

CENTRE FOR A RESPONSIBLE FUTURE

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



President's Address



2018 was a year of transition and growth for the SG veg movement. Part of our transition involved restructuring from Vegetarian Society (Singapore), founded 20 years ago in 1999, as the umbrella organization for our efforts. We are now under a new, broader umbrella, Centre for a Responsible Future (CRF).

And, we grew. We now have three staff. Sumita Thiagarajan is our CRF Executive Director. Sumi is already hard at work planning some pleasant surprises for us in 2019. Cath Jacobs, no immediate relation to me, is Executive Director of the Alliance for a Responsible Future, our business wing. In 2018, Cath and our CRF Vice President, Heng Guan Hou, with help from Kampung Senang, launched the first edition of ARF's flagship event, the Disruption in Food and Sustainability Summit (DFSS), and they are hard at work on DFSS's second edition to be held Friday, 29 March 2019 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. Kimberly Huang has capably taken the helm of our most successful event, EarthFest, which enjoyed a rollicking 4th anniversary this past January (2019). In addition to preparing for EarthFest 2020, Kimberly has plans for events throughout the year under the banner of EarthLife.

Of course, three paid staff, remarkable though they may be, can only do so much. Thus, our volunteers and donors play a crucial role. This vital role starts with the volunteer and donors on our Exco, and we are fortunate that so many talented people have stepped up to offer themselves for service on the Exco that you will be electing later at this AGM. We also thank those who will be leaving the Exco and who, we're sure, will continue to promote plant based diets.

Lastly, to all the many 1000s of other CRF members, online followers, donors, and event participants, I say a grateful thanks and warmly welcome you to continue journeying with us as we inspire and support people and organisations to make more humane, healthy, and sustainable choices.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Jacobs".

George Jacobs, PhD
President, Centre for a Responsible Future

2018 Impact



Minutes of the 19th AGM

Date: Sunday, 4th March 2018

Time: 11 AM to Noon

Venue: Eight Treasures, 282 South Bridge Road Singapore 058831

Number of members present: 31 (+5 by proxy)

Number of observers/non-members: 29

1 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

1.1 Dr. George Jacobs, President, took the chair, welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the 19th VSS Annual General Meeting, and gave his opening address with highlights of the society's activities for 2017 and a preview of the AGM.

2 TO RECEIVE & ADOPT MINUTES OF THE 18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.1 Dr. Jacobs asked everyone to look through the minutes of the 18th VSS AGM.

2.2 Ms. Rebeca Cappelli moved that the minutes be accepted and Ms. Lisha Raghani seconded. The minutes of the 18th AGM were received and adopted unanimously.

3 TO RECEIVE & ADOPT THE 2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

3.1 Dr. Jacobs invited everyone to go through the 2017 Annual Report and welcomed any questions, comments, suggestions and/or disagreements.

3.2 Dr. Jacobs opened the floor for members to accept and adopt the Annual Report. Mr. Ryza Jacobs proposed that the Annual Report be accepted and Mr. Jimmy Seah seconded. The Annual Report was adopted unanimously.

4 TO RECEIVE & ADOPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2017

4.1 Mr. Heng Guan Hou, VSS Vice-President, went through the financial report and Dr. Jacobs welcomed any queries and comments on the 2017 Financial Report.

4.2 With no questions on the finances, Dr. Jacobs invited members to receive and adopt the Financial Report. Mr. Michael Broadhead proposed that the Financial Report be adopted and Ms. Debbie Yong seconded. The Financial Report was adopted unanimously.

5 TO ELECT TWO HONORARY AUDITORS FOR THE YEAR 2018

5.1 Dr. Jacobs thanked last year's auditors for their work. He then invited members present to stand as the coming year's auditors.

5.2 Ms. Cherish Yeo and Mr. Michael Broadhead volunteered, and they were approved as the honorary auditors for the year 2018.

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Sayang's cakes, an initiative by VSS' Ms. Cherish Yeo and Mr. Ryza Jacobs, was mentioned by Dr. Jacobs and members were informed of an upcoming sampling by Sayang's at the International Women's Day celebration by AWARE.

6.2 Ms. Aiswarya Maythil, Projects Director, introduced an amendment to the VSS

constitution to change the name to “Center for a Responsible Future” (CRF) to drive the growth of the plant-based movement in Singapore with five focus areas; promoting plant-based diets, animal welfare and advocacy, sustainability and environment, health and fitness through plant-based diets, support for plant-based and sustainable businesses. The new structure will enable the organisation to to widen our reach and inspire more people to choose plant-based and other sustainable choices, develop several long-term programmes and initiatives that demonstrate the impact we have in the society, as well as build on our stakeholder relations. The new structure and organisational goals give a solid foundation on which we can develop our work further. It also gives scope to hire and engage more staff, who can help build the organisation, meet our long-term objectives and mission.

