



**MR KHOO TENG CHYE**

Executive Director  
Centre for Liveable Cities Singapore  
Singapore

An engineer driven by passion towards innovative urban planning and policy making, Mr Khoo served with the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) from 1976 – 1996, the last four years as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Planner. His strong vision towards establishing a liveable and sustainable city was driven by the notion of integrated planning approach between different public agencies and emphasized the role of good governance as a core for planning a successful sustainable city.

Mr. Khoo headed PUB, Singapore's national water agency as the CEO from 2003 – 2011 and under his sterling leadership, the approach towards urban water management was transformed from a resource to an environmental asset. He recognized the immense potential of Singapore's intricate network of waterways weaving through the city as an integrated green blue network that can bring communities closer. Under his able guidance, in 2006 PUB launched its most ambitious Active, Beautiful, Clean Waters (ABC Waters) programme to transform the existing urban water infrastructure into recreational corridors. Aimed to sensitise the public to the value of water by creating opportunities for people to enjoy and interact with waterbodies and waterways as part of our urban neighbourhoods and city landscape, the programme achieved the arduous task of developing its urban landscape intensively while contributing to effective stormwater management. Through the people-centric approach towards urban water management, Mr. Khoo highlighted the potential of integrating landscape architecture, architecture, innovative engineering and urban planning towards creating a sustainable and liveable city. The Bishan Ang-Mo-Kio Park, a flagship project between PUB and National Parks Board (NParks) under the ABC Waters programme is an award-winning testament of Mr. Khoo's vision of an integrated planning approach led by a good governance model towards transforming urban spaces into high-quality living environments for the future.

Mr. Khoo is currently serving as the Executive Director of Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC), a knowledge centre in the Ministry of National Development with a mission to distil, create and share knowledge on liveable and sustainable cities. He continues his dedicated efforts in sharing the knowledge and expertise built over the years in Singapore with other cities undergoing similar rapid transformations, working tirelessly towards building a sustainable urban living environment for the future generations.



#### EVALUATORS' CITATION

Mr Khoo has been a leading figure in the transformation of the engineering approach to storm water management under the PUB, integrating ecology with engineering solutions to enhance the dense urban environment in Singapore. He led by example in challenging the existing standards, rules and norms, and inspired professionals to have the courage and determination to try new ideas in many multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder storm water initiatives. The Kallang River Master Plan and Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park are two examples of transformative projects that demonstrated close collaboration between diverse professionals and public agencies. Even after he has moved to a new role in leading CLC, Mr Khoo continues to advocate the significance of an integrated green and blue strategy. His vision remains that good governance, coupled with an integrated approach to planning and development, is necessary for the environmental future of Singapore.

**Mr Khoo is deserving of this Luminary Award because of his undying commitment to challenge the status quo even in established systems and his demonstrated ability to create stronger links between engineering and landscape architecture.**