilik Cerdik* and *Balar Murasu*. The periodicals are distributed free-of-charge to pre-school centres run by pre-school Anchor Operators and Voluntary Welfare Organisations, and to libraries and self-help group centres.

Beyond pre-school, the Fund expanded its scope this year to also promoting bilingualism as a lifelong endeavour. This is in recognition that Singapore's linguistic environment is evolving. There is a rising number of bilingual families, and Singaporeans are increasingly aware of the advantages of being bilingual, and even multilingual. The Fund can help support these families.

In line with this expanded scope, the Fund launched several short videos this year to promote the learning of MTLs, over channels and social media. It featured popular artists such as Olivia Ong, Taufik Batisah and Shabir Alam.

We are fortunate to have strong partners and stakeholders. In FY2017, the Fund engaged various partners to seed and develop ideas and projects to promote the learning of MTLs. This included a collaboration with Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy to launch Play in Mandarin, a Chinese speech and drama enrichment programme for Primary 2 children.

The Fund will continue to pull together the efforts of the Ministry of Education, the Mother Tongue Language Learning and Promotion Committees, the Early Childhood Development Agency, grassroots organisations, clan associations, and local arts and cultural organisations. I thank the Fund's previous Chairman, Mr Ng Chee Meng, for his leadership in encouraging the Fund to expand its boundaries and develop the ecosystem for MTL learning during his tenure, and all Board and Committee members for their time and effort to foster bilingualism.



**Ong Ye Kung**

Chair

Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism

# 主席前言



自2011年成立以来，李光耀双语基金（简称“基金”）致力于推广新加坡的双语教育，并支持具有本地文化特色的双语和母语项目。截至2018年第一季度，基金总共资助了90个项目，总资助金额达1590万新元，而于2017财政年度获得资助的项目就有47个。

学前孩童双语教育一直是基金关注的重点，因为学前阶段是语言学习的关键期，而从小接触英语和母语能帮助孩童为日后的双语学习打下良好的基础。

今年，基金资助了两套儿童阅读系列，其中一套是淡米尔文的Poony系列书籍，另外一套则是翻译自《乐乐和佳佳》(Timmy and Tammy)系列的10本华文故事书。此外，基金也资助了今年发行的一部本地电影--《戏曲总动员》(The Wayang Kids)，以及自2017年启播的本地首个双语电视剧集--《家在大树下》，为学前孩童提供有趣的双语学习体验。

此外，基金也继续资助新加坡报业控股为学前孩童所编辑出版的三种母语期刊：华文的《小小拇指》、马来文的Cilik Cerdik和淡米尔文的Balar Murasu。在基金的赞助下，这些期刊都分发到学前教育主要业者和志愿福利组织属下的幼儿中心，以及图书馆和自助团体，供孩童免费阅读。

除了支持学前孩童双语教育，基金还积极将双语学习拓展至其他领域，以鼓励国人终身学习。随着新加坡语言环境的不断演变，使用双语的本地家庭有增加的趋势，国人渐渐意识到通晓双语、多语的优势，而基金可以为不同语言背景的家长在孩童双语教育方面提供帮助。

为配合这个发展方向，基金邀请了本地歌手王俪婷、陶菲克(Taufik Batisah)和沙比尔(Shabir Alam)，各以华语、马来语和淡米尔语录制了视频《母语，让心更贴近》，推广母语学习。这个系列视频记录了他们学习母语的经验和心得，并通过电视广播和社交媒体，鼓励孩童学好母语。



一直以来，我们很庆幸能得到各界伙伴的大力支持。在2017财政年度，基金和不同机构组织开展了许多合作计划，推动了母语学习。例如：我们与新加坡福建会馆文化学院合作推出的“戏里戏外”，让小学二年级的学生通过观赏华语戏剧，培养对华文学习的热忱。

在未来的日子里，我们将继续与新加坡教育部、推广华文学习委员会、幼儿培育署、各基层组织、宗乡会馆以及本地的文化艺术团体密切合作，为新加坡的双语教育努力奋斗。我在此向基金前主席黄志明先生致以诚挚的谢意。在他的领导下，基金不断开拓新领域，和各界伙伴共同营造了一个良好的母语学习环境。此外，我还要感谢董事会和委员会成员，大家不遗余力，为推行双语学习贡献出宝贵的时间和精力。



王乙康

主席

李光耀双语基金

# PERUTUSAN PENGGERUSI



Sejak penubuhannya, Dana Kedwibahasaan Lee Kuan Yew telah giat menyokong bahan-bahan dan program-program berbahasa Inggeris dan bahasa Ibunda yang dirancang berdasarkan keunikan budaya Singapura demi menyokong kedwibahasaan. Bermula dari 31 Mac 2018, Dana telah menyokong 90 projek yang berjumlah \$15.9 juta, yang mana 47 daripada projek-projek tersebut telah diluluskan.

Banyak tumpuan diberikan kepada kanak-kanak prasekolah kerana amat penting bagi kita untuk membantu kanak-kanak membina asas yang kukuh dalam pembelajaran Bahasa Inggeris dan Bahasa-bahasa Ibunda ketika mereka masih kecil.

Projek-projek yang disokong pihak Dana termasuk dua siri buku bacaan bertahap untuk kanak-kanak; Poony Series dalam bahasa Tamil dan 10 buku cerita bersiri *Timmy and Tammy* yang telah diterjemahkan ke dalam bahasa Cina. Dana juga menyokong sebuah filem berjudul *The Wayang Kid*; dan sambungan bagi *Junction Tree*, sebuah rancangan televisyen tempatan pertama untuk kanak-kanak prasekolah, yang disiarkan di saluran televisyen percuma.

