# Sustainability Reporting in ASEAN and Singapore

Opportunities in an Era of Tensions

#### Presentation of Findings

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#### Agenda

- Background
- Methodology
- Findings of Sustainability Reporting in Singapore
  - Reporting in Accordance to Singapore Exchange Listing Rules and Guide
- Findings of Sustainability Reporting in ASEAN
- Overall Summary
- Singapore-Listed Companies with Best Practices

#### Background: Previous Study in 2016

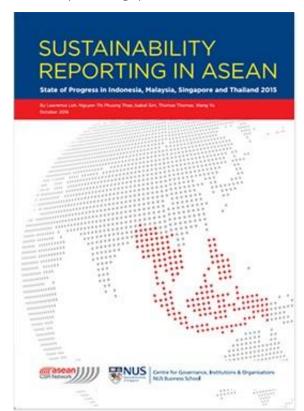
Singapore Mainboard Listed Companies



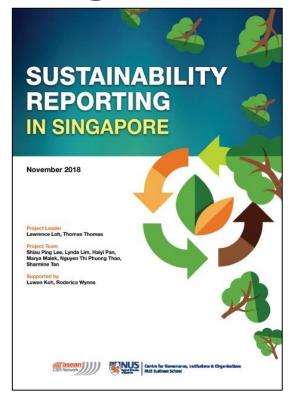
Singapore Mainboard Listed REITs

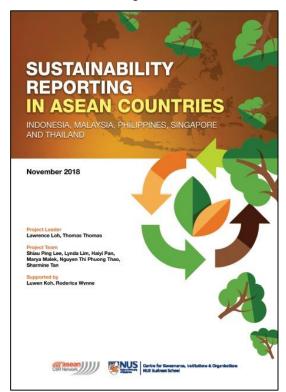


The Largest Listed Companies in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand



#### Background: Current Study in 2018





#### <u>Additional Coverage</u>

Singapore Catalist listings included

Listed companies on Philippine Stock Exchange included

#### Methodology: Assessment Framework

Drivers		EES Disclosures			
Reporting Principles	Governance	Economic	Environmental	Social	
Organisational Profile	Sustainability-centric Corporate Governance	Economic Value Generated	Energy	Diversity and Equal Opportunity	
Materiality and Boundaries	Strategy and Analysis Regarding Sustainability	Value and Supply Chain	Water	Labour and Industrial Relations	
Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusiveness	Corporate Responsibility for Sustainability Issues	Economic Impact from Climate Change	Waste Management	Occupational Health and Safety	
	Anti-corruption and Code of Ethics	Indirect Economic Impact	Emissions	Training and Education	
		Anti-competitive Behaviour	Biodiversity	Human Rights	
			Compliance	Community Involvement	
			Product and Service Stewardship	Product Responsibility	
				Philanthropy	

#### Methodology: Assessment Coverage

#### Singapore Study

- <u>Mainboard</u> and <u>Catalist</u> listings on Singapore Exchange
- With sustainability disclosure in the <u>Financial Year ending 2017</u> <u>communicated up to 31 May 2018</u>
- Total of <u>678</u> companies were reviewed

#### **ASEAN Study**

- The largest companies by market capitalisation, listed in the <u>Indonesia</u> <u>Stock Exchange</u>, <u>Bursa Malaysia</u>, <u>Singapore Exchange</u>, <u>Stock Exchange of</u> <u>Thailand</u> and the <u>Philippine Stock</u> <u>Exchange</u>
- With English sustainability disclosure <u>in</u> the Financial Year ending 2017 communicated up to 31 May 2018
- A total sample of 100 largest companies was reviewed for each country, with the exception of the Philippines where there were 44 companies

