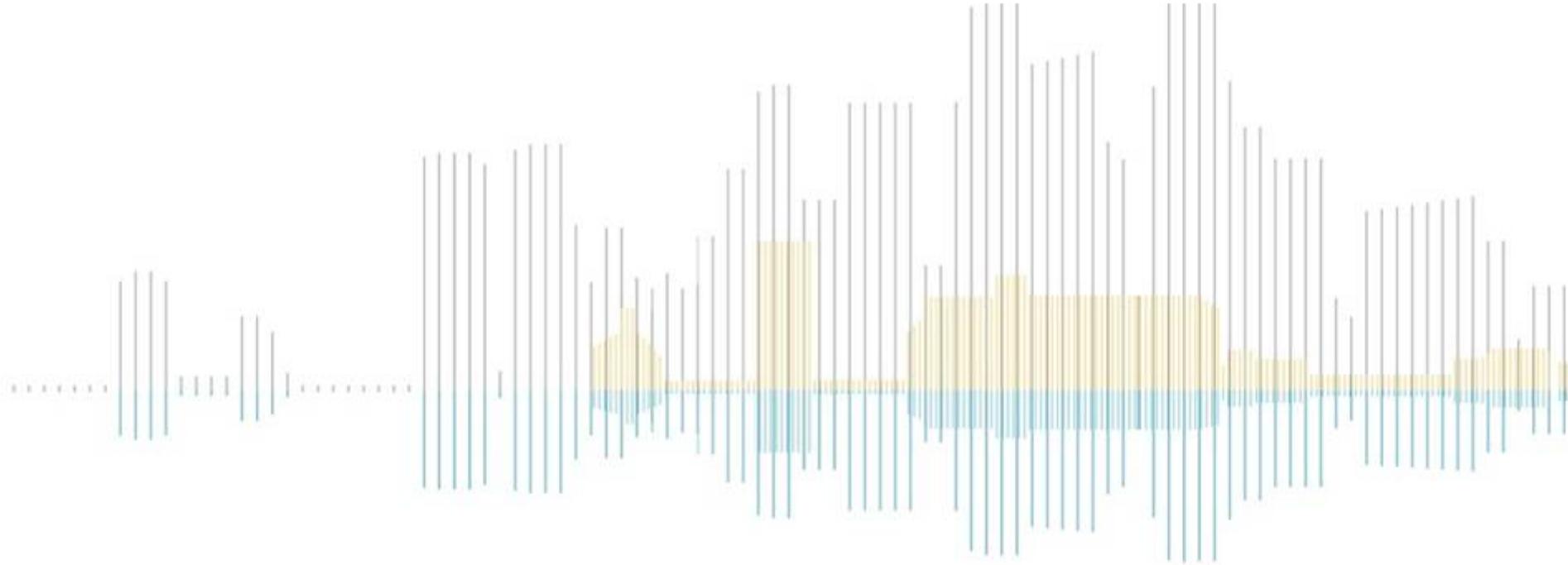


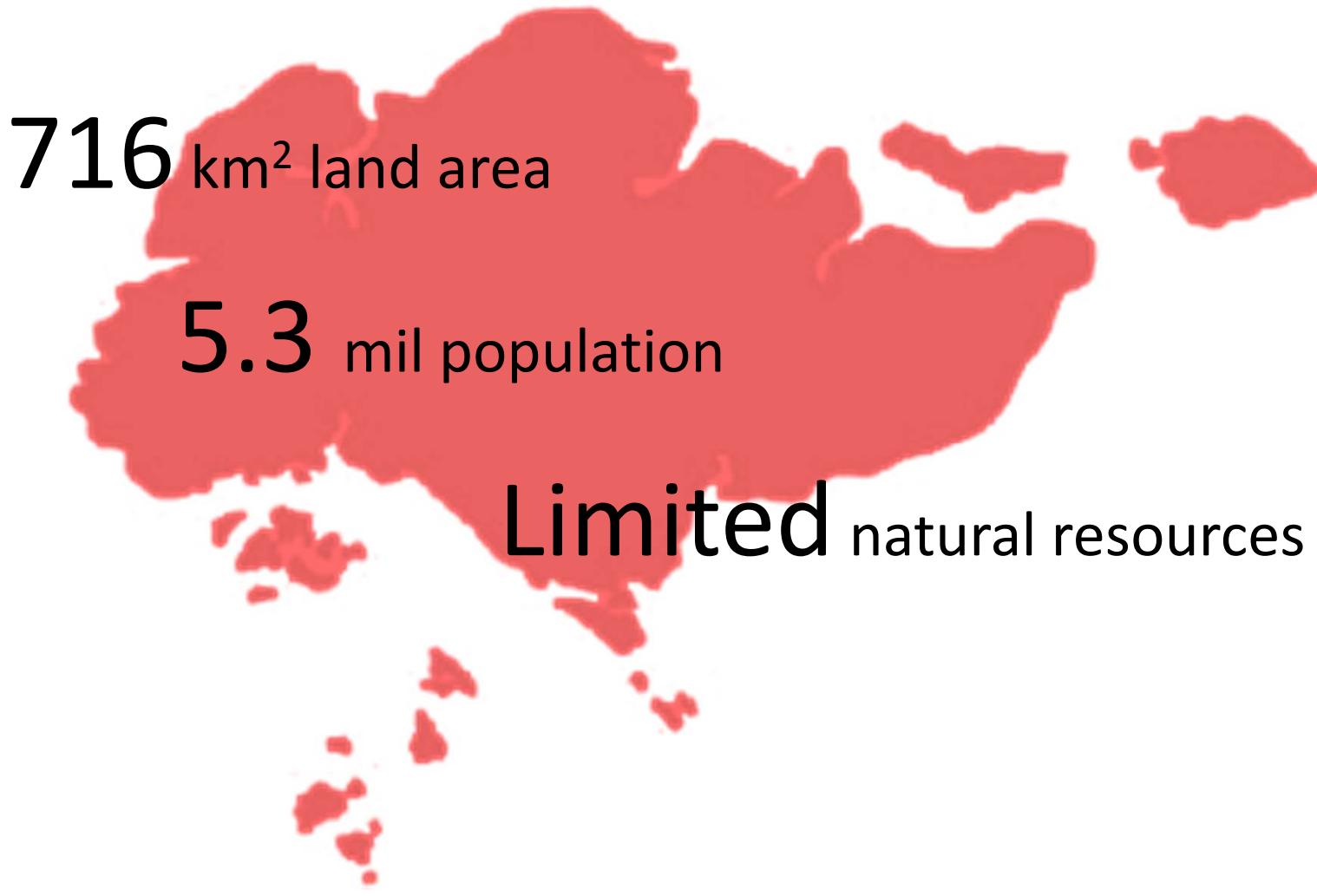
# **Singapore's Urban Planning Experience**

## **Pursuing Harmonious and Sustainable Development**



Dr Amy Khor  
Senior Minister of State for  
Ministry of Health and Ministry of Manpower, and  
Mayor of South West District Singapore

