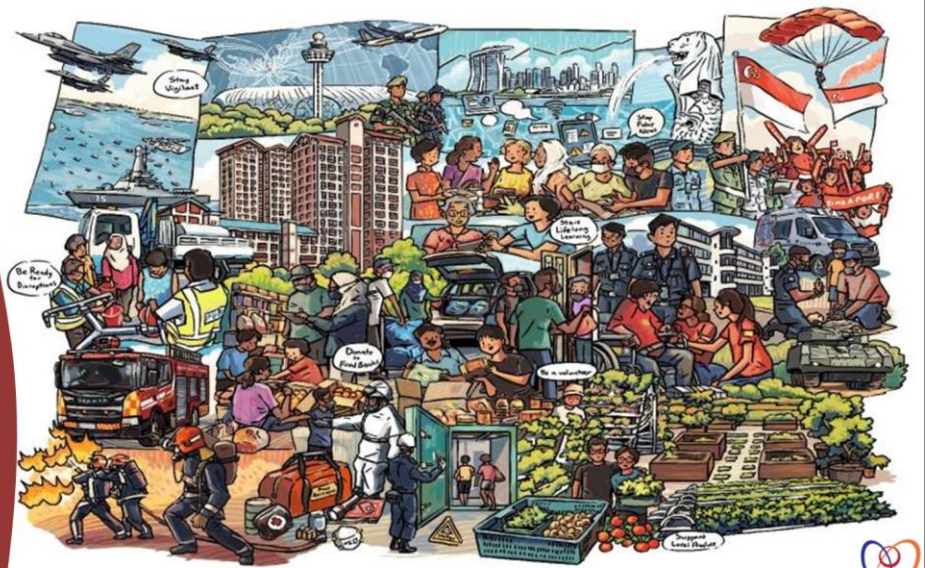


Total Defence Day 2023

NE Engagement Package



nexus

[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

This package has been sent to Commanders and Department Heads and they can adjust as necessary when they conduct their engagement.

Facilitators can use this slide to set the context for Total Defence Day in Singapore.

- Every year on 15 Feb, we commemorate Total Defence Day to remind us of the day we fell to the Japanese in 1942, and that we should never take our defence for granted.
- Total Defence involves every Singaporean playing a part, individually and collectively, to build a strong, secure and cohesive nation. When we are strong, we are able to deal with any crisis.
- The environment that we live in today has become increasingly complex and volatile.
- As such, we require a whole-of-society approach, a collective effort, where everyone plays a part and takes action across all six pillars of Total Defence.

“Ordinary Ukrainians join the war effort”



OFFICIAL (OPEN)

Source: Al Jazeera English 2

[Commanders’/Facilitators’ Sharing]:

Click to watch ‘We are going to defend ourselves’: Ukrainians join war front (2.46mins)

YouTube link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8yUI8xx_5o&ab_channel=AlJazeeraEnglish

Synopsis: As Russian troops move further into Ukraine, many civilians are volunteering to fight alongside Ukrainian soldiers and defend their towns and cities. Men from different angles of life, different ages and levels of military training have decided to leave the safety of the European Union and support Ukraine against the Russian invasion. 1 March 2022.

- The Russia- Ukraine war intensified, thousands of civilian fighters volunteered their service in the resistance against the Russian forces.
- Ukrainians also sprang into action by ferrying food, clothes and equipment to the front-line units of Ukraine’s army.
- These actions demonstrate Total Defence in action – where everyone plays a part in protecting their country.
- In 2022, there were also several world events which have resulted in some serious consequences for a small country such as Singapore.
- Let's have a look at these challenges and think about whether Singaporeans have rose to the challenge to overcome them.

Commanders are free to skip the video if their service personnel have watched it before.

Geopolitical developments, hybrid threats and disruptions



US-China relationship is key to peace and stability in Asia and the world: DPM Wong



'Existential issue for tiny state': Spore UN ambassador on sovereignty at UN meeting on Ukraine



Social media accounts of political officials, government agencies spammed by supporters of Indonesian preacher who was denied entry



IN FOCUS: As dust settles over Malaysia's political uncertainty, can Anwar's new government bring stability?



