



**PRESS RELEASE
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**CGC100 Youth Entrepreneurship Programme Celebrates Cohort Two
Graduates, Launches Cohort Three**

*Equipping Malaysia's next generation of entrepreneurs with the skills, confidence,
and practical experience to build sustainable businesses*

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 AUGUST 2025 – Credit Guarantee Corporation Malaysia Berhad (CGC), in collaboration with PINTAR Foundation and with the support of the Ministry of Education, today celebrated the graduation of 20 students from the CGC100 Fast Track Cohort Two and officially launched the Fast Track Cohort Three programme.

The CGC100 Youth Entrepreneurship Programme empowers aspiring entrepreneurs aged 18–23 from B40 and M40 communities, providing a vital springboard to develop the skills, mindset, and adaptability needed to launch and sustain viable ventures.

The event was officiated by CGC Chairman Dato' Mohammed Hussein and attended by CGC President & Chief Executive Officer Datuk Mohd Zamree Mohd Ishak. Also present were key representatives from PINTAR Foundation, Ministry of Education, and INCEIF University.

CGC Chairman Dato' Mohammed Hussein said, "The future of Malaysia's business landscape will be shaped by these young entrepreneurs. The CGC100 is not just about giving them tools but about igniting a mindset where they see problems not as obstacles, but as opportunities to innovate, create, and contribute to a resilient and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem. CGC is committed to nurturing their talent and providing a launchpad for the next generation of business leaders."

CGC President & Chief Executive Officer Datuk Mohd Zamree Mohd Ishak in his welcome remarks stated, "When we began this journey in 2022, our goal was clear — to strengthen the capabilities of young, aspiring Malaysian entrepreneurs from underrepresented communities. Today, that vision has grown into a programme delivering real, measurable impact. CGC100 is not just a training programme. It is a platform for growth, a bridge to opportunity, and a living example of what is possible when we invest in potential. Empowering the next generation is never a solo effort. It is a shared responsibility for everyone in the Malaysian MSME ecosystem — and I invite all stakeholders to partner with CGC Group in making CGC100 even more impactful."

Tun Dato' Seri Zaki Tun Azmi, Chairman of PINTAR Foundation Board of Trustees expressed, "It is truly heartening to see the CGC100 programme opening doors for TVET students who might otherwise be overlooked, giving them the chance to discover the entrepreneurial spark within themselves. This journey has not only equipped them with essential business skills but also connected them with peers who share the same drive and ambition. Most importantly, it has given them the real-world experience of pitching their ideas — turning potential into possibility, and possibility into success."



Fast Track Cohort Three will run from August 2025 to February 2026, nurturing 30 selected participants through a six-month curriculum. The programme covers business fundamentals, ESG, branding, the digital economy, financial literacy, and pitching.

Participants were selected through a competitive process based on potential, commitment, and readiness to build viable businesses. CGC is working closely with PINTAR Foundation to enhance curriculum relevance and deepen real-world application.

Fast Track Cohort Two, which ran from May to December 2024, successfully graduated 20 youth entrepreneurs from across Malaysia. Many graduates transitioned from informal ventures to formal, revenue-generating businesses. Their experiences reflect the transformative impact of the programme.

23-year-old creative arts entrepreneur Villjohne Necent from Melaka shares, “This journey gave me the confidence and structure I needed to turn my passion into something real. I’m now working on opening a creative café that merges art and sports something I never thought was possible.”

“CGC100 helped us sharpen our marketing, streamline operations, and grow our hydroponic business. It’s changed how we run things and it’s been a turning point for our family,” said 21-year-old Carmelina Taunek (Clement) from Sabah.

“Through CGC100, I learnt how to refine my products, manage costs more effectively, and position my brand for growth. The exposure to new business perspectives and practical advice from mentors has been invaluable in shaping the future of my food business,” shared 23-year-old Ali Iskandar Padzil from Pulau Pinang.

Since its inception, CGC100 has achieved measurable impact across three cohorts, producing 70 graduates including those from the 12-month Comprehensive Track and creating 61 new jobs. Participants have ventured into 20 different industries, with many transitioning from informal setups to formal businesses. 80% have successfully registered with the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM). Among those who applied for financing, 71% secured the full amount requested. Income gains have also been notable, with 64% of graduates now earning over RM10,000 per month and 96% reporting improved business performance.

Feedback from participants further reinforces the programme’s effectiveness:

- 90% reported high satisfaction
- 85% said the programme met or exceeded expectations
- 80% applied their new knowledge directly to their businesses

The event concluded with the official launch of CGC100 Fast Track cohort three. With this new intake underway, CGC aims to expand the programme’s national reach, amplify its social impact, and strengthen collaboration between the public and private sectors. The organisation also calls on other financial institutions and ecosystem partners to adopt similar models and co-invest in nurturing Malaysia’s next generation of entrepreneurs.

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About CGC

Credit Guarantee Corporation Malaysia Berhad (CGC) was established on 5 July 1972. It is 78.65% owned by Bank Negara Malaysia and 21.35% by the commercial banks in Malaysia. CGC aims to assist Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) with inadequate or without collateral and track records to obtain credit facilities from financial institutions by providing guarantee cover on such facilities. As of July 2025, CGC has availed over 540,000 guarantees and financing to MSMEs valued at over RM101 billion since its establishment.

On 9 February 2018, CGC introduced imSME, Malaysia's first MSME online financing/loan referral platform. The imSME serves as an alternative channel for MSMEs to source for financing products, saving them both the time and the hassle of going through time-consuming processes. Since inception, the imSME portal had received more than 2.99 million visits, with more than 88,558 registered MSMEs under the portal.

For more information, please visit www.cgc.com.my and <https://imsme.com.my/>.

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