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Headline: Singapore: AMTD launches FinTech leadership programme with partners

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AMTD Group, Xiaomi Finance, Singapore Management University (SMU) and the Institute of Systems Science at the National University of Singapore (NUS-ISS), yesterday jointly launched a FinTech leadership programme.

The agreement to establish the 'AMTD-Xiaomi-SMU-ISS Digital Finance Leadership Programme' (AXSI Programme) was signed at a virtual ceremony witnessed by Mr Sopnendu Mohanty, chief FinTech officer of the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

The AXSI Programme leverages the strengths of its four partners:

- AMTD's leadership and network of resources in digital financial services and AMTD SpiderNet eco-system;
- Xiaomi Finance's deep experience in digital technology services, consumer IoT and innovations;
- SMU's expertise in digital finance, law and governance and track record of delivering leadership programmes;
- NUS-ISS' expertise in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

The unique programme will strengthen Singapore's leading position as a FinTech and innovation hub by deepening the knowledge and ability of senior finance and regulatory leaders, as well as FinTech entrepreneurs in Asia in the areas of digital business transformation and digital finance, enabling them to harness digital financial solutions to drive business excellence.

Programme content

In addition to a five-day executive programme in Singapore, participants of the AXSI Programme will undergo two days of learning journeys in Hong Kong and Beijing, hosted by AMTD and Xiaomi Finance, respectively. They will be able to gain first-hand knowledge and insights into the FinTech development at both companies, and the opportunities available in the two cities.

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During their five days in Singapore, the learning sessions will comprise curated content drawn from Asia focusing on the topics of new financial ecosystem, financial innovation, sustainability and green finance, FinTech solutions and cybersecurity.

Beyond FinTech related topics, participants will also learn and share the best practices of various issues in a post-Covid-19 world, including being responsible and responsive leaders.

S\$5m contribution

AMTD and Xiaomi Finance will contribute a total of S\$5m (\$3.6m) to support the AXSI Programme. The contribution will enable SMU and NUS-ISS to build the relevant curriculum and teaching resources, as well as support the cost of managing and organising this Programme. Part of the contribution may also be used to fund scholarships to attract the most outstanding candidates from the public sector to join the AXSI Programme.

The Programme, which will have two runs each year, will welcome its first cohort of participants in November this year. Each run will have up to 25 participants. The inaugural run has been designed to coincide with the Singapore FinTech Festival. Participants of the inaugural AXSI Programme would be invited to the Festival.

Participants

Participants such as regulators, corporate leaders and FinTech entrepreneurs, are expected to hail from different segments of the FinTech ecosystem in the Greater Bay Area, Southeast Asia and other parts of Asia, to learn and network with policymakers, faculty and industry experts during the Programme. Such interactions with practitioners from different geographies will broaden the minds of the participants to the existing and emerging opportunities and challenges in these fast-growing regions. Through this shared learning experience, the participants will be engaged on a common and powerful platform to foster collaboration and growth in the digital finance space.

Mr Calvin Choi, chairman and CEO of AMTD Group and founder of AMTD Foundation, said, "AMTD has been a long-time supporter of Singapore's FinTech community and endeavours to contribute to Singapore's continuous role as an international FinTech centre. AMTD Digital, the digital arm of AMTD Group headquartered in Singapore, leverages its "fusion-in" strategy and AMTD's SpiderNet ecosystem to enable and empower entrepreneurs as well as support talents' cultivation and up-skills in Singapore. We are glad to continue supporting the Lion City's talents and provide continuous education and business connectivity opportunities in Singapore and beyond through this Digital Finance Leadership programme."

Mr Shouzi Chew, senior vice president, president of international, Xiaomi Corporation, said, "We look forward to sharing our experience as a technology and internet company, and opening our supply chain and FinTech ecosystem to FinTech leaders in Singapore."

Professor Lily Kong, president of SMU, said, "The rapid advancement of digital technologies and the advent of the digital economy have brought about transformative impact on businesses, governments and societies. Senior executives, entrepreneurs and policy makers who are nimble in adopting a multidisciplinary approach will be required to drive business success and lead the growth in the development of FinTech and financial innovation in Singapore, Southeast Asia and the Greater Bay Area."

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Professor Tan Eng Chye, president of NUS, said, “These unprecedented times have magnified the pressing need for sharpened skillsets and the AXSI Digital Finance Leadership Programme is set to deepen the capabilities of FinTech leaders. The gift agreement signed today underscores our continued support through our Institute of Systems Science in developing digital talents for the industry.”

AMTD Group is Asia’s leading comprehensive financial service conglomerate in Asia, with businesses in financial services areas including investment banking, institutional asset management, digital banking, digital insurance and risk solutions, etc, and non-financial areas including real estate investment and hospitality, education, digital media marketing and data intelligence services, and digital investments.