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KUCHING: Cradle Fund Sdn Bhd (Cradle), recently hosted its inaugural networking event 'Cradle Circle', a one-day event designed to connect funded startups with potential investors and other Malaysian startup ecosystem players through business pitching, networking and sharing sessions at Seputeh, Kuala Lumpur.

Hosted for the first time in the post-pandemic era, Cradle aims to gather its startups alumni and interested investors under one roof to provide more options for the startups to connect, build rapport and showcase their business models.

Sharing her thoughts on the event, Juliana Jan, senior vice president - Grant, Cradle, was delighted with the encouraging support from the ecosystem, especially through their participation at the event.

This augurs well with Cradle's plan in hosting similar sessions in the near future to assist and facilitate even more Cradle-funded startups in breaking the barrier between them and potential investors via on-ground engagements.

"Cradle, as the appointed MOSTI focal point agency for the



Legal challenges among early-stage startups were also discussed by Cradle's appointed legal panels which also included Cradle's head of Legal Affairs Muhammad Hafez Mohd Azhar (right) during the event.

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"Other activities included pitching sessions with potential investors, one-to-one consultation sessions with Cradle's legal panel, and networking sessions between attendees. "We certainly hope to add more enriching activities to the list in

the upcoming editions."

Also present at the event was Cradle's acting group chief executive officer Norman Matthieu Vanhaecke who shared that throughout Cradle's twenty-year journey in enriching and strengthening startups, they have often seen early-stage startups facing challenges such as lacking expertise and proper guidance or mentorship in their journey of scaling their businesses.

"Through initiatives such as Cradle Circle, we sincerely hope that we would be able to further enhance and empower them with business acumen while linking them with the much-needed network and resources," Vanhaecke added.

"We hope that this first session - held exclusively for funded startups - proves to be a beneficial one to the participants, namely our startups, investors and corporate partners."

Since its inception, Cradle has assisted more than 1,000 technology-based startups by helping them pioneer the path to commercialisation on their growth journey, which simultaneously builds the nation through technology and accelerates job creation and economic growth.