

MEDIA RELEASE

**SENTOSA STRENGTHENS COMMITMENT TO ENRICHING
BIODIVERSITY VIA NEW BUTTERFLY CORRIDOR**



Mr Khew Sin Khoon (left) and Ms Thien Kwee Eng, Chief Executive Officer, Sentosa Development Corporation (right), at ceremonial planting

SINGAPORE, 19 JUNE 2024 - Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC) today reinforced its commitment to environment sustainability and the protection of the island's rich biodiversity through the planting of a butterfly corridor at Imbiah Terrace, which links the Imbiah Nature area to Sentosa Sensoryscape. The corridor will feature over 3,000 trees, shrubs, and groundcovers specially selected to attract butterflies in Singapore such as the Tailed Jay and Lime Butterfly and support their life cycle.

"Butterflies are not only crucial for pollination but also serve as a vital food source for other animals and insects. They are good indicators of a healthy ecosystem," said Mr Khew Sin Khoon, an avid lepidopterist also known as 'Butterfly man' and the founder of ButterflyCircle, a group of butterfly and photography enthusiasts. "SDC's initiative aligns with Singapore's City in Nature vision and helps increase native butterfly populations, which are essential for the ecological health of Sentosa Island. I am heartened that SDC is doing its part in balancing sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, and tourism."

SDC has identified more than 40 hectares of important biodiversity sites on Sentosa, such as the Imbiah Nature Area, including 23 heritage trees. The butterfly corridor aims to aid the growth of local butterfly population, including the recovery of vulnerable and endangered species by providing a larger habitat for butterflies to proliferate on the island. Additionally, the nearby Sentosa Sensoryscape is already home to several species of butterfly attracting plants, further extending the green corridor. These spaces effectively link various natural habitats on Sentosa to facilitate the free movement of butterflies to other forested areas on Sentosa, the neighbouring Southern Islands, and even mainland Singapore.

The site incorporates 30 different species of plants chosen for their ecological benefits and adaptability to local conditions. This includes 10 native plant species like Marsh Holly (*Ilex cymosa*), Malayan Ixora (*Ixora congesta*), and Singapore Rhododendron (*Melastoma malabathricum*), some of which are propagated as part of SDC's Native Plant Programme.

"Sentosa's natural environment is integral to the island's charm, and we remain committed to taking care of our habitat in tandem with sustainable development," said Ms Thien Kwee Eng, Chief Executive of Sentosa Development Corporation. "The butterfly corridor is an example of how we create beautiful green spaces that allow wildlife to thrive, serving as a biodiversity connector from Imbiah to the ridgeline, and to Sentosa Sensoryscape. These green sanctuaries bring butterflies closer to our guests, complementing the rich blend of nature and architecture of Sensoryscape, while making exploration of the island an enjoyable experience."

SDC adopts a multi-pronged approach to protecting key nature areas and ensuring the conservation of the island's rich biodiversity. Among these efforts is the Native Plant Programme which supplements SDC's landscaping with seedlings propagated from plants in Sentosa's forests and ensures genetic diversity. SDC also works closely with businesses on the island and nature groups to conserve ecologically sensitive sites to safeguard and restore biodiversity, such as working with the beach clubs along Siloso Beach to educate guests on turtle spotting. Meanwhile, leisure offerings such as the SentoSights guided tours showcases the island's biodiversity to visitors and helping them better understand how to enjoy and conserve it.

SDC's long-term plans for the butterfly corridor include hosting educational tours to share about Sentosa's sustainability efforts, and citizen science initiatives to monitor butterfly populations. For more information about sustainability and conservation at Sentosa, visit our [website](#).

For more images, please refer to this [link](#).

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Media Contact:

**Sentosa Development Corporation
Strategic Communications & PR Team**

communications@sentosa.gov.sg

About Sentosa

Sentosa, where discovery never ends, is Asia's leading leisure destination and Singapore's premier island resort getaway, located within 15 minutes from the central business and shopping districts. The island resort is managed by Sentosa Development Corporation, which works with various stakeholders in overseeing property investments, attractions development, and operation of the various leisure offerings and management of the residential precinct on the island.

The 500-hectare island resort is home to an exciting array of themed attractions, award-winning spa retreats, lush rainforests, golden sandy beaches, resort accommodations, world-renowned golf courses, a deep-water yachting marina and luxurious residences – making Sentosa a vibrant island resort for business and leisure. Sentosa is also home to Singapore's first integrated resort, Resorts World Sentosa, which operates Southeast Asia's first Universal Studios theme park.

