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Hong Kong's Innovation and Technology Sector: Guide for Entrepreneurs

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1. Introduction

This handbook should give individuals, entrepreneurs, startups or any interested parties an overview about the innovation and technology environment in Hong Kong.

This report gives an overview on governmental actors and initiatives as well as private organizations. As the reader will notice universities are not included in this report. This is because the universities mainly do basis research and are not involved in the market entrance strategy of research results which can have a commercial use. The spin-off offices or incubation labs – the most prominent ones being at the Federal Institutes of Technology (EPFL & ETHZ) – as of now, do not exist in Hong Kong. However, the Hong Kong University of Technology and Science (HKUST) plans to open such an innovation lab in 2 years' time.

In light of the global cool-down of financial markets, the digital revolution and the political insecurity after 2017, the Hong Kong government launched a strategy to remain competitive on a global scale and to create a knowledge based economy. The government as well as the private sector try to attract global talents to Hong Kong via private incubators, accelerators but also government backed programs. This handbook shows the different initiatives – private and public – which exists in Hong Kong.

First an overview of the governmental bodies which are in direct contact with start-up or entrepreneurs is presented. The policy-designing bureau (the Innovation and technology Bureau – ITB) is not represented in this handbook, since it is not a direct counterpart for entrepreneurs and start-ups (for now). The BTI was founded in November 2015 and operates as investor for rather than an implementer of initiatives to promote innovation and technology in HK. Firstly InvestHK and StartmeupHK – the site promotion agencies of Hong Kong – are presented. Following that the Hong Kong Science and Technology Park (HKSTP), the Innocentre (which belongs to the HKSTP) and Cyberport are introduced: this three institutions are what in Switzerland are known as innovation parks. From the third to the last chapter the private actors are presented following the henceforth categories: Incubators, accelerators, co-working spaces, angel investors & venture capital and the community builders – which can be understood as a network of independent initiatives with the intent to push entrepreneurship in Hong Kong.

2. Governmental Organizations

2.1. InvestHK, StartmeupHK and Hong Kong Fintech

Established in 2000, InvestHK's goal is to strengthen Hong Kong's status as the leading international business location in Asia. Their mission is to attract and retain foreign direct investment which is of strategic importance to the economic development of Hong Kong. It represents Hong Kong's central contact point for site promotion. InvestHK works with overseas and Mainland entrepreneurs, SMEs and multinationals that wish to set up an office – or expand their existing business – in Hong Kong. InvestHK's work can be described along these three words: promotion, attraction, facilitation.

Under the umbrella of InvestHK is StartmeupHK – the connection/collaboration bureau for innovation and technology. Launched in 2013, StartmeupHK is an integrated startup initiative aimed to create a buzz amongst entrepreneurs in the local and overseas startup communities. At its core is the idea to promote Hong Kong as a startup destination, bring global entrepreneurs to the city, attract innovative

and scalable ventures to consider setting up a presence in Hong Kong. It connects and encourages collaboration between overseas entrepreneurs and Hong Kong based startups/companies, provides a one-stop platform for overseas startup entrepreneurs. StartmeupHK is responsible for the promotion of following verticals, which include Internet of Things (IoT), information technology, Green Technology, Smart Manufacturing, Supply Chain/Logistic retail, Bio-/Health Tech and Smart Cities.

InvestHK and StartmeupHK are crucial to the innovation environment of Hong Kong in the sense that both organizations are the central information point for all enquiries, which touch upon organizational and operational matters as visa, bank account or government funding programs. As an entrepreneur or business wanting to settle a base in Hong Kong, InvestHK and StartmeupHK should be the first contact point.

Hong Kong being one of Asia's biggest financial hub, StartmeupHK has separated itself from the vertical "Fin-Tech", which is now managed by an own team. Hong Kong Fintech was launched by the Hong Kong government on September 21, 2016. As a well-connected international financial hub in a favorable time zone, Hong Kong has certain benefits for FinTech businesses to scale globally.

The government's FinTech Contact Point offers advisory support for FinTech start-ups – helping with regulatory matters and enabling the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission (HKSF) to stay abreast of current matters related to FinTech. Dedicated FinTech platforms established by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), HKSF and Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) help enhance communications between regulators and the FinTech community – keeping all parties up-to-date on regulations, new developments and more.