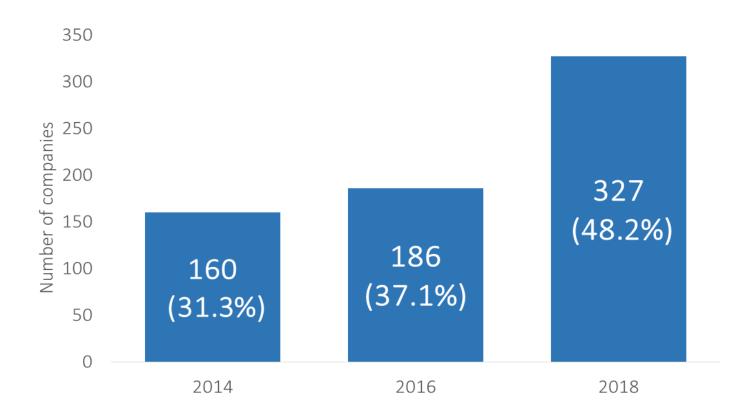
# Findings of

## Sustainability Reporting

in Singapore



#### Number of Reporting Companies



\*2018 data is as of 31 May 2018

#### Medium of Sustainability Reporting

288

Sustainability reports embedded in their annual reports

33

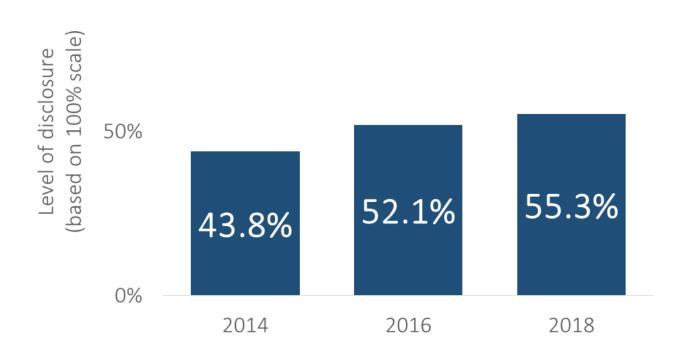
Standalone sustainability reports

6 Sustainability reports both in annual reports and as standalone ones

\*2018 data is as of 31 May 2018

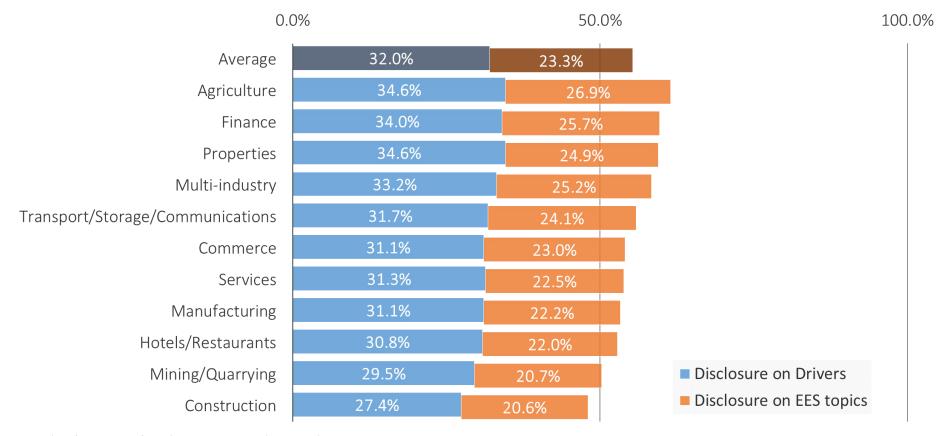
#### Level of Sustainability Disclosures





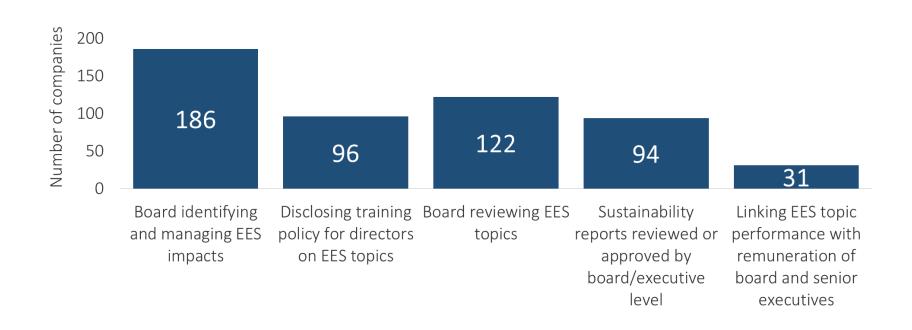
<sup>\* 2018</sup> data is as of 31 May 2018. Disclosure level in 2014 and 2016 are restated in accordance with 2018 assessment framework.

