

# 30 years of investing

to shape Singapore's future

#### **CEO** foreword



"EDBI is today a credible, trusted and reputable investor and the strategic investment vehicle for Singapore."

The past 30 years has been a period of profound transformation for EDBI. Initially set up as a risk sharing capital vehicle to draw key manufacturing investments into Singapore, EDBI is today a credible, trusted and reputable investor and the strategic investment vehicle for Singapore. Our investment focus has nimbly evolved alongside the changing needs of the world, enabling us to invest at the forefront of innovative technologies and businesses.

We remain relentless in our pursuit to nurture globally competitive companies and firmly committed to fulfilling our unique dual mandates of developmental and financial returns. EDBI has created long-term shareholder value while developing successful, sustainable industries for Singapore, having driven the growth of the key electronics, chemicals and biomedical sectors in the early years, and making over 200 investments, of which over 45 are unicorns in the Information and Communications Technology, Healthcare, Emerging Technology sectors over the past decade.

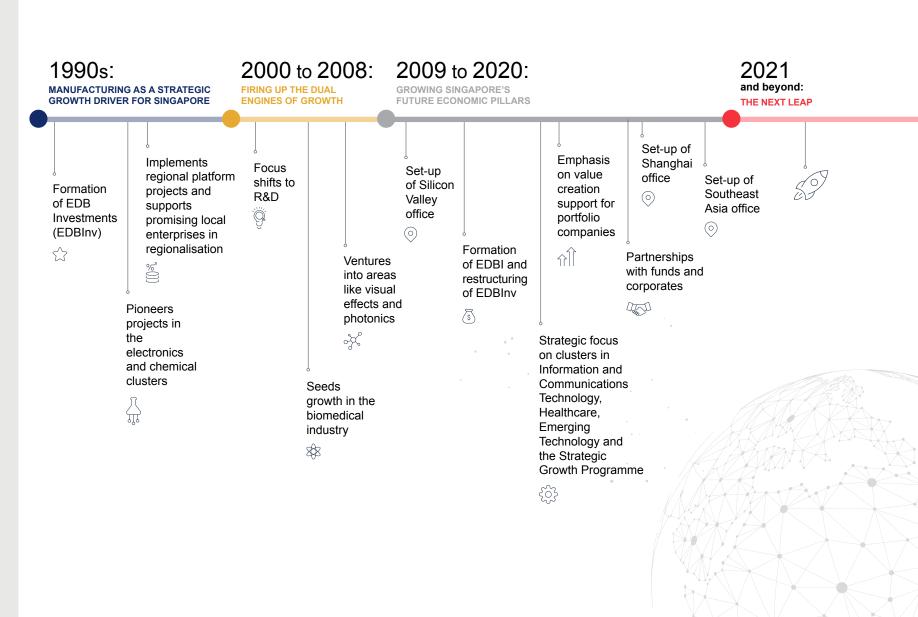
The past two years will be remembered for the COVID-19 pandemic, and its lasting impact on livelihoods and businesses. EDBI has continued to invest aggressively through the pandemic, and availed growth opportunities through our extensive networks, enabling companies to emerge stronger while deploying key technologies to strengthen the nation's fight and resilience against the pandemic.

As the world transitions to the new normal, one thing remains clear – EDBI's unwavering commitment to attract future leaders and tech innovators into Singapore, thereby anchoring new capabilities, creating employment opportunities, and building enduring economic pillars for our future.

