



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



ITPO BAHRAIN 2022



UNIDO NETWORK OF INVESTMENT AND
TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION OFFICES

BAHRAIN

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain

We are delighted to present the UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain 2022 Annual Report, a comprehensive reflection of the remarkable achievements and steadfast progress made by our organization in the past year. As we navigated through an ever-changing global landscape, our unwavering commitment to fostering sustainable industrial development, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the wider region has remained at the forefront. Through strategic partnerships, impactful projects, and the tireless efforts of our dedicated team, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain has continued to empower communities, stimulate economic growth, and pave the way for a more resilient and prosperous future.

UNIDO Overview



The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability. The mission of UNIDO, as described in the Lima Declaration adopted at the fifteenth session of the UNIDO General Conference in 2013, is to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in Member States. The relevance of ISID as an integrated approach to all three pillars of sustainable development is recognized by the recently adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will frame United Nations and country efforts towards sustainable development in the next fifteen years. UNIDO's mandate is fully recognized in SDG-9, which calls to "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation." The relevance of ISID, however, applies in greater or lesser extent to all SDGs

UNIDO ITPO

Network Overview



Investment and technology are key drivers of economic transformation. Both national and foreign investment strengthen inclusive and sustainable industrial development, leading to increased productivity and competitiveness, as it infuses capital and disseminates innovative technologies and know-how. Investment and technology can thus boost employment and generate income. To bridge global investment and technology gaps, UNIDO established its first Investment Promotion Services (IPSs) in 1976. The IPSs would later evolve into the UNIDO Network of Investment and Technology Promotion Offices (ITPOs).

UNIDO's ITPOs are strategically located in both hemispheres and promote investment and technology flows between investors and technology suppliers in their host countries as well as for potential partners in developing countries. The ITPOs provide support, advisory and technical services to enterprises and business development organizations. The UNIDO ITPO Network has contributed to reducing development imbalances by brokering investment and technology agreements between developed, developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

The UNIDO ITPO Network falls under the mandate of the UNIDO Department of Trade, Investment and Innovation (TII) – to support countries in their efforts to develop the potential of the manufacturing sector to drive socio-economic progress through trade, investment and innovation.



ITPO BAHRAIN

Background

The UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) in Bahrain was established in 1996 and is funded by the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain through annual voluntary contributions to UNIDO, administered by the Ministry of Finance. ITPO Bahrain offers a wide range of technological and investment services and know-how to developing countries and shares Bahrain's extensive knowledge, experience and expertise in policy making towards economic and technological development. Over the years, ITPO Bahrain has developed its own strategy to provide business services to existing and potential enterprises to create a sound basis for the attraction of foreign direct investment. ITPO Bahrain's interventions are in line with Government priorities and policies and contribute to the strategic objectives of UNIDO. The Office is also an integral part of the UNIDO ITPO Network.

