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Four honoured with HeForShe Impact Awards for promoting gender equality, diversity

🕒 PUBLISHED JUN 8, 2017, 11:22 PM SGT | UPDATED JUN 8, 2017, 11:30 PM



Lee Si Xuan (mailto:lsixuan@sph.com.sg)

Women are making significant steps to being treated as equals in the workforce - and some have men to thank for that.

Mr Grant Coombe and Mr Pranama Kondadi Moorthy were among four honoured with the HeForShe Impact Awards on Thursday (June 8) for promoting gender equality and diversity initiatives in their work and in the community.

The two-year-old awards, which were given out at the Novotel Singapore Clarke Quay Hotel on Thursday afternoon, is organised by the Singapore Committee for UN Women.

Mr Coombe, the sales manager and head of global and Asia-Pacific key accounts of Bloomberg LP, took home the award for championing the cause to increase the representation of female voices in Bloomberg news reporting. He actively worked with colleagues in Singapore and Hong Kong to identify over 120 women who Bloomberg could tap on for interviews.

Mr Pranama, vice-president of global markets at Credit Suisse, was recognised for his commitment to achieving financial literacy for foreign domestic workers.

For her work in actively encouraging men to be part of the HeForShe movement, Ms Kate Hegarty, the director of communications at MasterCard, was awarded the HeForShe Influencer award.

Beyond individuals, the Singapore office of United States tech firm Salesforce was also recognised for its work in addressing gender inequality in the workplace - namely, in areas of equal pay for its employees and equal opportunities in terms of its recruitment and career advancement processes.

Salesforce has invested about \$6 million dollars to date on its employees' salary adjustments.

Ms Cecily Ng, area vice-president of Salesforce Singapore, said her firm is committed to fairly compensate their employees.

"We did a study to look at all the pays for jobs of comparable nature and if there is an unexplained difference, we'll adjust it," she explained.

Salesforce has also been recognised with other accolades such as being on Fortune's list of 100 Best Companies to Work For- for nine consecutive years since 2009.

As one of the global leading tech companies, Salesforce hopes to use its influence for good, beyond that of the workplace.

Ms Ng highlighted that Salesforce with its core value of giving back to the community, are actively working with disadvantaged youths in mentorship and skills training programmes.

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