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Future Cities Laboratory

Citizen Design Science on Channel NewsAsia

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In "Singapore Reimagined", Dr Johannes Mueller helped Channel NewsAsia host envision the future Greater Southern Waterfront using citizen design tools such as QUA-Kit and Maptionnaire.



In the documentary "Singapore Reimagined" on Channel NewsAsia, Dr Johannes Mueller guided CNA host Melanie Cook, an educator and tech consultant, through ways to engage citizens in designing for the future. He demonstrated tools used by researchers working on Citizen Design Science at FCL to engage citizens in redesigning the Greater Southern Waterfront. Citizen Design Science is a design approach under the Big Data Informed Urban Design and Governance project, which engages citizens in the design process of their environment.

Guided by Johannes, the host, despite not being schooled in urban planning, was able to communicate her ideal plans for the future of the Tanjong Pagar Terminal with citizen design tools. With the future of her young daughter in mind, she placed and moved housing blocks with the QUA-Kit, and designated residential areas and park connectors with Maptionnaire.

Dr Johannes Mueller said that people have different priorities, which will be reflected through the tools. While investors would probably develop the

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About

Dr Johannes MUELLER
Citizen Design Science
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More details

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area to be highly dense, citizens would not be happy because they would not have space for recreation. With the use of the tools, citizens can provide design ideas that could contribute to design criteria for master planning.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, the Minister-in-charge of the Smart Nation initiative, said in the documentary that we now live in the age where everyone is not just a consumer, but a producer.

The documentary focused on the Smart Nation program in Singapore, an initiative to transform Singapore and empower people through technology, in order to improve living, create economic opportunities and build a closer community. The documentary was aired on Channel NewsAsia on 28 August and can be viewed here

"The vision for this area is that it is not completely built by professionals, neither by investors or by other authorities. We want the future cities district to be built together with citizens."

Dr Johannes Mueller