# The Challenges of a City-State



716 km<sup>2</sup> land area

5.3 mil population

Limited natural resources

Singapore 1960s

1.6 mil population, ~580 sq km

GDP: US\$1,000/cap



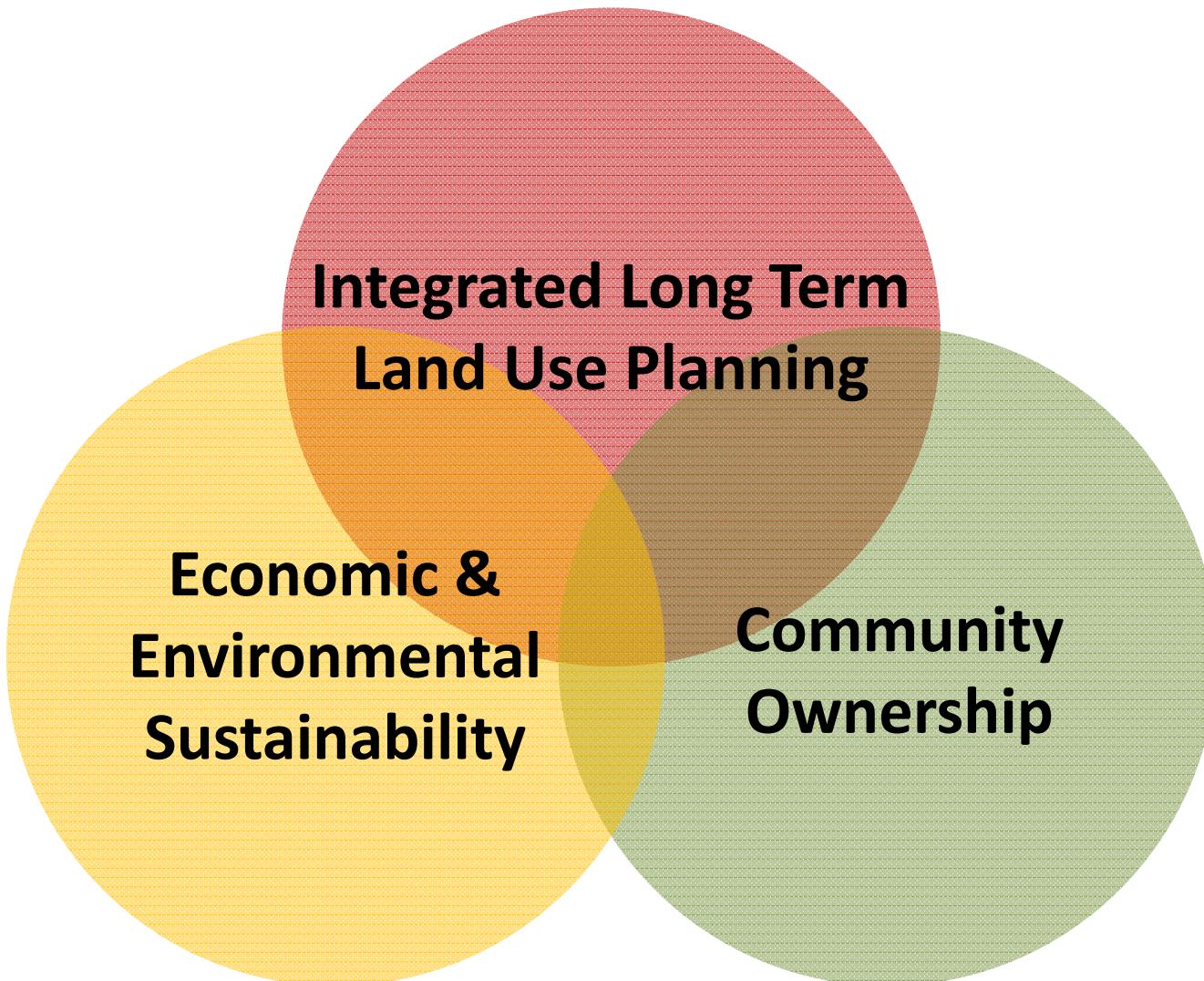
**Singapore Today**

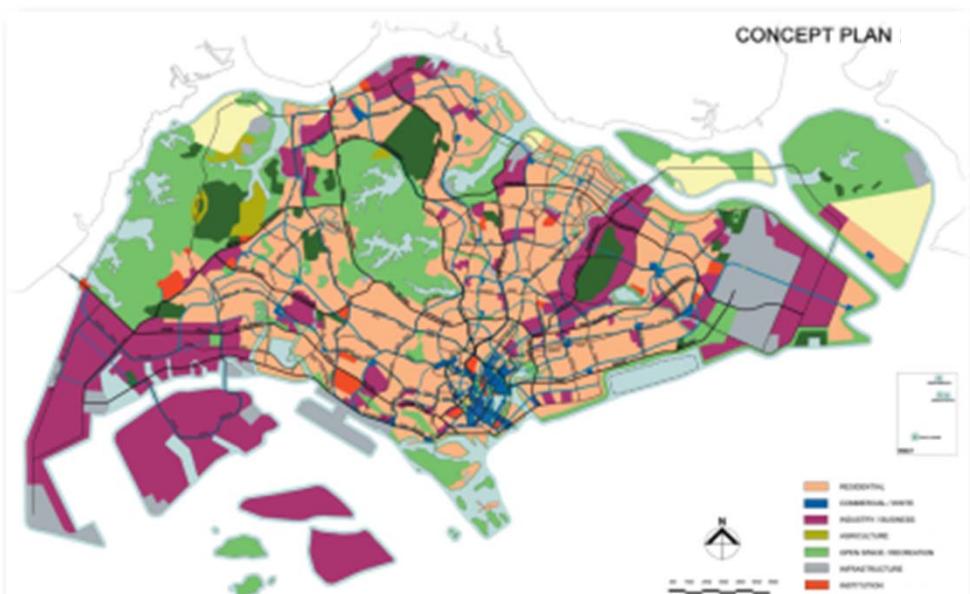
**5.4mil population, ~720 sq km**

**GDP: US\$50,000/cap**

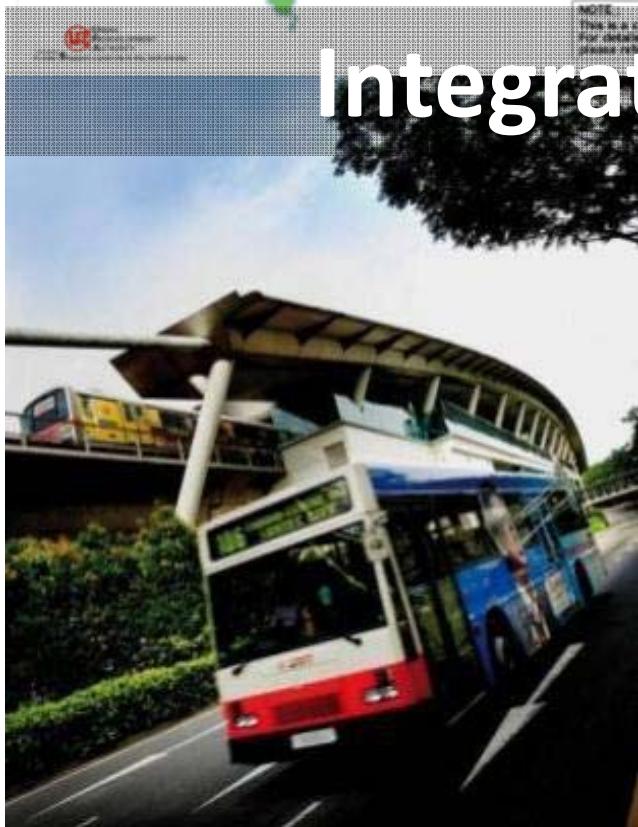


# Singapore's Approach: Harmonious & Sustainable Development



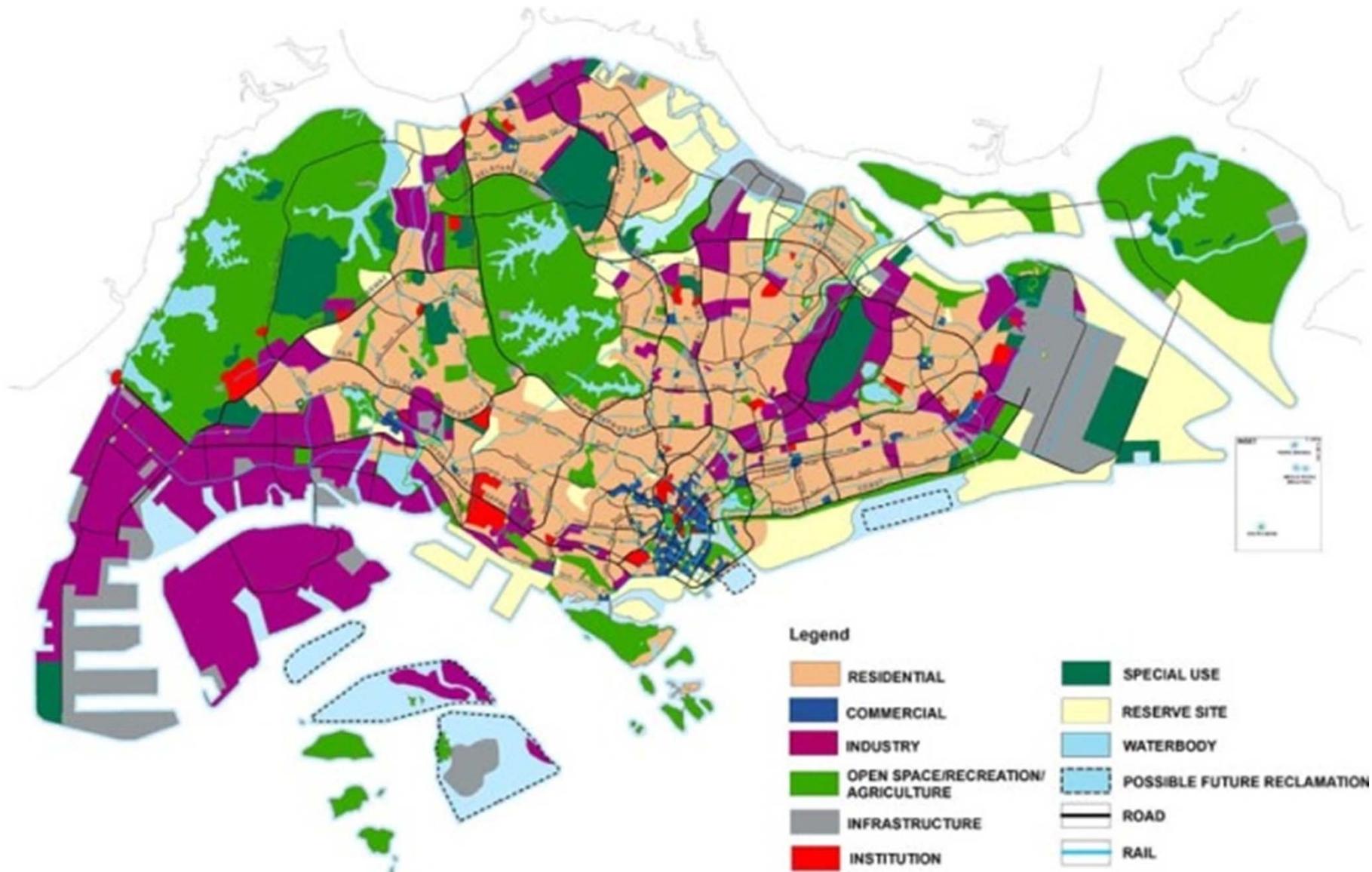


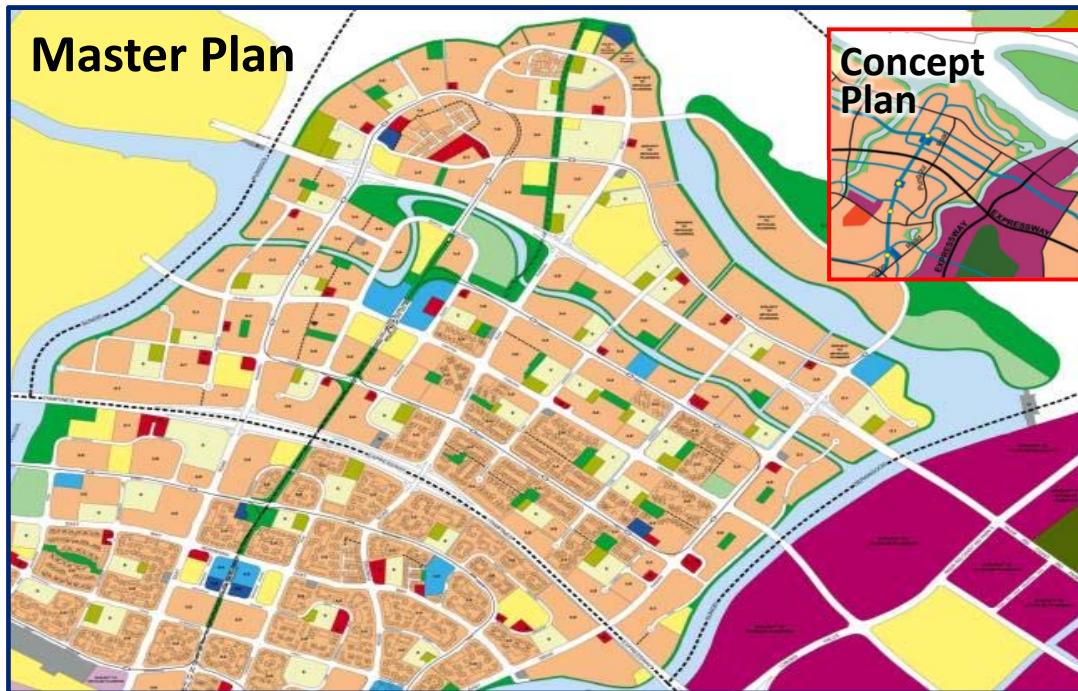
# Integrated Long Term Planning





# Concept Plan 2011





LEGEND	
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<span style="background-color: #0070C0; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px;"></span>	COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
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<span style="background-color: #F05050; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px;"></span>	CIVIC & COMMUNITY INSTITUTION
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<span style="background-color: #303030; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px;"></span>	SPECIAL USE
<span style="background-color: #309030; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px;"></span>	PARK CONNECTOR

## CONSERVING NATURE

Despite the republic's urbanised setting, nature continues to enjoy a luxuriant niche in Singapore with tracts of primary and secondary rainforests in the Bukit Timah and Central Catchment Nature Reserves, mangroves and mudflats in Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve, and rocky shore habitats in the Labrador Nature Reserve. Other areas of rich biodiversity, such as the Kianji Mangroves, Bukit Batok Nature Area, Sentosa Nature Area and Sisters Islands Nature Area, also have diverse habitats for plants and animals.

