



Transformation by Design 2.0

COUNTRY REPORT

Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)

Dhaka, Bangladesh
6 – 7 November 2019

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 2019/2020

President	Seah Chee Huang
First Vice President	Catherine Loke
Second Vice President	Richard Lai
Honorary Secretary	Christina Thean
Honorary Treasurer	Wu Yen Yen
Immediate Past President	Ong Tze Boon

Council Members

Darren Bengier	Chan Kok Way	Chan Seng Kee
Cheong Yew Kee	Ho Sock Yee	Kee Wei Hui
Koh Siew Lay	William Lau	Lee Wai Fong
Lim Choon Keang	Melvin Tan	Ronald Tan
Tan Szie Hann	Tiah Nan Chyuan	

Co-Opted Advisors

Theodore Chan	Ashvinkumar s/o Kantilal
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CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

1289 members with 987 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 International Union of Architects (UIA) and the Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA). These professional organisations have 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 2018, the Institute embarked on the development of the Industry Transformation Map (ITM) for the betterment of the profession. Following our Annual General Meeting on 13 March 2019 and Council Retreat on 13 May 2019, the 59th Council initiated the operationalisation of our ITM, through a three-year strategic roadmap.

In response, the strategic road map is a continuation of SIA's effort to bring about positive change and add resilience to our profession. Architects must continue to be champions of larger socio-economic and environmentally sustainable ethos for cities and our community. The focus areas are: deepening evidence-based design capabilities; developing enterprises; driving innovation and new skills; and enhancing strategic collaboration and social responsibilities. The **highlights of key action plans** for this term include the formation of intelligent **National Productivity Quality Specifications (iNPQS)** with our allied partners, ACES and IES; the development of **Skills Framework for the architecture profession**; review and address the conundrum of our **professional fee** with the Board of Architects; refresh our **Enterprise Resource Platform - APEX**; deepen our **strategic partnership** with local agencies, academia and regional associations through the Four Nations (with Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand) and ARCASIA network.

DESIGN

- SIA Annual Dinner and Architecture Design Awards 2019
- Archifest 2019
- Founders' Memorial Design Competition

PRACTICE

- SIA Practice Management Framework (PMF)
- SIA Scope of Service Matrix (SoSM)
- New Publication: SIA Articles and Conditions of Sub-Contract (MWC Sub-Contract) for use in conjunction with the SIA Articles and Conditions of Building Contract for Minor Works 2012 (MWC 2012).

INSTITUTION

- SIA Annual Golf Tournament 2019
- Young Architects League Open Studio Session

EDUCATION

- Inspirational Talks
- Collaborative Alliance Conference

RESOURCES OF THE INSTITUTE

INSIGHT Newsletter

The Institute welcome a fresh new INSIGHT in 2019 with a brand new editorial team and new art direction. The team is a quartet comprising Christian (DP Architects), Jaxe (Eight Inc), Melvin and Pinjie (AD Lab). The heart of INSIGHT remains unchanged and will continue to foster closer ties between members and a greater sense of community within SIA. As such quarterly highlights within each Thrust will remain anchor to the content but presented visually in a more cohesive and reader-friendly manner.

The Singapore Architect

The Singapore Architect (TSA) magazine is the Institute's answer to local architectural focused content for the public. Helmed by Editor-in-Chief, Ar. Teo Yee Chin, the team had a rethink of the publication in 2019. Building reviews will now be a regular staple features in every issue, whilst the introduction of new sections like NEWS, PRACTICE and HERITAGE, gives readers a more holistic perspective of every segment of our industry. The issues will also feature various Practices in Singapore, presenting to the public, the highs and lows of Practice in Singapore and the variety of work that each Practice has accomplished locally and regionally.

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 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