#### Ms Chu Swee Yeok

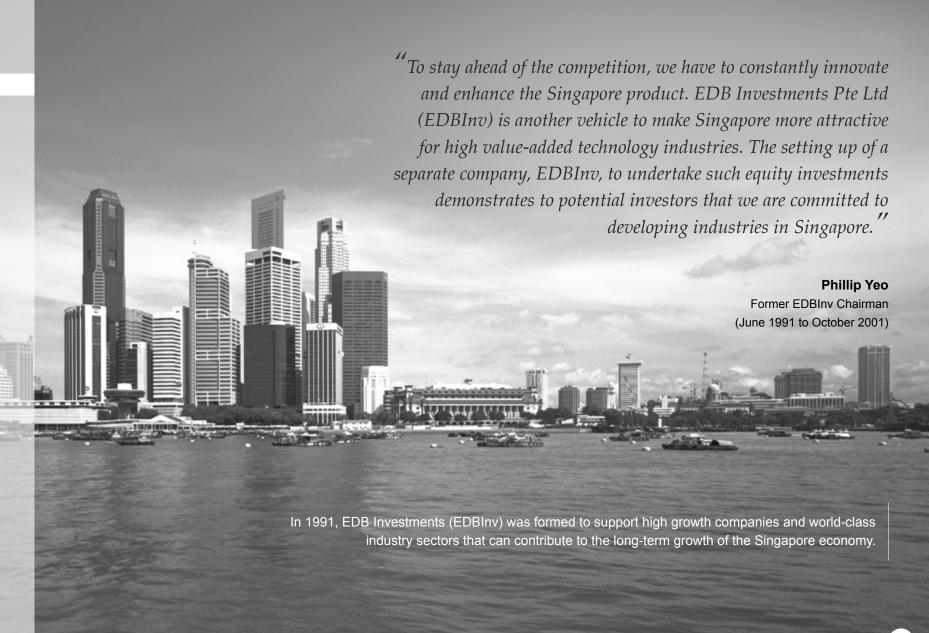
Chief Executive Officer and President EDBI Pte Ltd

#### The EDBI journey



# Manufacturing as a strategic growth driver for Singapore In the 1990s, EDBInv adopted a strategic risk-sharing model to drive the development of Singapore's manufacturing scene.

#### The journey begins



#### Fuelling growth in key manufacturing sectors



Signing ceremony for the EDBInv - Chartered Semiconductor - Hewlett-Packard joint venture in Chartered Silicon Partners



EDBInv's investments in the chemicals sector catalysed the development of Jurong Island

#### **Electronics**

Today, Singapore's electronics industry contributes over \$35 billion annually to the economy, and around 8.4% of Singapore's GDP in 2020. With its strong base of electronics capabilities, the country is also recognised for its prowess in medical systems, automotive, solar panel fabrication and more.

These successes stem back to the 1990s, when EDBInv pioneered the shift up the value chain to the manufacturing of wafer fabs. Equity investments drew a myriad of players like Systems On Silicon Manufacturing Company, Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing and Texas Instruments to our shores. By 2008, Singapore was known for having the best wafer fabrication capacities, second only to Hsinchu of Taiwan.

#### **Chemicals**

In 1994, Singapore began expanding its petrochemical capabilities. In tandem, EDBInv participated in various infrastructure projects and poured investments into companies like Chevron Philips Singapore Chemical, and Singapore's first local, third-party provider of wastewater treatment services, Sembcorp Utilities and Terminals.

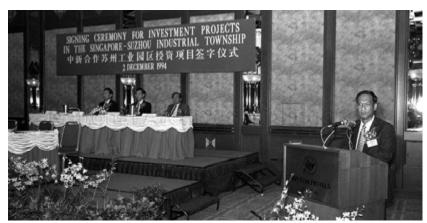
These efforts catalysed the development of Jurong Island, the cornerstone of Singapore's chemicals industry, which today contributes around 3% of Singapore's GDP in 2020.

#### Bringing the Singapore brand to the region



In the 1990s, EDBInv worked closely with companies to ensure alignment with Singapore's growth plans. Investments were anchored under key growth industries and companies were supported through a mix of economic spinoffs, direct overseas investments, Promising Local Enterprises Investments and flagship regional projects like the China-Singapore Suzhou Industrial Park and Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park.

Significant effort was put in to draw reputable venture capitalist and private equity funds into Singapore. This offered promising companies capital support, expertise and networks to fuel their growth.



Signing ceremony for Singapore-Suzhou Industrial Township projects



Ready-built factories in the Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park

# Firing up the dual engines of growth The early 2000s marked EDBInv's shift towards R&D and innovation for growth. 30 years of investing to shape Singapore's future

#### The charge towards R&D and innovation



EDBInv, through Bio\*One Capital, partnered institutes like IMCB, Singapore's first life sciences institute, to catalyse the development of the biomedical sciences sector



S\*BIO, one of the earliest local biotech R&D companies, set up as a joint venture with Chiron Corp. USA, concluded its multimillion-dollar licensing deals with Onyx and Tragara

The early 2000s saw EDBInv catalyse the creation of a new biomedical industry with the formation of Bio\*One Capital, EDB's dedicated Biomedical Sciences Investment Fund. Under the wing of former EDBInv Chairman Philip Yeo, the organisation led the charge into the world of biomedical research and development (R&D), instrumentation and biologics manufacturing.