6.3 Members voted on the amendment to the constitution to rename the society to Center for a Responsible Future and change the organizational structure in line with strategic plans. The resolution was passed by a majority of 31 votes with 5 abstentions.

7 End of AGM

7.1 Dr. Jacobs thanked everyone for their presence and participation. He also thanked Ms. Zenna Ho of the Well Dressed Salad Bar for providing tea, snacks and cakes for the AGM. He then declared the AGM closed at 12:00 pm.

Recorded By:



Aproop Dheeraj
Secretary

Vetted & Confirmed By:



George M. Jacobs
President

2018 debrief

Strategic objectives

2018 saw our most ambitious efforts at growth with an organizational revamp, bringing together multiple existing programs (and new ones, covered later), namely Animal Allies, EarthFest and Vegetarian Society (Singapore). These programs are now under the umbrella of the newly-created Centre for a Responsible Future. The concept behind this shift toward multiple programs was to reach out to our stakeholders in a targeted way, with different programs to appeal to the causes they most care about. Overseeing this multi-pronged approach and tying it all together is CRF with its centralized board, more informally Exco. These changes were formalized at the 18th Annual General Meeting, with the general body adopting CRF as the new name of the entity. We also identified fundraising as a key to making our programs self-sustainable and hired Conjoint Consulting to map out a fundraising strategy for us going forward. We also updated our mission statement:

"We engage people and organisations in Singapore to adopt more responsible practices for a better future."

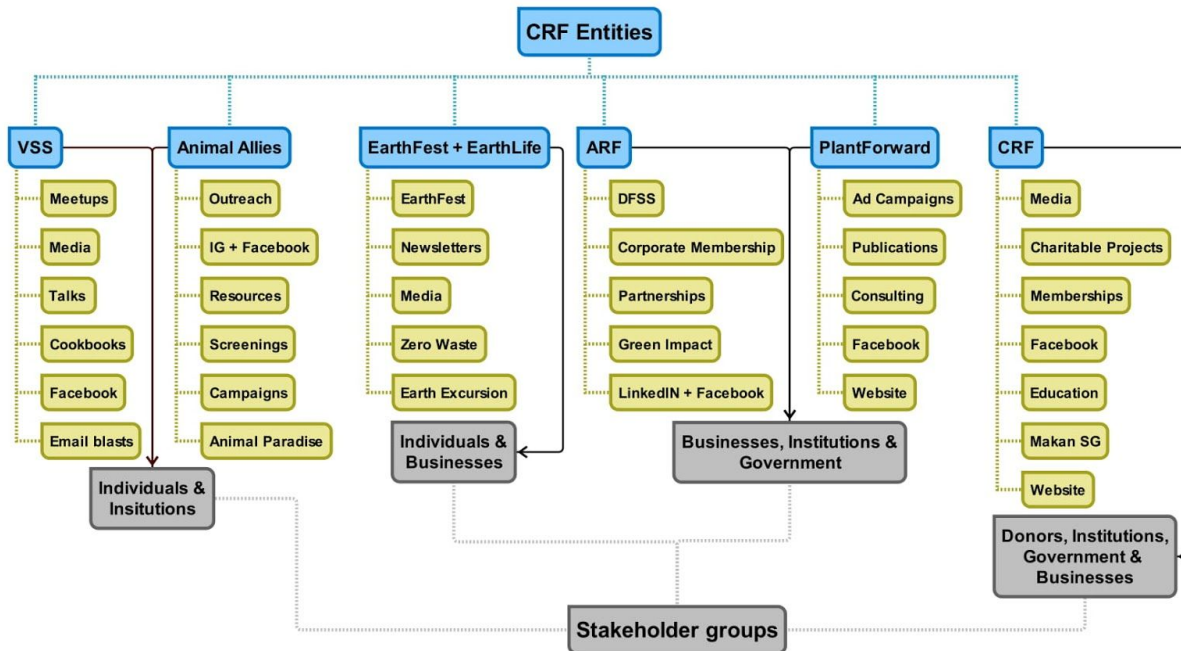
New kids on the block - and some older ones