<http://www.investhk.gov.hk/index.html>

Charles Ng – Associate Director-General
cng@investhk.gov.hk

Email for general inquiries:
enq@InvestHK.gov.hk



<http://www.startmeup.hk/>

Jayne Chan – Head of StartmeupHK
jchan@investhk.gov.hk

Email for general inquiries:
startmeuphk@InvestHK.gov.hk



<http://www.hongkong-fintech.hk>

Email for general inquiries:
fintech@investhk.gov.hk

2.2. Hong Kong Science and Technology Park (HKSTP)

The HKSTP can be defined as a science park: It combines research facilities for external companies, offices for companies, incubator programs, entrepreneur programs and conferences in order to facilitate business for the enrolled company internationally as well as establish Hong Kong as a science and technology hub. The strategy of the HKSTP is defined as follows: Connect Collaborate

and Catalyze: The HKSTP is connecting innovators and companies with government funding, investors and industrialists. It is fostering Collaboration between companies, universities and research institutes. It functions as a catalyzer by offering comprehensive value-added services: e.g. TecONE – in-house consultancy on how to raise/find funding, leveraging cooperation with other innovators; providing R&D facilities as well as advice on IP protection and the legal framework in Hong Kong. HSTP is organized in five technical clusters and three topical clusters, leading to following matrix diagram:

	Electronics	Information and Communication Technology	Biomedical Technology	Green Technology	Material and Precision Engineering
Robotics					
Healthy Ageing					
Smart Cities					

The HKSTP has now been open for 15 years and counts 16 buildings, in which more than 30'000 employees work for external companies or the HKSTP itself. The HKSTP is owned by the government, but is financing itself through the rent which external companies pay. There are about 600 companies of which about 250 are start-ups. The HKSTP runs also the InnoCenter (see next chapter) and industrial estates, which the HKSTP wants to transform in high-end manufacturing factories – this is its long-run strategic vision to become self-supporting. For having the right to establish themselves at the HKSTP, companies should devote 50% of their activities at the Park to Research and development (R&D)

The HKSTP also offers an incubation program: It is split into three key areas, made for startups in the fields of web and mobile technology, technology and biotechnology – Incu-App, Incu-Tech, and Incu-Bio.

Since the launch of HKSTP in 2001, 425 technology incubatees have completed the program from which 320 companies (i.e. 75%) are still in business; while 256 incubatees are currently in program.

The program has raised over CHF 180 million angel/venture capital for the participants.

[Incu-App](#) is an 18 months incubation program which aims to provide support to web/mobile application technology start-ups, during which they will be allocated a well-furnished open space office. A range of supporting services will be also provided to accelerate technology development and technology growth.

[Incu-Tech](#) is a 3-year incubation program designed for technology start-up companies, throughout the incubation period an office space is offered with subsidized rent and various supporting services.

[Incu-Bio](#) is a 4-year incubation program designed for biotechnology start-ups which need wet lab environment for their operation. Throughout the incubation period, the participants are offered an independent lab space in the Biotech Center of HKSTP with subsidized rent and other various supporting services.



<https://www.hkstp.org/en/index.aspx>

Marian Gaultney – Senior Manager, International
Collaboration & Business Development
marian.gaultney@hkstp.org

Email for general inquiries:
enquiry.marketing@hkstp.org

2.3. HKSTP Innocentre

InnoCentre was created with the purpose to give designers as well as (technological) innovators a space where they could connect in an interdisciplinary manner their skills.

Launched in 2006, InnoCentre is home to the city's aspiring design companies. In a creative working environment, companies can focus and bring their ideas to life, while HKSTP's experts help the city's next generation of talent.

InnoCentre offers an environment for creating products that solve everyday problems. The InnoCentre hosts an expansive design library.

A six-story structure located in Kowloon Tong District, InnoCentre comprises office space, exhibition halls, as well as training and meeting facilities. InnoCentre focuses on two sectors; (lifestyle and industrial) product design and service design (branding, packaging, etc.).



https://www.hkstp.org/hkstp_web/en/facilities/innocentre-a-place-for-creative-minds

Irene Li – Manager InnoCentre
irene.li@hkstp.org

Email for general inquiries:
enquiry.marketing@hkstp.org

2.4. Cyberport

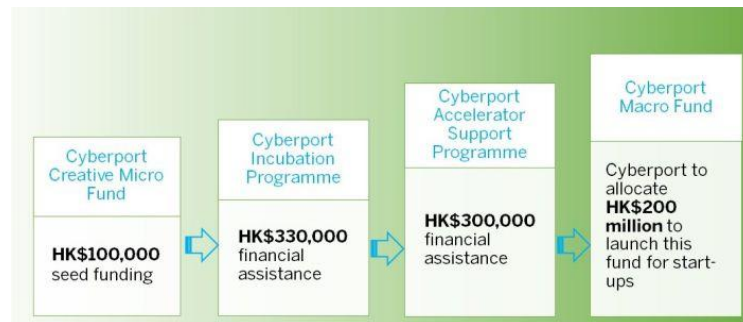
Cyberport is a complex, which characterizes itself as a creative digital cluster. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited which is wholly owned by the Hong Kong Government. The goal is to establish Cyberport as a leading global innovation and technology hub in information technologies. It is similar to HKSTP in the sense that it is also based on an initiative of the Hong Kong government. Secondly, Cyberport is also host to companies, which, if profitable, pay rent as way to finance Cyberport.