PM Lee urges Singaporeans to stay united and resolute amid rising inflation, geopolitical uncertainty



Spore expected food supply snags since Covid-19, has been diversifying: PM Lee



'Not business as usual': Geopolitical shocks mean Spore must be prepared for troubled times ahead, says Ng Eng Hen



Higher prices for petrol, electricity and food: How Russia's invasion of Ukraine might affect people in Singapore

Increasing geopolitical tensions

The world has become increasingly troubled. The **rise in contestations** among countries have resulted in **loss of sovereignty for some and increased tensions and uncertainties for all.**

Rising inflation and disrupted food supply

Regional and international tensions have **affected the economic conditions** and resulted in Singapore facing rising global inflation, and disrupted food supply, **affecting the livelihoods of Singaporeans.**

OFFICIAL (OPEN)

Source: The Straits Times, Channel News Asia, Today Online 3

[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can use this slide to explain the security, social, and physical landscape within which we operate.

- Recent world events have resulted in a "geopolitical earthquake with potentially serious, if not grave, security implications", for a small country such as Singapore.
- The increasing geopolitical tensions, especially Russia's ongoing invasion of Ukraine, and the Covid-19 pandemic are the two main events that have plunged the world into a state of chaos. It has affected the way we live, work and play, and will continue to be a dominant part of our lives.

Sources:

Increasing geopolitical tensions:

1. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/us-china-relationship-key-peace-stability-world-asia-dpm-wong-3069921>
2. <https://www.straitstimes.com/world/europe/spore-ambassador-stresses-importance-of-sovereignty-at-un-emergency-meeting-on-ukraine>
3. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/focus-malaysia-anwar-ibrahim-unity-government-new-cabinet-ge15-3117821>
4. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/government-social-media-accounts-spammed-supporters-indonesian-preacher-abdul-somad-batubara-denied-entry-2690861>

Rising inflation and disrupted food supply:

1. <https://www.todayonline.com/singapore/not-business-usual-geopolitical-shocks-mean-spore-must-be-prepared-troubled-times-ahead-says-ng-eng-hen-1934526>
2. <https://www.todayonline.com/singapore/pm-lee-resolute-united-inflation-tensions-1964371>
3. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/singapore-anticipated-disruption-of-food-supplies-started-stockpiling-and-diversifying-since-covid-19-began-pm-lee>
4. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/ukraine-invasion-russia-higher-prices-petrol-food-electricity-singapore-2532281>

Geopolitical developments, hybrid threats and disruptions



Self-radicalised Singaporean detained under ISA after planning to take part in armed violence overseas



Lone wolves still main terror threat to S'pore, terrorist activity could increase post-Covid-19: RSIS report



Terror threat to S'pore remains high, self-radicalisation and global extremist groups are main concerns: ISD



Teacher arrested under ISA; first public servant detained for terror-related offences in Singapore



Police warn of fake news of PM Lee endorsing crypto investments



NDR 2022: Be wary of social media messages on Ukraine war with ulterior aims, says PM Lee



As Ukraine-Russia conflict rages on, people in Singapore caught in its information war



\$227.8m lost to top 10 scams in first half of 2022, as overall crime rises by 36%

Prevalence of terror threat and self-radicalisation

Singapore is not spared from the **prevalence of terrorist and extremist ideologies online**, including those propagated by foreign preachers and ideologues. The **terrorism threat remains high**.

Emerging hybrid threats

There has been an **emergence of hybrid threats** such as disinformation, fake news, hostile information campaigns, cyber attacks that **threaten to sow discord and destabilise our peace and harmony**.

OFFICIAL (OPEN)

Source: The Straits Times, Channel News Asia, Today Online 4

[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can use this slide to explain the security, social, and physical landscape within which we operate.

- We now face new challenges from the digital domain that have no physical boundaries or battlefields. Cyberattacks, disinformation campaigns, fake news and extremist ideologies online are some of the ways that can now be used to divide and weaken us.

==

Sources:

Self-radicalisation:

1. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/isd-isa-man-detained-black-flag-army-2674876>
2. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/lone-wolves-still-main-terror-threat-to-singapore-terrorist-activity-could-pick-up-post-covid-19-rsis-report>
3. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/teacher-arrested-under-isa-first-public-servant-detained-for-terror-related-offences-in-singapore>
4. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/terror-threat-to-singapore-remains-high-self-radicalisation-and-global-extremist-groups-main-concerns-isd-report>

Increase in scams and fake news:

1. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/courts-crime/2278m-lost-to-top-10-scams-in-first-half-of-2022-as-overall-crime-rises-by-36>
2. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/ukraine-invasion-russia-fake-news-information-war-online-singapore-2596036>
3. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/politics/ndr-2022-be-wary-of-social-media-messages-on-ukraine-war-with-ulterior-aims-says-pm-lee>
4. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/courts-crime/police-warn-of-fake-news-of-pm-lee-endorsing-crypto-investments>

Recap: The six pillars of Total Defence



MILITARY DEFENCE

A strong and credible defence force of committed Regulars and National Servicemen, supported by the entire nation.



