

# 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON **SOCIETIES OF OPPORTUNITY**

Orchid Ballroom (Level 4) Sands Expo & Convention Centre  
29 - 30 April 2025

 Lee Kuan Yew  
School of Public Policy  
National University of Singapore

 iPS Institute of  
Policy Studies

 MSF  
MINISTRY OF  
SOCIAL AND FAMILY  
DEVELOPMENT

## **PROGRAMME**

**Tuesday, 29 April 2025**

9.00 am – 9.30 am

**Registration**

9.30 am – 9.45 am

**Opening Address by Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr Gan Kim Yong**

9.45 am – 10.15 am

**Keynote Speech 1**

**Speaker**

Professor Danny Quah  
Dean and Li Ka Shing Professor in Economics  
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

10.15 am – 10.45 am

**Break**

10.45 am – 11.15 am

**Keynote Speech 2**

**Speaker**

Professor Raj Chetty  
William A. Ackman Professor of Public Economics  
Harvard University and  
Director of Opportunity Insights

11.15 am – 12.00 noon

**Dialogue Session: What are the Key Challenges and  
Opportunities in Ensuring Social Mobility Today?**

**Speakers**

Professor Danny Quah

Professor Raj Chetty

### **Moderator**

Dr Gillian Koh  
Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Policy Studies

### **Question-and-Answer Session**

12.00 noon – 1.30 pm

### **Lunch**

1.30 pm – 3.00 pm

### **Plenary Session 1: How Might Government Policies Maximise One's Potential to Pursue Opportunities?**

#### **Speakers**

Professor Irene Ng  
Department of Social Work & Social Service Research Centre  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
National University of Singapore

Associate Professor Terence Ho  
Associate Professor (Practice)  
Institute for Adult Learning  
Singapore University of Social Sciences

Professor Jin Huang  
William and Helen Reichmann Research Professor  
School of Social Work, Saint Louis University and  
Research Director & Research Professor  
Center for Social Development  
Washington University in St. Louis

#### **Moderator**

Professor Paulin Straughan  
Professor of Sociology (Practice)  
School of Social Sciences and  
Dean of Students  
Singapore Management University

### **Question-and-Answer Session**

3.00 pm – 3.30 pm

### **Break**

3.30 pm – 5.00 pm

### **Plenary Session 2: How Might Families and Individuals be Enabled to Make Use of Their Opportunities?**

#### **Speakers**

Associate Professor Vincent Chua  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences  
National University of Singapore

Emeritus Professor Esther Ho  
Senior Research Fellow  
Department of Educational Administration and Policy and  
Director  
Hong Kong Centre for International Student Assessment  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Mr Eric Chua  
Senior Parliamentary Secretary  
Ministry of Social & Family Development and  
Ministry of Culture, Community & Youth

**Moderator**

Dr Mathew Mathews  
Principal Research Fellow and  
Head, Social Lab  
Institute of Policy Studies

**Question-and-Answer Session**

5.00 pm

**End**

**Wednesday, 30 April 2025**

8.45 am – 9.15 am

**Registration**

9.15 am – 10.45 am

**Corporate and Philanthropic Groups' Perspectives:  
Social Programmes to Encourage Social Mobility**

*(Breakout Sessions)*

10.45 am – 11.15 am

**Break**

11.15 am – 12.45 pm

**Plenary Session 3: How Might Community Groups  
and Corporates Support Social Mobility?**

**Speakers**

Ms Tan Li San  
Chief Executive Officer  
National Council of Social Service

Mr Tom Hall  
Global Head, Social Impact & Philanthropy, UBS  
and  
Chief Executive Officer  
UBS Optimus Foundation Network

Ms Karen Ngui  
Head, DBS Foundation and  
Strategic Marketing and Communications, DBS Group

## **Moderator**

Mr Esa Masood  
Deputy Secretary (Corporate & Partners)  
Ministry of Social and Family Development

## **Question-and-Answer Session**

12.45 pm – 1.00 pm

**Closing Speech by Minister for Social and Family  
Development, Mr Masagos Zulkifli**

1.00 pm

**End**

*Last updated on 28 February 2025*