Dana terus menyokong penerbitan berkala dalam bahasa Ibunda untuk kanak-kanak prasekolah oleh Singapore Press Holdings - *Thumbs Up Little Junior*, *Cilik Cerdik* dan *Balar Murasu*. Bahan-bahan ini diedarkan percuma kepada pusat-pusat prasekolah yang diuruskan oleh Skim Pengendali Utama (AOPs), Badan-badan Kebajikan Sukarelawan, perpustakaan dan badan-badan bantu diri.

Dana juga mengembangkan skop pendanaan menjangkau peringkat prasekolah, untuk mempromosikan kedwibahasaan sebagai usaha sepanjang hayat. Hal ini bersesuaian dengan persekitaran bahasa di Singapura yang sentiasa berubah. Terdapat peningkatan dalam jumlah keluarga yang berdwibahasa, dan warga Singapura semakin prihatin akan kelebihan berdwibahasa dan berbilang bahasa. Dana dapat menyokong keluarga-keluarga ini.

Sejajar dengan perkembangan ini, Dana telah melancarkan beberapa video pendek pada tahun ini untuk menggalakkan pembelajaran Bahasa-bahasa Ibunda, melalui saluran televisyen dan media sosial. Video-video tersebut mengetengahkan barisan artis popular seperti Olivia Ong, Taufik Batisah dan Shabir Alam.

Kami beruntung kerana mempunyai sokongan kuat rakan kongsi dan golongan berkepentingan. Bagi tahun kewangan 2017, Dana telah bekerjasama dengan pelbagai rakan kongsi dalam usaha menyemai dan mengembangkan idea dan projek demi menggalakkan pembelajaran Bahasa-bahasa Ibunda. Hal ini termasuk sebuah usaha kolaborasi dengan Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy untuk melancarkan Play in Mandarin, sebuah program pengayaan pertuturan dan drama dalam bahasa Cina untuk murid-murid darjah 2.

Dana akan terus menggembeng tenaga pihak Kementerian Pendidikan Singapura, Jawatankuasa Pembelajaran dan Penggalakan Penggunaan Bahasa Ibunda, pertubuhan akar umbi, persatuan suku kaum Cina dan pertubuhan kesenian dan budaya tempatan. Saya ucapkan terima kasih kepada mantan pengerusi Dana, Encik Ng Chee Meng, atas kepimpinan beliau yang menggalakkan Dana agar meluaskan sempadan dan mengembangkan ekosistem pembelajaran Bahasa Ibunda, serta semua ahli lembaga dan jawatankuasa atas masa dan usaha untuk menggalakkan kedwibahasaan.



**Ong Ye Kung**

Pengerusi

Dana Kedwibahasaan Lee Kuan Yew

# தலைவர் உரை



இருமொழிக் கல்விக்கான லீ குவான் யூ நிதி துவக்கம் கண்ட நாள் முதலாக, சிங்கப்பூரின் இருமொழி கற்றலை ஊக்குவிக்கும் நோக்கில், சிங்கப்பூரின் தனித்துவக் கலாசாரப் பின்னணிகளைக் களமாகக்கொண்டு உருவாக்கப்படும் உள்ளூர்ப் படைப்புகளுக்கும் நிகழ்ச்சிகளுக்கும் தொடர்ந்து ஆதரவு நல்கி வருகிறது. இந்நிதி 2018-ஆம் ஆண்டு மார்ச் மாதம் 31-ஆம் தேதிவரை, தொண்ணூறு செயல்திட்டங்களுக்கு, 15.9 மில்லியன் வெள்ளி நிதியுதவி வழங்கியுள்ளது. இச்செயல்திட்டங்களுள் நாற்பத்து ஏழு திட்டங்கள் 2017-ஆம் நிதியாண்டில் ஒப்புதல் வழங்கப்பட்டவை.

நமது குறிக்கோள் பாலர் பள்ளி மாணவர்களை இலக்காகக் கொண்டது. இளம் வயதிலேயே ஆங்கில மொழியையும் தாய்மொழியையும் கற்றுக்கொள்ள உதவுவது அவர்களுக்கு ஒரு வலுவான அடித்தளத்தை உருவாக்கும் என்பதே அதன் நோக்கமாகும்.

இவ்வாண்டு, இந்நிதி ஆதரவு வழங்கிய செயல்திட்டங்களில் இரு வாசிப்புத் தொகுப்புகளும் அடங்கும். அவை, தமிழில் வந்த "பூணி வாசிப்பு நூல்கள்" என்னும் தொகுப்பும் ஆங்கில மொழியிலிருந்து சீனத்தில் மொழிப்பெயர்க்கப்பட்ட "டிம்மியும் டாமியும் வாசிப்பு நூல்கள்" என்னும் பத்துப் புத்தகங்களின் தொகுப்புமாகும். மேலும், இந்நிதி, "தி வாயாங் கிட்" என்னும் திரைப்படம் ஒன்றிற்கும் நிதி ஆதரவு வழங்கியுள்ளது. அதோடு, சிங்கப்பூரில் முதன்முதலாகத் தயாரிக்கப்பட்ட உள்ளூர்த் தொலைக்காட்சிகளில் ஒளிபரப்பப்படும் "ஜங்சன் டிரீ" என்னும் இருமொழித் தொலைக்காட்சித் தொடருக்கும் தொடர்ந்து ஆதரவு வழங்கி வருகிறது.

