



## **ICD co-hosts 2019 Explore Next Cyber Taiwan**

The 2019 Explore Next Cyber Taiwan exchange forum was held at the Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center on May 20, 2019, with the aim of accelerating the Taiwan cybersecurity sector's internationalization and innovation. The event was jointly organized by the National Development Council, the Ministry of Economic Affairs' Industrial Development Bureau and Department of International Cooperation, and the Industrial Technology Research Institute.

Representatives of well-known accelerators and venture capitalists from home and abroad were invited to take part and share their experience on fostering cybersecurity startups. They included Rainmaking from the United Kingdom and ZEROZONE from Hong Kong.

The participating representatives of accelerators said they recognize that Taiwan's startup ecosystem has gradually taken shape. They noted that with the development of various new technologies, the future directions for startups include artificial

intelligence software, business models, and niche services. It is also necessary for startups to connect and cooperate with the international community in order to tap global markets, they added. The founder of ZEROZONE said his company is optimistic about Taiwan's IT talent and economic advantages and has therefore decided this year to set up a base in Taiwan, which will serve as a springboard into other Asian markets.

In today's increasingly connected world, cybersecurity has been growing in importance around the globe. And Taiwan, with its strong innovative capacity and highly-skilled science and technology talent, is ideally positioned to tap the significant commercial opportunities in the emerging cybersecurity sector. However, due to the relatively small-scale domestic market, going international will be a major key to success for Taiwan's cybersecurity startups. The government has therefore been actively working to assist them in fostering international connections, including through the holding of exchange forums such as the Explore Next Cyber Taiwan. Interacting with international accelerators and venture capitalist provides Taiwan's startups with the opportunity not only to borrow from the experience of others but also to tap and expand in overseas markets.

In addition to the exchange forum, a matchmaking event was

also held in conjunction with the main event with the aim of giving Taiwan's cybersecurity startups an opportunity to gain more exposure and attract potential investment.

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