



## RUN 350 Continues Reaching Out To The Masses

By **Florina Oo**  
Photos by **TYN 20/20**

After seven months of intensive preparations, the fourth edition of NTUC Income RUN 350 organised by Young NTUC saw a record turnout at the The Float@Marina Bay. Undeterred by the early start, more than 11,000 runners from 63 countries turned up on 7 April 2013 to run for a worthy cause. Gracing the event as Guest-of-Honour was NTUC Secretary-General Lim Swee Say who was there to support the runners.

The event also saw NTUC Income Chief Executive Officer Tan Suee Chieh participating in the 10km run. A contingent of 300 NTUC Income staff also took part in the event, cementing the collaboration between Young NTUC and NTUC Income.

Said Mr Tan: "NTUC Income is proud to partner Young NTUC to present NTUC Income RUN 350. The event is considered Southeast

Asia's premier eco-run, promoting sustainability for the Earth and an active lifestyle. I am glad to see so many people embracing this opportunity to show their support for global climate action. By channelling their passion for running towards this important cause, they are personally contributing to a greener tomorrow."

Young NTUC Executive Secretary Steve Tan was also heartened to see Young NTUC fostering a supportive attitude among the public towards a greener tomorrow. He reflected that Young NTUC was introduced to the international 350.org movement in 2009, which started the local chapter 350.sg in that same year.

Mr Tan elaborated: "When we first started, many people did not know what the movement represents, but today that has changed significantly. The run itself has grown a life of its own." He added: "I walked past a runner who was

NTUC Secretary-General  
Lim Swee Say (left)  
giving out medals to  
the children as they  
complete the Kids Dash.



explaining why the 350 cause is so important to his child. That touch point, to me, is the most gratifying part of Young NTUC's 350 journey."

The race continues to champion its list of green initiatives, such as the use of bio-diesel for race activities. The race pack collection also utilised a paper-less registration process. Runners were encouraged to cycle to the venue on race day, as bicycle racks were available on-site.

The conclusion of the race does not signify the end of the environmental efforts. Young NTUC will work closely with Garden City Fund's Plant-a-Tree Programme to implement the planting of more trees. An invitation would also be extended to get the runners involved in the activity.

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# Running For A Cause

The significance of the races went beyond the finish line. At Run 350, it was simply more than just about winning. The event in support of the global 350 movement saw people of all collars, ages and nationalities uniting in their passion to run for a good cause. Here's what participants had to say on the event.

By Joshua Joseph



“It's a terrific run, it was nice and it supports a good cause, I've enjoyed it. In Singapore, it's good for everyone to enjoy the race and it is a good time for me to meet friends from different countries such as Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia.”

Samson Kiplagat Tenai, winner of Men's Category 10km Run

“There were so many kids and it was really enjoyable.”

Mia Canuti (left), participant of Kids' Dash

“I enjoy running. Running is a sport which makes you stronger.”

Noah Cocquery Berand (right), participant of Kids' Dash



“I appreciate the strong support that RUN 350 has received from runners and the public since it began in 2010. This year's run was yet another success.”

NTUC Income Chief Executive Officer  
Tan Suee Chieh



“We wanted to spread the kindness to everybody around us. It's a good way to bond together as a group of friends, we have known each other since Secondary One and this is a good way to keep in touch.”

Ho Jia Kai (first from left), volunteer at Run 350

“I think it's a good experience and it's quite interesting to know that people are running for a greener way of living. Volunteering is quite a good thing because you get to contribute back to society and it's about the experience.”

Kelvin Lim (second from left), volunteer at Run 350



Mr Branko (in running gear) from International Transport Workers' Federation joined the 10km category. On his left are Young NTUC ES Steve Tan, NTUC Central Committee Member Ong Hwee Liang, Mr Daylen Tan and friends from Young SMOU.

“It's good to create awareness through these events. It's also a great way to get together with friends and family.”

Rafidah Zakaria (right) and  
Aisyah Zakaria, sisters who  
participated in 10km Run







“It’s a good experience, the weather was good and everything was planned really nicely. I think this run is a good initiative, other than getting donations, at least this event encourages people to take part in it.”

Jeffrey Lim (second from right), participant of 10 km Run

“One of the things we were talking about on our way here was why the Run 350? Coincidentally, my son has this unit of enquiry at school which is about habitat. That worked out very nicely in the sense that we talked about the environment and, in fact, tomorrow as school re-opens, my son is going to be talking about how he ran for the environment and the habitat as well. So I’m glad we participated in the run because we’re not just running for running’s sake but we’re running for a cause as well.”

Priya Vadasseri, whose son Nirvaan Nagaldinne took part in the Kids’ Dash



“The surroundings were good and no traffic worried us. It is a good event, I’m here to meet my old and new friends and we can share how you run and what were the challenges.”

Chan Meng Hui, 83, participant of 21km Run



“It was a challenge for me to do a semi-marathon, I’ve been running 10 km several times and I thought to myself why not try a 21km run? I saw a few advertisements for this run. I did good training and I found that the 21 km was kind of easy to do. I’m happy with my time. It’s good to have a running event that promotes a clean and green environment as it goes really well together.”

Anne-Claire Riou, participant of 21km Run



“This is our second year participating in this run, because of this environmental cause, we wanted to share this with the kids. It’s more for their awareness. It’s better to use action and come to support a cause like this.”

Tan Hong Kee (in the back), participant of 10km Run