'சிங்கப்பூர் பிரஸ் ஹோல்டிங்' நிறுவனம் பாலர் பள்ளி மாணவர்களுக்காகத் தயாரித்து வரும் "தம்ஸ் அப் லிட்டில் ஜூனியர்", "சிலிக் சர்டிக்" மற்றும் "பாலர் முரசு" ஆகிய இதழ்களுக்கு இந்நிதி தொடர்ந்து ஆதரவு அளித்து வருகிறது. இந்த இதழ்கள் அரசாங்க ஆதரவில் இயங்கும் பாலர் பள்ளிகளுக்கும், தொண்டு நிறுவனங்கள் நடத்தும் பாலர் பள்ளிகளுக்கும், நூலகங்களுக்கும் மற்றும் சுய உதவிக் குழுக்களுக்கும் இலவசமாக விநியோகம் செய்யப்படுகின்றன.

இருமொழிக் கல்வியை வாழ்நாள் இலக்காகக் கொள்வதற்கு உதவும் வகையில் இவ்வாண்டு இந்நிதி அதன் குறிக்கோளைப் பாலர் பள்ளிக்கு மட்டுமல்லாது பலநிலைகளுக்கும் விரிவுபடுத்தியுள்ளது. சிங்கப்பூரில் மாறிவரும் மொழிச்சூழலைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டு இந்த

மாற்றம் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது. இருமொழிகளைப் பேசும் குடும்பங்கள் அதிகரித்து வருகின்றன. இருமொழிகளோடு மேலும் பல மொழிகளை அறிந்திருப்பதன் பயன்களைச் சிங்கப்பூரர்கள் அதிகம் உணரத் தொடங்கிவிட்டனர். அத்தகு குடும்பங்களுக்கு இந்நிதி உதவியாக இருக்கும்.

இந்தப் பரந்துபட்ட நோக்கோடு, இந்நிதி, தாய்மொழிகளைக் கற்பதன் அவசியத்தை வலியுறுத்தும் வகையில், பல்வேறு குறும்படங்களை உள்ளூர்த் தொலைக்காட்சி ஒளிவழியாகவும் சமூக ஊடகங்கள் வாயிலாகவும் வெளியிட்டது. அக்குறும்படங்களில் உள்ளூர்ப் பிரபலங்களான ஒலிவியா ஒங், தெளஃபிக் பட்டிசா மற்றும் ஷபீர் அலாம் ஆகியோர் இடம்பெற்றிருந்தார்கள்.

சிறந்த பங்காளர்களையும் பங்குதாரர்களையும் பெற்றிருப்பது நமக்கு நல்ல வாய்ப்பாக உள்ளது. 2017- க்கான நிதியாண்டில், இந்நிதி தாய்மொழி கற்றலை ஊக்குவிக்கும் யோசனைகளையும் திட்டங்களையும் நடைமுறைப்படுத்தப் பங்காளர்கள் பலரை அணுகி அவர்களை அம்முயற்சியில் ஈடுபடுத்தியுள்ளது. அவ்வாறான முயற்சிகளில் ஒன்று சிங்கப்பூர் ஹாக்கியன் ஹவே குவான் கலாசார அமைப்புடன் இணைந்து தொடக்க நிலை இரண்டு மாணவர்களுக்காக நடத்திய 'மாண்டரின் மொழியில் விளையாடு' என்னும் சீனமொழிப் பேச்சு மற்றும் நாடகப் பட்டறைகளாகும்.

கல்வி அமைச்சு, தாய்மொழிகள் கற்றல் வளர்ச்சிக் குழுக்கள், பாலர் பருவ மேம்பாட்டு அமைப்பு, அடித்தள அமைப்புகள், இனக் குழுக்கள், உள்ளூர்க் கலை மற்றும் கலாசார அமைப்புகள் ஆகியற்றின் முயற்சிகளை இந்நிதி தொடர்ந்து ஒருங்கிணைக்கும். இந்நிதியின் செயற்பாடுகள் பரந்து விரிவதற்கும் தாய்மொழிகள் வளர்ச்சிக்கு ஏற்ற சூழல் உருவாவதற்கும் நல்ல தலைமைத்துவத்தை வழங்கிய இந்நிதியத்தின் முன்னாள் தலைவர், திரு இங் சீ மெங் அவர்களுக்கும் நிதியத்தின் இயக்குநர்களுக்கும் குழு உறுப்பினர்களுக்கும் ஆதரவையும் உழைப்பையும் வழங்கியதற்கு நன்றியைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.



**ஒங் இயீ காங்**

தலைவர்

இருமொழிக் கல்விக்கான லீ குவான் யூ நிதி

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board comprises private sector and community leaders, academics and senior public servants. The Board provides strategic direction for the Fund. Its members have oversight of the management, administration as well as publicity and outreach activities related to the Fund.



The members of the Board are:



**Mr Ong Ye Kung** 王乙康  
Chair

Minister for Education  
*Appointed on 5 June 2018*

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**Mr Ng Chee Meng** 黄志明  
Former Chair

Minister  
Prime Minister's Office  
*Appointed from 1 October 2015 to 30 April 2018*

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**Ms Low Yen Ling** 刘燕玲  
Vice-Chair

Senior Parliamentary Secretary  
Ministry of Education & Ministry of Manpower  
Mayor, South West CDC

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**Mrs Mildred Tan** 沈明媚  
Chair of the Audit Committee

Chairman  
National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre

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**Professor Eddie Kuo** 郭振羽教授  
Chair of the International Advisory Panel

Professor Emeritus  
Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information  
Nanyang Technological University

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**Ms Ho Peng** 何品

Chair of the Project Evaluation Committee

Advisor  
Ministry of Education

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**Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon** 符喜泉

Chair of the Publicity and Outreach Resource Panel

Honorary Advisor  
NTUC Childcare

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**Mr Tang Kok Heng Clarence** 邓各讯

