

Press Release (For Immediate Release)

# Cyberport Welcomes "Hong Kong I&T Development Blueprint"

Four broad development directions and eight major strategies Driving Hong Kong's development into an International I&T Centre

Hong Kong, 22 December 2022 – Cyberport welcomes the "Hong Kong Innovation and Technology (I&T) Development Blueprint" ("the Blueprint") released today, laying out a number of long-term strategies and key measures for innovation and technology (I&T) development in Hong Kong. A total of four broad development directions and eight major strategies are coined in the Blueprint, to fulfil the overarching missions of developing a diversified economy, creating quality jobs, improving quality of life and serving national needs, culminating in the development of Hong Kong as an international I&T centre.

Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, said: "The Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint outlined comprehensive, forward-looking and strategic missions and initiatives for the upcoming critical period for Hong Kong's I&T development, steering Hong Kong at full steam towards the vision of developing into an international I&T centre. With confidence in the vision, Cyberport will complement the HKSAR Government in implementing the initiatives. As Hong Kong's digital technology flagship and key entrepreneurship incubator, Cyberport has fostered the growth of the ever-thriving I&T ecosystem, nurtured I&T talents as new driving forces behind development, accelerated technology industry development and digital transformation across sectors, propelling digital economy and smart city development with I&T. Cyberport strives to collaborate with the Government and society to facilitate Hong Kong integration into the Greater Bay Area for synergistic advancement, while playing the role of a gateway linking the Mainland and the world, and contributing innovative impetus to the development of our country on a new journey."

#### Enhance the I&T ecosystem and promote "new industrialisation" in Hong Kong

The Blueprint proposes the enhancement of the I&T ecosystem and promotion of "new industrialisation" through pushing forward technological advancements, and have set out relevant strategies including transformation and realisation of research and development (R&D) outcomes, provide land supply and supporting infrastructure, diversify venture financing channels, and enhance I&T atmosphere in the community.

Cyberport gathers over 1,900 start-ups and technology companies dedicated to six key digital technology clusters, namely FinTech, Smart Living, Esports & Digital Entertainment, Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Big Data, Blockchain, and Cybersecurity. Cyberport has been providing start-ups with a full range of entrepreneurial support and assisting the commercialisation and application of R&D outcomes, from training innovative talents from university level, providing resources such as financial support, business consulting and cooperation platforms, to product launches, market expansion and fund matching etc. Cyberport takes care of all the various needs of start-ups at different development stages. Cyberport also has support networks helping start-ups expand their industry network and provide landing support and facilitate capital matching for start-ups in the GBA.



Over the years, Cyberport strives to improve start-ups' financing capability, including attracting investors with the Cyberport Macro Fund and investing a total of over HKD \$1.7 billion in 23 Cyberport companies, marking an investment ratio of 1:9.

In addition, the expansion of Cyberport is expected to be completed before the end of 2025 at the earliest, accommodating even more I&T companies and providing more room for start-ups to test and apply their solutions. Moreover, Cyberport supports the development of the Northern Metropolis and San Tin Technopole, and has signed an MoU with the Hong Kong Housing Society to set up a co-working space at Northern Metropolis, transforming Hong Kong as a livable smart city through application of innovative technologies.

## Enlarge the I&T talent pool to create strong impetus for growth

Talent resources are at the core of technological innovation. In this regard, the Blueprint has emphasised the need to enlarge the I&T talent pool to enrich I&T talent resources and develop an international talent hub. Nurturing talents have always been of great importance to Cyberport, and various initiatives have been rolled out to attract I&T talents.

Cyberport was named "State-level Scientific and Technological Enterprise Incubator" by the Ministry of Science and Technology in recognition of its effort in cultivating and incubating innovation and entrepreneurial talents. The Cyberport Incubation Programme has admitted over 1,100 start-ups, while the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund (CCMF) has granted subsidies to over 820 projects. In addition, the Cyberport Greater Bay Area Young Entrepreneurship Programme have brought together 2,300 young talents from Hong Kong, Macau, and Guangdong to collaborate in digital technology and entrepreneurship, with 167 teams being subsidised by the CCMF. In addition, the Cyberport Academy was also established for I&T internships and training for young people and practitioners, benefiting more than 8,800 people.

