

Press Release
For Immediate Release

Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2026 Brings Together Global Young Talent as HKMA Launches Industry Project Masters Network 2.0 Nurturing I&T Talents to Innovate Finance and Digital Industries

Hong Kong, 15 June 2026 – Organised by the **Cyberport Academy** and supported by the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund (CCMF), the Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2026 (CUPP) set sail on 13 June. Since its inception in 2015, the Programme has been dedicated to nurturing young digital technology talent in Hong Kong. This year's focus is on four cutting-edge areas: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain, Cybersecurity, and Data Science. As the Honorary Sponsor, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), in collaboration with the Cyberport Academy, will launch the Industry Project Masters Network (IPMN) 2.0, as part of the CUPP. By leveraging Cyberport's innovation and technology (I&T) talent development platform, as well as the HKMA's financial industry network, participating teams of IPMN 2.0 will gain exposure to FinTech and banking sectors through industry exchanges, real-world projects, and professional mentorship, broadening their understanding of innovative technology applications whilst providing fresh impetus for the development of the FinTech industry.

CUPP 2026 continues to receive support from 12 local universities, including City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong Metropolitan University, Hong Kong Shue Yan University, Lingnan University, Saint Francis University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Education University of Hong Kong, The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and The University of Hong Kong. A total of 52 students, forming 20 teams, including around 60% students from Central Asia and ASEAN countries such as Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Thailand and Malaysia, will undergo training in innovation and entrepreneurship. The overseas entrepreneurship boot camp will take place at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), a globally recognised leader in entrepreneurship education. Its programmes have a profound impact and make outstanding contributions to advancing international entrepreneurial development.

For the first time, LSE serves as the Entrepreneurship Boot Camp Partner, designing an impactful programme for the 20 teams. From 4 to 13 August, the teams, university representatives, and Cyberport delegates will travel to London to participate in company visits, workshops, and expert exchanges, gaining insights into the latest developments in AI, blockchain, cybersecurity, and data science, as well as international venture capital trends.

Ir Eric Chan, Chief Public Mission Officer of Cyberport, remarked, “The National 15th Five-Year Plan clearly supports Hong Kong’s drive to build an international hub for high-calibre talent. For many years, Cyberport has been committed to nurturing young talent in innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship. Since its launch in 2015, the Cyberport University Partnership Programme (CUPP) has provided entrepreneurship training to over 588 local university students. More than 107 teams have received funding from the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund to embark on their entrepreneurial journeys. This year, we are partnering with the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), which has in recent years been widely recognised as a global leader in entrepreneurship education. Students participating in this year’s programme will travel to London for training, where they will connect with the international startup ecosystem. We are also pleased to collaborate with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) to concurrently launch the Industry Project Masters Network (IPMN) scheme, offering teams opportunities to engage with the fintech and banking sectors, helping them gain practical skills and experience while enriching Hong Kong’s fintech talent pool. We encourage participating teams to leverage cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence to turn innovative ideas into solutions with commercial value and establish a strong foundation for their entrepreneurial journey.”

Laura-Jane Silverman, Head and Co-Founder of LSE Generate, The London School of Economics and Political Science, said, “At LSE Generate, we focus not just on building entrepreneurial skills, but entrepreneurial mindsets. That means resilience when things don’t go to plan, curiosity when you don’t yet have all the answers, and collaboration—because the best ventures are never built alone. This Programme brings that philosophy to life through an intensive, real-world experience.”

After completing the pre-camp digital technology training in Hong Kong and the overseas entrepreneurship boot camp, the 20 teams will pitch their project ideas at the Demo Day in late August. Up to 10 outstanding teams will each receive HK\$100,000 seed funding from the CCMF to develop product prototypes over six months, with the opportunity to join the Cyberport Incubation Programme (CIP) for further funding and comprehensive technical and business support.

The Cyberport Academy will also announce the list of participating teams of IPMN 2.0. The selected teams will have the opportunity to collaborate with banking partners on real world projects, explore innovative FinTech applications in financial services and banking settings, enabling participants to delve deeper into the FinTech ecosystem and the industry’s actual needs.

The Programme is honoured to have the Investor and Financial Education Council (IFEC) as this year’s Collaboration Partner. Dedicated to improving investor and financial education in Hong Kong, the IFEC will leverage Cyberport and CUPP’s network to help students better

understanding of the importance of financial knowledge and skills. Other supporting partners include Amazon Web Services (AWS), PACEA, and the Vocational Training Council.

Since its launch in 2015, CUPP has nurtured over 588 students across 192 teams, with 107 teams receiving CCMF funding and seven progressing to the CIP. The CCMF has supported nearly 1,129 innovative teams in developing prototypes, with 303 advancing to CIP.

Founded in 2020, the Cyberport Academy collaborates with leading tech enterprises, business organisations, and universities to provide diverse technology and entrepreneurship programmes, expanding Hong Kong's talent pool and strengthening its innovation and technology competitiveness.

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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 2,300 companies, including 18 listed companies and 9 unicorns. One-third of onsite companies' founders come from 27 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 500 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>