



## ANNEX C

# FACT SHEET: COMMEMORATING 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF TREE PLANTING DAY

On 16 June 1963, founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew marked the start of Singapore's greening programme with the planting of a Mempat tree at Farrer Circus. This was followed by a mass tree planting across Singapore – along new roads, on traffic circles, in housing estates, schools and car parks.

To support these greening efforts, an annual community tree-planting activity was subsequently inaugurated on 7 November 1971. Then-Acting Prime Minister Dr Goh Keng Swee led the community in tree-planting on Singapore's first Tree Planting Day at Mount Faber Park. Island-wide tree planting activities with the community were also led by various Ministers and Members of Parliament in their constituencies. Tree Planting Day has since become an annual event for constituencies across Singapore to plant trees in public spaces such as parks, housing estates and schools, and is celebrated as part of Clean and Green Singapore every November.

Tree planting continues to be a key part of our greenery plans, with the latest milestone being the OneMillionTrees movement, which aims to plant one million more trees across Singapore together with the community by 2030. These efforts will help us transform into a City in Nature, one of the key pillars of the Singapore Green Plan.

In commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tree Planting Day, 50 native coastal trees were planted at Labrador Nature Reserve on 7 November 2021, together with individuals from the Youth Stewards for Nature programme, Green Friends Forum, NParks' community nurseries, nature groups, organisations such as Keppel Corporation as well as Garden City Fund donors. These trees will help to enhance the biodiversity of Labrador Nature Reserve and aid in recovery of the native coastal species. The 50 trees planted consist of 25 native species including nationally extinct species such as Twin-Apple (*Ochrosia oppositifolia*), *Syzygium leucoxydon* and Sea Hears ( *Hernandia Nymphaeifolia* ), as well as the critically endangered Pink-eyed Pong Pong (*Cerbera manghas*) and endangered Zebra Wood (*Guettarda speciosa*) tree species, which are purposefully propagated from coastal areas such as St. John's Island and Coney Island, and carefully grown in our nurseries.