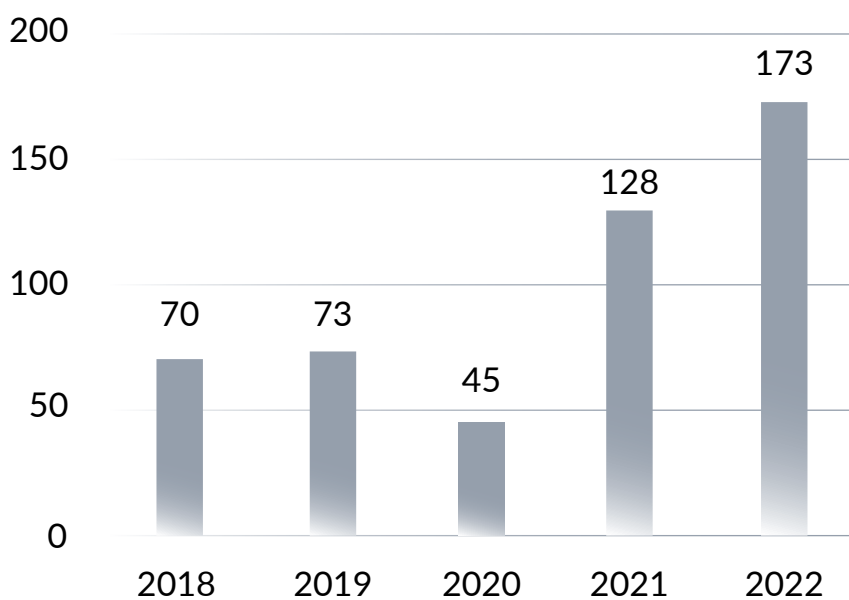
ITPO

Activities

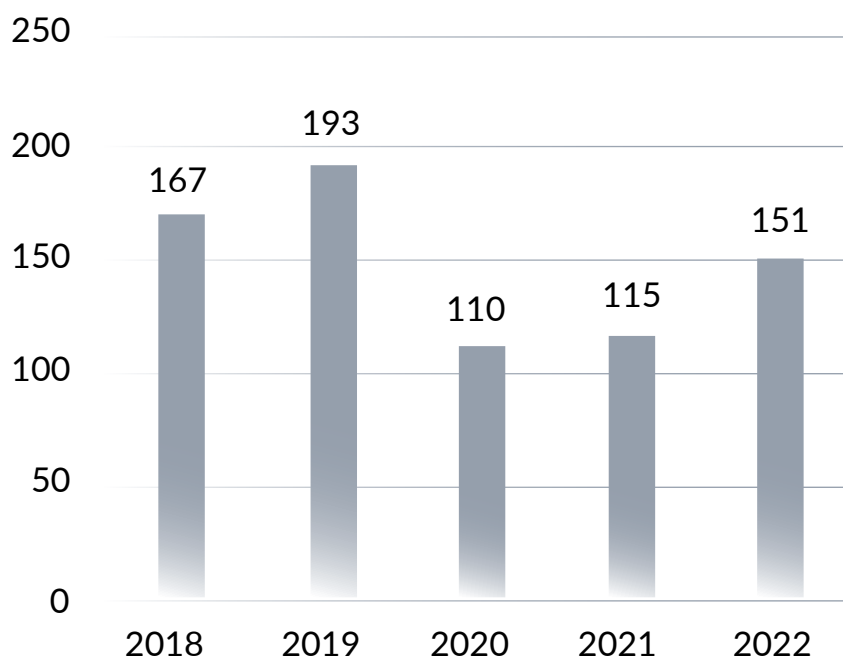
ITPO Bahrain summary results

In light of the 40 programs and activities held during 2022; ITPO Bahrain has concluded 462 projects of which 353 are operational with an estimated total investment of \$131 million USD; thus, leading to the creation of 1,452 jobs. These results are mainly attributed to the organization of the World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum 2022, held at the Dubai Expo 2020 and the strategic integration with the Annual Investment Meeting 2022 and the investment platform it represents.