#### Level of Disclosures by Sector

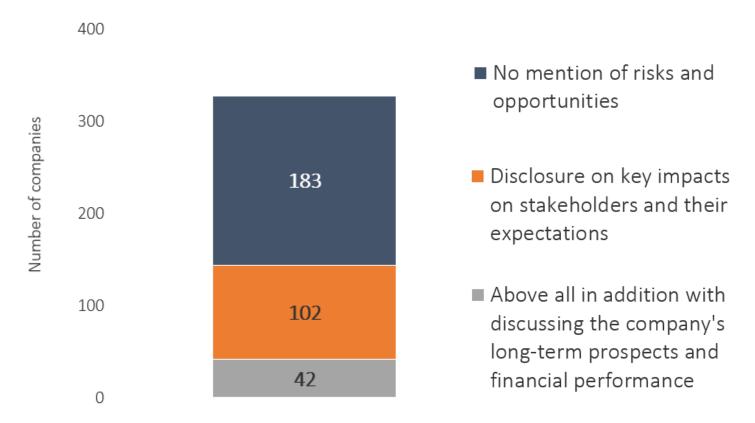


- \* Sector classification is referred to Singapore Exchange websites.
- \* Electric, gas and water sector was excluded from this figure as the small number of companies with sustainability disclosure cannot be made representative of this sector.

#### Sustainability Initiatives at Board Level

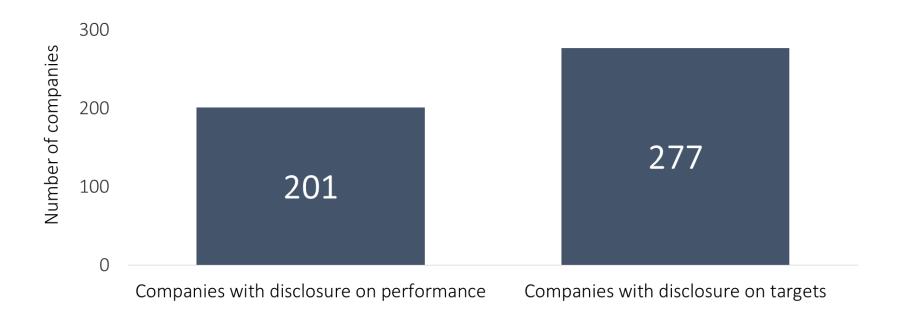


#### Disclosure on EES Risks and Opportunities



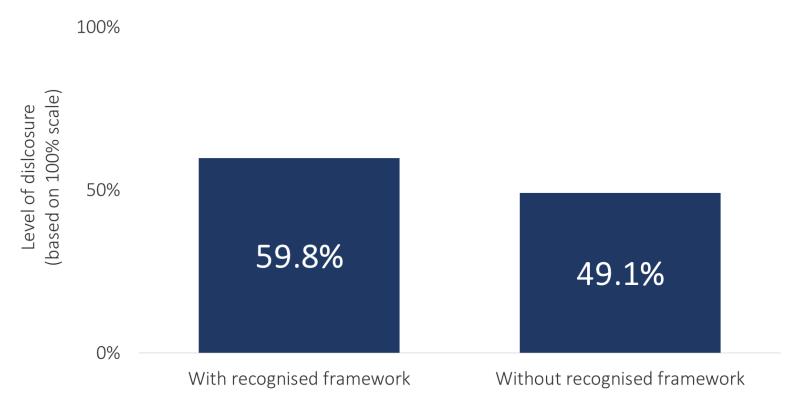
EES = Economic, Environmental and Social

#### Performance and Target setting



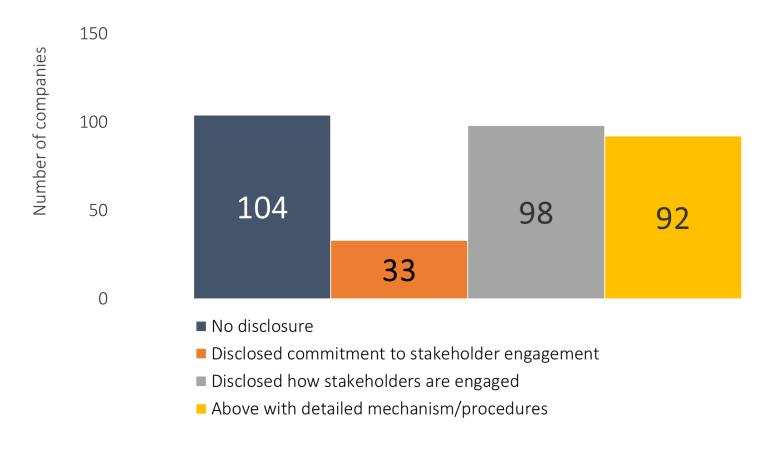
<sup>\*</sup> Performance and target setting on environmental and social topics

#### Level of Disclosure by Framework Adoption



Recognised framework: Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Ten Principles, Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), <IR> Framework, etc.