Situated on the eastern end of Sentosa Island is Sentosa Cove, an exclusive waterfront residential enclave bustling with more than 2,000 homes, quayside restaurants, retail and specialty shops. The island is also proud to be home to Sentosa Golf Club and its two acclaimed golf courses, The Serapong and The Tanjong. Sentosa Golf Club has hosted a number of high-profile professional and amateur tournaments, including the Singapore Open and HSBC Women's World Championship, welcoming international star players and world-class golf professionals from across the world.

Welcoming a growing number of local and international guests every year, Sentosa is an integral part of Singapore's goal to be a global destination to work, live and play. For more information, please visit: www.sentosa.com.sg.



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About Sentosa Development Corporation



Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC) was established on 1 September 1972 as a Statutory Board under the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Its charter since inception has been to oversee the development, management, marketing, and promotion of the island of Sentosa as a resort destination for locals and tourists.

SDC wholly owns its subsidiaries Sentosa Cove Resort Management Pte Ltd and Sentosa Golf Club Pte Ltd. SDC also owns the Singapore Cable Car Sky Network, managed by Mount Faber Leisure Group Pte Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary which operates as an autonomous commercial arm.

As a testament to its commitment to sustainability, SDC has been conferred the Global Sustainable Tourism Council – For Destinations (GSTC-D) certificate, making Sentosa the first island destination in Asia to receive this accolade.

Annex – Butterfly Attracting Plants Information Sheet

The butterfly corridor will see the planting of 30 small and medium trees as well as over 3,000 shrubs and groundcovers consisting of 30 different species of plants, of which ten are native.

Image	Species
	<p>Chinese Violet <i>Asystasia gangetica</i></p> <p>Perennial herbaceous shrub with purple trumpet-shaped flowers. Attracts butterflies and bees.</p>
	<p>Malayan Ixora <i>Ixora congesta</i></p> <p>Large woody shrub with orange inflorescence flowers. Native to Singapore. Butterflies host and nectar plant. Also attracts birds.</p> <p>The Malayan Ixora is part of SDC's Native Plant Programme.</p>
	<p>Common Lantana <i>Lantana camara</i></p> <p>Perennial shrub with multi-coloured flowers that change over time and with pollination. Medicinal uses include bath for scabies and leprosy, application to ulcers, cuts and swellings, stimulant, to expel intestinal worms and to increase menstrual flow. Butterflies host and nectar plant. Also attracts bees and birds.</p>
	<p>Red Leea <i>Leea rubra</i></p> <p>Semi-woody shrub with red flowers. Medicinal uses include poultice to wounds, to reduce fevers, to induce perspiration, to treat arthritis, rheumatism, stomachaches, dysentery and yaws. Native and presumed nationally extinct. Attracts butterflies, bees, and birds.</p>

	<p>The Red Leea is part of SDC's Native Plant Programme.</p> <p>Common Sendudok <i>Melastoma malabathricum</i></p> <p>Shrub with purple flowers. Edible fruits and leaves. Medicinal uses include to relieve pain, to reduce inflammation, to treat dysentery, toothache, diarrhoea, indigestion, leucorrhoea, stomachache, piles, thrust, and insect stings. Native to Singapore. Butterflies host and nectar plant. Also attracts bees and birds.</p> <p>The Common Sendudok is part of SDC's Native Plant Programme.</p>
	<p>Geiger Tree <i>Cordia sebestena</i></p> <p>Medium-sized tree with orange flowers. Edible fruits. Attracts butterflies and birds.</p>
	<p>Marsh Holly <i>Ilex cymosa</i></p> <p>Medium-sized tree with red berry-like fruits. Medicinal uses include to treat sprains, fevers, and ripening boils. Native to Singapore. Butterfly host plant and attracts birds.</p>

	<p>Petai Tree <i>Parkia speciosa</i></p> <p>Large, hardy tree with bean-pod fruits. Edible leaves, flowers, and seeds. Seeds are used in the Sambal Petai dish. Medicinal uses include lowering blood sugar to treat diabetes, kidney pain, colic, to expel stomach gas, to treat wounds and ulcers. There is currently one Petai tree listed as Heritage Tree in Singapore and it can be found on Sentosa. Native and vulnerable. Butterflies host plant. Also attracts birds and bats.</p>
	<p>Yellow Saraca <i>Saraca thaipingensis</i></p> <p>Small tree with orange and slightly fragrant flowers. Butterflies host and nectar plant. Also attracts bees.</p>
	<p>Red Penda <i>Xanthostemon verdugonianus</i></p> <p>Small shrubby tree with red flowers. Attracts butterflies.</p>

Images retrieved from NParks' Flora and Fauna web.

Some butterfly species that may be attracted to plants at the butterfly corridor



Tailed Jay



Lime Butterfly



Studded Sergeant



Plain Nawab



Blue Pansy



Striped Blue Crow

Images retrieved from NParks' Flora and Fauna web