Bio\*One Capital proactively powered investments into overseas biomedical forerunners while concurrently initiating the growth of local private sector R&D in Singapore, with close to three quarters of its investments having R&D related and manufacturing activities in Singapore. Today, the biomedical industry contributes around 4% of Singapore's GDP.

Separately, EDBInv ventured into other sectors, including visual effects and photonics, under former EDBInv Chairman Teo Ming Kian (October 2001 to July 2006).

Growing Singapore's future economic pillars

Amidst the rise of digitalisation, the newly formed EDBI refocused its investments to balance the dual mandates of development impact and financial returns.

#### Into a new era

## Advancing and balancing

the unique dual financial and developmental mandates

Embracing the trends of digitalisation and disruptive innovation, the restructured EDBI invested at the forefront to grow new strategic economic pillars and supported Singapore's drive towards becoming an innovation-led economy.

30 years of investing to shape Singapore's future

#### The drive towards digitalisation and deep tech







To adapt to the new disruptive trends, former EDBInv Chairman Lim Siong Guan (July 2006 to June 2009) helmed the restructuring of EDBInv, paving its way for the new EDBI to become an active global venture investor. This set the stage for investing into areas like digitalisation, cleantech and the set-up of the strategic growth programme to catalyse the growth of promising local companies.

Recognising that talent is vital to accelerate industry development, EDBI also sought to anchor thought leaders and seasoned entrepreneurs to build new capabilities in Singapore, under the charge of former EDBInv / EDBI Chairman Leo Yip (July 2009 to November 2014).

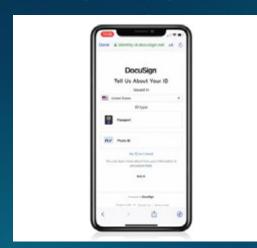
With the leadership of current EDBI Chairman Dr Beh Swan Gin (December 2014 to present), EDBI accelerated investments into global disruptors and anchored their activities in Singapore as their businesses scale globally. Focus was also placed on deepening partnerships with multinational corporations and large local enterprises that could contribute to Singapore's development.

The tireless efforts of EDBI in keeping ahead of global innovation trends and strengthening bonds with public and private sector partners have played a key role in creating our vibrant local ecosystem, as EDBI focused on developing the new economy sectors to help drive Singapore's growth into the future.

#### Powering digital transformation through Information and Communications Technologies



Adyen's frictionless payments platform has made it one of Europe's largest fintech companies



Docusign has allowed organisations to manage electronic agreements seamlessly, with more than 200 million users globally, and integration with Singpass in Singapore

EDBI's focus on Information and Communications Technologies through the years has helped to anchor companies building disruptive capabilities locally and catalyse business transformation across numerous related industries, accelerating the digitalisation of Singapore's economy and solidifying our position as the tech capital of Asia.

The investments in these companies have shaped sectors like e-commerce, financial services and digital transactions, enterprise transformation, digital infrastructure, and nurtured the development of enabling technologies including data science, artificial intelligence and information security, all of which have come to define the way we live and work today.

These efforts have further enabled industry players to accelerate technology development and anchor their regional presence in Singapore, creating large numbers of high value-added jobs across a wide spectrum of roles including engineering, R&D, product management, solution architecting and digital marketing.



Global tech leader Bytedance has anchored its Asia expansion in Singapore

### Harnessing Emerging Technologies to build a sustainable future

EDBI seeks out Emerging Technology solutions which are deeply rooted in engineering and scientific innovation, that hold the key to solving challenging global problems. These include quantum computing, microelectronics, advanced manufacturing, electric and autonomous mobility, blockchain and agri-food technologies amongst others.

The investments across the sector have been crucial enablers for Singapore in attaining its economic and sustainability goals, such as Singapore's 30 by 30 food security targets, where investments into areas like alternative proteins seek to increase the resiliency of our local food supply, as well as our vision for the future of urban mobility in which autonomous electric vehicles will be ubiquitous and electric aviation becomes a reality.



nuTonomy launched the world's first self-driving taxi service and established Singapore as a key global centre for autonomous mobility technology development



Joby Aviation's electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft is breaking new ground in bringing commercial electric aviation services to reality



Upside Foods' cell-cultured proteins will enable Singapore to achieve our 30 by 30 food security goals

#### Building a vibrant and resilient Healthcare ecosystem

Building on the pioneering and pivotal role in establishing Singapore as the premier biomedical sciences hub in Asia, EDBI continued to invest and nurture companies in the areas of precision medicine, cell and gene therapy, genomics, drug discovery, biopharma, medical devices, predictive health, digital health and on-demand healthcare services.