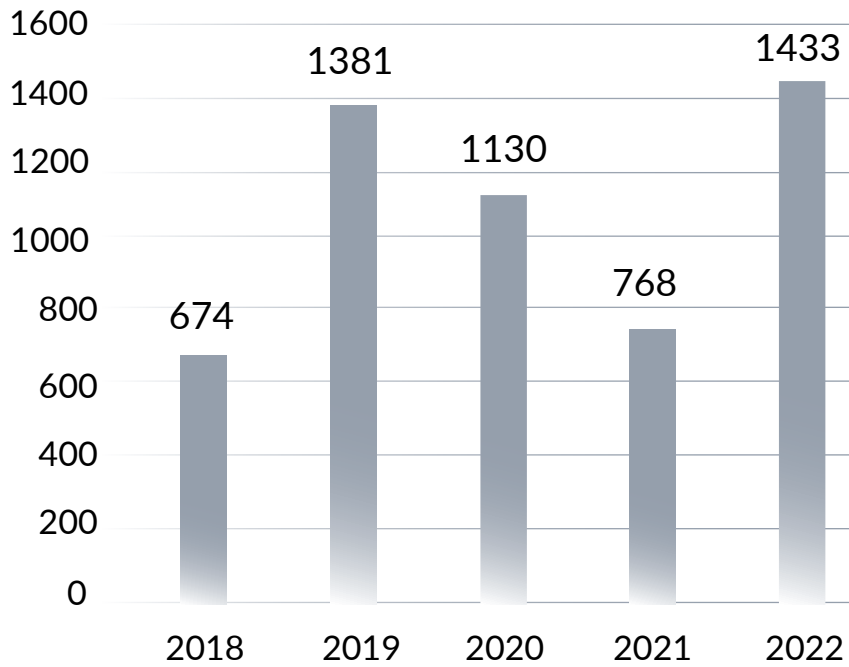
Technologies Identified and promoted



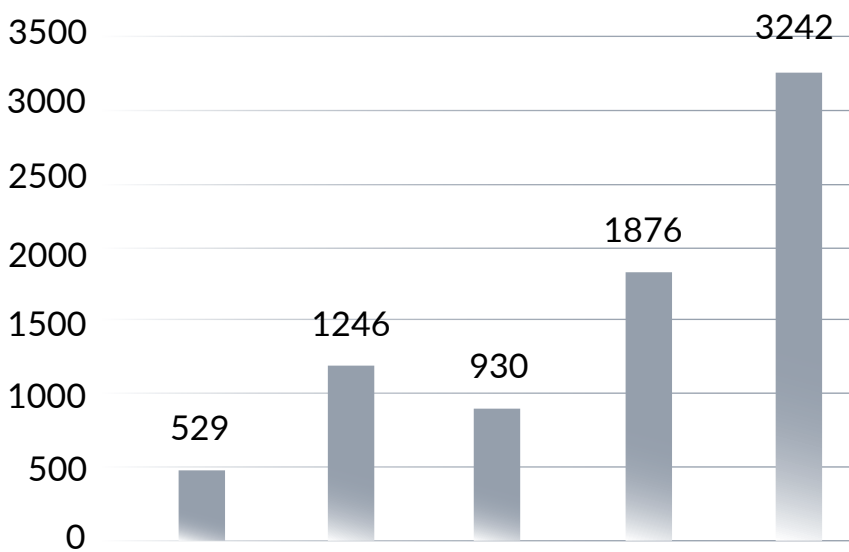
Techology Transferred



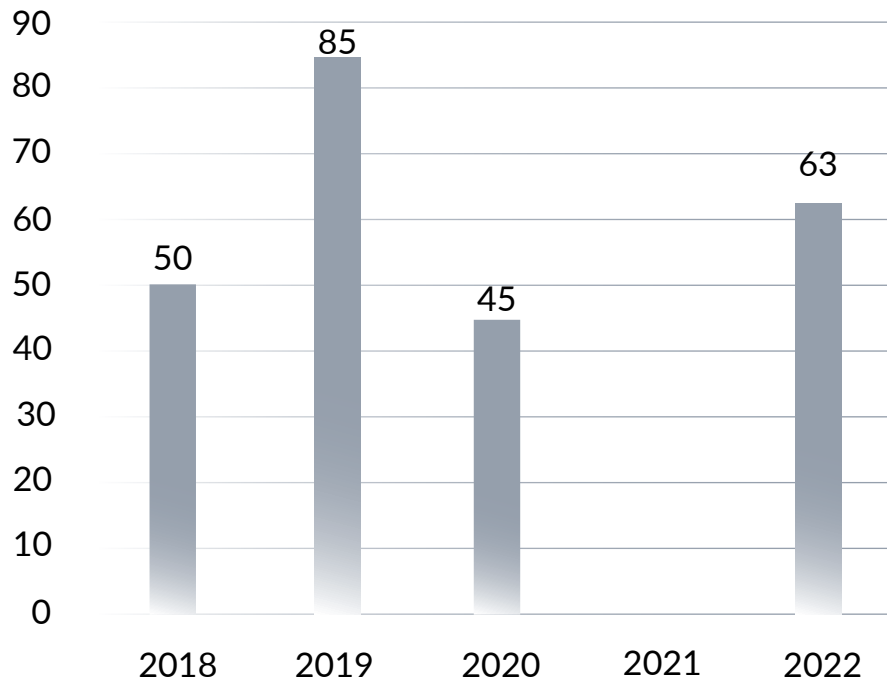
Delegates invited and supported



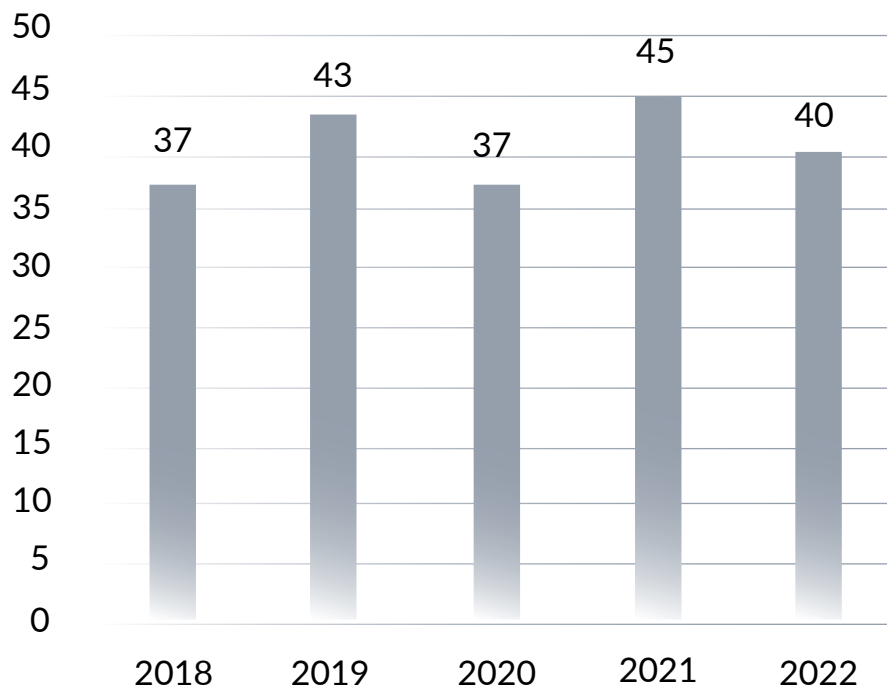
Number of participants attending capacity buildings programs



