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MDV plans to expand and collaborate globally



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by SHAFIQQUL ALIFF / source mdv.com.my

MALAYSIA Debt Venture Bhd (MDV) is planning to expand its Venture Finance product and collaborate with venture capital firm agencies regionally and globally.

Its chairman, Khairul Azwan Harun (picture) said it was time for MDV to step out of Malaysia to explore opportunities in other regions such as South-East Asia, the Middle East and Europe after 20 years of its establishment.

He said MDV is looking for new funds that could be managed together and will give access to the funds not only for Malaysian start-ups but also for companies from the region.

"We have made working visits to Bosnia and Turkey where we have met with several venture capital companies and banks. We are in discussions with some venture capital financing firms from the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and expect some funds that we can propose, amounting to around RM500 million," he told media today.

"This initiative has given satisfactory results as they are receptive to our Venture Finance product and we intend to leverage on an established networking moving forward," he added.

At the same time, Khairul Azwan added MDV will organise Kuala Lumpur Venture Finance Forum 2022 in early August, in conjunction with its 20th-anniversary celebration.

He said this forum will discuss issues and methods including promoting the concept of venture debt in the venture finance approach in Malaysia.

"We find that the awareness on venture finance financing offers among technology companies is very low, whether for start-up companies or small-medium enterprise (SME) technologies.

"The forum will be conducted by financial experts in venture capital and also venture debt, so that the attendees can benefit by getting in-depth knowledge on alternative financing mechanisms," he explained.

Khairul Azwan also said MDV would also set up a centre of excellence for Venture Finance in Mranti, Technology Park Malaysia, to continuously support tech start-ups and SME development.

This is to facilitate them to connect with relevant stakeholders such as enterprises, government-linked companies, government agencies, research academia, advisory service and funding partners in both local and regional networks.

"We have identified that there is no longer this centre and we want to complete the government's policy, especially brought by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and the Ministry of Finance.