Two entities that were formed during the restructuring were Alliance for a Responsible Future (ARF), and PlantForward, aimed at plant-based and other green businesses and plant-based health and fitness, respectively. ARF hit the ground running, so to speak with its flagship event, Disruption in Food and Sustainability Seminar (DFSS) in June 2018 (see in-focus). The event was capably orchestrated by CRF VP Heng Guan Hou and ARF Director Cath Jacobs. ARF has also rolled out a corporate membership programme that aims to create a platform for plant-based businesses and expand the footprint of the plant-based & sustainability-conscious community in SG. Plant Forward, due for formal launch in 2019 is targeted at plant-based health and geared to engage with health-conscious consumers, businesses, the medical community, key government bodies like the Health Promotion Board. We held a preliminary meeting in 2018 to assess the lay of the land and brainstorm strategies for our planned campaigns in 2019.

If CRF's programs were to be personified as its children, Animal Allies and EarthFest would be her effervescent twins, both now into their 3rd year. The plant-based movement is going mainstream globally, and Singapore is of course right in the middle of things. The plant-based consumer space locally is burgeoning with activity, with ever more food options, restaurants and businesses for consumers to choose from. Both Animal Allies and EarthFest have become familiar names in the plant-based/sustainability space, with VSS ever so present at the background. All three programs have surpassed their engagement statistics of previous years, summarized in our impact graphic.

Stakeholder engagement map

CRF's current and pipeline initiatives and strategic landscape are summarized below:



Notes:

1. Institutions include key strategic partners like other animal welfare organizations, non profits, values-based and spiritual groups
2. Donors comprise individual, corporate and institutional donors
3. Businesses range from small scale units as well as as large scale corporations

Lookahead to 2019

Our focus for 2019 will be to continue building on top of the new organizational structure, towards which we have already taken key steps - hiring of three new staff (see president's address) and expanding the number of board positions to handle the workload associated with the programs. 2019 will see an election at the Annual General Meeting. Some old Exco members depart and as we thank them for their years of dedication and effort, but many will stay on and new members will come help us with our ambitious plans. The AGM will also see further proposed changes to the Constitution to facilitate the larger working group, and remain in compliance with the Code of Governance, a key guiding document for our plans to eventually achieve IPC (Institution of Public Character) status. The new Exco, once elected, will embark on finalizing strategy for the near and medium term, key considerations among them being setting fundraising targets, implementing the

recommendations from Conjoint Consulting, and kicking off our new programs involving PlantForward, charitable projects and self administration. Preparations for this year's DFSS are already well underway and the 2019 version is shaping up to be bigger and better, like all things CRF. At the time of the writing this report, EarthFest 2019 has already taken place (spoiler alert: it was amazing - and the official coverage will be tackled in next year's Annual Report). None of our plans would be possible without our large and passionate volunteer and donor base. We look forward to even more of you stepping up so that we can move closer to achieving our dream of a plant based nation.

In focus

EarthFest

2018 saw the third edition of Earthfest, which like the first two, was designed to be sustainable, fun, and inspirational for all ages. The event featured a fair of delicious international and new age planet-friendly foods, a Farmer's Market of local businesses with sustainable products, an eco-carnival of engaging low carbon games, talks and screenings. The event was sponsored by Singapore Press Holdings and LingZhi Vegetarian. We also worked with. The event promoted use of 100% compostable material, reusable bags, digital pamphlets and disallowed the use of Palm Oil based products.

EARTHSTAGE	EARTHROOM	MARKETS
11:00 TO 11:30 BØ BLHEAD	EARTH FEST TALKS BY GREEN IS THE NEW BLACK	11:00 TO 4:30 ALL OPEN
11:35 TO 12:15 PITCHFEST BY AWESOME SINGAPORE	11:45 TO 12:45 ECOWARRIOR 101	FOOD FAIR
12:20 TO 12:50 GABRIEL MAYO	1:00 TO 2:00 PALM OIL UNEARTHED	MAKER FAIRE
1:00 TO 2:00 CHRISTIANE MIKAELA	2:15 TO 3:15 PLANTBASED REVOLUTION	EARTH CARNIVAL
2:00 TO 2:20 GABRIELLE FERDINANDS	 ocean film festival SINGAPORE	EARTH MARKET
2:30 TO 3:30 ORANGE COVE	4:30 TO 6:10 LANDFILL HARMONIC	EARTH BAZAAR
3:30+ OPEN MIC		SRRFM
		BOOKSWAP
		ANIMAL ADOPTION
		FREEGAN TABLES
		WWF ECOSCHOOLS
		CLOTHING SWAP
		1:30 TO 4:30 NEA'S LEARN PLAY EXPLORE CARNIVAL

The events with  require additional advance booking
Details on earthfestsingapore.com

Featuring a first-ever in the plant-based business space, ARF organized the Disruption in Food and Sustainability Seminar during the Green and Healthy Festival organized by Kampung Senang. The seminar focused on plant-based and other protein food innovation products and achieving food security and sustainability with technology, innovation and new business models as enablers. Over 100 participants and around 20 speakers were in attendance, including people from Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and New Zealand.