Countries fielded delegates



Number of events organized



4th World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum 2022

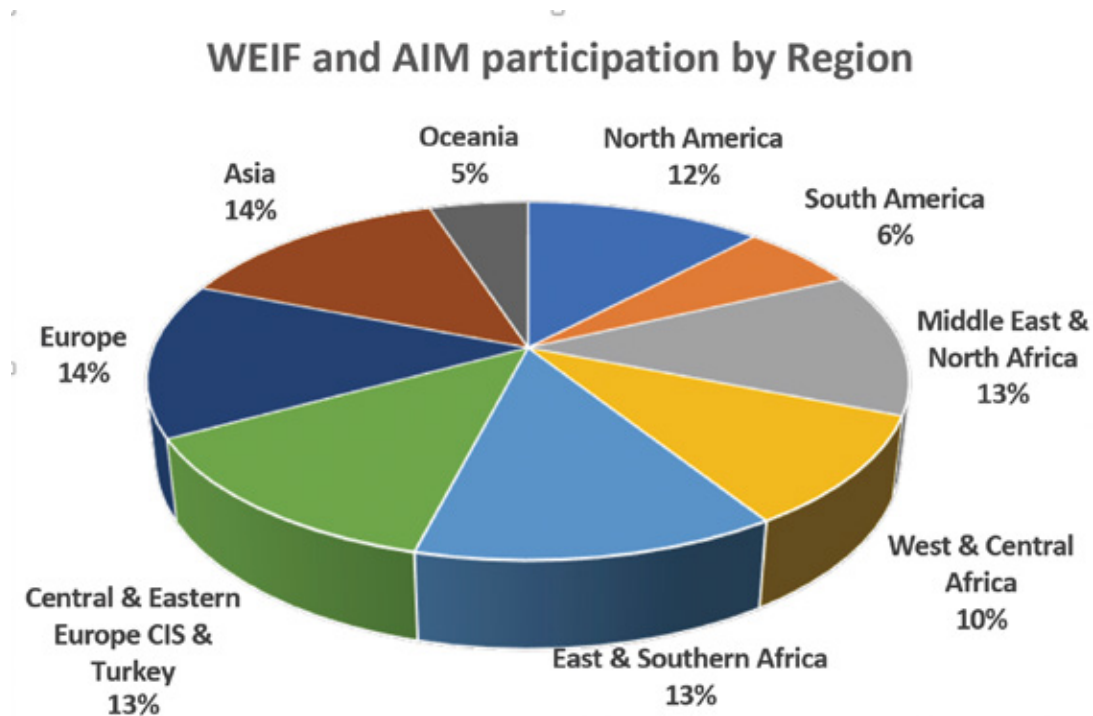


Under the umbrella of the League of Arab States pavilion at the Dubai Expo and under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister, and Ruler of Dubai, UNIDO ITPO Bahrain in partnership with the Union of Arab Chambers and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa organized, in a hybrid format, the World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum (WEIF) under the theme "Connecting Minds towards Achieving the SDGs through Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Investment Post COVID 19" as an integral part of the 11th Annual Investment Forum (AIM); on March 28th to 30th at the Dubai Exhibition Center at Dubai Expo 2020.

WEIF 2022 was inaugurated in the presence of HE Dr. Ahmed Abou El Gheit, Secretary General, League of Arab States; together with HE Dr Ahmad Belhouel Al Falasi, Minister of State for Entrepreneurship and SMEs, United Arab Emirates; HE Shaikh Ebrahim Al Khalifa, Honorary Chairman Board of Trustees, UNIDO Arab International Centre for Entrepreneurship & Investment; HE Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Executive Director, International Monetary Fund; a recorded statement by Dr. Bernardo Calzadilla-Sarmiento, Managing Director of the Directorate of Digitalization, Technology and Agri-Business, UNIDO; HE Mr. Abdullah Al Mazrui Chairman of the UAE Federation of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry; HE Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, Director General, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa; HE Dr. Khaled Hanafy, Secretary General Union of Arab Chambers; and HE Dr. Hashim Hussein, Head of UNIDO ITPO Bahrain and Executive Director WEIF.

The integration of WEIF and AIM provided a unique platform to deliberate and address what is needed to be done on the level of Governments, multinational organizations, and the private sector to stimulate and re-energize entrepreneurial domestic and foreign investments; in addition to ensuring economic Resilience post COVID 19 in the Arab Region, Africa, and the World.

With over 11,000 participants both physically and virtually from 174 countries; the WEIF – AIM event brought about Ministers, government officials, dignitaries, entrepreneurs, start-ups, investors, innovators, philanthropists, experts, government representatives, financial institutions, developmental funds, Chambers of Commerce, NGOs, economic associations, entrepreneur’s networks technology providers, academia and others. Both events encompassed a series of workshops, panels, side events, exhibitions and entrepreneur pitching events.



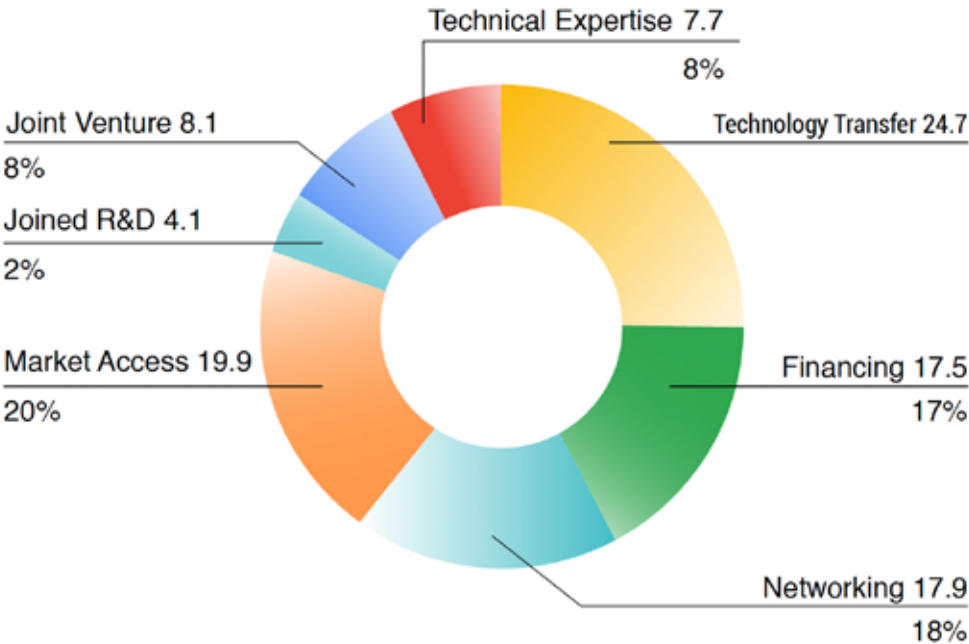
Through WEIF activities 560 entrepreneur projects were promoted with an estimated investment of 350 million USD; more than 2000 bilateral meetings were held.

The overarching theme of WEIF – AIM on achieving the SDGs through investment and entrepreneurship development hence, it focused on 4 major tracks namely; entrepreneurship and start-ups, SME development, Future Cities and Investment Promotion.