#### Stakeholder Engagement



#### **External Assurance**



Number of companies with external assurance

#### Material Topics by Sector

Sectors	Most discussed material topics	Sectors	Most discussed material topics
Agriculture	Waste management		Occupational health and safety
	Community involvement	Mining/	Waste management
	Training and education	Quarrying	Water
	Value and supply chain		Diversity and equal opportunity
Commerce	Training and education		Training and education
	Philanthropy	Multi industry	Occupational health and safety
	Occupational health and safety	ivialti iliaasti y	Philanthropy
	Community involvement		Energy
Construction	Occupational health and safety		Training and education
	Training and education	Properties	Energy
	Philanthropy	rioperties	Diversity and equal opportunity
	Waste management		Occupational health and safety
Finance	Training and education		Occupational health and safety
	Diversity and equal opportunity	Services	Training and education
	Energy	Ser vices	Product responsibility
	Philanthropy		Philanthropy
	Training and education	Transport/ Storage/	Occupational health and safety
Hotels/	Philanthropy		Philanthropy
Restaurants	Energy		Training and education
	Water	Communication	Energy
Manufacturing	Training and education		
	Occupational health and safety		
	Waste management		
	Energy		

- Electric, gas and water sector was excluded from this table as the number of reporting companies is too small for an accurate inference.
- The disclosure on Economic Value Generated has been common practice across sectors so the issue is not further discussed as the most cited material issues.

### Reporting in Accordance to

Singapore Exchange

Listing Rules and Guide



#### Reporting on Primary Components

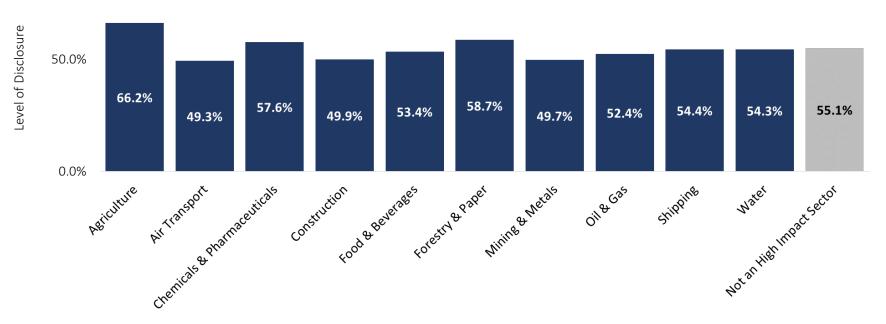
SGX requires all listed companies to disclose the following five components in their sustainability reports.



<sup>\*</sup> Number of companies which provided explanation for not reporting primary components were not assessed.

#### Level of Disclosures by High Impact Sector

Singapore Exchange Sustainability Reporting Guide suggests listed companies which are operating in high-impact sectors should set the tone and undertake sustainability reporting.



<sup>\*</sup> The SSIC 1996 standard was referred to classify the companies in the high impact sector for this study.

# Findings of Sustainability Reporting in ASEAN

#### National Rates of Corporate Responsibility Reporting, 2015 and 2017

Countries with CR reporting rate higher than 90%



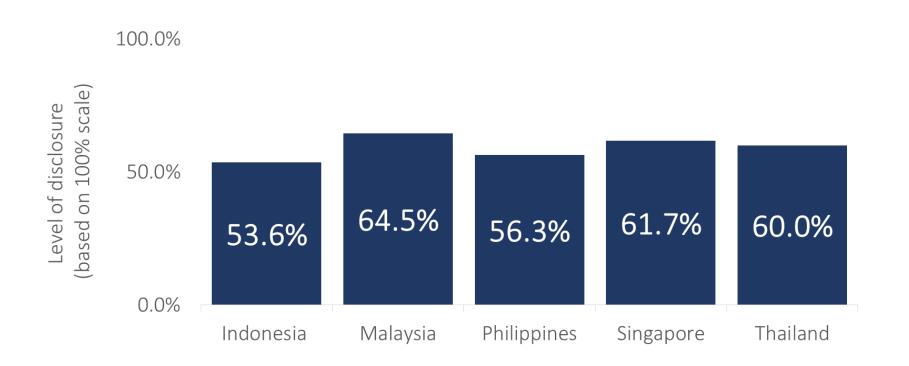


# ASEAN Disclosure Index 2018

- 180 ASEAN companies listed on seven stock exchanges across six different jurisdictions.
- The Composite Disclosure (CD) score = Performance Disclosure (PD) score (10%)
  - + Board Quality (BQ) score (40%)
  - + Risk Disclosure (RD) score (50%).
- This findings was observed during period 1
   July 5 August 2018.