CIVIL DEFENCE

A **vigilant and prepared society**, with a crisis-ready mindset.



ECONOMIC DEFENCE

A robust, resilient, and **globally competitive economy**.



SOCIAL DEFENCE

A cohesive and caring society, with **strong bonds uniting diverse groups** who live in harmony with one another.



DIGITAL DEFENCE

A **digitally-prepared population** that is discerning and responsible online.



PSYCHOLOGICAL DEFENCE

The collective **will to act**, the **resolve** to defend our way of life and national interests, and the **fighting spirit** to overcome challenges together.

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[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can use this slide to quickly recap on what the different Total Defence pillars are about.

- As a small, multiracial, multi-cultural, nation dependent on free trade to survive, and connected to the world by air, sea and the internet, Singapore is inevitably affected by development around the world in some way or another.
- Since its launch in 1984, Total Defence has rallied Singaporeans together in responding to challenges that threaten Singapore's independence and well-being.
- The core message is that every Singaporean has a part to play to strengthen our defences against these threats and challenges.
- **Military Defence** is about having a strong and credible defence force of committed Regulars and National Servicemen, supported by the entire nation.
- **Civil Defence** is about having a vigilant and prepared society, with a crisis-ready mindset.
- **Economic Defence** is about a robust, resilient, and globally competitive economy.
- **Social Defence** is about having a cohesive and caring society, with strong bonds uniting diverse groups who live in harmony with one another.
- **Digital Defence** is about having a digitally-prepared population that is discerning and responsible online.
- **Psychological Defence** is about the collective will to act, the resolve to defend our way of life and national interests, and the fighting spirit to overcome challenges together.

Singaporeans putting Total Defence in Action



During the pandemic, over 13,000 **Singaporeans volunteered via the SUnited portal**. MINDEF and SAF also answered the call of duty and joined in the national effort against COVID-19.



Using digital technologies to address common social issues, student inventors **designed tech solutions to help people with disabilities gain more independence**.



Allan Lim & team formed **ComCrop, a pioneer for rooftop farming** to help reduce our reliance on food imports. They also help the community by giving away vegetables to the needy.



Over 116,000 people signed up as SGSecure responders joining a pool of volunteers who spot suspicious activity and respond to emergencies including terror attacks.



Volunteers of **Project Hills, a ground-up initiative** that offers various forms of support to families living in public rental housing estates.

OFFICIAL (OPEN)

Source: The Straits Times, Channel News Asia, Today Online 6

[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can lead your audience in a discussion on how the different Total Defence pillars were put into action using the above responses. You may use the images on the slide to prompt your audience.

==

Sources:

1. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/2020-the-worst-of-times-brings-out-the-best-in-singaporeans>
2. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/environment/rolex-perpetual-planet-we-the-earth-urban-farmers-bjorn-low-allan-lim-food-security>
3. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/zulkifli-atnawi-and-project-hills-they-help-other-rental-flat-residents-who-are-in-need>
4. <https://www.straitstimes.com/tech/tech-news/designed-in-singapore-tools-to-help-those-who-have-disabilities>
5. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/community/experience-simulated-terror-attack-at-resumed-sgsecure-roadshows#:~:text=Over%20116%2C000%20responders%20to%20emergencies%20in%20SGSecure%20network%20as%20at%20July,-A%20policeman%20guides&text=SINGAPORE%20%2D%20More%20than%20116%2C000%20people,and%20incidents%20of%20cardiac%20arrest>

Organisations also play a part to counter radicalisation & digital threats that undermine social cohesion



ISD's Partnership with MOE, schools & institutes of higher learning to raise awareness on the tell-tale signs of radicalisation, and early reporting.



Telcos and banks all aboard as **public and private sectors work together to tackle rising scam cases** through information exchange and intelligence gathering.



Tech companies help religious organisations in Singapore fight online radicalisation.



'**Digital for Life**' movement launched to close digital-literacy gaps between different age, income and ability groups, and **enhance digital awareness, learning and adoption.**



Organisations' support in keeping Singapore safe through overall preparedness and readiness against attacks.

OFFICIAL (OPEN)

Source: The Straits Times, Channel News Asia, Today Online 7

[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can lead your audience in a discussion on how the different Total Defence pillars were put into action using the above responses. You may use the images on the slide to prompt your audience.