Over the course of WEIF 2022, ten main panels were held centered around the main theme “Connecting minds towards achieving the SDGs through Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Investment Post COVID 19”:

1. High level Ministerial Session;
2. Panel 1 on Inclusive Sustainable Finance;
3. Panel 2 Entrepreneurship and Innovation Conducive Ecosystem;
4. Panel 3 on Economic Infrastructure;
5. Panel 4 on Education and Think tanks;
6. Panel 5 on Uplifting Women Entrepreneurship;
7. Panel 6 on Emerging Digital Technologies Transforming SMEs;
8. Panel 7 on Digitalizing the Trade Route for SMEs (Creative Entrepreneurs – Orange Economy);
9. Panel 8 on Smart Services of the Future: FDI and technology adoption trends, the shift in smart services and what to look forward to in the future;
10. Panel 9: Regional and Global Integration - SME Coalition for Africa;;

Types of Business Sectors Present at WEIF 2022



STATISTICS FOR WEIF 2022



11,500
Physical + Virtual



174
Countries



60
Partners



23
High level officials



200
speakers



352
Smart Zone
Exhibitors



10,000
Bilateral
Meetings



65
Panel /Sessions



\$ 350 M
Estimated /
Investment



40
Side Events

Annual Investment Meeting (AIM)

The Annual Investment Meeting (AIM) is an initiative of the UAE Ministry of Economy designed to provide a framework for global exchange on the key principles underpinning international investment policies, strategies, and practices for sustainable development to achieve smart and inclusive global growth.

Since its inception, the Annual Investment Meeting has established itself as a leading global investment platform that aspires to ignite positive transformation by creating investment opportunities, upholding solidarity, and developing economic relations among nations, as well as addressing the global ordeals that will make a profound impact to economic growth.

Every edition of the Annual Investment Meeting is an opportune event to address the fundamental challenges that nations are being confronted with on their journey to achieving development and to discuss investment trends and strategies that can be utilized to maximize the potential of every business, country, and region to consequently fuel economic diversification.

AIM Global platform provides businesses, governments, and civil society with an independent, impartial and future-oriented platform to amplify their efforts to influence sustained, positive change. Using its considerable organizational capacity – including convening power, excellence in community management, insight generation and interaction technology – to facilitate multistakeholder interaction and impact.

DUBAI EXPO



On 27 November 2013, UAE won the bid of ‘Connecting Minds and Creating the Future’ with the first World Expo to be held in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region.

If travel is the best teacher in life, then Expo 2020 was the perfect place to be informed. For the people could meet and explore with the world in one place. The Expo 2020 welcomed 192 countries -never in history were there so many nations and so many cultures gathered together at a World Expo. It was a feast for all senses and an opportunity for all people to come together and reimagine the world.

Expo was a life-time experience which brought the world together and they welcomed the world on 1 October 2021 in a safe environment where they provided a launch pad for the global collaboration that is needed most. It was a change for humanity to convene in a spirit of optimism, hope and shared purpose to exchange inspiring new ideas and new perspectives with an emphasis on their three subthemes – Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability. Coinciding with the UAEs 50 anniversary in 2021 they hoped to spark innovations that will kick start another 50 years of purposeful progress, contributing to the nations continued prosperity and enabling growth in the region and beyond.

ARAB ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION RALLY 2022



In line with the overwhelming success of the 2019 Arab Rally; the 2nd edition of the Rally was organized under the auspices of the League of Arab States through the collective efforts of the Union of Arab Chambers, UNIDO ITPO Bahrain, Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport, the Federation of UAE Chambers and the Bahrain Chamber. The Rally was sponsored by valU and the National Bank of Egypt; in addition to Expo Live as a logistical partner.

§

The Competition incentivized Arab students in an Arab university, to participate in submitting their innovative business ideas with the opportunity of having it reviewed and recognized by designated experts. The Competition, through its sponsors and partners, awarded students for their efforts and play an active role in inspiring and unleashing the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship whilst facilitating the provision of support services to convert these ideas into action University students from 22 Arab countries, each country represented by one team, competed with their innovative and technological startup ideas. The focus was to attract influencers from the Entrepreneurship & Innovation Ecosystem, capacity building, and engage with university students and startups in all Arab countries.

GLOBAL CALL (2022)



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



Initially launched in 2020 by the UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office (ITPO) Italy in Rome, the UNIDO Global Call is a flagship event, which seeks to identify innovative technology solutions that address the adverse effects of climate change and that have the potential to be scaled up, and thus that ultimately contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic development. Inspired by the previous 2020 and 2021 UNIDO Global Calls, the 2022 initiative aims at identifying “green and innovative technology solutions towards Net-Zero”. Its objective is therefore to identify readily applicable and scalable solutions for green technology promotion. Led by the UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion (ITP) Network, the 2022 UNIDO Global Call 2022 is steered by the UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion Office in Shanghai (ITPO Shanghai) and supported by the other eight ITPOs. In addition to being able to pool from the worldwide UNIDO expertise, the ITPOs will strengthen cooperation with other UN institutions towards sharing technical and expert resources, thereby making this Global Call a truly global initiative. Furthermore, while pursuing ‘Net-Zero’ and ‘4IR’ alliances, enterprises should also strengthen their business and corporate social responsibility (CSR) communications, for example by: Establishing a close partnership network Driving emission reduction measures within their supply chains Enhancing research and innovation capacity, and upgrading industrial institutions Developing green technologies, increasing knowledge-sharing and engaging in multi-stakeholder collaborations Addressing challenges and opportunities related to the Fourth Industrial Revolution Objectives Within the overall framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and SDG17 in particular, the UNIDO Global Call 2022 aims at building and enhancing a global information and knowledge-sharing exchange network by integrating global resources; and assisting governments and enterprises in carrying out technical assistance and industrial cooperation to promote economic development and industrialization. In doing so, it aims to narrow the technological gap and solve related technical problems faced by small and medium-sized enterprises, thus accelerating the green industrialization process.