Cyberport has always been proactively attracting I&T talents and companies to Hong Kong, such as communicating with overseas consulates with a view to strengthening cooperation and attracting foreign talents, strengthening various support for start-ups at the very early stage to increase the incentives for them to stay in Hong Kong, and promoting the opportunities in the I&T industry arising from the staunch support from the nation and HKSAR Government.

### Promote digital economy development and develop Hong Kong into a smart city

Cyberport have always supported and promoted the development of Smart City. The Blueprint raised the need to accelerate the development of digital economy and develop Hong Kong into a smart city to improve the quality of life of the people, which are key developments at Cyberport.

As Hong Kong's FinTech hub, Cyberport houses approximately 400 FinTech companies, comprising two licensed virtual banks, three licensed virtual insurers, and a licensed virtual asset trading platform. Cyberport has also nurtured three FinTech unicorns.

Cyberport is committed to devoting resources to promote FinTech development and has been working closely with the Government in this regard. For instance, Cyberport is



commissioned by the Financial Services and The Treasury Bureau to launch the "Proof-of-Concept" Subsidy Scheme.

Over 770 companies at Cyberport are dedicated to smart living, constituting the largest cluster in the community. Their technological solutions are wide ranging, including in smart mobility, retail, education, robotics/Internet of Things (IoT), e-commerce, HealthTech, smart construction and environmental technology. Cyberport's smart living community is poised to lead and transform Hong Kong into a smart city.

Cyberport has been cooperating with the Government and organisations to develop Hong Kong into a smart city. Earlier this year, Cyberport signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MTR Corporation to join hands in investing in selected start-ups from Cyberport, with a view to improve Hong Kong's railway service, development of smart facilities, and bring better travel and shopping experiences to commuters. Cyberport also together with the Construction Industry Council drive widespread adoption of digital technology in the construction industry to enhance the productivity, quality, sustainability, and safety of all construction works.

#### Proactively integrate into the overall development of the country

With the solid support from our Country, vast development opportunities are presented in front of Hong Kong I&T industry to groom and contribute to our Country. The Blueprint suggested Hong Kong should proactively integrate into the overall development of the country, as well as deepen I&T collaboration with the Mainland, and leverage Hong Kong's advantages as an international city to foster global I&T collaboration.

Cyberport has been assisting start-ups to seize opportunities in the GBA and contribute to Hong Kong's transformation into an international I&T centre. At present, scores of companies in the Cyberport community have landed in the GBA, driving the development of the digital economy in GBA.

A strong bond has been fostered between Cyberport and government departments, companies, entrepreneurial parks, and R&D organisations in the GBA. Various MoUs were signed, including that with the Authority of Qianhai, the Office of the Shenzhen Municipal People's Government for Financial Development Services, Ping An's OneConnect, and the Greater Bay Area Business School etc. Such facilitation has provided start-ups with vital cross-border support, information exchange and financial support, laying a solid foundation for their development in the GBA.

Cyberport will fully support and facilitate the series of initiatives outlined in the Blueprint, and through an array of programmes, provide holistic support for young people looking to join the I&T industry as well as to start-ups with potential so as to nurture quality start-ups and talents, hence enhancing the local I&T ecosystem, and drive Hong Kong's I&T developments to new heights, transforming into an International I&T Centre.

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Please download high resolution photos at this link.





Simon Chan, CEO of Cyberport said, "The Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint outlined comprehensive, forward-looking and strategic missions and initiatives for the upcoming critical period for Hong Kong's I&T development, steering Hong Kong at full steam towards the vision of developing into an international I&T centre. With confidence in the vision, Cyberport will complement the HKSAR Government in implementing the initiatives."

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#### **About Cyberport**

Cyberport is an innovative digital community with over 1,900 members including over 800 onsite and 1,000 offsite start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, wholly owned by the Hong Kong SAR Government. With a vision to be the hub for digital technology, thereby creating a new economic driver for Hong Kong, Cyberport is committed to nurturing a vibrant tech ecosystem by cultivating talent, promoting entrepreneurship among youth, supporting start-ups, fostering industry development by promoting strategic collaboration with local and international partners, and integrating new and traditional economies by accelerating digital transformation in public and private sectors.

For more information, please visit www.cyberport.hk