With the twin demands of economic development and "back to nature" recreational activities putting enormous pressure on our natural heritage, the future holds many challenges. These include finding innovative ways to integrate greenery with our urban landscape and conserving our flora and fauna while providing nature-based recreation in a sustainable manner.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

**Make parks and nature accessible**  
In 2001, the National Parks Board (NParks) developed 172 hectares of new parks and 7.4 km of park connectors. They include Buona Vista Park, and the Sentosa Green, Bedok and Siloso Park.



## REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

It's hard to imagine Singapore as a land of incineration plants and landfills. Yet not so long ago, the signs were pointing that way. The amount of waste being disposed had jumped six-fold over 30 years – from 1,300 tons a day in 1970 to 7,600 tons a day in 2000. At this rate, it was estimated that Singapore would run out of space by 2010. In 1990, the government introduced a "waste minimisation programme" to combat the growing problem.

But that was yesterday. Today, the challenges demand a more forward-looking approach. The government has been working hard to encourage recycling through the introduction of the recycling scheme, which has been extended to cover more than 90% of the domestic waste stream.

- cutting down the volume of waste generated through waste minimisation.

The results are beginning to show. Between 2000 and 2005, Singapore's overall recycling rate rose from 40% to 49%.

Waste generation has also been successfully controlled, with the amount being disposed falling from 7,400 tons a day in 2000 to 2,000 tons



## CLEAN WATER ON TAP

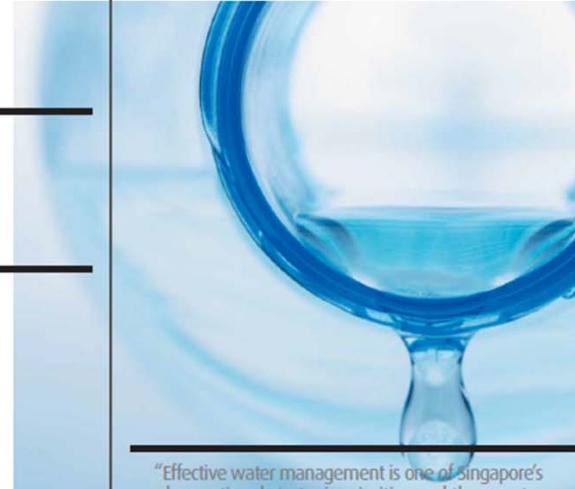
Singapore currently consumes 1.4 million cubic metres of water a day – a not insignificant volume for a nation of just over 4 million people. As the population grows, the challenge will be to ensure the sustainability of clean water supply. Diversification of our water supply sources, conservation of water and getting the community to value our water resources have been pursued as the means to achieving sustainability.

### DIVERSIFYING SUPPLY SOURCES

Singapore has invested in diversifying sources as far as diversifying its water supply sources goes. With its four National Tap Strategy in full flow, it has enough water to meet its future needs.

The first tap is the supply of water from local catchments. This consists of an integrated system of 14 reservoirs and an extensive drainage system to channel storm water into the reservoirs. The Marine Reservoir, which completed in 2002, will turn Marine Basin into a reservoir with a catchment area of about 10,000 ha. The next two taps – Groundwater and Desalination – will also be constructed across Singapore and Sentosa. Singapore and when completed in 2005, will create a catchment area of over 5,000 ha. Collectively, these projects will increase our water catchment area from 15% to 47% of Singapore's land area by 2005, fulfilling one of SGP 2015 targets on Clean Water.

The second tap – imported water from Johor – supplements Singapore's needs. So does the third tap – Hawker or high-grade



## A HEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT

A country's sustainability does not depend only on what it has – it depends also on what it does not. Infectious diseases, unsafe food and poor hygiene are what it can well do without. In this regard, Singapore spares no effort or expenses in keeping these scourges at bay. Through our public health efforts, we have made Singapore clean and hygienic, and have plans in place to ensure that this pristine image is maintained for years to come.

Healthcare remains a constant vigil over the state of our public health and are always prepared to respond swiftly to outbreaks of vector-borne diseases spread by insects or ticks (e.g. dengue and foodborne diseases).

