



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Singapore and Indonesia to embark on S\$1.95 million Capability Development Programme**

**Temasek Foundation to fund initiative by Singapore Polytechnic and  
Republic Polytechnic to share academic expertise with  
Indonesia Manpower Ministry**

**Singapore and Jakarta, 15 July 2011** – Temasek Foundation, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) and Republic Polytechnic (RP) are partnering Indonesia's Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration (MoMT) to embark on a three-year S\$1.95million programme that aims to help Indonesia's vocational training system better meet the demands of today's economy.

The project, led by MoMT, aims to enhance the capabilities of 110 leaders from 11 vocational training centres in Indonesia. Focused on building capabilities to implement a quality assurance framework and revitalising the methods and principles of teaching, the programme consists of five components:

- *Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institution Quality Assurance Framework,*
- *Strategic Planning Programme,*
- *Academic Quality Management System Programme,*
- *Vocational Pedagogy Specialist Training Programme, and*
- *Competency-based Curriculum Design and Development Programme.*

Mr. Tan Hang Cheong, Principal of Singapore Polytechnic reflected, "This is our fourth project funded by Temasek Foundation involving skilled TVET specialists from SP advising local TVET policy makers and TVET practitioners in Vietnam, Mongolia and Indonesia in the upgrading of their skills and knowledge. Since

2008, SP has implemented a number of TVET consultancy and training projects in Asia and beyond through Singapore Polytechnic International. Separately, another team of specialists will soon embark on a project funded by Advanced Technology Investment Company to train United Arab Emirates nationals to become Wafer Fabrication Technologists for the Global Foundries Abu Dhabi Wafer Fabrication Plant, scheduled to commence operations in 2015.”

“The capability development programme with Indonesia’s Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration is an exciting partnership for Republic Polytechnic, and as Singapore’s first educational institution to embrace a Problem-Based Learning approach, we are pleased to provide insight to and share our experiences in educational pedagogies,” said Mr. Seto Lok Yin, Deputy Principal (Acting Principal), Republic Polytechnic. “This cross-border academic exchange will be a valuable experience for both Singapore and Indonesia as we all seek to improve our learning environments.”

From 2011 to 2013, 15 SP and RP academic staff will conduct a series of workshops to train a total of 110 Indonesian MoMT policy-makers, senior MoMT staff, directors and senior staff from 11 MoMT vocational training centres in Indonesia. While all will receive training to specialist level, 50 of these 110 participants will also be trained to become Master Specialist Trainers who will then cascade the training to another 150 participants from 30 local vocational training centers.

All 110 MoMT participants will also be in Singapore over the 3-year period to attend relevant workshops conducted on TVET Institution Quality Assurance Framework, and Vocational Training Pedagogy by SP and RP respectively.

“I’m totally supporting this technical cooperation between MoMT, Singapore Polytechnic International and Republic Polytechnic, in improving the management quality of vocational training center in Indonesia, particularly for Vocational Training Centres (VTC) under the management of MoMT and also provincial VTC managed by local government in every province in Indonesia.

The target of this joint program is to achieve modern and professional VTC in Indonesia, which will enable Indonesia's VTCs to fulfill the demand of industrial skilled manpower and contribute to increasing working opportunities and also in improving the competitiveness of human resources in Indonesia.

I would like to thank Temasek Foundation for their sincere support in implementing this technical cooperation. Hopefully, through this cooperation the

close relation between Indonesia and Singapore will be closer than before, especially in welcoming the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015,” said Mr. Abdul Wahab Bangkona (Director General of Training and Productivity Development, Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration of the Republic of Indonesia).

Temasek Foundation will be committing a grant of S\$1.3 million towards the programme, with the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration (MoMT) of the Republic of Indonesia jointly funding the remaining S\$650,000 for the programme.

