

How might we redesign Somerset Belt spaces to attract more youths to take interest and own the spaces?

The Starter Project is an inspiring collaborative initiative by The National Youth Council (NYC) and Singapore Polytechnic (SP), School of Architecture & the Built Environment (ABE), Diploma in Landscape Architecture (DLA). This undertaking tackles genuine urban design challenges, providing invaluable practical exposure for emerging designers. The focal point on the Somerset Belt Masterplan and the establishment of a youth-led precinct underscores a shared commitment to enriching the local youth's experience and fostering a stronger sense of belonging.

The design challenge encapsulates the project's core principles, emphasizing practical experience, sensitivity to social context, and seamless integration with the existing urban fabric. Placemaking takes centre stage, highlighting the project's pivotal role in the regeneration and revitalization of urban spaces.

The collaboration with NYC and *SCAPE highlights a dedicated effort to understand the intricacies of the site context and address the needs and aspirations of young people. The resulting design solutions are aimed at fortifying community identity and enhancing the vibrancy of the urban environment. Beyond the initial project, selected students extend their engagement to tackle real-world challenges, leading to the SOMP23 project and the subsequent development of a prototype "The Crate Seats," showcased in Somerset Youth Park. This tangible outcome vividly demonstrates the positive impact of the collaboration.

This collaborative effort extends beyond academic boundaries, presenting a unique learning journey for the future professionals in the field. The initiative not only reflects NYC's commitment to youth development but also underscores DLA's dedication to nurturing and training the next generation of landscape architects and designers.

Colourful crates to create your unique seat & space