We also thank Kampung Senang, the organization behind the 2018 Green and Healthy Festival which saw thousands of visitors come to Singapore Expo to enjoy vegetarian food and other green and healthy products and practices. Thanks to Kampung Senang, we were able to launch

DFSS




the first DFSS, as part of the 2018 Green and Healthy Festival.




World Vegan Month

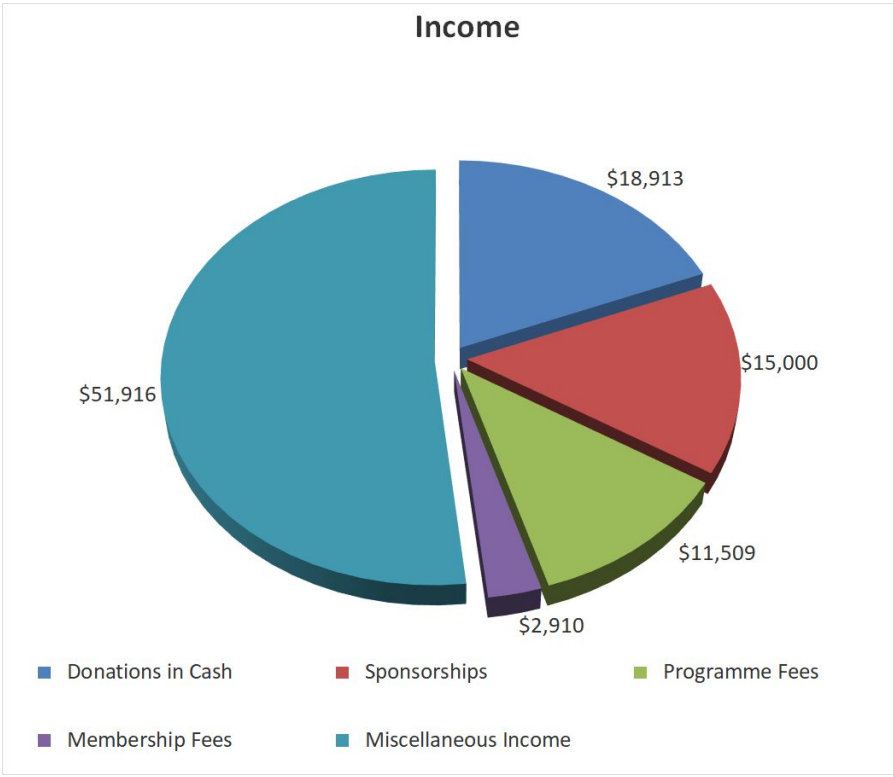
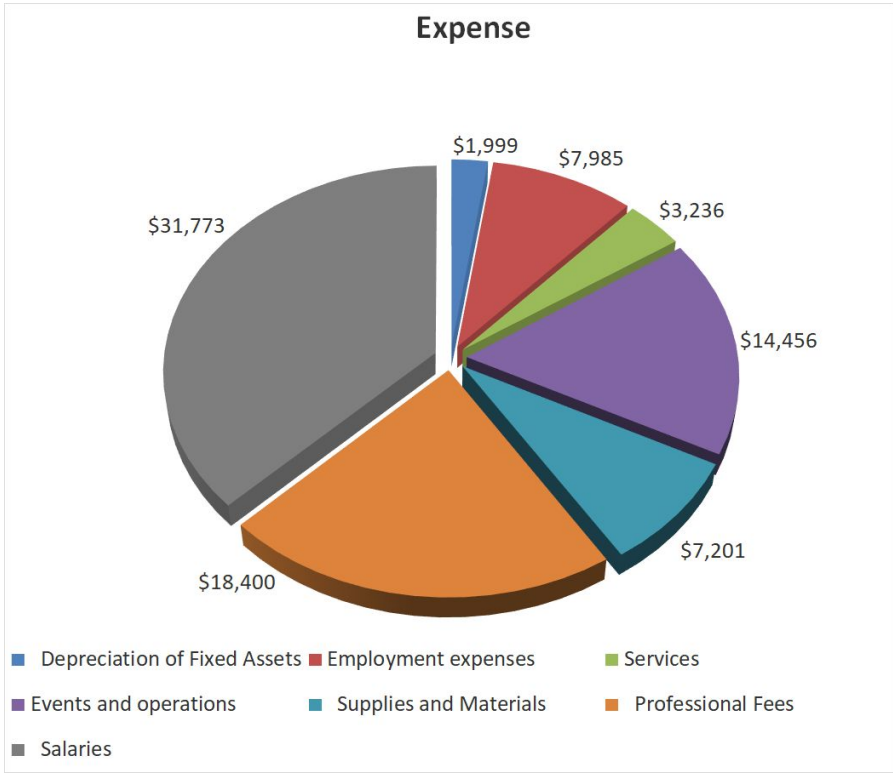


