

SME WEEKLY NEWS

(15 November 2021 – 19 November 2021)

Countries	Highlights
<p>MALAYSIA</p> <p>Digital support for MSMEs</p>	<p>Telekom Malaysia Bhd (TM), via its unit, unifi Business, is set to accelerate micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in their digitalisation plans with its complete range of digital-first solutions. This is in line with the government's announcement to increase the digitalisation grant to RM200mil next year. In a statement, unifi Business said it has positioned itself to become the preferred digitalisation enabler for MSMEs with its digital-first solutions in supporting the government's push to digitalise the enterprises during their recovery. TM chief commercial officer Anand Vijayan said the decision to raise the digitalisation grant to RM200mil is a big move in the right direction.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Source: The Star, 17 November 2021)</i></p>
<p>PHILIPPINES</p> <p>More Digital Solutions Launched to Benefit Philippine MSMEs</p>	<p>Micro, small, and medium-sized businesses (MSMEs) will benefit from a unique dashboard being developed by a local bank mobile app, which will allow business owners to track sales and cash flows. The local bank's vice president confirmed in a virtual briefing that they are very keen on data management to enable MSMEs to monitor their sales and cash inflows, among other things, without having to buy pricey software designed for these activities. These activities can be easily completed using software supplied by multinational database management organisations. The bank has announced the launch of its system for MSMEs, an inward payment platform integrated into the bank's MSME banking app. MSMEs utilising such banking applications, do not need to check all their other mobile apps to see if their consumers utilised one of these to pay for a product or service as this can be observed through the MSME mobile app.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Source: OpenGov Asia, 19 November 2021)</i></p>
<p>INDONESIA</p> <p>Jakarta prepares 5,000 free halal certificates for MSMEs</p>	<p>The Jakarta government is planning to issue five thousand halal certificates and five thousand intellectual property rights registration certificates free of cost to micro, small, and medium enterprises in the capital. In the previous year, the Jakarta provincial administration only registered 500 brands with the Law and Human Rights Ministry free of cost. The free services are part of development efforts to support MSMEs to become more successful, she explained. The city administration is also offering seven facilities to aid the development of MSMEs, including the Jakpreneur program.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Source: Antara News, 18 November 2021)</i></p>
<p>VIETNAM</p> <p>E-commerce helps boost Vietnam's domestic market</p>	<p>The national plan for e-commerce development in the 2021-25 period aims to turn e-commerce into one of the pioneering areas of the digital economy, helping enhance the competitiveness of businesses and promoting the growth of both the domestic market and exports, according to Ministry of Industry and Trade. It said that digital transformation will help Vietnamese businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, seek a more flexible business model, saving costs and optimising resources to overcome difficulties. Vietnam has continuously recorded strong growth in the ratio of Internet users and the number of online shoppers through e-commerce platforms has risen sharply in the past five years. The figure increased from US\$5 billion in 2016 to over \$10 billion in 2019 and \$11.8 billion in 2020.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Source: The Star, 19 November 2021)</i></p>