

SME WEEKLY NEWS

(12 April 2021 – 16 April 2021)

Countries	Highlights
<p>MALAYSIA</p> <p>Going digital in times of Covid-19: How on-demand delivery helps Malaysian SMEs reach full potential</p>	<p>Lalamove and its on-demand delivery fleet are helping SMEs in Malaysia reach their full potential in an era where faster and convenient goods delivery has become part of the new normal. A total of 76.5% businesses in Malaysia are established by microenterprises, making their survival and growth essential for the economy to rebound from the Covid-19 pandemic. Lalamove has a proven track record of assisting such microenterprises across various industries, including F&B, professional services, e-commerce, wholesale and trading. Its commitment to the micro business community can be seen from its partnership with Maybank's Sama-Sama Lokal platform which has provided an online marketplace to more than 7,600 hawkers and micro SMEs across Malaysia. Lalamove and Maybank Sama-Sama Lokal are set on putting Malaysian SMEs on the fast track to growth through their digital platform and delivery services. Lalamove's "one app for all deliveries" concept lets SMEs send out products quickly and conveniently while helping them to expand their reach beyond their immediate vicinity. The platform also comes with the API system to integrate with the online marketplace and provide seamless shopping experience for customers.</p> <p><i>(Source: Malay Mail, 13 April 2021)</i></p>
<p>INDONESIA</p> <p>Expanding access for Indonesian SME products to Saudi market explored</p>	<p>The Hybrid Business Matching (HBM) organised by the Indonesian Consulate General Jeddah, offered potential Saudi importers ample opportunity to have a one-on-one meeting with the owners of SMEs from Indonesia virtually. Both parties exchanged detailed information on the products being offered, and at the same time explored business cooperation agreements to market their products to Saudi Arabia. The session was an intermediate goal to open wider access for the Indonesian SMEs' products to Saudi Arabia. The Saudi Arabian market is quite large, but there is stiff competition from many countries. Even from neighboring countries such as Thailand and Vietnam. Representative among Saudi importers said that his team was ready to support business cooperation with Indonesia, especially with SMEs. HBM is a follow-up to the MoU between the Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Religion, Ministry of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises and the Indonesian chambers of commerce and industry, regarding the optimisation of the role of SMEs in fulfilling the needs of Hajj and Umrah pilgrims.</p> <p><i>(Source: Saudi Gazette, 12 April 2021)</i></p>
<p>SINGAPORE</p> <p>Huawei launches cloud support program for SMEs in APAC</p>	<p>Huawei has launched a program with its partners in Asia Pacific to support SMEs by delivering technical support to aid economic recovery. Under its SME Support Program, eligible SMEs can receive coupons worth up to US\$3,000 (\$4,023.49) and a free cloud consulting service for solutions covering industries such as financial services, education, e-commerce, gaming, Internet of Things (IoT), application development and enterprise applications. The program will be available until 31 December 2021. SMEs that have an account on the Huawei Cloud official website but have never used any paid service can apply on the SME Support Program page. The program comes as the pandemic has forced businesses to accelerate their digital transformation and move to the cloud one to three years ahead of schedule. Huawei is committed to strengthening the digital economy to support a sustainable economic recovery. Huawei Cloud currently works with over 19,000 partners and 1.6 million developers.</p> <p><i>(Source: The Edge Singapore, 12 April 2021)</i></p>