Cyberport is committed to facilitating the local economy by nurturing digital industry start-ups and entrepreneurs, driving collaboration to pool resources and create business opportunities, and accelerating digital adoption through strategic initiatives and partnerships. Equipped with tech facilities, the Cyberport is home to office buildings, a design hotel, and a retail complex.

Cyberport has a 3-pillar strategy, which has the goal to create a local digital industry which is self-sufficient and doesn't rely on government subsidies. Thus to create such companies, Cyberport also accepts the role as an educator; the first pillar focuses on the nurturing and accumulation of Human

Capital. The organization offers tech-related internship programs, school program as well as educational tours.

The second pillar is the support of digital entrepreneurs. Cyberport has established a funding program, which is designed to support successful startup ideas from the seed-phase until the market-launch of the product.



The Cyberport fund scheme is the largest government backed “incubation program”. It consists of 4 independent phases (interested parties have to apply for each program).

The Cyberport [Creative Micro Fund](#) offers a CHF 12’500 grant to digital tech start-up projects and business ideas. Successful applicants will receive the grant over a period of six months, during which they should produce proof of concepts and prototypes.

The second program is called [Cyberport Incubation Program](#). It is designed to support entrepreneurs and start-ups with financial assistance and a range of business and professional services to accelerate their growth in different stages. The program reimburses incubatees with up to CHF80’000 over a 24-month incubation period to help them jump-start their businesses.

The [Cyberport Accelerator Support Program](#) prepares Cyberport incubatees for international markets and investors, providing up to CHF75’000 financial assistance to each successful applicant. Applicants to the Cyberport Accelerator Support Program must be Cyberport incubatees and must be admitted by accelerator programs endorsed by Cyberport, which consists of almost all major accelerator programs in Hong Kong and a couple of global ones.

The [Cyberport Macro Fund](#) with an initial size of CHF25 Mil is set in place to: provide seed-investments to Series A stage funding to Cyberport digital entrepreneurs to assist them to accelerate and promote the development of the venture capital ecosystem for digital entrepreneurs in Hong Kong. The Cyberport Macro Fund is an investment fund which targets to co-invest with other private and public investors in the Cyberport digital entrepreneurs. Eligible applicants are scalable digital technology companies with operation based in Hong Kong, which also bear one of the following identities: Incubatees of Cyberport's other programs; Cyberport Smart-Space ([co-working space](#)) companies; or Cyberport office tenants.



<https://www.cyberport.hk/en>

Email for general inquiries:
enquiry@cyberport.hk

3. Incubators

The primary goal of business incubators is to produce successful and financially sustainable firms, providing young entrepreneurs and startups with advisory and administrative support and partnerships and networking opportunities. A vibrant startup community, which generates a stream of high-quality innovative ideas and business projects from different industries, can find valuable support from many successful business incubators.

Incubators can take one of two key forms: either where the idea is developed internally by the Incubator and then an external team is brought in to launch and manage it; or as a workspace set-up, offering external teams with their own ideas enhanced support, training and mentoring.

3.1. MakerBay

MakerBay is an inclusive, industrious and innovative community of experts and novices, young and old, benevolent and entrepreneurs in the fields of arts, design, engineering and science. It is a MakerSpace in the heart of Hong Kong with space, tools and a maker community. MakerBay is 605m² in the middle of Hong Kong. The workshop is about 140m² equipped with a large tool set. The hot bench and fixed bench area offer 185m² for anyone to join. The hot bench area can be designed for events up to 150 people.

MakerBay offers classes to learn new skills as well as organizes events. Furthermore, it also serves as a Makerspace in which a private individual can develop his/her invention, grow his business as well as use a wide range of services from, consulting to digital fabrication. The MakerBay is open to everybody: scientists, engineers, designers, artists.



<http://www.makerbay.org/>

Cesar Jung-Harada – Founder
cesar@makerbay.org

Fiona Ching – Managing Director
ching@makerbay.org

Email for general inquiries:
Contact@MakerBay.org

3.2. Dim Sum Labs

Dim Sum Labs is Hong Kong's Hackerspace (or hacklab, or makerspace, or hackerspace), open to anyone interested in hacking.

