

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Cyberport Partnered with UAE Global Tech Ecosystem Hub71
Springboard for Hong Kong Start-ups to High-growth Middle East Markets

Hong Kong, 18 September 2025 – Cyberport signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 17 September with Hub71, Abu Dhabi's global tech ecosystem, to establish a strategic partnership focused on bridging innovation hubs through cross-border collaboration. The MoU, driven by the launch of Hub71 Start-up Immersion Programme, aims to connect later-stage Hong Kong start-ups with Abu Dhabi's tech ecosystem, supporting their regional expansion and market access while facilitating reciprocal ecosystem access and joint initiatives.

The signing ceremony took place at Investopia Hong Kong, witnessed by **Simon Chan, Chairman of Hong Kong Cyberport**, and **His Excellency Mohammad Alhawi, Undersecretary of the UAE Minister of Investment**. The MoU was signed by **Ir Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Hong Kong Cyberport** and **Ahmad Ali Alwan, CEO of Hub71**.

The MoU establishes a partnership between Cyberport and the Hub71 to build a strong pipeline of high-potential start-ups into the programme while facilitating reciprocal ecosystem access, knowledge exchange and joint programming opportunities across government, infrastructure and venture capital networks. This collaboration supports Hong Kong start-ups in exploring Abu Dhabi for regional expansion and market access in the Middle East, while attracting Middle Eastern enterprises to Hong Kong as a gateway to Chinese Mainland, the Greater Bay Area, and Southeast Asia.

The Hub71 Start-up Immersion Programme, launched at Investopia Hong Kong, is a two-week initiative designed to accelerate market entry for Hong Kong start-ups by combining virtual onboarding for market readiness with an in-person session in Abu Dhabi. Participants gain direct access to regulators, investors, corporate partners, tailored mentorship and curated networking. They will also gain exposure to Abu Dhabi based investors, regional pilot projects, and opportunities to collaborate with government and corporate partners, concluding with a Demo Day during Hub71's Impact Event in Abu Dhabi.

Ir Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Hong Kong Cyberport said, "Cyberport is honoured to partner with Hub71, united by a shared vision to nurture entrepreneurship to expand from home and beyond. Through this collaboration, Cyberport has strengthened its role as a 'super connector' and a 'super value-adder', springboarding high-potential enterprises from Hong Kong and Chinese Mainland to access the vibrant markets driven by technology and innovation in the Middle East and the Belt and Road regions, while attracting

enterprises of the similarly high calibre from the Middle East to set up regional headquarters in Hong Kong to enter the high-growth markets in Mainland including the Greater Bay Area, and Southeast Asia. Looking ahead, we look forward to collaborating with Hub71 on connecting start-ups to quality opportunities for business, investment and innovation resources in the Middle East to fast-track their growth, turning their innovative prowess into driving forces behind smart city and digital economy development for the world in the AI+ era."

Ahmad Ali Alwan, CEO of Hub71, said: "Investopia, as a UAE-based platform dedicated to accelerating the growth of the new economy, offers a powerful stage to amplify our collaboration with Hong Kong's tech ecosystem. Through the Hub71 Immersion Programme launched here, we connect ambitious ecosystems and create pathways for scaling start-ups beyond their home markets. We are enabling start-ups from Hong Kong to access new opportunities, leveraging Abu Dhabi's global access to expand internationally and deliver innovative solutions that address global challenges."

As Hong Kong's digital technology hub and key entrepreneurship incubator, Cyberport actively connect high-calibre entrepreneurs and start-ups in Hong Kong to high-growth markets along the Belt and Road by establishing collaborations with the Middle East and other Belt and Road regions. This new partnership with Hub71 will add strength to Cyberport's expanding overseas alliances with partners in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Malaysia, Korea, Japan, and the US. Cyberport has supported over 30 start-ups expand into the Middle East, spanning FinTech, AI, Smart Living, and Web 3.0. Meanwhile, Delegations led by Cyberport to LEAP 2024 and Dubai FinTech Summit 2025 showcased Hong Kong start-ups' prowess in innovation and technology on the global stage, while facilitating start-up delegates to form strategic partnerships with key players in the Middle East through outbound delegations and reception of inbound visitors from the region. Looking ahead, Cyberport will continue to expand its innovation and technology collaboration network across the Middle East, ASEAN and emerging markets in the "Global South", contributing to Hong Kong's development as an international innovation hub.

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Please click [here](#) to download high-resolution photos and video, and [here](#) to download Cyberport campus photos and video footage.



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About Hong Kong Cyberport

Wholly owned by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government, Cyberport is Hong Kong's digital tech hub and AI accelerator, with a vision to empower industry digitalisation and intelligent transformation, to promote digital economy and AI development, and to foster Hong Kong to be an international AI, innovation and technology (I&T) hub. Cyberport gathers over 2,200 companies, including 11 listed companies and 10 unicorns. One-third of onsite companies' founders come from 26 countries and regions, while Cyberport companies have expanded to over 35 global markets.

Cyberport, with Hong Kong's largest AI Supercomputing Centre and AI Lab as the engine, has been building the AI ecosystem with industry-leading AI companies and over 400 AI and data science start-ups. Through development of tech clusters, namely AI, data science, blockchain and cybersecurity, Cyberport empowers industries across smart city and government, banking and finance, digital entertainment, culture and tourism, healthcare, education and training, property management, construction, transportation and logistics, green environment and more, while hosting Hong Kong's largest FinTech community. Commissioned by the HKSAR Government, Cyberport has implemented proof-of-concept and sandbox schemes, subsidisation for digital tech adoption, industry tech training and start-up incubation, to drive technology R&D, translation and commercialisation, thus propelling digital transformation and intelligent upgrade across industry and society.

Also as "State-level Scientific and Technological Enterprise Incubator" and Hong Kong's key incubator, Cyberport supports entrepreneurs with funding and office space, extensive networks of enterprises, investors, technology corporations and professional services for business growth and expansion to Chinese Mainland and overseas markets, all-round facilitation for landing in Hong Kong, talent attraction and cultivation, ready as a launchpad to take start-ups in any stages of development to the next level.

For more information, please visit <https://www.cyberport.hk/en>.

About Hub71

Hub71 is Abu Dhabi's global tech ecosystem that enables founders to build globally enduring homegrown tech companies in any sector by providing access to global markets, a capital ecosystem, a global network of partners, and a vibrant community filled with highly skilled talent governed by forward-thinking regulation.

Backed by the Government of Abu Dhabi and Mubadala Investment Company, Hub71 is growing its vibrant community of tech start-ups, investors, government, and corporate partners to ensure the availability of investment, commercial activities, and incentives from the public and private sectors. Through Hub71's entrepreneurial infrastructure, value-add programmes, enabling services and support packages, founders can build, and scale widely adopted technologies with purpose and impact. Hub71 is on a mission to introduce new minds and technologies to Abu Dhabi, finding new ways to build globally enduring technology companies and sustain the nation's continuous economic development.