

# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE: MISSIONAL BUSINESS FORUM 2012

One of the key strategic thrusts of SCGM this year is to serve the local churches by mobilising the business folks for missions. We began with the Mission Consultation on Social Enterprise in May 2012 at Bartley Christian Church, and talks on engaging marketplace for missions, culminating in the Missional Business Forum in August 2012.

The Missional Business Forum 2012 was held on Aug 18 at the St Andrew's Cathedral, attended by 100 participants with Dato Dr Kim Tan and Rev Dr Paul Woods as keynote speakers. A biochemist by training and a venture capitalist and entrepreneur with a midas touch, he has successfully launched life science enterprises in UK (where he resides) and in Malaysia (his country of birth).

Dr Kim Tan was not only a wealthy Christian businessman willing to make generous donations to charitable causes *per se*. Challenged by the gospel of Christ especially in Luke 4, he is a firm believer in the Jubilee concept and desired to be part of God's mission to help create an environment where humans can flourish. He narrated how he started a safari game reserve in South Africa and worked to uplift one of the poorest townships through job creation and investing in training and education for the community. The gospel must be holistic and a missional business project like this can

transform communities holistically.

Rev Dr Paul Woods, a missiologist and lecturer at Singapore Bible College, affirmed the need for understanding the gospel in its fullness based on God's righteousness and "Shalom" which must flow towards His people. Biblical mission must manifest opportunity (cont'd p 2)

Photo: The MBF panel speakers included Timothy Liu, Dr Kim Tan, Dr Paul Woods, and two pastors William Heng and Yeo Guan Cheng.



Keynote Speaker: Dato Dr Kim Tan, venture capitalist



Missiological view of Missional Business by Rev Dr Paul Woods (missions professor, Singapore Bible College)

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for people to realise their creative potential. Dr Woods believed that money, resources, & expertise must be used to improve people's lives. He asserted that human beings are created as a whole, in which the physical is important also. Hence social concern must find outward expression in missions.

A panel discussion followed the keynote speeches, chaired by Timothy Liu, President of Graduate Christians' Fellowship (GCF). William Heng shared an interesting framework of helping the Karen tribal communities in Chiang Mai invest in cashew tree planting for cash crop conversion. This helped the Karen church not only to become better stewards of their natural and financial resources but also served as a way for missions outreach. Yeo Guan Cheng shared his experience of starting an Asian food restaurant which transformed the street into a famous food street in Kathmandu today.

The forum also invited Philip Chang, Lausanne 's SE Asia Int'l Deputy Director to share Lausanne resources in missional business. Vision Fund and Business As Mission (BAM) think tank group also shared some of their initiatives in Singapore. SCGM will continue to serve the local church community in Singapore to network, equip and match churches with projects to develop missional business as a missions outreach innovation.

Missional Business Forum 2012 was organised by SCGM along with our partners CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP (CCE), GRADUATES' CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (GCF) & OPERATION MOBILISATION (OM).



### MISSIONAL BUSINESS FORUM 2012

"Economic Empowerment through SE"

AUG 18 2012. 9AM-12.30PM. ST ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL.



# MISSIONAL BUSINESS FORUM 2012





#### LAUSANNE MOVEMENT SE ASIA Int'l Dy Director 's Visit

Philip Chang, the International Deputy Director for Southeast Asia, and head of Interserve Malaysia, was in town in August at the invitation of the Singapore Lausanne Committee. Philip attended the Missional Business Forum organised by SCGM and shared about the Lausanne Movement's wealth of resources for those interested in the Business As Mission strategies and networks. Tun Cheng, the coordinator for the Business As Mission (BAM) Singapore Think Tank group, also presented the vision of the local chapter and how Christian business owners and executives can come together and serve in missions using their expertise and experience. One of the encouraging developments is to see young adults and the proverbial "tai-tais" participating in the network. For those interested in BAM networks and social enterprise skills workshops, please email MsnBizCoach@scam.org.sg









Ellen Oosterhuis' Bicycle Tyres:
Crafting Ladies Accessories to help
Slum Ladies in Phnom Penh



One of the follow up from the Missional Business Forum, and an encouragement for SCGM's efforts in sharing the strategic thrust of mobilising business for mission, is to see a homemaker partnering business ladies and social entrepreneurs in developing a business idea for economic empowerment of the poor.

Ellen Oosterhuis, (second from left in photo above) a Dutch lady (and a tai-tai) initiated a project to craft ladies accesories from recycled bicycle tyres to sell as fashionable art pieces. Esther Tan, (next to Ellen in photo above) a resourceful business lady from Bedok Lutheran Church, heard about the project from SCGM's pulpit ministry on a Sunday service and rallied to participate and rallied friends to assist with the support of her pastor, Rev Rita Wong.

Ellen is collecting sewing machines and old jewelry (especially beads) and welcomes partners to come alongside and help build a scalable missional business model to help more women living near the slums make a better living through this new skills and business. To participate in this project and for more in form ation, please email MsnBizCoach@scgm.org.sg.