Dim Sum Labs is sponsored by HKMake Limited, a Hong Kong based social enterprise whose mission is to explore various self-organizational forms in an effort to deepen the understanding of how organizations can implement environments in which creativity blooms. As such Dim Sum Labs is part of a global Hackerspace movement non-profit, community-based and not to be confused with for-profit co-working spaces or startup incubators.

Dim Sum Labs aims to address the needs of one of these "lost" segments of Hong Kong society, the creatives and different, Hackers of all kinds, by providing a persistent, physically secure space for them, their projects and their work. Dim Sum Labs venue is a place where people with a creative bent

can congregate with other like-minded individuals in an environment that seeks to understand their needs



<http://www.dimsumlabs.com/>

Email for general inquiries:
[Form on the page](#)

3.3. Design Incubation Program (by the Hong Kong Design Centre)

Fully supported and funded by [CreateHK](#) of Hong Kong Government, the Design Incubation Program (DIP) aims to sustain the long-term development of the city's creative human capitals and enterprises. To be [eligible](#) for this incubation program, the product or service has to be related to design (architecture, fashion-/product design, branding, visual arts, etc.).

Under the program, each incubatee is expected to graduate within a period of up to 2 years. Throughout the incubation period, incubatees will enjoy a variety of support services including ready-to-use office, financial subsidies (up to CHF32'500), business development and networking sessions to better prepare design-entrepreneurs to meet the competitive challenges during the early and critical stages of development. Industrial organizations, academic institutes, investment angels, professional bodies and business partners are valued supporters of this program.



<http://www.hkdesignincubation.org/>

Email for general inquiries:
dip@hkdesigncentre.org

3.4. Incu-Lab

Incu-Lab is an organization working on incubation of innovative and creative startups and change-making entrepreneurs, through providing co-working space, courses, training, education channels and multi-layer knowledge.

Incu-Lab inspires innovators through adequate training and capacity-building education. They aim to encourage more startups and entrepreneurs from all fields including art, culture, technology, internet, community, social enterprise and so on, to stand out, to integrate and to make impact to society.

Incu-Lab

<http://www.incu-lab.org/>

Email for general inquiries:
info@incu-lab.org

4. Accelerators

Accelerators are for profit programs that accept open-applications to join classes (known as ‘cohorts’) of startups consisting of small founding teams with externally developed ideas. They provide support through small amounts of seed capital, mentoring, training and events for a finite period – usually 3 to 4 months – in exchange for single-digit chunks of equity. The startups ‘graduate’ at the end of the program at which point they are geared to gaining full-blown investment, with each program culminating in a focal ‘demo day’ for investors.

4.1. Nest/Metta

Nest is an all-inclusive service provider for start-ups. There are three different platforms:

Nest Ventures: An early stage venture capital firm specializing in startups developing technologies in industries such as HealthTech, FinTech and SmartCity/IoT.

Nest Innovation: Delivering a range of transformational programs including accelerators, and thought leadership events, for entrepreneurs and corporations.

Metta: A members’ club for the global entrepreneurial community with the purpose of connecting people, ideas, resources and opportunities.

Nest and Meta are mainly financed through sponsors (or partners). Entrepreneurs using Nest’s services as well as its network (through Metta) do pay an administrative fee. What Nest does, is providing services for any phase of a startup. To some extent Nest is a scalable supplier of mentoring and funds for start-ups in every different stage.

The accelerator programs, which are “powered” by Nest are in cooperation with corporate companies: [Infiniti \(Car Company\)](#) for smart cities; [DBS \(bank\)](#) for finance; [AIA \(insurance\)](#) and [AIA & Konica Minolta \(Singapore\)](#) for health technology and remote diagnostics; [OCBC Bank](#) for banking (Singapore).

From a business perspective it can be said that these companies have externalized the building up of an own accelerator to Nest. (Nest is scaling the accelerator business). The companies place at the disposal of the accelerator program space and in-house experts. On the other hand, this also means that some of the experts engaged by Nest make speeches at more than one accelerator.

Other partners of Nest are: Konica Minolta, KPMG, InvestHK, Microsoft, Amazon Web Services, Samsung, IBM, Thompson Reuters, Barclays and others.

Nest helps entrepreneurs through infrastructure, their network and mentors.