TECHNOLOGY AND SOLUTION CATEGORIES OF GLOBAL CALL 2022

To achieve its Zero-Net objective, the UNIDO Global Call 2022 focuses on identifying and promoting innovative green technologies in Medical & Health (MH), Green Growth (GG), Advanced Digital Production (ADP) and Agriculture & Food (AF), with a clear focus on international climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts as well as on green technology learning and development. Priority will be given to applications, including solutions.

AMBASSADOR PIYUSH SRIVASTAVA INDIAN AMBASSADOR



Ambassador Piyush Srivastava visited UNIDO ITPO Bahrain & Arab International Center for Entrepreneurship & Investment (AICEI) and discussed matters related to mutual cooperation with its Head, Dr. Hashim Suleiman Hussein

The AICEI was established through the joint efforts of UNIDO, Bahraini Government and Inter Regional Center for Entrepreneurship & Investment Training (IRC)- Government of India. The AICEI works closely with EDII Ahmedabad and has Confederation of Indian Industry as international partner. Ambassador also interacted with Bahraini entrepreneurs from different sectors for exploring possible areas of cooperation towards creating linkages between Bahraini and Indian Entrepreneurs and start-up's, and skill development.

VISIT BY AMERICAN EMBASSY



Representatives from the American Embassy visited UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain Office to promote collaboration between Bahraini SMEs and American SMEs. The visit was part of a larger effort by the US embassy to foster closer ties with local businesses in order to create opportunities for mutual growth and development. During their visit, the delegation discussed ways in which both sides could work together towards creating stronger partnerships that would benefit all parties involved. They also explored potential areas of cooperation such as technology transfer, market access, investment promotion and capacity building initiatives. This visit demonstrated America's commitment to strengthening relationships with Bahraini businesses while providing valuable resources for them to succeed in an increasingly competitive global economy.

MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR VISIT



As part of The Meet the Ambassadors Program organized by UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain, the Malaysian Ambassador visited UNIDO-ITPO Office in Bahrain to promote stronger partnerships between Bahraini SMEs and Malaysian SMEs. During the visit, the delegation discussed ways to improve cooperation between both nations in terms of technology transfer, market access, investment promotion and capacity building initiatives.

The Capacity Building Incubation Management Systems program, designed for the Prince Turki Center for Creativity and Entrepreneurship (PTCCE) in Saudi Arabia, is a comprehensive initiative aimed at fostering innovation, strengthening entrepreneurial ecosystems, and driving sustainable economic growth in the region. This program focuses on equipping PTCCE with the tools, resources, and expertise needed to support aspiring entrepreneurs and creative minds in their journey towards business success.

The program encompasses several key components that collectively contribute to the development of a robust incubation management system:

- 1. Training and Skill Development:** Tailored workshops and training sessions are provided to enhance the skills of incubator managers, mentors, and support staff, ensuring they are well-equipped to guide and assist entrepreneurs throughout the incubation process.
- 2. Infrastructure and Facilities:** The program helps establish state-of-the-art facilities and infrastructure to provide an optimal environment for entrepreneurs to develop, test, and refine their innovative ideas and products.
- 3. Mentorship and Networking:** A strong network of experienced mentors and industry experts is established to provide guidance, support, and valuable connections to the entrepreneurs. This aids in refining their business strategies, accessing funding opportunities, and expanding their market reach.
- 4. Monitoring and Evaluation:** The program incorporates a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework to track the progress of the incubated startups, assess the effectiveness of the support provided, and identify areas of improvement to optimize the incubation process.
- 5. Sustainability and Scalability:** The Capacity Building Incubation Management Systems program ensures long-term sustainability by developing self-sufficient revenue models, fostering strategic partnerships, and promoting knowledge sharing among incubators and stakeholders in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

By implementing this program, the Prince Turki Center for Creativity and Entrepreneurship aims to become a leading incubation hub in Saudi Arabia, nurturing a new generation of innovative entrepreneurs who will contribute to the nation's economic diversification and Vision 2030 objectives.

BOOSTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION THROUGH EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