==

Sources:

1. <https://www.mha.gov.sg/docs/default-source/default-document-library/isd-media-factsheet---counter-radicalisation-outreach-to-schools-and-youths.pdf>
2. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/tech-companies-to-help-religious-organisations-in-singapore-fight-online-radicalisation>
3. <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/organisations-support-essential-in-keeping-singapore-safe-and-terrorism-at-bay>
4. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/joint-efforts-public-private-sectors-fight-rising-scam-cases-singapore-phishing-social-media-3192596>
5. <https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/companies-markets/dbs-imda-launch-digital-inclusivity-movement>

Readiness in Crisis & Disruption - Together, we keep Singapore strong



Given the uncertain security and geopolitical challenges, Total Defence is even more relevant today. It is hence important to be prepared and ready for any crisis or disruption.

It is the solidarity of our people, shown through our actions and resilience, that will help us overcome challenges and keep Singapore strong and secure.



What does a strong Singapore mean to you?

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[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can use this slide to reinforce the theme of this year's Total Defence Day – "Together, we keep Singapore Strong".

- Total Defence has seen us through SARS, the fall-out from the 9/11 attacks, the economic crises of 1997 and 2008, and the haze in recent years, and Covid-19 pandemic.
- It has become a fundamental aspect of what makes us Singaporean and is shown in the things that we do on a daily basis – whether it is by fulfilling National Service duties, volunteering in Civil Defence activities, working hard and contributing to a strong economy, strengthening community ties with one another regardless of race and religion, or staying committed to defending the country.
- Our work in Total Defence is unceasing. When we understand our part in Total Defence, we will continue to strengthen ourselves, our community, and our nation.
- The theme for Total Defence Day this year is Readiness in Crisis & Disruption – Together, we keep Singapore strong.
- What does a strong Singapore mean to you?

Staying united is key to Singapore's survival - it is the only way to deal with challenges in an increasingly troubled world. We must look to our Total Defence, and maintain a strong and credible SAF and Home Team. We must also brace ourselves and be psychologically prepared that in the next decades our region may not be as peaceful and stable as it has been thus far.

**PRIME MINISTER
LEE HSIEN LOONG,
NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE,
8 AUG 2022**

Image credit: CNA

Everyone has a part to play in keeping Singapore strong!



How will you **ensure that you are prepared for crisis/ disruption?** Do you have a **Emergency Ready Bag?** Find out what items should be included!



Learn life saving skills and essential emergency procedures with the **Community Emergency Preparedness Programme (CEPP)**!



Stay active! Take part in the **Total Defence 2023 Adventure on GameOn Nila!** and go on a trail to explore the various sights and landmarks that represent the six pillars of Total Defence.



Play your part in the promotion of racial harmony and social cohesion by **volunteering with OnePeople.Sg (OPSG)**, and supporting events which promote cross-cultural education.



Be ready for the future economy by taking ownership of your skills development and lifelong learning through the **picking up of new skills with your SkillsFuture credits.**

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[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can invite your audience members to share some activities they will be taking part in to commemorate Total Defence Day and ask the service personnel, "How will they put Total Defence into daily action?"

- Since everyone has a role to play, learn what you can do to be an asset and play your part. This could mean participating in fire safety drills, learning C.P.R. and First Aid, etc.

How can you play your part for Total Defence?



Pledge your support for Total Defence

Take 5 mins to reflect on the following:

1. Amidst the past year, how has Total Defence been relevant to me and those around me?
2. How can I support and put Total Defence into action in my daily life?

Pledge your support for Total Defence here!



[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators can invite your audience members to share what they have pledged.

Additional Video Resources



Ep 1: The Singapore Strategy

4.26mins

Ep 2: The Battle for Singapore

4.26mins

Roots.sg



Head of the Family by Life Goes On

2.41mins

Life Goes On



Total Defence Day 2022: Lessons of 1942 linger on

4.38mins

The Straits Times



SAF's Digital and Intelligence Service holds first cyber defence exercise

2.31mins

Channel News Asia



Total Defence pillars must work together to safeguard Singapore

1.39mins

Channel News Asia



Weathering the Storm – a 9-part documentary series web series that takes an insider look at the Whole-of-Government operations against the Covid-19 pandemic
MINDEF

Thank you!

Your feedback is valuable to us.

Please take 2 minutes to share your feedback through the following link or QR code:

<https://go.gov.sg/tddayfeedback>



Follow @ConnexionSG
for more NE content!



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[Commanders'/Facilitators' Sharing]:

Facilitators may consider encouraging participants to provide their feedback.

- Your feedback is important to us as it allows us to improve our future NE packages. Thank you!
- Besides providing us your feedback, service personnel are also encouraged to follow @ConnexionSG Facebook page and Instagram for more NE content.