#### SCGM BREAKFAST 25 SEP 2012

OPPORTUNITY FOR DEVELOPING MISSIONS THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN SINGAPORE



SCGM hosted a Breakfast Fellowship for Christian leaders in church missions committees, mission agencies and marketplace ministries. Dr Kim Tan, who was visiting Singapore again for a social enterprise



### Strategic Church Missions Mobilisation Training in Sibu Jaya Church, Sarawak



SCGM ND Lawrence Ko was one of the trainers in Strategic Church Missions Mobilisation training for Iban pastors and church leaders as well as members of Sibu Jaya Methodist Church in Sibu, Sarawak from Oct 12-14. This was part of a missions mentoring programme initiated and supported by TRAC Methodist Board of Mission since 2010 in partnership with GFA Consultants. McDaniel Phillips was the other GFA trainer conducting the training session, interpreted by Rev Steward Damat, President of Sarawak Iban Annual Conference (SIAC).

Apart from leadership training, SCGM will collaborate with Asian Journeys Ltd in developing a community development project with one of the Iban longhouse community in building an eco-longhouse for environmental, economic and eco-tourism development.



#### **GOFORTH 2014 PRO TEM COMMITTEE CONSULTATION**

SCGM organised a Prayer and Consultation meeting on Oct 5 at St Andrew's Cathedral in preparation for GoForth 2014 National Missions Conference. BISHOP TERRY KEE, Chairman of GoForth 2014 Pro Tem Committee, hosted the meeting which was attended by 27 pastors and mission leaders. Bishop Kee set the tone for the meeting by leading in a time of worship and prayer as he encouraged the church in Singapore to serve God in missions. He welcomed new ideas and invited inputs for the forthcoming conference in 2014 especially with regards to the dates, formats and themes. A lively discussion ensued and all agreed that even though this will be fifth in the GoForth series of conferences, a national platform such as this will enable churches to learn from one another. PRAY for GOFORTH 2014.





Lawrence Ko and McDaniel Phillips, seated with Sibu Jaya church leaders including Stephen, Rev Ningkan (Pastor of Sibu Jaya Church) and Rev Steward Damat (President of SIAC)

# **Environmental Missions Initiatives**

One of SCGM's key strategic initiatives for serving the local churches this year includes the promotion Creation Care awareness and the development of environmental missions. This is part of the holistic missions which many evangelical churches are embracing over the years.

We are pleased that the Methodist Church Trinity Annual Conference (TRAC) Board of Mission has given a grant to support SCGM's initiatives in this environmental missions programme which includes starting an Creation Care Discussion Groups and youth conservation programmes.

SCGM will be organising environmental mission projects with church groups to SE Asia, China and India. We welcome church youth/ young adult teams to join us as we develop Creation Care principles as part of our Christian discipleship and outreach. It is an integral way to serve the larger community as stewards of God's creation and to fulfil our responsibility to care for God's creatures, conserve habitats and restore degraded eco-systems.

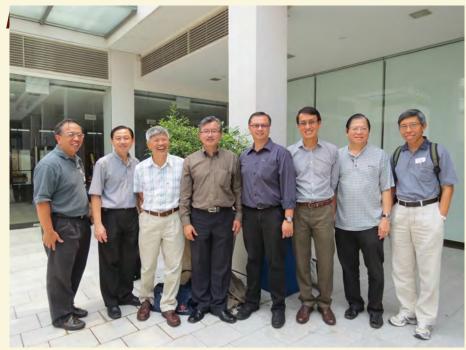


Lawrence lunching with Christian youth volunteers who will help organise Youth Environmental Forum in conjunction with Earth Day 2013.

#### STRATEGISE with SCGM. PARTNER SCGM. SUPPORT SCGM.

Join as a Member of SCGM and Journey with us as we

### Catalyse the National Missions



Missional Business Forum organisers with friends: Tun Cheng, Terence Loke, Dr Kim Tan, Lawrence Ko, Timothy Liu, Yap Poh Kheng, Georgie Lee and Ho Sun Yee

### Pray for SCGM Pulpit Ministry & Programmes Oct-Dec '12

Oct 7 Bedok Lutheran Church

Oct 12-14 GFA Missions Mobilisation Training at Sibujaya Methodist

Church (Sibu Sarawak)

Oct 21 Trinity Methodist Church

Oct 27 SCGM Council Planning Retreat

Oct 29-Nov3 Presentation at Lausanne Consultation on Creation Care & the

Gospel (Jamaica)

Nov 5 Presentation at US Centre for World Mission USCWM

Nov 25-27 Global Network of Centres for World Mission

Nov 27-30 ETHNE Conference 2012

Dec 23 Kampong Kapor Methodist Church

Dec 25 Chapel of Hope

Pray for SCGM. Join us as one of SCGM's 300 Intercessors. ...for more information, email praying@scgm.org.sg