<http://nest.vc/>

Will Ross – Head of Nest Innovation
will@nest.vc

Andrew Lim – Senior Associate
andrew@nest.vc

Email for general inquiries:
[Form on the page](#)

4.2. Blueprint

Blueprint is located near the MTR station Quarry Bay. Blueprint offers [co-working](#) spaces as well as a 6-months long accelerator program. Blueprint is an initiative of Swire Properties – one of the largest property owners in Hong Kong as well as majority shareholder of Cathay Airways. Swire Properties provides the space. At the moment Blueprint has two floors (about 950 square meters) within a building that is going to be teared down. Blueprint will move to another building of Swire Property. The accelerator focuses on tech-startups which offer business to business (b2b) services or products. The first batch of start-ups was accepted in 2015. Currently Blueprint started in July 2016 with its 4th batch of b2b-oriented tech start-ups. Blueprint does not ask for equity to take part in their accelerator classes. Swire Properties provides the space for free (always one the highest cost element in Hong Kong). The earnings generated through the co-working spaces cover the operational cost of the accelerator as well as the co-working space.

Thus, the co-working space is less expensive compared to other spaces in Hong Kong. Additionally, the limitation to be a b2b start-up is dropped. Thus, the only criterion is being tech start-up.



Ella Wong – Business Development
ellawong@swireproperties.com

Email for general inquiries:
blueprint@swireproperties.com

4.3. Brinc

Brinc is an accelerator, which offers comprehensive program tailored for hardware startups, with added value through software applications (so to speak, Internet of Things). The big difference compared to the other accelerators, is that Brinc does have a longer time span how long they will support a startup: 12 months. Since the timespan of the accelerator is 12 months the methodology of Brinc is closely comparable to Design Thinking (as problem solving solution). With Brinc, founders get access to resources in Hong Kong and Shenzhen: brinc has office spaces in Shenzhen. Brinc startups have the advantage to be at two places “simultaneously”: manufacturing in China, access to global markets in Hong Kong, while being based in Hong Kong.

Brinc’s approach is designed for startups to leave with the education, process, and relationships to properly design and launch a product. Once startups successfully demonstrate market validation for their product, they progress to the next stage and work with brinc’s team experts (mentors, outside consultants) and ecosystem partners in Shenzhen on their product R&D for software, hardware and

platform development. Once their products are ready to ship, Brinc startups have the option of getting trained on commercial distribution including pricing strategies, product packaging and distribution negotiations.

Brinc requests equity in exchange for their services.



<http://brinc.io/>

Archit Hari – Venture Associate

Archit.hari@brinc.io

Email for general inquiries:

[Form on the page](#)

4.4. FinTech Innovation Lab

This 12-week mentorship program brings together young FinTech companies with senior executives from leading financial institutions across Asia. Now in its third year, this year's program has been expanded to include more of Asia's Financial Institutions across banking, insurance and capital markets.

The FinTech Innovation Lab Asia-Pacific launched in 2014 following successful launches in New York in 2010 and in London in 2012.

Facilitated by Accenture, the Asia-Pacific program brings together leading financial institutions, angel investors and venture capital firms, to participate in this program. The Lab has been developed to help refine and test start-up propositions with the support of Asia's financial institutions. Held in a collaborative and non-sales environment, this 12-week mentoring program is an opportunity to work with potential clients; validate propositions; gain valuable insights into the banking and insurance sectors and develop relationships with senior industry executives.



<http://fintechinnovationlabapac.com/index.html>

Email for general inquiries:

fintechAPinquiry@accenture.com

4.5. The Cage

The Cage is a full-time, 12-week program powered by The Lane Crawford Joyce Group that offers intensive mentorship to two start-ups developing technologies and/or services that apply to fashion and lifestyle retail, as it relates to the core businesses of the Lane Crawford Joyce Group.

Each program will work to a specific theme. The inaugural program kicking off in September 2016, has called for start-ups with a prototype that can be developed and applied to innovating customer experiences.

The Lane Crawford Joyce Group define customer experience as the perception of a brand and the emotional connection the customer has through interactions with any part of the respective

organization by any channel, in person and via any device. This includes awareness, discovery and exploration. The goal of the startup-ups should be to explore how technology plays a part in improving and optimizing any part of that experience.



<http://thecage.io/>

Email for general inquiries:
thecage@lcjgroup.com

4.6. SOW Asia

SOW Asia is a charitable foundation based in Hong Kong that supports enterprises intent on scaling their social and/or environmental impact through financial investments and an accelerator program called i2i.

SOW Asia was founded to champion venture philanthropy through the application of business discipline as a force for the betterment of society. Although SOW Asia was initially focused on individual investment opportunities, it became clear that the necessary first step was building an environment in which social businesses can grow. SOW Asia is now partnering with a number of organizations from multiple sectors, including public, private, academia and NGO, in order to build a more comprehensive eco-system.

The i2i Program was launched in 2013 as Hong Kong's first social accelerator program. i2i encompasses all of SOW Asia's impact sector focuses and aims to accelerate social businesses from proof of concept to be ready for investment to scale their impact. As of 2015, the i2i Program is supported by J.P. Morgan.