Treasurer

Divisional Director  
Finance and Procurement  
Ministry of Education

*Appointed on 1 March 2018*

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**Mr Tan Lin Teck** 陈仁德

Former Treasurer

Divisional Director  
Finance & Procurement  
Ministry of Education

*Appointed from 1 July 2015 to 28 February 2018*

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**Mr Anthony Tan** 陈康威

Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Singapore Press Holdings Ltd

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

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**Mr Chua Chim Kang** 蔡深江

Head  
Chinese Editorial Content  
Mediacorp Pte Ltd

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

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### Mr Hawazi bin Daipi

Non-Resident High Commissioner to the Republic of Ghana and  
Non-Resident Representative to the Palestine National Authority

Group Director / Consultant Housing, Mini Environment Service Pte Ltd

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

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### Mdm Rahayu Mahzam

Member of Parliament, Jurong GRC

Member, Malay Language Council

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

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### Mr R Rajaram ரா. ராஜாராம்

Senior Director

Office of Admissions

National University of Singapore

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### Mr Wan Shung Ming 尹崇明

Chairman

Cultural Committee

Singapore Federation of Chinese Clan Associations

*Appointed from 1 March 2012 to 31 March 2018*

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### Mr Wong Siew Hoong 王斯芸

Director-General of Education

Ministry of Education

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

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### Mr Yatiman bin Yusof

High Commissioner (Non-Resident) to Kenya and Rwanda

*Appointed from 1 March 2012 to 31 March 2018*

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# GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE & POLICIES



## Governance Structure

The Fund has set up five committees in support of its work.

### **Executive Committee**

The committee assists the Board in the stewardship and oversight of the Fund. The committee exercises such powers and functions on behalf of the Board on matters that have been specifically delegated to the committee.

### **Audit Committee**

The committee oversees and ensures the corporate governance and other regulatory compliance of the Fund. The committee periodically reviews the Fund's key processes and practices, and checks that they comply with regulatory requirements. It also reviews related-party transactions for potential conflicts of interest and ensures that proper measures to mitigate such conflicts of interests have been put in place.

### **Investment Advisory Committee**

The committee oversees the investment of the Fund in accordance with the broad investment policy approved by the Board.

### **International Advisory Panel**

The panel comprises academics in the field of bilingualism. The panel advises the Board in the area of bilingual education and on the development of bilingualism capabilities that can be adapted for our local context.

### **Project Evaluation Committee**

The committee oversees the proposals which are submitted to the Fund for grant funding. The committee evaluates the proposals for consideration by the Board and monitors the progress of the supported proposals.

## Governance Policies

### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

The Fund practises a documented procedure for its Board and committee members to declare any conflict of interest at the earliest opportunity possible. Any Board or committee member who has a conflict of interest is required to abstain from voting in the interested transactions.

### **Remuneration Policy**

Board and committee members are not paid for their services by the Fund. The Fund does not employ any staff.

