



# **COUNTRY REPORT**

**Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)**

ARCASIA Council Meeting  
20 Sep – 21 Sep 2023  
(Boracay, Philippines)

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

SIA was founded in 1963.

After the First World War, the architectural profession was formally organised with the formulation of Singapore Society of Architects in 1923. This body was eventually successful in having the Architects Ordinance passed in 1926. By January 1927, the architectural profession was protected under this Ordinance.

In 1930, a branch was formed in Kuala Lumpur. In 1931, the body was renamed the Institute of Architects of Malaya, with Headquarters in Singapore. The Institute of Architects of Malaya was dissolved in 1961.

In 1949, the Kuala Lumpur branch became an autonomous body – the Federation of Malaya Society of Architects.

In 1958, the Society of Malayan Architects was formed, which was reconstituted as the Singapore Institute of Architects in 1961. SIA was registered under the Societies Act on 5 March 1963 and gazetted on 15 March 1963. The SIA held its first EGM on 14 April 1961.

Established with the objective to promote architectural profession and the built environment in Singapore the Institute is the sole representative of the architectural profession in Singapore.

## VISION & PLAN

The Institute's Mission is "***To champion excellence in architecture and the built environment***" and our vision is to see "***Singapore as an Architecture Capital***".

The Institute's general objectives are:

- To generate in our community a greater awareness and appreciation of the value of a sustainable approach in good design and the built environment
- To advance the theory and practice of architecture through the support and reward for quality research and innovation in architectural design, practice and education
- To continually upgrade through the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programme, the level of professionalism among architects in order to better serve our community
- To promote and provide a common template among architects through a collective vision of working towards a dignified and caring profession that upholds a high standard of professional conduct and ethics

## STRATEGIC PLAN

Four key strategic development strands will help SIA to fulfill its mission:

### Design

Principally to attain design leadership, to promote excellence in architecture through recognition and awards, education and continuing professional development, research and innovation

### Practice

The key aspects include promoting design competition, to promote equitable conditions of appointment, to promote technical competency, to engage in proactive policy formulation

### Education

The key aspects include continuing professional development and promoting quality architecture education.

### Institution

The main emphasis is to enlarge membership, to increase opportunities, to enhance SIA-industry partnership, to promote globalization, to promote positive image of the profession

## COUNCIL 2023/2024

President	Ar. Melvin HJ Tan
First Vice President	Ar. Tiah Nan Chyuan
Second Vice President	Ar. Patrick Lee
Honorary Secretary	Ar. Wong Ker How
Honorary Treasurer	Ar. Tan Szue Hann
Immediate Past President	Ar. Richard Lai

### Council Members

Ar. Tony Ang	Ar. Chin Kean Kok	Ar. Ho Sock Yee
Ar. Melvin Keng	Ar. Ivy Koh	Ar. Kor Teck Poh
Ar. Adrian Lai	Ar. William Lau	Ar. Lim Choon Keang
Ar. Lim Shing Hui	Ar. Ong Ker-Shing	Ar. Ooi Wen Chuen
Ar. Tang Kai Vern	Ar. Wong Wai Ying	

## **CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH**

1166 members with 975 voting members.

## **LEGAL STATUS OF THE INSTITUTE**

The Institute is recognised as the sole body representing the architectural profession in Singapore. However, it is a professional body with no statutory power.

## **INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Promoting good relations with architectural institutes in other countries is a key objective of the Institute. This is conducted through maintaining regular rapport and exchange of information. The SIA is a member of the Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA). Being a member in this professional organisation has enabled the Institute to keep in touch with the development of architecture and the profession in other parts of the world and have provided a forum for exchange and sharing of views with sister institutes.

## **MAJOR PROGRAMS OF THE INSTITUTE IN THE PAST YEAR**

### **DESIGN**

- SIA Gold Medal 2023
- SIA Architectural Design Awards 2023
- SIAADA2022: Winning Design and Philosophies Webinar Series
- Archifest 2022
- SIA Think Tank
  - Play @ Punggol Design Competition
- (Digital) Singapore Architect magazine

### **PRACTICE**

- SIA ADR Arbitration Workshop 2023
- DC SC Masterplanning Series
- SIA Building Control & Parks 2023 Webinar
- Practice Convention 2023
- VAF Townhall
- SIA-PUB Joint Seminar
- ADR Workshop on Case Management

### **INSTITUTION**

- Singapore Pavilion @ Venice Biennale 2023
- Architectural Specifier Market (ASM) 2023

- SIA Townhall Thursday
- CSR Workshop Series 2023
- Live Design Discourse (LDD) 2023
- SIA Appreciation Dinner 2023
- SIA60 Birthday Bash
- SIA Golf Tournament 2023
- SIA Annual Dinner 2023
- Launch of Genealogy Map 2023

## **EDUCATION**

- Inspirational Talks by Ministers
- Professional Knowledge Series Talks
- Corenet X Course
- Architectural Practice Course (APC) and APC Lite

## **RESOURCES OF THE INSTITUTE**

### **The Singapore Architect**

The Singapore Architect (TSA) magazine is the Institute's answer to local architectural focused content for the public. Helmed by Editors-in-Chief, Ar. Ronald Lim and Ar. Razvan Ghilic-Micu, the team had a rethink of the publication and TSA moved to a fully digital version in the second half of 2022. (<https://singaporearchitect.sg/>)

### **Capability Profile**

This annual publication seeks to profile firms with indication of the strengths, expertise and countries of operation. This will provide a suitable platform for firms to mutually seek out working partners. More importantly, it allows international clients and developers to easily find the right capabilities and practices for their projects.

### **RCS News**

An in-house circular to inform members on the latest development on government rules, regulations, codes and standards pertaining to the building industry. This is a useful source of information for architects and building professionals. In 2005, the Institute's created RCS Online Archive Service to allow members to search all the circulars received from the government agencies.

### **Other Publications**

There are numerous other publications published from time to time, such as SIA Architectural Design Awards, SIA Green Book, SIA Form of Contracts, Conditions of Appointment and Mode of Payment, Specimen Forms and Certificates for use in conjunction with the Main Contract. etc., which are for sales to members and the public. The Institute had also produced Guidance Notes for the Main Contract as well as for the Nominated Sub-Contract.

For more information on Singapore Institute of Architects, please visit our website at [www.sia.org.sg](http://www.sia.org.sg)

