



Press Release
For Immediate Release

Cyberport Venture Capital Forum x Esperanza EdVentures Global Business Acceleration (GBA) Fellowship opens call for entries

Facilitate start-ups' global market expansion and connections with international investors

Hong Kong, 22 June 2020 – Cyberport is committed to promoting the development of Hong Kong's venture capital investment ecosystem, and the annual premier venture forum, Cyberport Venture Capital Forum (CVCF) has been linking start-ups with investors to facilitate deal flow and business partnerships. This year's CVCF, held on 3- 4 November, will introduce an EdTech track to the programme to enhance support for start-ups and connections with the EdTech sector. Cyberport will collaborate with Esperanza to hold the inaugural Global EdTech Summit during CVCF and together have launched the EdVentures Global Business Acceleration (GBA) Fellowship (the "EdVentures Fellowship"), to unearth promising EdTech ventures and connect them with the industry's investors and enterprises to drive international expansion.

EdTech is one of the key sectors of development within Cyberport's smart living application cluster. The Global EdTech Summit will be held on the second day of CVCF and will feature a series of insightful panel discussions on the future roadmaps to propel the application and development of the sector and investment trends, as well as provide a platform for start-ups to link up with renowned investors and top global enterprises within the EdTech sector. The Summit will also stage the final pitching competition for the inaugural EdVentures Fellowship where the 12 promising EdTech ventures will present their game-changing innovations to an international judging panel to compete for three awards as well as a fast track interview opportunity to Cyberport Incubation Programme.

The EdVentures Fellowship aims to provide innovative solutions and inject new impetus into Hong Kong's EdTech ecosystem, bringing new partnership and investment opportunities for Hong Kong businesses and propel the development of digital transformation in Hong Kong. The 12 selected fellows will receive a full subsidy to participate in an all-expenses-paid 5-day programme in Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Dongguan to understand how the Greater Bay Area can serve as the global launch pad for EdTech start-ups.

"Cyberport is excited to attract more potential investors and high-quality sources of funding for CVCF 2020 through this collaboration with Esperanza, extending the support to start-ups for market development and business expansion, while building their connections in both public and private sectors. We hope to introduce potential customers, investors and partners to these start-ups, as well as recruit more high-quality and high-growth start-ups to Cyberport, further enriching Hong Kong's innovation and technology ecosystem," said Dr. George Lam, Chairman of Cyberport.



An international panel of judges (see Annex A) will select 3 winners with the “Highest Potential Impact”, “Greatest Growth Potential” and “Best Corporate Learning Solution”. The awardees will receive market entry advice from the Honorary Legal Advisor, Oldham, Li and Nie and enjoy fast track interview opportunity to the Cyberport Incubation Programme if they decide to establish a presence in Hong Kong. The Programme will provide access to Cyberport’s comprehensive entrepreneurship support platform including financial and go-to-market support, mentorship, business matching, industry networks, and funding opportunities.

With the impacts of COVID-19 bringing forth a new normal for society, the pandemic has put EdTech and e-learning at the epicentre of the future of education. EdTech companies are presented with an ever-surging demand for pioneering innovations to grasp the new opportunities that have emerged behind the challenges.

Esperanza kicked off its work last year with the “Reimagine Education” initiative. It ran a Reimagine Education Challenge to identify and support education innovators in Hong Kong. The Edventures GBA Fellowship is a global version of the Challenge, focusing on the long overdue digital transformation of the education sector.

The Fellowship is open for application from now until 23 July 2020, inviting a wide range of EdTech solutions, from early childhood education to corporate and lifelong learning. It aims to support growth-stage entrepreneurs with technology solutions that can:

- Equip our next generation with 21st century skills
- Motivate, inspire and empower learning
- Unleash the potential of people with more personalised learning
- Make quality learning accessible and affordable
- Upskill our workforce for the digital age

“Successful implementation of digital learning requires effective collaborations among an interconnected group of players outside the classroom, including not just policy-makers, educators and parents but also technology solution providers, funders and business partners. Through the Edventures GBA Fellowship, Esperanza is catalysing the development of Hong Kong’s ecosystem for digital learning, creating opportunities for different stakeholders to co-create a new paradigm of learning for future generations,” said John C Tsang, Founder of Esperanza.