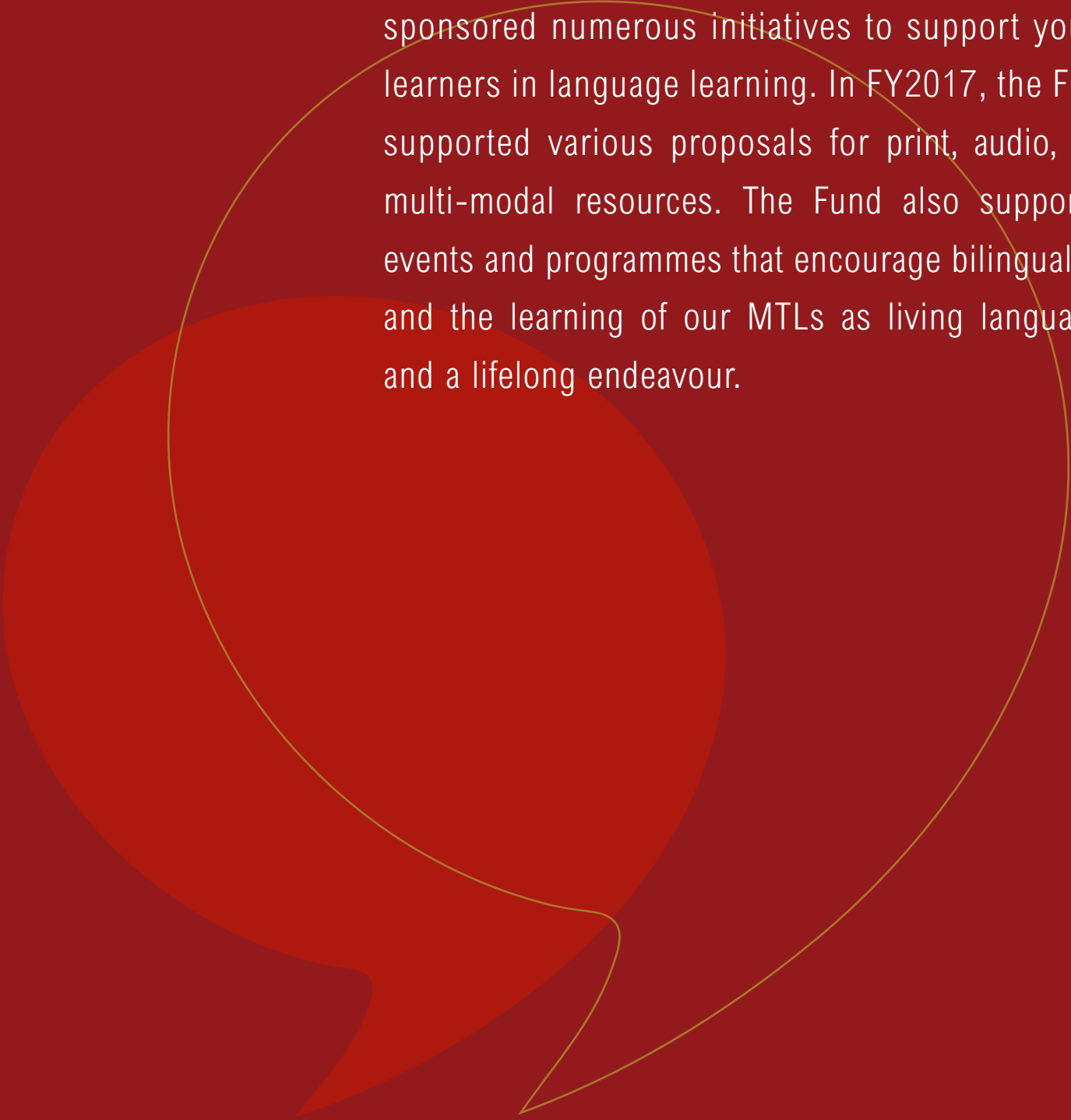
### **Reserves Policy**

The reserves of the Fund provide financial stability and a means for the development of the Fund's activities. The Fund intends to maintain the reserves at no less than five years of operating expenditure. The Board of Directors reviews the level of reserves regularly for the Fund's continued obligations.

### **Compliance with Code of Governance**

The Fund has complied with the Code of Governance that was launched by the Charity Council.

# FUND'S ACTIVITIES



Since the Fund's inception in 2011, the Fund has sponsored numerous initiatives to support young learners in language learning. In FY2017, the Fund supported various proposals for print, audio, and multi-modal resources. The Fund also supported events and programmes that encourage bilingualism and the learning of our MTLs as living languages and a lifelong endeavour.



Launch of *Balar Murasu* at Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre on 25 April 2017.

## PROJECTS AND RESOURCES

### Launch of *Balar Murasu* by Singapore Press Holdings

The Fund supported the development of *Balar Murasu*, a twelve-page, A4-sized fortnightly publication for pre-school children.

*Balar Murasu* includes nursery rhymes, craft activities, item-matching activities, as well as other interesting resources to spark interest in learning Tamil language. Parents are encouraged to read the supplement with their children and use its content to initiate conversations.

*Balar Murasu's* content is developed and written by Tamil Murasu Ltd's editorial team and is anchored on a thematic approach that introduces themes suitable for pre-school children, such as "My Home", "My School" and "My Family".



Pre-school children answering questions on the content of *Balar Murasu* at its launch.

## Short Film Series by Ngee Ann Polytechnic

The Fund funded a final-year project by students of Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Advanced Television Production module. The students produced three short films using three different approaches to explore the highlights and challenges of using Chinese language in everyday communication.

The three films were shown at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. They can also be viewed on Youtube using the following links:



### **The Clouds Should Know Us By Now**

<https://youtu.be/NrpT8U3wReo>



### **One Fine Day**

[https://youtu.be/Hbv\\_ac0ze7g](https://youtu.be/Hbv_ac0ze7g)



### **Distance**

[https://youtu.be/\\_yfnOAcclNo](https://youtu.be/_yfnOAcclNo)



## BOOKS AND PRINT PUBLICATIONS<sup>1</sup>

The Chinese version of the *Timmy & Tammy Series* by Armour Publishing Pte Ltd

*Timmy and Tammy* is a series of vividly illustrated English books for pre-schoolers published by Armour Publishing Pte Ltd. The series of readers is set in Singapore and revolves around *Timmy & Tammy's* adventures on various well-known and well-loved locations, such as the Botanic Gardens, Changi Airport and the National Library. Ten of the popular titles in the *Timmy & Tammy* series have been translated into Chinese.



The ten translated Chinese titles of *Timmy & Tammy* series.

<sup>1</sup> Copies of the Fund's sponsored books are available for loan at various National Library Board (NLB) branches. The Fund also supports the distribution of its sponsored resources to various pre-school centres.





## **The Poony Series** by Claritex International Pte Ltd

*The Poony Series* is a graded series of four fully illustrated Tamil picture books for pre-school children featuring the daily activities of a boy named Ponniamorthy (abbreviated to the eponymous “Poony”) and his family. The graded series consists of the following titles:

- i. *Vilayyattu vinaiyaanathu* ( விளையாட்டு விளையானது )
- ii. *Mithivandi vilayyaattu* ( மிதிவண்டி விளையாட்டு )
- iii. *Vagupparaiyil kannamoochu* ( வகுப்பறையில் கண்ணாமூச்சி )
- iv. *Poonyin piranthanaal* ( பூணியின் பிறந்தநாள் )



The series aims to inculcate values such as love, respect, humility, and loyalty, in its readers. It also aims to spark both an interest in and a love for learning Tamil language among pre-school children. Parents are encouraged to read the series with their children and to use the stories to generate conversations.



The four fully illustrated Tamil picture books under the Poony Series.



## The Nursery Rhymes Project: *Paint Our Songs* book and CD set

《儿歌新唱计划：我们的儿歌画故事》

by The Theatre Practice Ltd

The Fund supported the *Paint Our Songs* book and *Sing our Songs* CD set, a collaboration by Kuo Jian Hong, the Artistic Director of The Theatre Practice, with Singaporean award-winning lyricist Xiaohan, and local music director Julian Wong. The book and CD set was also one of the three initiatives under The Theatre Practice's *The Nursery Rhymes Project* launched in November 2017.