In line with His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa directives towards securing the National Inclusive plan to address the digital economy. First through adopting and implementing smart manufacturing techniques in the production and services sectors. In addition to placing the necessary regulations that complement the technical infrastructures. Concluding with the encouragement of the various investments in order to fully benefit the National economy. In confirmation of His Majesty's directives to support youth and stimulate innovation, ITPO / AICEI Bahrain and through its strategic partnership with the Ministry of Education and in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and Tourism, the Supreme Council for Women, Tamkeen, and the Bahrain Development Bank, in addition to a large number of volunteers from Bahraini entrepreneurs, organized the School Olympiad competition "Entrepreneurship and Innovation: To Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals 2030" for the second year in a row. The program "Entrepreneurship and Innovation: To Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals 2030", brings ITPO Bahrain's EDIP program to the classroom, as a tool for promoting and developing entrepreneurial skills amongst Bahraini youth. The program aims to introduce students to the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, innovation and promote entrepreneurial concepts, in an effort to spark an entrepreneurial spirit that may one day translate to problem-solving entrepreneurship; in addition to creating awareness of UNIDO ISID mandate and the Sustainable Development Goals. In implementing the program ITPO Bahrain equipped over 700 teachers from 60 public and private schools in Bahrain on the tools to foster innovation and entrepreneurship amongst their students through identification, capacity building and knowledge transfer. During the school year the certified teachers, and school mentors with the support of ITPO Bahrain staff key stakeholders and entrepreneurs will support the students over the school year to identify and develop their innovative business idea and later prepare their business plans. This is done through providing weekly sessions on various topics related to the business plan; topics include: entrepreneurship, sourcing ideas, the ISID and SDGs, marketing, finance, managing a business, etc. Prior to the COVID 19 outbreak, field visits were also arranged to a number of support institutions as Bahrain Business Incubator Center, Bahrain Development Bank, the Supreme Council for Women and to the Women Mall-Incubator Riyadat. Once all teams have submitted their business plans a technical team assessed the submissions consisting of ITPO Bahrain staff; once the best team from each school is identified the business plan will then be judged by a senior committee consisting of representatives of the major support institutions and entrepreneurs in Bahrain; these include Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Tourism, TAMKEEN (SME Fund), Bahrain Development Bank and others. Once the top three schools are identified a ceremony and exhibition is organized under the patronage and in the presence of the Minister of Education; and eventually in-kind prizes are provided and certificates of participation. For the school year 2021/2022; the competition was piloted in 4 girl's and 4 boy's schools targeting a total of 143 students and through the support of 10 teachers. Based on the success achieved it was agreed with the Ministry of Education to expand it into all public schools. For the school year 2019 / 2020 more than 886 students and 43 teachers from 31 public schools (girls 19 and boys 12) have participated in the program from various governorates of the Kingdom, with more than (190) projects having been created. The competition has demonstrated students' innovations and contributed to unleashing their creativity and instilling concepts of entrepreneurship and innovation to achieve the sustainable development goals, and enhance the spirit of citizenship in them, where a generation that contributes to the growth and progress of the Kingdom was built.

SDG'S BUSINESS INNOVATION SCHOOL OLYMPICS COMPETITION 4TH EDITION WINNING PROJECT IDEAS:

KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN
 Ministry of Education
 Director School Operations Region (1)
 Jidhafs Secondary Technical School

مملكة البحرين
 وزارة التربية والتعليم
 إدارة العمليات التعليمية للمناطق الأولى
 مدارس جدهافس الثانوية الصناعية للبنين

مبادرة الابتكار وريادة الاعمال مسابقة أولمبياد المدارس (النيونيدو)

الري الذكي الإلكتروني Electronic Smart Irrigation

Wet soil → Soil Moisture Sensor → Lower Output Voltage

Dry soil → Soil Moisture Sensor → Higher Output Voltage

PWSN

(PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS)

أعضاء الفريق :

- رناح أسامة زمان-
- فرام بدوي شعبان-
- منة الله عادل-
- بسمة عبد الحميد-
- مريم حسين علي-
- يارا محمد عبدالصدي-

المعلمة المشرفة على المشروع :
 أمريم حمد الجزاف

creative & new

HAND OF LIFE

يد الحياة

الوفاء للنبات - Hand of life - يد الحياة بعد التعديل وأحدث نسخة أ

Made with Animaker

BTECH AND WORKSMART 10TH EDITION OF THE MEET ICT CONFERENCE & BITEX



Under the patronage of the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunication, H.E. Engr. Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, WorkSmart for Events Management in partnership with Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH), is organized the 10th Edition of MEET ICT and BITEX 2022, from 29th – 31st of March 2022 in Gulf Convention Centre, Gulf Hotel Bahrain. MEET ICT and BITEX 2022 are considered the largest event in the field of ICT in Bahrain and are being held this year under the slogan “Leading the way towards the digital economy through artificial intelligence” while celebrating its 10th Edition in line with Bahrain’s vision and technological progress in the region. This 3-day exhibition, and 2-day conference session featured specialized workshops that tackled comprehensive topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Digital Transformation, 5G, Blockchain, FinTech, Cybersecurity, and many more. 700+ international delegates joined, and local, regional, and International IT companies showcased the latest in technology innovation at BITEX Exhibition. The organizers of this technical event are keen to collaborate with all partners to increase the active presence of companies and entrepreneurs in the technical field for the “Meet ICT” conference and the “BITEX” exhibition, in a way that contributes to the development of the ICT industry in Bahrain, and to learn about the latest products, services, and innovations in this field, as well as to benefit from shared experiences to raise competitiveness and create Bahraini digital exports in the local, regional and global market. This event provided a conducive platform for bringing together private and public sector decision-makers, key players, IT experts, those interested in technology, and those who are passionate about networking, building valuable partnerships, reopening, and expanding business opportunities, to achieve the common goals of highlighting innovative trends, services, and products of ICT companies and enhancing the capacity of ICT enterprises.



AGRINATION STARTUP CUP - TRANSFORMING THE AGRI-FOOD SYSTEM THROUGH YOUTH INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

The AgriNation Startup Cup is a business competition for youth led, early stage startups in the NENA region. Led by FAO in collaboration with Industry Disruptors Game Changers (IDGC) and Berytech, the competition aims to foster youth innovation and inclusion in agrifood systems by supporting solution-oriented agrifood enterprises to achieve market readiness and strengthening national agrifood innovation ecosystems. In 2022 the competition was held for the first time, attracting over 200 applications from 15 countries including 38 teams that were shortlisted and had the opportunity to take part in a digital skill-building bootcamp.

