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TVP backs mobile wallet aggregator

Financial advisor Trust Venture Partners and an angle investor have made a five-digit investment in Bards, a digital solutions provider, according to Bards' founder Htet Arkar Kyaw.

Since August, the firm was in ongoing discussion with banks and PE/VC firms to raise funding. It took Bards about three months to secure this small initial fund.

Bards is developing the first unified payment solution for mobile wallets, called Dinger (the Burmese word for coin), in Myanmar. The company has secured one partnership with a top mobile wallet firm in Myanmar and will shortly enter into agreements with two more mobile wallet firms.

The integrated platform will tackle fragmented payment ecosystem as a bridge between e-commerce businesses and mobile wallets, allowing e-commerce businesses to accept payment from many kinds of mobile wallets.

As of August 2019, the firm has secured ten letters of intent from e-commerce platforms in different industries including education, retail, health and wellness.

Bards will hold an official launch of Dinger and start second round of funding in early 2020.

"Dinger unlocks the potential of commercial platforms on Internet as it provides digital commercial access to those unbanked in Myanmar." said Shinsuke Goto, CEO at Trust Venture Partners.

About Bards

Bards offers services ranging from digital marketing, branding, IT solutions and web design. Clients include MPT, Channel X, Flexible Pass, UMG, Hog E Sports (HOG) and Dove.

Founder Htet Arkar Kyaw was named one of Asia's top 30 under 30 entrepreneurs by Forbes in 2019. Bards' advisory team includes Dev Singhvi, an associate director at PwC Myanmar, and Thet Naing Soe the group CTO of Myanmar Awba.

Bards aims to build up a unified payment platform in Myanmar like what Flutterwave and Stripe Billing have achieved.

Bards focuses on digital marketing and branding services while Dinger acts as a financial technology firm and aims to be the primary data aggregator between financial institutions and e-commerce platforms.