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Taiwan-U.S. innovation ties deepen to bolster AI, semiconductors, and health technology startups

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Startup Island TAIWAN signs MoU with the City of Phoenix



To accelerate the co-development of Taiwan–U.S. startup ecosystems in artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors, and advanced technologies, Startup Island TAIWAN, the national startup brand guided by **Taiwan's National Development Council (NDC)**, today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the **City of Phoenix, the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC),** and **Tesoro Venture Capital,** in collaboration **with the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI).**

Building on TSMC's expansion in Phoenix, the partnership aims to integrate Taiwan's technological and industrial strengths with Phoenix's robust industrial cluster to establish a long-term innovation collaboration framework.

The MOU signing ceremony was jointly witnessed by the National Development Council, the Small and Medium Enterprise and Startup Administration (SMESA) of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, and the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), marking an upgrade of prior project-based cooperations and further promoting participation in accelerators, incubators, and soft-landing programs.

From Pilot Projects to Institutionalized Collaboration

During Deputy Minister Jan Fang-Guan emphasized that the signing of this MOU builds upon two years of solid collaboration. He noted that since Startup Island TAIWAN and GPEC established their partnership in 2024, several Taiwanese biomedical teams have successfully entered the Phoenix market, achieving tangible outcomes such as U.S. FDA approvals and completed clinical proof-of-concept (POC) validations.

"These success stories demonstrate the strong complementarity and significant potential of Taiwan–Phoenix cooperation," As the semiconductor industry becomes increasingly integrated with advanced technology applications, this MOU upgrades previous project-based collaboration by incorporating incubation and acceleration resources from partners such as Tesoro Venture Capital. With a focus on startup landing and market-driven development, the partnership aims to further advance soft-landing programs for startups.

Medical Startups Deliver Breakthrough Results in the U.S. Market

As one of the most retirement-friendly cities in the United States, Phoenix is home to world-renowned medical institutions, including Mayo Clinic, and offers a mature and open clinical environment. With support from Startup Island TAIWAN and GPEC, Phoenix has emerged as a key gateway for Taiwanese health-tech startups conducting clinical POCs and expanding into the U.S. market.