World Vegan month 2018 was a flurry of activities for us like every other year. In addition to our healthy dose of outreach, potlucks, meetups, film screenings and talks, the SG plant-based scene was ablaze with some firsts for Singapore. First, Rebecca Cappelli, a well known face in the local plant-based scene premiered her film “Let us be Heroes”. Grand Hyatt also brought us the delicious Just Egg, to complement the delectable Beyond Meat options introduced weeks prior. We also upped our effective activism game by organizing a workshop by Animals Australia.

Financial Statements

Financial Report for the period 1st Jan 2018 to 31st Dec 2018	<u>Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2018</u>		
	Assets		
	Fixed Assets		
	Equipment	1,482.31	
	Total Fixed Assets		1,482.31
	Current Assets		
	Cash On Hand	157,106.27	
	Undeposited Funds	2,006.79	
	Inventory	719.92	
	Total Current Assets		159,832.98
	Other Assets		
	Prepayments	5,305.18	
	Total Other Assets		5,305.18
	Total Assets		166,620.47
	Liabilities		
	Current Liabilities		
	Other Current Liabilities	5,000.00	
	Total Current Liabilities		5,000.00
	Total Liabilities		5,000.00
	Net Assets		161,620.47
	Equity		
	Prior Year's Surplus/Deficit	146,421.98	
	Current Year Surplus/Deficit	15,198.49	
Total Equity		161,620.47	
			
Honorary Treasurer Bianca Polak	Auditor Mr. Michael Broadhead	Auditor Ms. Cherish Yeo	

Financial Report	<u>Income & Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 December 2018</u>		
	for the period 1st Jan 2018 to 31st Dec 2018	\$	%
	Income		
	Donations in Cash	18,912.72	18.9%
	Sponsorships	15,000.00	15.0%
	Programme Fees	11,509.10	11.5%
	Membership Fees	2,910.00	2.9%
	Sales of Work	161.00	0.2%
	Miscellaneous Income	51,754.60	51.6%
	Total Income	<u>100,247.42</u>	100.0%
	Expenses		
	Salaries	31,772.73	31.7%
	Commissions	2,102.84	2.1%
	CPF Contribution	5,759.00	5.7%
	Skills Development Levy	79.00	0.1%
	Staff Training and Development	44.00	0.0%
	Rental of Equipment	1,175.90	1.2%
	Supplies and Materials	7,200.68	7.2%
	Printing and Stationery	1,441.91	1.4%
	Plumbing Services	1,500.00	1.5%
	Power Supplies	4,280.00	4.3%
	Transport	2,283.02	2.3%
	Communications	419.38	0.4%
	Insurance	923.58	0.9%
	Ambulance & Medical Services	599.20	0.6%
	Professional Fees	18,400.00	18.4%
	Performing Fees	3,000.00	3.0%
	Public Education	114.29	0.1%
	Bank Charges	221.00	0.2%
	Transaction Fees	915.37	0.9%
	Depreciation of Fixed Assets	1,999.20	2.0%
	Miscellaneous Expenses	817.83	0.8%
	Total Expenses	<u>85,048.93</u>	84.8%
	Net Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>15,198.49</u>	15.2%
			
	Honorary Treasurer Bianca Polak	Auditor Mr. Michael Broadhead	Auditor Ms. Cherish Yeo



Membership Statistics

	Voting Member			Non-Voting Member			
YEAR	A/L/P	Age>18	Total	Corp	Age<18	Total	Grand Total
2010	363	103	466	12	64	76	542
2011	396	172	568	20	119	139	707
2012	322	224	546	20	122	142	688
2013	331	269	600	23	100	123	723
2014	323	279	602	18	113	131	733
2015	344	311	655	25	113	138	793
2016	324	311	635	12	89	101	736
2017	334	336	670	15	94	109	779
2018	280	402	682	4	66	70	752