

# Pillars

WE SHAPE A SAFE, HIGH QUALITY, SUSTAINABLE AND FRIENDLY BUILT ENVIRONMENT | ISSUE 04/JULY–AUGUST 2013



# 2<sup>ND</sup> URBAN SUSTAINABILITY R&D CONGRESS

THE 2<sup>ND</sup> URBAN SUSTAINABILITY R&D CONGRESS WAS HELD ON 27 AND 28 JUNE 2013 AT THE BIOPOLIS

The Congress is a national platform for government agencies, research institutes and private sector companies to come together to discuss R&D responses to national urban sustainability challenges. The two-day event attracted more than 700 international and local participants, with a good mix of participants from the research community (44%), public sector (32%) and private sector (24%). The Guest-of-Honour, Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Trade and Industry, made some key announcements on the government's commitment on various research grants including \$5 million new Innovation Grant (iGrant) for Green Buildings and up to \$20 million R&D funding for Building Energy Efficiency via the Energy Innovation Research Programme (EIRP)<sup>1</sup>, to be administered by BCA.

## MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT R&D AWARD 2013

SMS Lee also presented the Minister for National Development R&D Awards<sup>2</sup> to outstanding projects which have contributed towards MND's vision of creating an "Endearing Home and a Global City". For the first time this year, MND extended the award to external partner agencies who have also contributed towards its vision.

BCA's project with Samwoh Corporation Pte Ltd, "From waste to high value construction material – the first building in the region using 100% Recycled Concrete Aggregate" was awarded the Merit Award for promoting the use of recycled waste materials, and setting an international benchmark for sustainable construction.

## GREEN BUILDING TRACKS

In this year's R&D Congress, BCA was in charge of two Green Building tracks. The Green Building track on Day 1 provided an overview of the R&D landscape and challenges faced for green buildings in Singapore where speakers from the private sector and academia shared their perspectives on Singapore's R&D directions and developments in research capabilities.

The track on "Innovations in Green Building – From Laboratory to Market" provided an overview of the latest available green building technologies and innovation opportunities. Speakers also shared their insights on



Top | Opening address by SMS Lee.

Above | Dr Ho Nyok Yong from Samwoh Corporation Pte Ltd receiving MND R&D Award from SMS Lee.

Left | Er Ng Eng Kiong, President of Singapore Green Building Council, giving a keynote presentation at the Green Building track.

test-bedding of innovative technologies. In all, the Green Building tracks were attended by a total of around 240 participants for both days.

The Urban Sustainability R&D Congress also served as a platform for participants to discuss opportunity for commercialisation of R&D projects and facilitate collaborations between research community and industry.

See more at: <http://www.mnd.gov.sg/urbansustainability/index.html> 

<sup>1</sup> Energy Innovation Research Programme ("EIRP", formerly Clean Energy Research Programme) is a competitive grant call funded by the National Research Foundation. Co-led by the Economic Development Board (EDB) and Energy Market Authority (EMA) under the Energy Innovation Programme Office (EIPO).

<sup>2</sup> This Award was established in 2011 to recognise outstanding R&D efforts within the MND Family.