

This year, YSD's various supported projects in collaboration with our resilient partners emerged bright and strong post-pandemic. Throughout the year, a common thread found was that our efforts towards achieving *Inclusivity for Sustainable Impact* were resulting in more positive outcomes with the causes we support becoming more visible. Inclusivity, to me, means that all groups in society are provided with the same opportunities towards a positive impact; and these groups include the marginalised, the poor, those with disabilities, as well as women and girls. And YSD strives to do all we can towards achieving inclusivity while supporting important causes.

Our work towards ensuring sustainable positive impact is only made possible because of the generous contributions of Sime Darby Plantation, Sime Darby Berhad and Sime Darby Property; for which we are always grateful. Aside from receiving their annual donations, we also continue to be encouraged by our donors' passionate involvement in the causes we support including the activities on the ground. We are proud to see a substantial uptake in the proactive participation of all three donor companies in collaborating with us. We truly appreciate the leadership and passion of the three Sime Darby companies for joining forces with us to make that positive impact.

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**Y.A.M. Tunku Tan Sri  
Imran Ibni Almarhum  
Tuanku Ja'afar**



# CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

Sports development is a cause that I hold dear to my heart. For most of my life, I have been active in the development of sports in the country. And throughout my many years of involvement, what stands out to me is the high discipline level and impressive performance and achievements of female athletes, even though they happen to be the least supported and funded in Malaysia. Therefore, I am immensely proud that YSD is a strong contributor to their cause. Even so, much more support is needed for women's and girls' development in sport, and I urge all stakeholders to stand with us in this cause.

YSD's support for the development of grassroots as well as elite female cricket athletes in collaboration with the Malaysian Cricket Association since 2020 has seen the women's national cricket team surpassing expectations and successfully placing themselves firmly on the world stage. In 2022, for the very first time in Malaysian history, the national women's team qualified based on merit for the ACC Asia Cup 2022 held in Bangladesh. This is the most coveted championship in Asia, with the four full member countries competing, i.e., India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. In the qualifier which was held in Kuala Lumpur, they competed spectacularly against the best non-test nations in Asia, such as The United Arab Emirates, Hong Kong, Nepal, Qatar and Bhutan. On top of that, I am exceedingly proud that one of our U19 players, Nur Dania Syuhada, achieved the highest number of wickets for Malaysia at the ACC Asia Cup. Our women's team has improved leaps and bounds over the years despite setbacks that include the COVID-19 pandemic, and they have proven that they are now a force to be reckoned with!

At the 32nd SEA Games 2023, we are also proud that Ng Jing Xuen, whom YSD supports in collaboration with the Malaysian Ladies Golf Association, claimed a gold in the individual category. She is indeed a rising star in golf!

Under our Education pillar, we provided 292 scholarships to high-performing and deserving individuals who are mostly from the B40 group across the country, with more than 100 trained in vocational programmes. We hope to assist even more B40 students in the future to complete their TVET education and be placed in potentially high-paying jobs.

We had also ramped up back-to-school aid for underprivileged students attending primary and secondary schools with the on-ground support of the Sime Darby companies. A total of 9,398 students have received back-to-school aid this year that included items such as bags, stationery sets and vouchers for school uniforms, shoes, socks, books, and other necessities. In March and April alone, together with Sime Darby Property, we provided back-to-school aid to 2,772 students, which is the highest number of recipients in one back-to-school project we've had!

Certain back-to-school aid initiatives this year, such as those in Johor, Kelantan, and Terengganu, took place together with the aid distribution conducted under the YSD Disaster Relief Fund within our Community & Health pillar. With the compassion of the Sime Darby companies, we were provided with volunteers on the ground to ensure that the school students affected by the floods were provided with the support they needed to continue going to school and continue their studies worry-free despite their hardships.

We ramped up our work under the Environment pillar to improve and conserve biodiversity while acting against climate change. Aside from tree planting and habitat restoration, we remain

steadfast in our dedication to the survival of endangered species such as the Malayan Tiger, especially against poaching. I am also proud to say that we are slowly taking a step back from sponsoring the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) because the centre is now self-sustaining once again after the pandemic, which is indeed an inspiring success story.

Our strategic partners have also made great strides in manoeuvring the complex nature of environmental conservation such as by working with the judicial authorities for law enforcement in combatting poaching, developing and implementing state action plans as well as industry and state policies, and conducting research within the many layers of ecosystem conservation.

An event I am very much looking forward to is the YSD Arts Festival 2023, which is the largest free-for-all arts festival in the country that promotes inclusivity and sustainability! I am also proud that arts projects that we have supported have achieved so much impact in the country and globally. This includes "A Notional History" by Five Arts Centre which we supported in 2020, which has now been showcased in Japan and Berlin, with other countries in the line-up, to acclaimed reviews. This theatre performance was also a winner of a few prestigious awards at the recent 18th BOH Cameronian Arts Awards. YSD's support has also facilitated arts to be brought to the Malaysian public, such as through our collaboration with Think City in "Arts On The Move" showcased at the Pasar Seni MRT Station for commuters, and also for the "Art Murals & Sculptures in Alleyways", a series of exhibitions and workshops in Kuching, Sarawak.

All the achievements this year would not have been possible without the contributions of my fellow YSD Governing Council members, as well as the hardworking YSD operations team, who worked with our partners towards achieving the best outcomes and impact.

While we see the great successes of the initiatives that we invested in the year, there is still much to be done in environmental conservation and the betterment of society. With the long-term support of Sime Darby Plantation, Sime Darby Berhad, and Sime Darby Property, we look forward to making further progress in inclusivity and sustainability.



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

6,221



women and girls in sports supported

10



sports involving women and girls development:

(football, cricket, rugby, golf, tennis, swimming, squash, BMX, track cycling, ice skating)

9,398



students received back-to-school aid