

SINGAPORE

Nonprofits and Foundations

Nonprofit Organizations

Singapore has over 100 local and international Non-profit Organizations (INPOs), which include inter-governmental organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have social, humanitarian or an environmental focus, industry associations, philanthropic foundations, think tanks and corporate social responsibility (CSR) organizations. These include World Vision International, and Air Transport Association etc. The International Organizations Program Office (IOPO), set up in 2007 facilitate the setting up of international organizations in setting up in Singapore. These organizations have volunteer and career options available.

Mercy Relief

[Mercy Relief](#) is an NGO established in response to the human tragedies in Asia. It aims to promote civic life of compassion care and volunteerism. It provides assistance to disaster-stricken locations and long term development projects for impoverished and disadvantaged communities through water and sanitation, shelter, healthcare basic education and sustainable livelihoods.

Singapore International Foundation

[Singapore International Foundation](#) aims to build a better world through shared ideas, skills and experiences so as to uplift lives and create greater understanding between Singaporeans and world communities through healthcare, education, the environment, arts and culture and livelihood and business.

Singapore Red Cross Society

[Singapore Red Cross](#) is part of the world-wide Red Cross society which bases its work on the fundamental principle of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality.

Research Institutions

Singapore emphasizes the development of a knowledge-centric and research based economy. Within the last ten years the Research and Design base has drawn top scientific and creative talent and nurtured collaborations between the public and the private sectors. Today Singapore holds global leadership positions in manufacturing, electronics and petrochemicals.

NRF initiatives:

The [National Research Foundation](#) (NRF) founded in 2006 is a department under the Prime Minister's Office to provide strategic overview, direction, and coordinates policy implementation plans between ministries, funding organizations and research and design performers. It seeks to encourage innovation and nurture the growth of technology-based enterprises in Singapore.

[Campus for Research Excellence And Technological Enterprise \(CREATE\)](#), which is a complex of research centers from world-class research universities and corporate labs, together with the talent they train and their technology transfer activities

[Agency for Science, Technology and Research](#) (A*STAR) research institutes, universities and polytechnics, hospitals, public and corporate laboratories, as well as private enterprises [Bioinformatics Institute \(BII\)](#), [Bioprocessing Technology Institute \(BTI\)](#), and the Clinical Imaging Research Centre (CIRC).

The universities and polytechnics often house research centers that delve into a wide range of different interest areas. For example, global talents interested in international studies and foreign policy studies may explore the [Institute of Policy Studies](#) and the [Institute of South Asian Studies](#), both located within the [National University of Singapore](#).

Foundations

Lee Foundation

The Lee Foundation was founded in 1952 by philanthropist and businessman, Lee Kong Chian. Its objectives include the advancement of education, medicine and cultural activities; helping the poor; and assisting victims of fire, flood and famine. The Lee Foundation is Singapore's largest foundation. Over the years, it has contributed to Singapore's society, education, welfare, research and the arts.

Tan Kah Kee Foundation

Mr. Tan Kah Kee was a well-known philanthropist and an outstanding Chinese leader in Southeast Asia. The mission of the [Tan Kah Kee Foundation](#) is to carry on the charity works and to foster the Tan Kah Kee spirit in entrepreneurship and dedication to education.

Temasek Foundation

[Temasek Foundation](#) is a Singapore philanthropic organization set up by Temasek to build a more prosperous, stable and connected Asia through developing human and social capital.

The National Research Foundation (NRF)

Lien Centre for Social Innovation

[The Lien Centre for Social Innovation](#), a partnership between the Lien Foundation and Singapore Management University (SMU), was established in 2006 to advance the thinking and capability of the social sector.

Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

[The Asia-Europe Foundation](#) (ASEF) is an international, nonprofit organization based in Singapore that was established in 1997 by the countries of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). ASEF seeks to promote mutual understanding, deeper engagement and continuing collaboration among the people of Asia and Europe through greater intellectual, cultural, and people-to-people exchanges between the two regions.

Think Tanks

According to University of Pennsylvania's Global go to think tank index, Singapore's think tank capacity lies outside the top 10, at number 13, because public and private resources have been committed largely to for-profit enterprises because of Singapore's fierce developmental orientation and secondly because Singapore is decades beyond basic development challenges and needs little policy advice on issues such as poverty, health, an urbanization.

East Asian Institute

[The East Asian Institute](#) is a research organization under National University of Singapore. It was established in 1997 as an autonomous research organization. Its mission is to promote academic and policy-oriented research on contemporary China and other East Asian economies, political, economic and social changes in China arising from economic reform and an open-door policy, and the regional and global implications of the economic rise of China and the cultural and commercial networks of the ethnic Chinese from a global perspective. The institute has available Academic and Research employment opportunities, as well as executive and professional and other non-academic positions.

Institute of Policy Studies

The [Institute of Policy Studies](#) is a think tank established in 1988 and dedicated to fostering good governance in Singapore through strategic policy research and discussion. It is based within the School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore and it seeks to cultivate clarity of thought, forward thinking and a big picture perspective on issues of national interest. There are administrative appointments and research opportunities at the Institute of Policy Studies.

Rajaratnam School of International Studies

The [Rajaratnam School of International Studies](#) is an autonomous research institute within the Nanyang Technological University. Its objectives are research and graduate education in national security, military technology and international relations. Additionally, it encourages exchange programs and organizes conferences on similar topics.

Singapore Institute of International Affairs

[Singapore Institute of International Affairs](#) is an independent organization dedicated to research, analysis and discussion of regional and international issues through research, policy work and public education on international affairs. Founded in 1961.

Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

[The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies](#) is an autonomous organization established by a parliamentary act in 1968, to lead research in socio-political, security and economic developments in Southeast Asia. The institute conducts research programs, holds conferences and workshops, lectures and seminars as well as publishing briefs, research journals and books.

The HEAD Foundation

[The HEAD Foundation](#) is a think tank devoted to the research, policy influence and effective implementation of education for development in Asia.

Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

[Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy](#) at the National University of Singapore has the mission to educate and inspire current and future generations of leaders to raise the standards of governance in Asia.

Middle East Institute

The [Middle East Institute](#) is an autonomous research institute within the National University of Singapore. Its objectives include the producing of timely, reliable, and non-partisan analyses of issues and to disseminate such knowledge and insights to policymakers, the business community, academia and civil society.