Such vigilance has served us well. Vector-borne (e.g. malaria, leprosy) and food-borne (e.g. cholera, shigellosis) diseases seldom was there only once, and when they do, are quickly eradicated. As a small country with a high population density and an urbanised setting, Singapore knows that complacency carries a high price. The rise in the number of dengue fever cases in Singapore and the region in recent years is a timely reminder that we must not let our guard down.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

**Vector control**  
While the urban areas could be disease hotspots in itself,



## CLEAN AIR ALWAYS

Despite the occasional smoggy skies from the regional haze, Singapore has on the whole enjoyed good air quality. This happy state of affairs is not pre-ordained; it is the result of farsighted vision, meticulous planning and an unwavering adherence to the principle that the health of its citizens is non-negotiable. Thus, from the early days of her industrialisation and urbanisation, the republic has consciously adopted a no-compromise attitude in the pursuit of clean air. The result: an overall ambient air quality that is well within the standards of the World Health Organization's Environmental Protection Agency (WHO-EPA).

**Promotion, monitoring, enforcement and advocacy**  
Singapore's commitment to frequent review of the management of air pollution.

**Promotion** – All forms of air pollution are addressed by the National Environment Agency, that is, reduction of the amount of pollutants in the air.

**Monitoring** – Besides monitoring individual polluters, NEA also checks the ambient air quality for signs of pollution so that quick action may be taken to prevent any problems from arising.

**Enforcement** – Moving in step with the force of pollution are a slew of enforcement actions such as inspections on

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Singaporeans enjoy a clean environment and a high standard of public health and the country's excellent track record in managing environmental challenges over the years has earned it numerous international accolades. The Hong Kong-based Political and Economic Risk Consultancy (or PERC) rates Singapore as one of Asia's best environmental performers.

We are firmly of the view that many of today's environmental issues are transboundary in nature and can only be resolved through close international cooperation. We are therefore committed to past efforts of addressing such challenges through activities like participation in international environmental conventions and agreements, the value of collaboration with our partners, and will continue to work with them at bilateral, regional and international levels in our pursuit of sustainable development.

As we move to the next phase of the implementation of the Singapore Green Plan (SGP 2015), we will be expanding beyond the existing areas of "Relations Enhancement" and "Capacity Building" to include "Industry Partnership" and "Community Partnership".

**RELATIONS ENHANCEMENT**  
Boosting international cooperation  
Multilateral Environmental Agreements



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## More can still be done to make use of underground spaces: Minister Khaw

Published on Sep 03, 2013 11:34 AM



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An underground linkway between Orchard Central and The Centrepoint. There is still scope to do much more in terms of making use of underground spaces in Singapore, said Minister for National Development Khaw Boon Wan on Tuesday. — ST FILE PHOTO: DESMOND LIM

singapore

## Govt mulling large-scale underground developments



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## Govt considering underground masterplan: Khaw



Daryl Chin Property Correspondent  
The Straits Times

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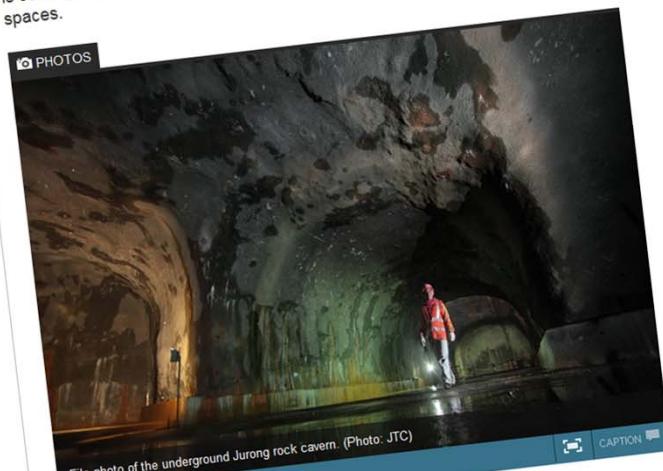
SINGAPORE Govt mulling master plan for underground spaces

POSTED: 03 Sep 2013 12:59 TREND

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Singapore National Development Minister Khaw Boon Wan said the government is considering the possibility of developing a master plan for underground spaces.



