

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR RESTORATION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 JUNE 2016 – As of yesterday, Think City Sdn Bhd - a community-based organisation focused on urban rejuvenation – has begun accepting applications for the 4th cycle of the Think City Grants Programmes (TCGP). Applications will be accepted until 31st July 2016.

For this cycle, the Grants Programme is focused on offering financial support to owners of buildings with heritage or historical value that are located in downtown KL, namely within a 1km radius of Masjid Jamek.

“In general, projects accepted for the Grants vary but for this cycle we are appealing to individuals or organisations who own heritage or historical buildings within our core zone (downtown KL) to apply for the Grants so we may work together to restore and conserve these buildings,” said Lee Jia Ping, Programme Director for KL at Think City.

As part of the rejuvenation efforts and to coincide with the Grants Programme, Think City is also inviting social enterprises, NGOs and other organisations to collaborate with them to initiate programmes and community-focused efforts that would bring life back into downtown KL.

The Grants Programme is an initiative by the organisation to empower and support innovative and sustainable efforts by local citizens for the betterment of the city and its people.

“Think City hopes to match people and spaces, to encourage and support the translation of ideas into action. We invite creative social enterprises who require a business or retail space, to apply for the Think City Grants Programme, provided they fulfill the requirements needed to help preserve our cultural heritage and contribute to a sustainable and rejuvenated city,” said Solomon Jebaratnam, Grants Manager of Think City KL.

For individuals or organizations who are interested in applying for a grant, their proposed project should be able to meet two or more of these requirements:

- project involves environments of historic significance or public facilities;
- project improves economic or social conditions of communities within Think City zones;
- project encourages intercultural participation;
- research project that relates to city, culture or community;
- project acts as a positive catalyst and project is financially viable.

To date, past grant projects have ranged from historical research projects to rejuvenation of old heritage buildings and ensuring food security and sustainability within an urban setting.

“Think City works closely with DBKL as well as private entities on strategic initiatives aimed at attracting people back into downtown KL. What we’ve found so far through our research is that this area is well populated during the day when people come in and out for work but at night only a fraction of people are around. This indicates Masjid Jamek area is largely a transient location rather than a destination. We hope through collaborative efforts and the Grants Programme, the Masjid Jamek area becomes an attractive destination for all,” continued Jia Ping.

Think City currently operates from four different cities: Georgetown, Butterworth, Kuala Lumpur and now, Johor Bahru. Georgetown being the maiden foray into urban regeneration as well as the main headquarters of Think City.

For more information on how to apply for a grant, visit www.thinkcity.com.my. Alternatively, contact Solomon Jebaratnam, Grants Manager at Solomon.jebaratnam@thinkcity.com.my

About Think City Sdn Bhd

Think City is a community-based urban rejuvenation organization that seeks to increase the wellbeing of the communities by creating more sustainable and liveable cities. It was established in 2009 to spearhead community based urban regeneration in Penang. Due to its impact and success in Penang, it was given the mandate to expand into Kuala Lumpur, Johor Bahru and Butterworth. Think City Sdn Bhd is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Khazanah Nasional Berhad.