The song book is illustrated by Mr Lee Kow Fong (aka Ah Guo), and features brand new illustrations inspired by the project's nursery rhymes and familiar Singaporean landmarks. The *Sing Our Songs* CD features 12 classic Mandarin nursery rhymes given a new breath of life with Julian Wong's new arrangements, and brought alive with renditions by local talents such as *Sing! China* finalist Joanna Dong, Sugie Phua, Ethel Yao, and Ric Liu. The songs include familiar tunes like *Little White Boat*, *The More We Get Together*, *Where's My Friend?* and a new addition, *Questions with No Answer*, the theme song from The Theatre Practice's award-winning children musical *The Wee Question Mark and the Adventurer*.





## EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES

### Plays

***Red Riding Hood in Mandarin*** by The Little Company  
(a subsidiary of Singapore Repertory Theatre)

The Fund supported The Little Company's staging of *Red Riding Hood in Mandarin*. *Red Riding Hood* is an uplifting story about a brave girl named Red who journeys through the forest to reunite her family and save Mother's bakery from closing down. Pre-schoolers watched the show with discounted tickets supported by the Fund.



Scenes from the *Red Riding Hood in Mandarin*.



Mobile theatre staging of *Upstairs in the Sky* at the libraries.

### ***Upstairs in the Sky*** by The Little Company (a subsidiary of Singapore Repertory Theatre)

The Fund also supported The Little Company's maiden attempt to provide a mobile theatre experience for children by staging *Upstairs in the Sky*, in public libraries. The staging allowed children to experience theatre in a familiar and accessible setting. Approximately 2,100 attendees attended the 13 performances of *Upstairs in the Sky*.





Then-Chairperson of the Fund, Minister Ng Chee Meng, and Board member Mr Wan Shung Ming, with a few young cast members at the movie's special screening on 16 March 2018.

### ***The Wayang Kids* by Brainchild Pictures Pte Ltd**

*The Wayang Kids* is the first and only movie sponsored by the Fund so far. The movie was launched at Shaw Lido on 6 March 2018, and was screened throughout the month of March 2018.



*The Wayang Kids* introduces the charm of traditional Chinese opera and revolves around the themes of accepting and respecting differences, communication and the importance of family. Starring local young talents, the movie tells the story of an unlikely friendship that develops among distinct characters - a Eurasian girl from China, Bao-Er, her classmate with autism, Open, and their multicultural group of friends. Together, all of them have to overcome their differences and work to put on a Chinese opera performance of *The Monkey King*.



### ***Rainbow Soup*** by theVoice Production Ltd



Staging of *Rainbow Soup* at a pre-school centre.

The Fund supported the staging of *Rainbow Soup*, a short interactive skit to promote the use and learning of Mother Tongue Languages (MTLs), at various pre-schools. The skit revolves around two best friends, Sam and Pam. They love to sing, dance and have fun together. When they realise that there was nothing to eat one day, the creative duo decides to cook up a delicious rainbow soup filled with all sorts of marvellous ingredients. Through the skit and interaction with the cast, the children present were exposed to vocabulary in different MTLs in a fun and light-hearted way.



The winning team of Sorpor 2017.

## Sorpor 2017 by Tamils Representative Council



Sorpor, a national Tamil debate series for primary schools, has been organised biennially since 2009 by the Tamils Representative Council. In FY2017, it was jointly funded by the Fund and the Tamil Language Learning & Promotion Committee. The programme also received support from the Tamil Language Council and Mediacorp's Vasantham TV channel.

32 schools participated in the competition, and participants underwent training conducted by public speakers and former debaters to equip themselves with the necessary public speaking skills. The finals were part of the annual Tamil Language Festival and were telecast on Vasantham channel.



Children performing their competition item.

### **Gema Si Cilik Mega 2017** by Tampines West CC (MAEC)

The Fund supported *Gema Si Cilik Mega 2017*, a song and dance competition for pre-school children within Tampines GRC. The one-day competition aimed to promote the use of Malay language among pre-school children, and it saw very healthy participation rates from both Malay and non-Malay students in pre-schools in the Tampines area.

Warm support from parents and family members of the participants of *Gema Si Cilik Mega 2017*.







The panel taking questions from the audience.

## SPH Education Symposium 2017 by Singapore Press Holdings Ltd

The symposium was successfully held on 28 August 2017, and saw the participation of 330 attendees, out of which 250 were teachers and school leaders, and 80 were students. The symposium centred around the theme “Reshaping Singapore’s Education Landscape in the Future Economy: A Dialogue on Language Learning and Media Literacy in the Next Five Years”.



The launch of the forum by Guest of Honour Dr Janil Puthuchery, then Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information & Ministry of Education.



Session at the launch of *Bulan Bahasa* at the Malay Heritage Centre.

## NBDCS's Legends and Fables by National Book Development Council of Singapore

A total of two storytelling sessions were conducted, each lasting an hour. The first session was part of the *Bulan Bahasa* launch on 9 September 2017 at the Permanent Galleries at the Malay Heritage Centre. The second performance was held at the atrium of OneKM Shopping Mall on 30 September 2017.



Session at the of OneKM Shopping Mall on 30 September 2017

During the performances, storyteller Jumaini Ariff took on the persona of Nek Selampit and shared two stories: *Badang*, a popular Singapore myth, and *A Drop of Honey*, a story adapted and translated from a folk story with Burmese origins. Both stories were told with gamelan accompaniment, which accentuated the key points of the story at suitable interludes. Ms Jumaini Ariff also interacted with the audience and shared more about her work as a storyteller and stories she told.



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Malay song performance by PCF students at Gerbang Bahasa 2017.

