

Cora School Recycling League Award Ceremony 10 November 2025

Speech by Cora Environment Chief Financial Officer

Educators, brand partners, distinguished guests,

INTRODUCTION

Good morning and thank you for joining us at the Cora School Recycling League Award Ceremony. The School Recycling League was launched in 2023, back when we were known as SembWaste. If you have spoken to our team or seen our trucks on the road, you might have noticed that we are now Cora Environment.

This year marks an important milestone for us, rebranding from SembWaste to Cora Environment. The name “Cora”, inspired by ‘collaboration’ and ‘heart’ reflects our belief that people, purpose, and planet must be at the centre of everything we do. More than a new name, it signals a renewed commitment to rethink the waste value chain and shape a future where zero waste is not just an aspiration, but a reality.

The School Recycling League is one of our key initiatives that embodies this mission. We believe sustainability starts with awareness, and awareness begins in our schools. Since its launch, the League has engaged over 400 schools to drive recycling education and action across Singapore.

BUILDING AWARENESS FROM THE GROUND UP

Today, we celebrate your schools’ unwavering commitment to sustainability and the collective efforts towards shaping a more environment-conscious generation. Through the programme, we have seen how education can spark real change, transforming recycling from a simple act into a mindset, a habit, and a way of life.

Take Mee Toh School as an example. They joined the League in 2023 and used jumbo bags to collect 330kg of plastics in their first year. Last year, they scaled up efforts, collecting 2,400kg of recyclables, including plastics, paper, glass, metal, and e-waste.

As the programme grew, we recognised the need for better infrastructure to support larger volumes and streamline the recycling process. We also saw the power of data in shaping behaviour. That is why we launched our first REhub, a

smart recycling station, at Mee Toh School last month. REhub enables real-time data tracking, helping educators run creative initiatives like inter-cohort competitions. By the end of this year, 100 REhubs will be deployed across schools to support clean stream recycling, increase accountability, and deepen student engagement.

With close to 500 schools now onboard, we are proud to share that we have achieved 46 tonnes of recyclables this year, up from 15 tonnes last year.

COLLABORATION AT THE CORE OF WHAT WE DO

The climate crisis is deeply intertwined with waste. Every item we consume and discard demands energy, water, and raw materials – resources that are finite. Without embracing the 3Rs, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, we remain trapped in a cycle of extraction and depletion. At Cora Environment, we believe waste is not an end point, but a beginning – a resource with untapped potential, waiting to be transformed into value. That is why we champion a fourth R: Recover.

Driving meaningful change, however, requires collective effort. None of this is possible without our partners. Collaboration is at the heart of Cora Environment, because only together can we reimagine waste and build a future that is truly sustainable.

A big thank you to:

- Sembcorp Energy-for-Good Fund and Community Foundation of Singapore, our key partners who were instrumental in supporting our efforts to expand the programme to more schools and upgraded recycling infrastructure this year.
- DoDo, LION, and UOB, our returning partners who continue to show their dedication to sustainability and creating real change through community engagement.
- Tetra Pak and Yeo's, our new partners this year, who are championing beverage carton recycling and helping students see how small actions contribute to a larger cause.

Each of you has played a vital role in making this journey impactful.

And to our educators, you are the driving force behind this programme. Your tireless efforts, from ensuring recycling is done right to instilling values of care and responsibility, have been truly inspiring. Because of your passion and commitment, we are seeing real, lasting change take root in our schools.

CLOSING

Together with our partners, educators, and students, we are building a community that champions environmental responsibility. By acting with purpose and embracing sustainability in our everyday lives, we can shape a future we are proud of. Thank you.