”Capacity-building in technical and vocational education and training is a priority area of funding for Temasek Foundation. We are supporting the training of these 110 professionals so they can continue to spread their learning to others. In this way, there will be a network of leaders and educators who will help to bring about the positive changes that they are planning for the vocational education and training system in Indonesia,” said Mr Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive Officer, Temasek Foundation.

The first introductory workshop took place in Solo City Indonesia in February 2011 and subsequently two workshops on Strategic Planning were held in Bekasi in April 2011 and in Bogor in June 2011.

One of the participants, Mr. Edy Dawud, Director of Balai Latihan Kerja Cevest Bekasi, Directorate General of Training and Productivity Development, Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration of the Republic of Indonesia commented, “Technical cooperation between MoMT, Singapore Polytechnic and Republic Polytechnic is really helpful in improving the management of Indonesia’s VTCs particularly in strategic planning, curriculum development, pedagogy development and academic quality management system. As Head of VTC managed by MoMT, I am very pleased to share my knowledge and experiences with the other colleagues from the provincial VTC regarding modern and professional management of VTC as part of the objective of this technical cooperation. I would like to thank Temasek Foundation for supporting this technical cooperation and hopefully this cooperation is running well and successful according to the target and agreed plan.”

Note: Pictures from the launch / MOU signing will be available upon request.

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### **About Temasek Foundation, Singapore**

Temasek Foundation is a non-profit philanthropic organisation anchored in Singapore that seeks to contribute to sustainable growth and a bright future of hope and opportunities for people in Asia. The foundation works with partners to support programmes that develop people through health care, education and research, programmes that build bridges between peoples, programmes that build institutions of excellence through good governance and ethics, and programmes that rebuild lives and livelihoods affected by natural disasters.

For more information, visit [www.temasekfoundation.org.sg](http://www.temasekfoundation.org.sg)

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### **About Singapore Polytechnic ([www.sp.edu.sg](http://www.sp.edu.sg))**

Established in 1954 to meet the manpower needs identified by the government, Singapore Polytechnic (SP) is Singapore's first polytechnic. Its 10 academic schools offer 49 full-time diploma courses for its 15,500 students and courses are kept relevant through close links with industry and government bodies, as well as with various overseas institutions.

SP offers broad-based, multi-disciplinary and flexible curriculum dedicated to hands-on experience and is committed to the development of its applied research and development capability to enhance the quality of teaching and commercialisation efforts. Beyond the classroom, more than 140 student clubs covering areas like arts, culture, sports and community service make student life vibrant and fulfilling. The presence of foreign students from countries such as China, India and Indonesia also provides a variety of cultures and perspectives, nurturing a global mindset in SP students.

Among SP's 160,000 graduates are successful entrepreneurs, top executives in multinational and public-listed corporations, and well-known professionals, many of whom are captains of industries, university professors and researchers, and leaders in government.

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## **About Republic Polytechnic ([www.rp.edu.sg](http://www.rp.edu.sg))**

Republic Polytechnic (RP) is the first educational institution in Singapore to embrace a Problem-Based Learning approach to nurture innovation and entrepreneurial learning, develop problem-solving process skills and a life-long learning attitude in its students. RP has six schools and one centre, offering 36 courses in Infocomm Technology and Interactive Digital Media, Engineering, Applied Science, Arts, Design and New Media, Sports, Health and Leisure, Events and Hospitality, and Culture and Communication. Its holistic, broad-based curriculum covering culture, enterprise development and cognitive processes, coupled with its engaging and fulfilling campus life outside the classroom including more than 100 extra-mural interest groups across community service, sports, music, art and dance ensures students are ready to play an active and meaningful role in society.

RP's Centre for Professional development also offers Continuing Education & Training programmes at the certificate and diploma level which are designed to help working adults upgrade their work skills or prepare for career transitions.

RP strives for excellence both in its students and as an institution, and has achieved various international and national accreditations, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, SS540, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class. For more information, visit [www.rp.sg](http://www.rp.sg).

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