File photo of the underground Jurong rock cavern. (Photo: JTC)

# Economic & Environmental Sustainability





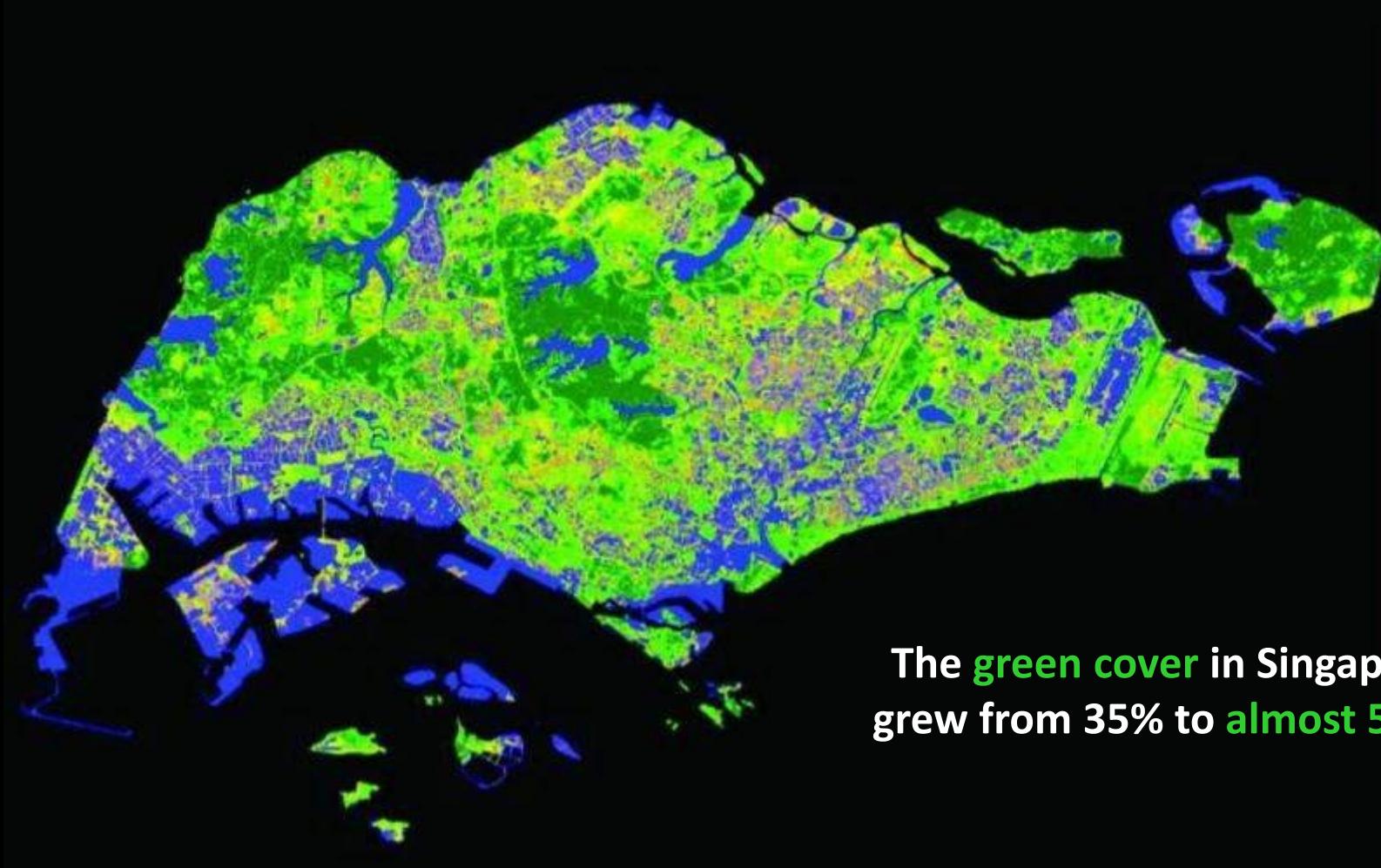
On June 16, 1963, former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew started the islandwide tree-planting campaign



On June 16, 2013, former Prime Minister Lee continued an unbroken 50-year tradition

# 50 Years of Greening

# City in a Garden



The **green cover** in Singapore  
grew from 35% to **almost 50%**



# Gardens by the Bay



# Park Connector Network

MacRitchie Reservoir



Alexandra Canal



## ABC Waters Programme



Bishan Park

# Community Ownership





People's Association

# Racial & Religious Harmony and Social Integration





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# Thank You