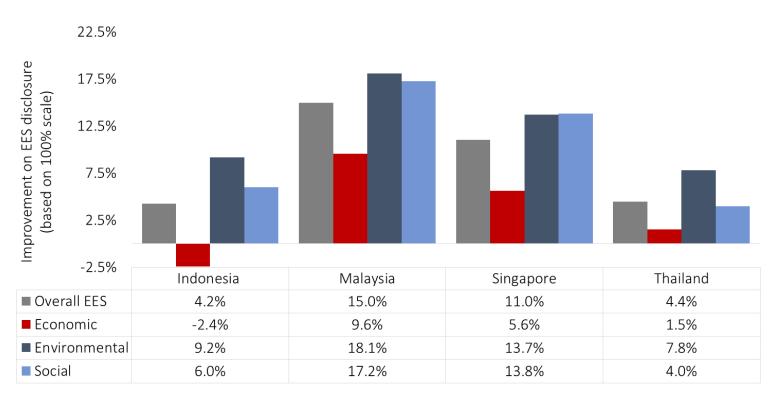
Source: ASEAN Disclosure Index: How ASEAN's leading listed companies fare on disclosure standards

#### Sustainability Disclosure Level by Country



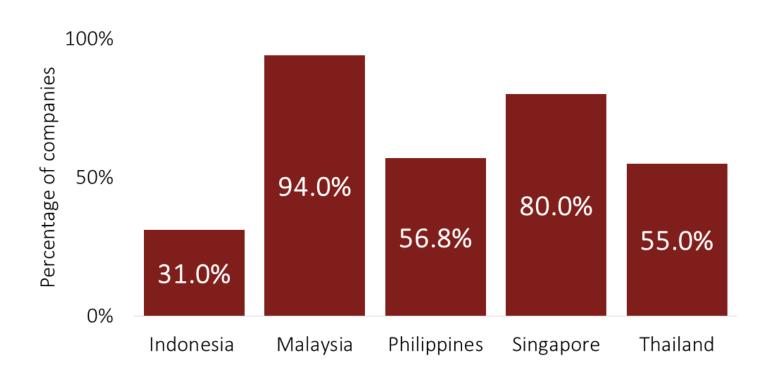
<sup>\*</sup> With disclosure rate of both Governance and Reporting Principles (Drivers), and Economic, Environmental and Social (EES) disclosure

#### Improvement of Disclosure Level



- \* Comparison on EES disclosure between 2018 and 2016.
- \* The Philippines was not included in 2016's assessment. Thus, there was no past benchmark for comparison.
- \* The disclosure level in 2016 is restated in accordance with the 2018 assessment framework.

#### Materiality



#### **Material Topics**

#### The Most Discussed

- 1. Economic value
- generated
- 2. Philanthropy
- 3. Occupational health and safety

#### The Least Discussed

- 1. Economic impact from climate change
- 2. Biodiversity
- 3. Human rights

<sup>\*</sup> Out of 20 Economic, Environmental and Social (EES) topics

#### **Overall Summary**

- There is significant <u>room for improvement</u> in the disclosure level of sustainability reporting
- <u>Disclosure on the board's involvement</u> in driving sustainability is <u>limited</u>
- Stakeholders have been engaged in the formulation of sustainability strategies
- High impact sectors do not seemingly outperform in sustainability disclosure compared to non high impact sectors
- Materiality identification is gaining traction but many companies are still struggling with the process

#### Singapore-Listed Companies with Best Practices

COMPANIES	RANK ORDER	COMPANIES	RANK ORDER
CITY DEVELOPMENTS LTD	1	THAI BEVERAGE PUBLIC CO LTD	11
CAPITALAND LTD	2	WILMAR INTERNATIONAL LTD	12
SINGAPORE TELECOMMUNICATIONS LTD	3	WHEELOCK PROPERTIES (S) LTD	13
OLAM INTERNATIONAL LTD	4	UNITED OVERSEAS BANK LTD	14
DBS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD	5	Y VENTURES GROUP LTD	15
GOLDEN AGRI-RESOURCES LTD	6	GENTING SINGAPORE LTD	16
FRASER AND NEAVE, LTD	7	CAPITALAND COMMERCIAL TRUST	17
STARHUB LTD	8	JASON MARINE GROUP LTD	18
SINGAPORE AIRLINES LTD	9	CAPITALAND MALL TRUST	19
SINGAPORE EXCHANGE LTD	10	INDOFOOD AGRI RESOURCES LTD	20