<http://www.sowasia.org/>

Email for general inquiries:
info@sowasia.org

5. Co-working spaces

Co-working is a style of work that involves a shared working environment, often an office, and independent activity. Unlike in a typical office environment, those co-working are usually not employed by the same organization. Typically, it is attractive to work-at-home professionals, independent contractors, or people who travel frequently who end up working in relative isolation. Co-working should also be a social gathering of a group of people who are still working independently, but who share values, and who are interested in the synergy that can happen from working with people who value working in the same place alongside each other. Co-working is not only about the physical place, but about establishing the co-working community first. However, some co-working places don't build a

community: they just get a part of an existing one by combining their opening with an event which attracts their target group.

The number co-working places in Hong Kong have risen considerably over the last six years. This leads to a certain competition between the spaces. But rather than to push down the prices the increase in number has led the co-working spaces to improve their services: Classes in Cantonese, free work-shops, free counsel from experts, etc. However, price margins vary still a lot. The main reason for these price-differences is the location of the spaces. Additionally, community thinking is not present in every co-working space in Hong Kong, mainly due to cultural differences between local and foreign sets of values.

5.1.1. The Hive

The Hive is a co-working organization with multiple offices in Hong Kong. It brands itself as Asia's largest and most diverse co-working community. Beside the three offices in Hong Kong (in Wan Chai, Kennedy Town and Sai Kung), the Hive also has offices in Bangkok and Singapore.

The Hive disposes of 3 locations on Hong Kong Island: The MakerHive, the Hive Studios and a "regular" co-working space all of which are located in Kennedy Town on three different floors. The MakerHive has a workroom which is equipped with lasercutters, 3-D printer and other items. The Hive Studios, located in the same building, is resident to one of biggest rentable photo studio in Hong Kong. One floor above is another regular co-working space. The two other locations (in Sai Kung and Wan Chai) are regular co-working spaces. Striking is that the Hive in Kennedy Town is home to already established companies, which rent office spaces within the facilities, which can accommodate teams up to 10 persons. These offices are usually the Asian branches of Western companies.

the Hive.

<http://thehive.com.hk/>
<http://makerhive.com.hk/>
<http://thehivestudios.com.hk/>

Jacqueline Rennie - Host
jacqueline.rennie@makerhive.com.hk

Email for general inquiries:
[Form on the page](#)

5.1.2. Paperclip

Founder of Paperclip is Deepak Madnani – Young Global Leader from WEF program. Paperclip defines itself as a Start-up campus and will soon launch its accelerator program. The Start-up campus has rather to be seen as a marketing measure. Paperclip is one of the older co-working places (founded in 2012) in Hong Kong. The idea of a Star-up Campus results from the regular lectures experts or thoughts-leaders give at Paperclip. Deepak Madnani – through his network is able to attract adequate speakers.



<http://papercliphk.com/>

Deepak Madnani – Founder
deepak.m@papercliphk.com

Henry Hui – Marketing Manager
Henry.h@papercliphk.com

Email for general inquiries:
startup@papercliphk.com

5.1.3. Cocoon

Cocoon seems (together with Nest) to be the co-working space with the best network within Hong Kong.

Cocoon is a member-based co-working space, which support from an early stage on through its network. As an entrepreneur Cocoon offers you next to the co-working space the possibilities to find other co-founders to build a team, earn seed money through paid projects as well as to find the right investor. The following events/activities at Cocoon are designed to get your startup going:

Next to the 13,000 square meters co-working space, Cocoon hosts monthly idea sharing and networking events for entrepreneurs, mentors, designers, engineers and investors. Cocoon Meetup is a regular gathering with various institutions and industry groups (design schools, business schools etc.) for members to reach out for potential partners and recruits.

The quarterly pitch-night event featuring members of Cocoon and their projects are to share who they are, what problem they are solving. These events attract more than 100 guests, and all essential stakeholders of the start-up environment



<http://www.hkcocoon.org/en/>

Email for general inquiries:
[Form on the page](#)

5.1.4. Fashion Farm Foundation

Established in 2012, Fashion Farm Foundation (FFF) is a non-profit organization founded by a group of enthusiastic entrepreneurs from the fashion and cultural creative Industry in Hong Kong. Its mission is to unite local fashion designers, cultural practitioners, industry experts and retailers to foster collaboration between business, lifestyle, education and cultural sectors and promote Hong Kong's fashion design in Hong Kong and to the world.

FFF offers the first and only fashion and design focused co-working space in Hong Kong. The Foundation serves as a platform for young designers and fashion expertise to share their ideas and experiences through events such as catwalk shows, professional seminars, individual interviews, forums and group discussions.