### **Gerbang Bahasa 2017 by Gambas Community Club**

On 24 September 2017, in conjunction with the *Bulan Bahasa 2017*, Gambas Community Club organised their first Gerbang Bahasa 2017, to promote the use of Malay language through theatrical performances and competitions such as “Jom Berpantun” and “Kuiz Bahasa”. Students from the neighbourhood and residents of Yishun participated in the competitions. More than 400 residents attended the event, which was graced by Minister for Education, Ong Ye Kung as the Guest of Honour.



Jumaini Ariff getting students to tell their story.

## **Express Yourself Through Storytelling** by National Book Development Council of Singapore

The Fund also supported the Book Council's Express Yourself Through Storytelling workshop, which was designed to nurture students' interest in the Malay language through storytelling.

The workshop sessions began with storyteller Jumaini Ariff performing *Zafir the Tapir*, a simple yet entertaining story in which words depicting various emotions were introduced through increasingly intense levels of language engagement. Students were then led through a retelling of the story together with Ms Jumaini.

The schools that took part in the workshop included St Hilda's Primary School, Lakeside Primary School, St Stephen's School and Woodlands Primary School.



Performances by parents and students in Malay during Pesta Ria Si Cilik.

### **Pesta Ria Si Cilik** by PAP Community Foundation (PCF)

The event was successfully organised by PCF to provide parents and students with opportunities to use the Malay language in parent-child performances and in manning exhibition booths on traditional Malay games and culture. Various pre-school centres in the north of Singapore participated in the event. The collaboration between the parents and their children during the parent-child performances provided an opportunity for the parents to engage their children in using the Malay language meaningfully.



The cast enjoying their performance.

### **Play in Mandarin** by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy Pte Ltd

The Fund's first supported proposal from a clan association, Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy Pte Ltd's Sennett Education Theatre aimed to cultivate students' interest in the Chinese language through a 45-minute play and a post-performance educational activity. The play was based on Chinese cultural values and weaved in Chinese idioms to enhance the appreciation and learning of Chinese learning through the performing arts. About two thousand and four hundred students from twenty-four primary schools participated in the programme.



The children enjoying the performance.

2017



Performances by participating schools.

### Primary 4 Chinese Oratory Course by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy Pte Ltd

The Fund also funded the Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy Pte Ltd's Primary 4 Oratory Course, which aimed to develop students' oratory skills, especially oratory expressions and articulation, through six lessons in schools and a four-day camp. During the 4-day camp, students were immersed in an environment where they had to communicate with each other in Mandarin. Camp activities included drama, speech, reading class, singing class and group activities. At the end of the training, all the participants had a chance to experience audio recording in a studio and put up a performance on the last day of the camp.





Tamil Language session during the Fun with Languages Programme.

## Fun with Languages Programme by National Book Development Council of Singapore

The Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) is an annual event organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore. The event brings together content creators, parents, teachers, librarians and members of the public interested in quality Asian content for children. The Fund sponsored the Fun with Languages Programme Workshop under the AFCC, which engaged parents and children in MTL talks and activities. The 15 workshops held over five sessions at three different libraries aimed to promote a love for languages.



Children showcasing their art pieces.





### **Sayembara Theatre 2000** by Tampines West CC (MAEC)



Scenes from the winning performance.

Sayembara Theatre 2000, a Malay drama competition and performance attracted about 10 participating groups. Participants went through a drama workshop/sharing session conducted by the competition's four judges to enhance their skills in preparation for the competition. The competition attracted about 700 audience members, and the winner's performance on 13 January 2018 was attended by about 260 audience members and graced by Minister Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources & Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs.



## 6<sup>th</sup> Mother Tongue Languages Symposium



LKYFB Exhibition booth at MTLs and its showcase of sponsored resources.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Mother Tongue Languages Symposium (MTLS) was held on 19 August 2017. MTLS is organised annually by the Ministry of Education and Mother Tongue Language Learning and Promotion Committees (MTLLPCs) and serves as a platform for educators and parents to interact and find out more about the learning of Mother Tongue Languages (MTLs). The symposium features ongoing efforts by schools, professionals and community groups to help children nurture an interest in MTL.



Recipients of the Outstanding Pre-school Mother Tongue Language Teacher Award 2017.

The Fund participated in the event by setting up a booth displaying resources that had been produced and supported by the Fund in the past few years. In conjunction with the theme, 'Flourish in the Wonderland of Our Languages', a specially designed token, a jigsaw dice featuring items representing Singapore in English Language and MT languages, was given to all children who visited the booth.

The Fund also supported the Outstanding Pre-school Mother Tongue Language Teacher Award 2017, which was jointly presented by the Mother Tongue Language Learning and Promotion Committees. The award recognises pre-school teachers for their passion and creativity in the teaching of Mother Tongue Languages. 13 pre-school teachers received the Outstanding and Merit Awards at the symposium.

## Love Our Languages! Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism Community Series on Language Learning and Teaching

The “Love Our Languages! Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism Community Series on Language Learning and Teaching” aims to help parents to nurture a love for languages in our children through workshops for parents to equip themselves with skills and knowledge to support their children in the learning of MTL at home. The Fund organised a series of workshops for parents and educators as part of the Mother Tongue Languages Symposium 2017.



The well-received "Creating Stories with Your Child" workshop with Ah Guo.

### Creating Stories with Your Child

Lee Kow Fong (aka Ah Guo), is a renowned local illustrator who believes that children love listening to stories and that drawing / doodling on paper is the start of penmanship for all children. With this principle, he shared simple techniques and strategies on illustrating and creating stories with parents and children. Participants had the opportunity to create and illustrate their own simple picture book in the fun-filled workshop.



A young participant enjoying the session and demonstrating his creativity.



Mr Khairudin listening to a young participant explain his creation.

