



Session - Sustainable Energy Futures:

Science Centres Globally Approaching a Multifaceted Key Challenge

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SCIENCE CENTRE SINGAPORE





VISION

... where Science befriends and transforms the minds of millions

MISSION

To Promote Interest, Learning and Creativity in Science and Technology through Imaginative and Enjoyable Experience and Contribute to the Nation's Development of its Human Resource



Focus on the Energy and the Environment at Science Centre Singapore

Exhibitions on these topics since 1981, although the focus has varied, such as:

Ecology, Energy, Man's Impact on the Environment, Biodiversity.

Climate Change seen as a natural evolution of the earlier themes especially on energy sustainability and greener actions. First exhibition in 2008, completely revised in 2014.

Relevant exhibition at Science Centre to inform on energy issues



National focus on climate change

- Singapore has no natural resources, issues of climate change, water and energy taken seriously
- Study of Singapore's climate analysed up to 2100, projected a rise in temperatures, more frequent and heavier storms and rising sea levels.
- These changes can pose risks such as
 - loss of coastline
 - water supply with severe dry spells and flooding from intense storms
 - change in biodiversity
 - impacts on food supply and human health

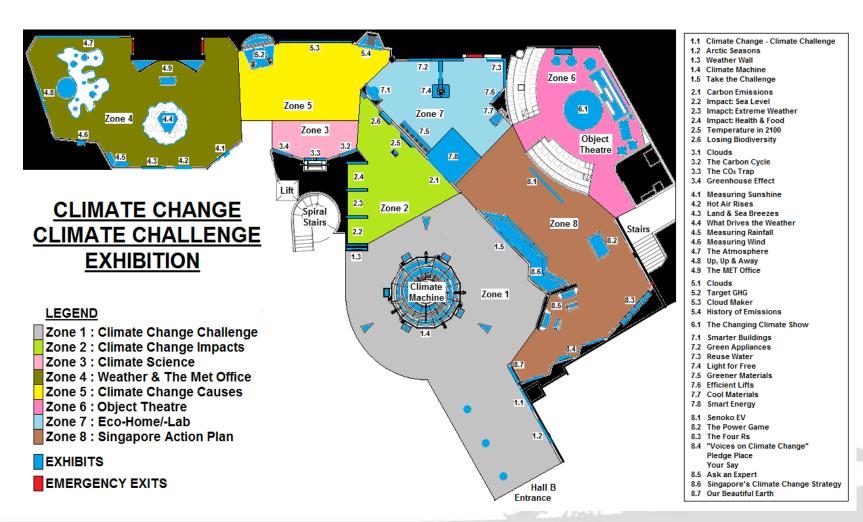


National Strategy for Climate Change

- A Climate Research Strategy Group was formed to study weather and climate in Singapore as well as in the wider Southeast Asia regions.
- National Climate Change Secretariat set up in 2010 developed a roadmap for Singapore to tackle climate change, especially to:
 - mitigate carbon emissions
 - help country to adapt to effects of climate change
 - harness opportunities from green efforts
 - create public awareness and action on climate change



Climate Change Climate Challenge





The Climate Machine



Introductory exhibit, most popular with visitors but difficult to understand



The CO₂ Trap





Light For Free

The Power Game





Programmes with Climate Change Climate Challenge

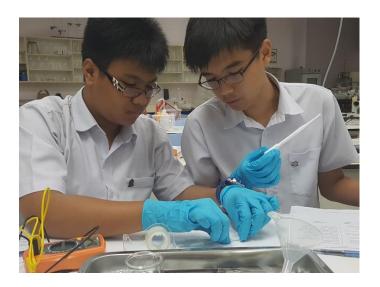
- Gallery Pathways: worksheets for Primary and Secondary classes (elementary and middle school)
- Lecture-demonstration: "Our Environment & Us"
- School lab workshops on clean energy,
- Young Scientist Badges: "Meteorologist"; "Environmentalist"; "Energy Saver" + Activity Sheet
- A trial using iBeacons for gallery hunt: iPadTrail





Student workshops





Clean energy workshop: Dyesensitised solar cells

Workshops to prepare students for the Energy Innovation Challenge – this year's theme of using urban heat island effect



Pilot ipad trail for the exhibition



Development of an ipad trail and evaluated through a 2-tier quiz pre, and post visit to the Climate Change exhibition, and a retention quiz 3 months later. Sample=82, 11-14 year old students from 4 schools.





THE CONTRACTOR



Results from the pilot survey

What students knew well

 Actions to mitigate climate change such as recycling and the preference for public over private transport.

Not so well

- How greenhouses gases reflect infra-red radiation from the atmosphere.
- Water as a greenhouse gas.
- Students who believe that climate change could lead to skin cancer.
- Not aware of the role of heat in expanding the various seas and oceans.
- Unaware of national effort to increase the use of photovoltaic cells in housing estates to power community services like lifts



Challenges for adopting alternate energy options in Singapore

- Very small, 719 square km
- High urban density
- Low wind speeds
- Relatively flat terrain
- No geothermal resources
- Solar used to be a challenge with high cloud cover, but is now being actively explored. New exhibit on solar energy technology developed with Solar Energy Research Institute Singapore



Thank you



