

# Singapore and The Netherlands: Innovators driven by Scarcity

16 March 2016 | 3:00– 5:00pm | MND Auditorium  
Networking & Registration from 3:00pm  
(guests to be seated by 3:30pm) | Free Admission  
Prior registration required [here](#).



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Both Singapore and The Netherlands are highly urbanized countries, dealing with limited space and limited resources. In short: the need is always bigger than the produce. Both countries however are top 10 players in the Global Innovation Index. Is scarcity the driver for innovation? And how do like-minded countries deal with Scarcity? How does it lead to innovation? The lecture will focus on the comparison between two countries in the fields of water, agro food and energy – in relation to urbanization and spatial planning. It will give you deeper understanding in the drivers of innovation and the ways small, urbanized countries deal with complex public issues that are deeply intertwined.

*Speaker:*



**Mr Henk OVINK**

Special Envoy for International Water Affairs  
The Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mr Ovink was appointed as the first Special Envoy for International Water Affairs by the Dutch Cabinet in 2015. He previously served as a senior advisor to the American Federal Government and the former Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Taskforce instituted by President Obama. For the reconstruction of the New York and New Jersey region, he developed and led the 'Rebuild by Design' contest, which was awarded by the Obama Administration as first and most groundbreaking Federal Challenge. Prior to this, Mr Ovink held the position of Acting Director-General of Spatial Planning and Water Affairs at the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, and Director of National Spatial Development.

*Moderator:*



**Mr CHUA Soon Guan**

Deputy Chief Executive (Policy & Development)  
PUB, The National Water Agency

Mr Chua oversees the formulation and implementation of strategies, policies and infrastructure plans to ensure reliable, sustainable and affordable water supply for Singapore. He also oversees strategies and programmes on growing the water industry and R&D ecosystem, and within PUB on governance, people and organizational development. Chua Soon Guan was previously Director (Strategic Policy) at the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, developing policies on sustainable development, environmental management and pollution control.

*About CLC*

The Centre for Liveable Cities was set up in 2008 by the Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, based on a strategic blueprint developed by Singapore's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Sustainable Development. Guided by its mission to distil, create and share knowledge on liveable and sustainable cities, the Centre's work spans four main areas - Research, Capability Development, Knowledge Platforms and Advisory. The CLC Lecture Series is a platform for urban experts to share their knowledge with other practitioners. For more information, please visit: <http://www.clc.gov.sg>

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