FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

9 IN 10 EMPLOYEES SAY LACK IN DATA SKILLS LEAD TO GREATER CHALLENGES AT WORK, MAY BE CAREER DEVELOPMENT ROADBLOCK

- 92% admit to not achieving optimal productivity due to a lack of data skills
- 89% say that they face challenges at work as a result of not understanding data
- 87% view their lack of data competencies as a roadblock to their career development

Singapore, 3 July 2020 – As the Covid-19 economy spurs businesses to increase their reliance of data analytics and business intelligence, employees face the pressure of keeping pace with the evolving workplace demands. A large majority of employees (92%) say that they could be able to do their job better if they were more data literate, while to a similar measure, 89% say they experience challenges at work due to the lack of data-related skillsets. These were some of the key findings revealed in the recently launched NTUC LearningHub Data Skills Report, which features insights from industry leaders such as global tech giant IBM, Japanese tech conglomerate Softbank and leading analytics software company Qlik.

The report, entitled ‘A View From the Ground: Closing the Data Skills Gap in the Covid-19 Era and Beyond’ uncovers both employers' and employees' views on the degree of reliance on data and business intelligence in Singapore’s business landscape, the general perception about the data-related competencies of the nation’s workforce, hiring trends and preferences of businesses here, and recommendations for closing skills gaps in order for businesses and workers to remain competitive.

Among other challenges, employees have voiced that not being competent in data results in their inability to measure work outcomes (59%), becoming outdated on current and future business practices (56%) or inability to do their jobs well (55%). In addition, while employees voted Data Analysis (voted by 63%), Data Interpretation for Decision Making in Business (voted by 50%), and Data Protection and Risk Management (voted by 48%) as the most necessary data skills for their businesses, these skills were perceived as those in which they lack, as voted by 37%, 30% and 27% of employees, respectively.

When asked about how the lack of data skills impacted their careers, 87% of employees raised concerns such as a falling behind their colleagues in work performance (68%), becoming less useful to their companies (64%), and having lesser chance of a job promotion (57%).

Commenting on the findings, NTUC LearningHub’s CEO Kwek Kok Kwong says, “In this new decade, data literacy will evolve as a basic literacy skill for Worker 4.0 — our future workers. Reading the report, more workers will be anxious about their data capabilities, but we are here to assure you that it is a learnable skill if you are willing to invest time and effort. It is not reserved for an elite few.”

“To make data literacy more accessible to all, we have been working with esteemed industry players such as Qlik, Microsoft Power BI, Tableau, and many more. Like learning all new
things, it can be daunting in the beginning but taking the first step forward is a success in itself. If you are new to data and the many business benefits it brings, take this first step by reading the report, exploring the options and make the first commitment to learn this emerging core skill of the decade.”

To download the full NTUC LearningHub Data Skills Report 2020, visit: www.ntuclearninghub.com/data-skills-2020/

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**About NTUC LearningHub**

NTUC LearningHub was corporatised in 2004 with the vision of transforming the lifelong employability of working people. We work with both corporate and individual clients to provide learning solutions in areas such as Infocomm Technology, Healthcare, Employability & Literacy, Business Excellence, Workplace Safety & Health, Security, Human Resources and Foreign Worker Training.

To date, NTUC LearningHub has helped over 21,000 organisations and achieved over 2.5 million training places across more than 500 courses with a pool of over 400 certified trainers. As a Total Learning Solutions provider to organisations, we also forge partnerships and provide a wide range of relevant end-to-end training solutions and work constantly to improve our training quality and delivery.

For more information, visit www.ntuclearninghub.com.

**Press Contact**

Rachel Ooi  
Brand & Communications Manager  
Email: rachel.ooi@ntuclearninghub.com  
Mobile: +65 8100 2779

Brian San  
Director, Strategy & Communications  
Email: brian.san@ntuclearninghub.com  
DID: +65 6486 7077