The long-term partnership with these innovative forerunners has availed access to technologies that are transforming the delivery of health and patient care in Singapore and globally, embracing value-based healthcare and advancing the provision of a holistic care continuum.

Such investments have also enabled Singapore to gain early access to a stable supply of critical solutions to build the country's resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Biofourmis' pioneering digital therapeutics technology personalises patient care and augments drug development and clinical research



Moderna's proprietary mRNA technology has enabled rapid vaccine development, leading the global fight against COVID-19



Doctor Anywhere's tech-enabled, omni-channel healthcare services are delivering accessible, efficient healthcare across Southeast Asia

## Propelling local champions to the global arena through the Strategic Growth Programme



With an extensive life science equipment portfolio, Esco Lifesciences Group has built a global footprint with 8 R&D and manufacturing sites and a presence in over 100 countries

As EDBI continued investing to develop Singapore's strategic economic pillars, the importance of identifying and supporting promising local champions with the potential to become global changemakers became evident.

Through the Strategic Growth Programme, EDBI has sought out local companies at the cusp of digital and technology-driven transformation, working closely with them to accelerate market expansion and drive growth through mergers and acquisitions, while strengthening governance and sustainability to take their businesses to the next level.



Cityneon's cutting-edge animatronic capabilities and immersive attractions such as the Marvel Avengers STATION has brought the company to over 50 cities globally



With core capabilities in injection moulding and design engineering, Meiban today has become a preferred electronic manufacturing services partner across consumer, medical, automotive, energy and other sectors



#### **Value Creation**

is core to EDBI's DNA.

EDBI creates and extracts impactful value for its portfolio by supporting the growth of companies in Singapore and Asia Pacific. The concerted partnership between EDBI and its portfolio companies is central to the value of EDBI as an investor and pivotal to a company's growth.

Through EDBI's deep and expansive network of investors and corporates, portfolio companies benefit from:

- New market access for business and strategic partnerships
- Development and research collaborations for technology commercialisation
- Talent recruitment and human resource support
- Strategic financing opportunities

## Partnering to become a strategic investment vehicle of choice



Concerted efforts among EDBI, Temasek, SGX, MAS and MTI to help create a vibrant public equity market in Singapore



Fostering strong ecosystem engagements and driving thought leadership through events in collaboration with public and private sector partners

With EDBI's unique position and ability to sense global trends in technology and innovation, as well as its whole-of-government approach to investing, EDBI is today the strategic investment vehicle of choice for our partners in the Singapore Government, providing insights into disruptive technology trends, and helping to drive the transformation of strategic industries.

This close coordination with the various government agencies and industry partners has also ensured the success of various targeted schemes, including financing to support local tech enterprises to sustain their growth momentum through the pandemic, as well as strategic investments into deep tech venture funds to bolster the venture ecosystem and nurture the next generation of global tech leaders.



#### A united vision for the future



# WITHA CLEAR FOCUS on the future economic pillars of Singapore, coupled with its forward-sensing abilities, and unique competency in balancing the dual investment mandates, EDBI will continue to invest in the growing sectors of digital economy and ICT, financial services, future engineering technologies, urban solutions

and sustainability, advanced manufacturing

and trade, and healthcare.

Moulding the future of businesses and Singapore

As EDBI continues to invest in globally competitive companies in alignment with Singapore's national strategies, EDBI will attract and nurture future leaders and tech innovators to anchor key capabilities, create high-value jobs, and build the foundation of future economic drivers.

"EDBI plays a key role alongside EDB, in supporting the pursuit of Singapore's economic development objectives. Over the past 30 years, it has been consistently investing at the forefront of new technologies and market trends to help build the foundations for the vibrant innovation-led economy that we see in Singapore today. Going forward, we will continue to seek out future leaders and tech innovators, attracting and anchoring them to develop the industries of tomorrow, and in so doing, create exciting opportunities for our people and strengthen Singapore's position as a key global node for innovation."

Dr Beh Swan Gin

EDBI Chairman (December 2014 to present)

#### Down memory lane













Thank you to all partners and staff, who have contributed to the journey of EDBI, in one way or another.



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