FASHION FARM FOUNDATION

<http://www.fashionfarmfoundation.org/>

Email for general inquiries:
info@fashionfarmfoundation.org

5.1.5. The Good Lab

The Good Lab is Hong Kong's first Social Innovation hub. The goal is to build a community of changemakers by providing capacity building courses and experimentation opportunities for the development of innovative ideas.

The Good Lab ignites interest and encourages collaboration between sectors to solve complex social and environmental problems through its Social Innovation Academy.

The Good Lab is founded by 7 key players in the Hong Kong Social Innovation ecosystem: Dialogue Experience, Hong Kong Social Entrepreneurship Forum, Make A Difference Institute, Social Enterprise Summit, Social Ventures Hong Kong, Education for Good and Solutions On Wheels.



<http://www.goodlab.hk/en/>

Email for general inquiries:
info@goodlab.hk

5.1.6. Other Co-working Spaces

[We Work](#)

[RetroSpot](#)

[Wynd Co-Working space](#)

[UNO \(unity network offices\)](#)

[Thinkaholic](#)

[Tuspark Global network](#) – Makerspace and Fintech Supercharger

[Garage society](#)

[The Loft](#)

[Cowork CHM](#)

[Cyberport – Smart Space](#)

[Hatton Studios](#) (Jewelry Co-working space)

[HK Commons](#)

[The Coffee House](#)

[The Loft](#)

[The Crafties](#)

6. Angel Investors & Venture Capital

As an international financial hub, Hong Kong counts a number of VC-capitalist and Angel Investors. The list represents not the total number of potential investors. The list was taken from [StartmeupHK](#). Accordingly this selection consists of investors, which have a focus on start-ups and entrepreneurs:

[Angels Den](#) is the home of angel investment for business owners seeking startup capital and businesses moving into high growth. They have pitching events and also business funding clinics run by a regional manager in Hong Kong.

[Hong Kong Angel Investment Network](#) is a platform where investors discover interesting projects to fund and entrepreneurs look for startup funding.

[Hong Kong Venture Capital and Private Equity Association's](#) mission is to stimulate a vibrant venture capital and the private equity industry in Asia while promoting the role of member firms in value creation, innovation and economic development. HKVCA Deal Matching allows individual or corporate to present their deal and match with potential investors.

Of course internationally known webpages as [angel.co](#) and [startupangels.com](#) are good leads.

Venture Capitalists specialized in early stage investments are the following ones:

[Arbor Ventures](#) is an early-stage venture capital firm focused on the intersection of big data, financial services and digital commerce and has a presence in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Tokyo and Jakarta.

Starting in Silicon Valley, [The Indus Entrepreneurs \(TiE\)](#) now has a presence in 60 cities and 17 countries globally and has been helping start-ups and high growth companies for 20+ years.

TiE is a non-profit, global community welcoming entrepreneurs from all over the world. The strategy of TiE rests on five pillars; mentoring, networking, education, incubating and funding. With programs like TiE Office Hours and a selection of TiE Networking and Educational Events, TiE Hong Kong is reaching out and fostering the next generation of entrepreneurs.

[Bigcolors](#) provides seed and early-stage funding to startups. It invested in more than 10 startups in its first year and has previously invested in Connect, Cancelex and Oddup. Bigcolors focuses on mobile, clean technology, hardware platforms, wearable technology, bio-health, financial technology and big data. It looks for global growth opportunity, disruptive ideas, patentable technology, revenue generating business model, and a clear exit strategy.

[Bright Success](#) aim to provide seed financing, hands-on leadership, market strategy and operational guidance to early-stage technology companies with a focus on Internet of Things (IoT), internet security, consumer products and services and technology enablers.

[Click Ventures Ltd](#) is the manager of a few angel funds incorporated in the British Virgin Islands and operates in Hong Kong. It searches for the most interesting ventures from its investment network including renowned accelerators and incubators. Click Ventures is also expanding rapidly in Hong Kong and acts as a mentor and investor for a number of startups in Hong Kong.

[Dow Venture Capital](#) – an investment arm of The Dow Chemical Company — is focused on pursuing strategic investments that enable and accelerate Dow's business growth while adding value to its portfolio companies. The company's investment portfolio reflects the diversity of Dow business interests, with startup companies in various stages of maturity across a broad set of markets. Dow invests in businesses and technologies in the sectors of clean water, renewable energy generation and conservation, and increasing agricultural productivity.

[FUEL Capital](#) is investing in venture stage companies seeking no earlier than their first institutional round. Companies normally have approximately CHF750k in revenue and are often not profitable. In

terms of industries, the company's focus is on clean technologies, environmental protection and health care industries.

