

SUSTAINABILITY AND ITS IMPORTANCE

You will learn:

The importance of having a green and sustainable port

A LET'S LEARN ABOUT MARITIME SINGAPORE

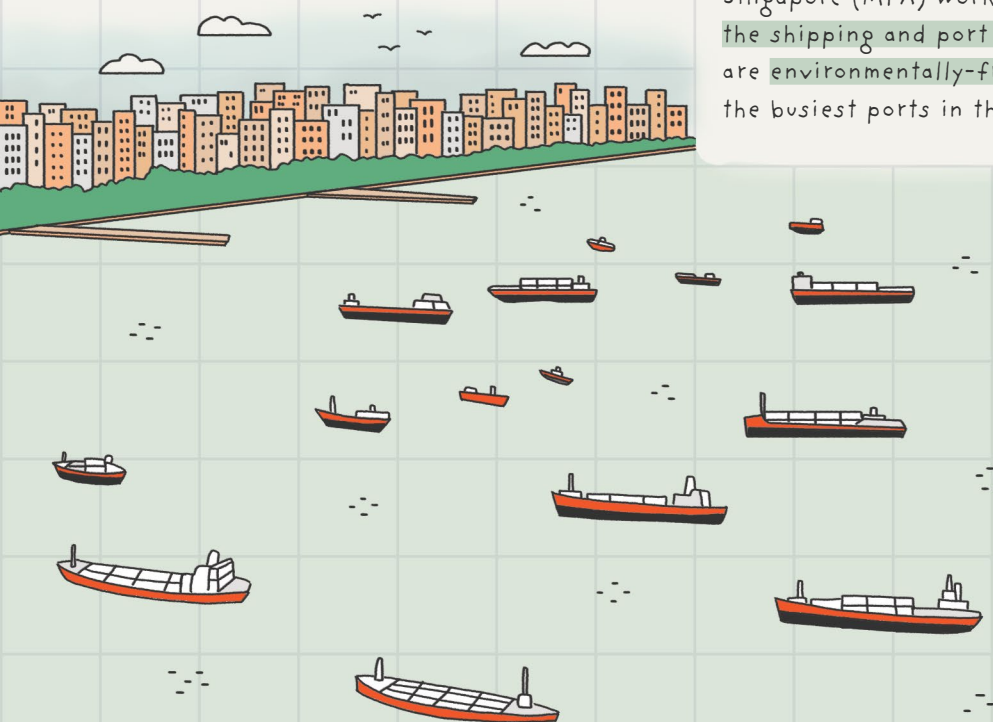
WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR SINGAPORE'S PORT TO BE SUSTAINABLE AND GREEN?

Sustainability is taking care of the way resources are being used so that they can last a long time. It is important for resources to be used sustainably so as to ensure that the needs of the future generation can continue to be met.

We have learnt that more than 80% of the world's trade is carried by the sea on ships, and with so much maritime activity happening across the world, maritime authorities, businesses and ports play an important role to make sure that maritime sustainability is a priority and an important concern to be looked into.

As the port authority, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) works hard to encourage and ensure that the shipping and port activities taking place in Singapore are environmentally-friendly, especially since it is one of the busiest ports in the world.

This is why MPA invests in green initiatives and technology, making sure that environmental standards are maintained and keeping to the rules and regulations set up by national and global organisations such as the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to protect the environment.



MPA started the **Maritime Singapore Green Initiative** in 2011 to promote clean and green shipping in Singapore, with the aim to reduce the impact of shipping and related activities on the environment. A total of up to \$100 million was committed to be invested in this initiative for a period of five years, covering areas on green shipping, green port, green energy and technology, as well as green awareness. This is to encourage maritime companies to start using clean and green ways for shipping, and to go beyond the minimum requirements set out by the IMO.



Besides Singapore's strong commitment to environmentally-friendly shipping and port activities, MPA also works very closely with universities and the maritime industry in areas of **marine research and clean technologies** for projects such as developing a cleaner fuel for ships to use that will be less harmful to the environment.

In 2019, MPA created the first **Maritime Sustainability Reporting Guide** for maritime companies to follow. This is a very useful guide to help maritime companies be more aware of their sustainability efforts in their businesses, which helps them keep track of their green practices and the impact their work has on the environment in the long run.



THINK ABOUT THIS:

Why is it important for everyone to be aware of matters concerning the environment and sustainability?

B FIND OUT MORE

INTERESTING VIDEOS YOU CAN CHECK OUT ON THE INTERNET:

- [Shipping and climate change. Part 1 - making new ships better](#)
- [Shipping and climate change. Part 2 - making existing ships better](#)
- [Shipping and climate change. Part 3 - driving green technology](#)
- [A boat made from plastic waste is one of Kenya's solution to a global problem | Short Film showcase](#)

C TRY THIS ACTIVITY!

HAVE FUN WITH YOUR OWN ZERO-WASTE DAY!

A lot of what we use and do in our daily life produces waste, and if the amount of waste we create continues to increase faster than we can process them, we will soon run out of space for disposing waste properly.

To help keep the environment green and sustainable, try having your own zero waste day to reduce the amount of waste you create.

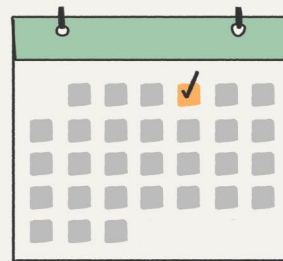
Have you ever measured the amount of waste you create in a day in your life?

HERE IS A HELPFUL GUIDE:

- 1 Look for a small jar to be your waste jar – this will be the jar where you will be throwing your waste in.



- 2 Pick one day in your week to have your zero-waste day. It could be a Sunday or a Friday – it is up to you!



- 3 On your chosen zero-waste day, throw all your waste into your waste jar and nowhere else. The jar will help you keep track of the amount of waste you create as you go about your daily activities.



- 4 Try to create as little waste as possible and to not exceed the amount the jar can take. Remember, the smaller your jar is, the more you are reducing your waste!



Once you succeed in having your own zero-waste day, try challenging yourself to have more zero-waste days, or change the size of the jar to an even smaller one!

HOT TIPS TO HELP PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT:

- Reduce the number of things you buy so that less waste is created.
- Use reusable items rather than disposable ones.
- Practice proper ways to recycle waste such as sorting out your rubbish and throwing them in the correct recycling bin.

CHAT ABOUT THIS:

What else can you do to help keep the environment green and sustainable?