## Doodling as a Tool for Language Learning

Mr Khairudin Saharom is a professional architect with a passion for illustration. Mr Khairudin is also a familiar media personality, having hosted many television programmes for both local and regional networks.



Children having fun co-creating with Mr Khairudin during the workshop.

In his workshop, Mr Khairudin shared his love for doodling when he was young. He also suggested ideas on how parents could use doodling to enhance conversation in Malay language at home with their children, and even unlocking their learning of the language. Mr Khairudin shared that, “Illustrations must not only connect the reader visually to the text. They must also trigger the senses and capture emotions that are true to the story”.

Participants were engaged in a hands-on doodling session and used the completed artwork to spark conversations about using the Malay language.



Mr Jeyarajadas explaining various ways to use Tamil language at home.

### Tamil @ Home: You Can Play a Part Too!

Mr Jeyarajadas Pandian is a Principal Master Teacher for Tamil language at the Academy of Singapore Teachers with more than 35 years of teaching experience. With his vast experience in the media industry, he has written, composed and sung numerous Tamil songs for our young children.



Mr Jeyarajadas encouraging the parents and young children to speak more Tamil at home.

Mr Jeyarajadas Pandian shared strategies with parents/ caregivers and educators to help them to encourage children in speaking Tamil language at home. He also shared ideas and ways to engage young children so as to encourage them to construct proper sentences in Tamil when speaking and to inculcate values through conversations in Tamil language.



## Connecting Communities & Bridging Generations Through Our Mother Tongue Languages

The Fund also launched a series of short videos in its continuous drive to encourage the use of MTLs among Singaporeans, especially children and parents. The video series highlights the importance of our Mother Tongues in connecting users' hearts and minds, by bringing people closer to one another.

The series of five videos comprises:

- i. A short story on how the use of Mother Tongue breaks down the language barrier between a grandfather and his granddaughter; and
- ii. Four testimonial videos featuring then Minister for Education (Schools) Mr Ng Chee Meng, and Singapore artistes, Ms Olivia Ong, Mr Shabir Alam and Mr Taufik Batisah. They talk about their experience in learning their Mother Tongue language, and how it has helped them to appreciate the language and connect better with others.

The series of videos were aired on local free-to-air television channels and can also be viewed online on the following platforms:

### **Ministry of Education's Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/moesingapore](http://www.facebook.com/moesingapore)

### **YouTube**

[www.youtube.com/MOESpore](http://www.youtube.com/MOESpore)

# FINANCIAL REVIEW



## Financial Review

The financial statements for the Fund for the year ended 31 March 2018 (FY2017) have been audited by Nexia TS Public Accounting Corporation. A copy of the statements is attached with this report.

The Fund's income for FY2017 amounted to \$1.8 million. This was made up primarily of donations and investment income.

The expenditure for FY2017 amounted to \$4.7 million, of which \$2.7 million was disbursed as grants to various recipients. Operating expenditure accounted for \$1.2 million and loss upon partial sales of some investment was \$0.7m.

The projects supported by the Fund could span more than one financial year and the grants disbursed in FY2017 comprise projects that were awarded in this financial year and in previous financial years. As at the end of FY2017, grants approved since the inception of the Fund totalled \$15.9 million. \$7.6 million of this has yet to be disbursed and is expected to be disbursed to the various recipients during this year and the upcoming years depending on the progress of the projects.

The Fund balance stands at a healthy \$120.8 million.



# COMMITTEES



## Executive Committee

### Chair

Ms Low Yen Ling

### Members

Mr Tang Kok Heng Clarence <sup>2</sup>

Ms Ho Peng

Mr Tan Lin Teck <sup>3</sup>

Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon

## Audit Committee

### Chair

Mrs Mildred Tan

### Members

Mr Anthony Tan <sup>4</sup>

Mr R Rajaram

Mr Wan Shung Ming <sup>5</sup>

## Investment Advisory Committee

### Chair

Mr Lim Chow Kiat

### Members

Ms Betty Tay

Mr Tang Kok Heng Clarence <sup>2</sup>

Ms Deborah Ho

Mr Jin Yuen Yee

Ms Lim Li Ying

Mr Tan Lin Teck <sup>3</sup>

## International Advisory Panel

### Chair

Professor Eddie Kuo

### Members <sup>6</sup>

## Project Evaluation Committee

### Chair

Ms Ho Peng

### Members

Dr Chitra Sankaran <sup>7</sup>

Mr Tang Kok Heng Clarence <sup>2</sup>

Dr Connie Lum May Lin

Dr Elizabeth Pang

Mdm Geraldine See

A/P Hadijah Bte Rahmat

Mrs Jenny Kwek <sup>7</sup>

Dr Mohd Mukhlis bin Abu Bakar <sup>7</sup>

Mr Pang Choon How <sup>8</sup>

A/P Sivakumaran s/o Ramalingam <sup>7</sup>

Dr Soh Kay Cheng

Dr Soon Hong Lim

Mr S P Jeyarajadas Pandian

Ms Tan Beng Luan <sup>7</sup>

Ms Tan Hwee Pin

Mr Tan Lin Teck <sup>3</sup>

Mr Yatiman Bin Yusof <sup>9</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Appointed on 1 March 2018

<sup>3</sup> Appointment from 1 July 2015 to 28 February 2018

<sup>4</sup> Appointed on 1 April 2018

<sup>5</sup> Appointed from 4 January 2013 to 31 March 2018

<sup>6</sup> Members to be appointed

<sup>7</sup> Appointment from 2 March 2015 to 31 March 2018

<sup>8</sup> Appointed from 1 March 2016 to 14 December 2017

<sup>9</sup> Appointed from 10 May 2015 to 31 March 2018