[IDG Capital Partners](#) is primarily focusing on investing in China related venture capital and private equity projects. The company's primary focus is on companies in consumer products, franchise services, internet and wireless applications, new media, education, healthcare, new energy, and advanced manufacturing sectors. IDG Capital Partners invests in all stages of the company lifecycle from early stage to pre-IPO. Investments range from US\$1 million to US\$100 million.

[Intel Capital](#) is investing in a wide range of technology startups in any stage of growth. Intel Capital invests in developers and providers of hardware, software, and services in the following sectors: datacenter software, datacenter-cloud, digital media, Internet of Things, manufacturing and labs, security, services -open source, smartphones – tablets, wearables.

[Mind Fund](#) is a venture capital company that was established to provide hands on support and investment to entrepreneurs and innovators at all stages of their development from startup to an initial public offering.

[Mount Parker](#) was formed by a group of technology entrepreneurs who invest in and support promising start-up companies in Asia run by strong teams. The company invests principally, and also develops businesses from within.

[Nest](#) invests seed capital and time in promising scalable startups. A team of dedicated startup experts supports founders worldwide with marketing, strategy, and access to global industry network. Nest also helps startups with next round growth, further fundraising and new market expansion.

[Nova Founders Capital](#) builds and backs sustainable large-scale business models in rapidly growing internet markets, combining their execution know-how with the right experts in the respective field. Nova provides companies with the continuous financial and operational support they need.

[Orchid Asia Group Management Ltd](#) is an investment group with offices in Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Beijing and Guangzhou. The group seeks to invest in expanding domestic enterprises in high barrier to entry businesses that have good growth prospects in the consumer services and products sector, as well as the outsourced manufacturing and services sector.

[Sumitomo Corporation Equity Asia](#) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation (Sumitomo), one of the biggest multinational conglomerates in Japan. SCEA seeks investment opportunities in the Greater China and southeast Asian region (namely Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Korea and Taiwan). The company invests in all emerging growth sectors, young or mature companies. Apart from the emerging high-tech sectors, consumer/retail, automobile, logistics, precision parts, financial services, renewable energy/clean technology are also SCEA's focus areas.

Established in 2001, [Tsing Capital](#) is the leading cleantech venture capital firm in China. Through its China Environment Fund series, Tsing Capital works intimately with its portfolio companies across

China in areas of new energy, energy efficiency, environmental protection, cleaner production, sustainable transportation, new materials and sustainable agriculture.

7. Community builders

Hong Kong has besides the afore-mentioned variety of active stakeholders a number of conferences and workshops dedicated to innovation and technology.

The biggest organizers of conferences and workshops are the governmental institutions InvestHK and the HKSTP.

With an aim to provide an exchange platform on the trend of specific technology sectors and ready-for-market innovations, [APAC Innovation Summit](#) (“AIS” in short and formerly known as InnoAsia) adopts a thematic approach covering the following major technology areas with a series of events spreading over the year at Hong Kong Science Park:

Being held for the past 11 years, this flagship event of Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks continues to play an important role in knowledge transfer and business matching, bringing together leading experts including academia, decision makers and thought leaders to exchange insights on the latest technology trends. With a total attendance of over 2,000 local and overseas executives in 2015 as well as the support from 122 globally renowned speakers and more than 120 partners from universities, R&D centers, media agencies and industry associations, this annual event has established an international reputation.

[Fintech Hong Kong](#) is single point of access for Hong Kong’s FinTech scene. It lists the start-ups and the events that are shaping Hong Kong’s FinTech ecosystem.

[General Assembly](#) is a pioneer in education and career transformation, specializing in today’s most in-demand skills. The leading source for training, staffing, and career transitions, General Assembly fosters a flourishing community of professionals pursuing change in career paths.

[WHub](#) is a platform revolving around different stakeholders in the entrepreneur-ecosystem. It is the most important one. The goal of Whub is to create meaningful synergies and connections. It is a platform designed to connect start-ups with potential employees, match potential investors with start-ups and help create pitch decks, business models & value proposition. Resulting from this display two other functions result: Discover startups' product and service at a preferred rate and connect with other start-ups to create synergies.

[Startup Launchpad](#) is Asia’s largest hardware startup tradeshow and conference event, featuring more than 150 startups and 35 speakers over an 8-day period. The event takes place twice a year in Hong Kong, every April and October, and draws over 66,000 attendees from around the world.

[RISE](#) brings speakers from the world’s biggest companies together with the world’s most exciting startups in Hong Kong. In 2016, RISE welcomed 8,000+ people from 88 countries, including 400 investors, 500 media, 435 startups and 220 speakers. In 2017, people from all around the world will come to Hong Kong in July to share their stories and experiences at RISE.