With the support from renowned international partners such as HolonIQ, global education market intelligence platform, International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), the largest US-based international EdTech conference with the remit of promoting technology education worldwide, as well as Silicon Dragon and more, the fellows will win the chance to forge important connections with potential investors, partners and customers from Asia and beyond. According to a HolonIQ report, the EdTech market is projected to grow by an annual rate of 11%, reaching up to US\$341 billion by 2025, and Q1 2020 alone delivered US\$3B of global EdTech venture capital, nearly 10% of the prior decade’s total.

For more information on the Fellowship, visit www.edventuresgba.com or email info@edventuresgba.com.

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For high resolution photos, please download via this [link](#).



Cyberport's annual premier venture forum in November, Cyberport Venture Capital Forum (CVCF), is partnering with Esperanza to hold the inaugural Global EdTech Summit during the forum. The Summit will feature a series of insightful panel discussions on the future roadmaps to propel the application and development of the sector as well as investment trends. 12 promising EdTech ventures will also present their game-changing innovations to an international judging panel..



The inaugural EdVentures Global Business Acceleration (GBA) Fellowship is an all-expenses-paid programme for 12 promising growth-stage ventures to jumpstart their journey for international expansion.

Organiser
薯片叔叔共創社
esperanza

Co-creator
數碼港
Cyberport

November 3-7, 2020 | Hong Kong | Shenzhen | Dongguan

edventures GBA
Global Business Acceleration Fellowship

Seize this opportunity to take your
venture global!

Apply Now

Apply by **23 July 2020**
For enquiries: info@edventuresgba.com

www.edventuresgba.com | [esperanza-life](https://www.linkedin.com/company/esperanza-life)

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The Fellowship is open for application from now until 23 July 2020.

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About Cyberport

Cyberport is an innovative digital community with over 1,500 start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, which is 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 on their growth journey, fostering industry development by promoting strategic collaboration with local and international partners, and integrating new and traditional economies by accelerating digital transformation in the public and private sectors.

For more information, please visit www.cyberport.hk

About Esperanza

Esperanza (www.esperanza.life) is a new NGO founded in 2018 by Mr John C Tsang, the former Financial Secretary of Hong Kong SAR Government. They advocate new ways to learn, work and live in the 21st century and mobilise community resources to



support innovators in and outside Hong Kong to scale up their work. Esperanza kicked off its work with the 'Reimagine Education' movement last year.

Annex

Judging Panel

- Anthony Chan, CEO, Isola Capital
- Margaret Cheng, President, Hong Kong Institute of Human Resources Management
- Victor Cheng, Executive Director, HKEdCity
- Chin Chou, Chairman, Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity Association
- Cindy Chow, Executive Director, Alibaba Entrepreneurs Fund
- Richard Culatta, CEO, International Society for Technology in Education
- Kamran Elahian, Chairman and Co-Founder, Global Catalyst Partners
- Dr Hu Zhanghong, CEO, GBA Homeland Investments Ltd
- MX Kuok, Founder and Managing Partner, K3 Ventures
- Joe Lam, Managing Director, Pearson China and India Hub
- Gordon Oldman, Senior Partner, Oldham, Li and Nie
- Dr Jason Si, Dean, Tencent Research Institute
- Yat Siu, Founder and CEO, Outblaze
- Jessica Tan, Co-CEO, Ping An Insurance
- John C Tsang, Founder, Esperanza
- Dr Allan Wong, Chairman, VTech
- Frank Wong, President, Asia Pacific, Scholastic
- Peter Yan, CEO, Hong Kong Cyberport