The AgriNation Startup Cup final event took place on October 20th, as part of the 2022 World Food Forum hosted in hybrid format in FAO Headquarters in Rome. Ten startups from across the region, showcased their ideas and competed for a spot in the Global Agripreneurs Summit (GAS).

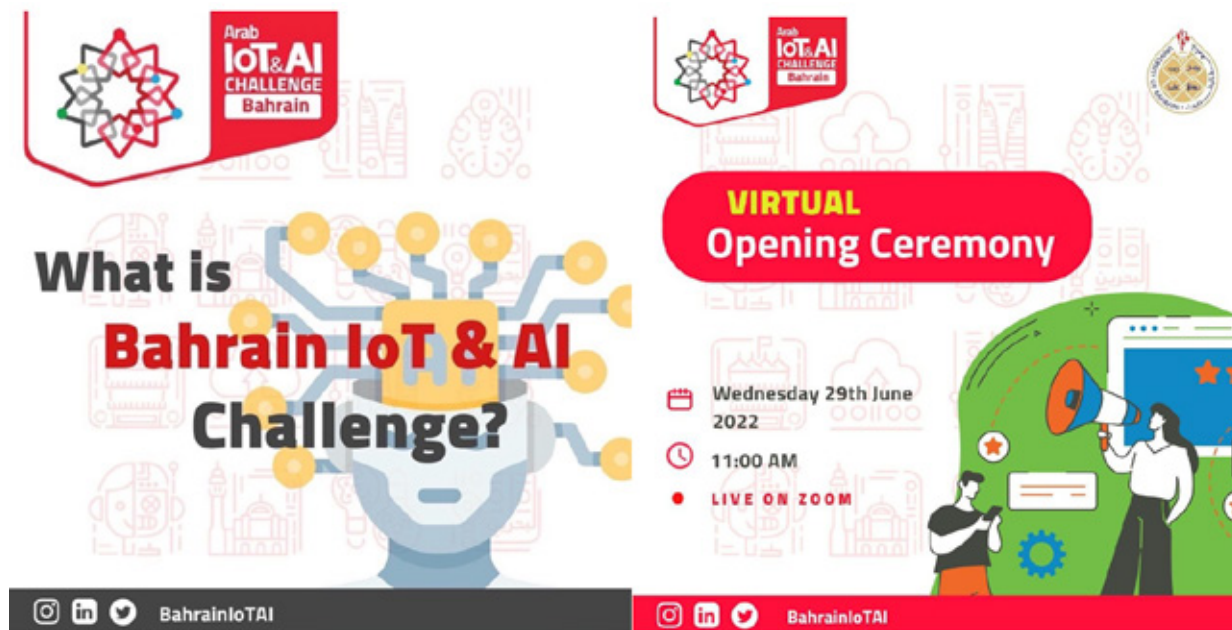
The ten startups had to pitch their idea in front of a panel of judges consisting of Ms. Carla Tanas, Co-Founder & CEO, Future Agro Challenge /IDGC, Mr. Ramy Boujawdeh, Chief Operating Officer (COO), Berytech, and Mr. Simon Gifford, Co-founder and CEO, Mashauri Limited. The innovative and locally cultivated solutions ranged from rural finance solutions, sustainable fertilizer, digital water management, waste valorization, vertical farming and nutritious and sustainably produced foods. The showcase exemplified how young men and women from across the region are truly capable of transforming agrifood systems to be more sustainable, equitable and productive.

The four winners are: RevoFeed, a company that will produce sustainable animal fodder from local waste, Jodoor, that brings controlled environment agriculture to small farmers, Blue Filter, an affordable and sustainable water filtration service and MicroFert a provider of high quality

sustainably produced fertilizer. During GAS, the winning teams will have the opportunity to network with agrifood entrepreneurs, investors and experts from across the globe.

Moving forward, all 10 showcased startups will receive incubation support from FAO to help them achieve market penetration and maximize their positive social, economic and environmental impact

BAHRAIN IOT & AI CHALLENGE



The Arab IoT & AI Challenge is a groundbreaking regional capacity-building and pre-incubation program designed to inspire and support High School Students, Senior University Students, and Startups with innovative ideas in the areas of Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), and related fields. This challenge transcends the boundaries of a traditional competition, positioning itself as a catalyst for digital transformation across the region.

The program's primary objectives include:

- 1. Fostering innovation:** Encourage creative thinking and problem-solving among participants by providing them with an opportunity to explore cutting-edge technologies and develop solutions that address real-world challenges.
- 2. Develop skills:** Equip participants with the necessary technical and entrepreneurial skills required to transform their ideas into viable business ventures, through hands-on training, mentorship, and access to resources.
- 3. Promote digital transformation:** Drive the adoption of advanced technologies such as IoT and AI across various sectors, contributing to enhanced productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness within the regional economy.
- 4. Empower the youth:** Inspire and engage the next generation of technology leaders, fostering a culture of innovation, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning.

The Arab IoT & AI Challenge comprises several stages, including ideation, prototype development, and pitching, culminating in a grand finale where the most promising projects are awarded and recognized. Throughout the process, participants receive ongoing support, guidance, and feedback from a team of experienced mentors, ensuring that their ideas are refined, validated, and market-ready.

By harnessing the immense potential of IoT and AI, the Arab IoT & AI Challenge aims to create a lasting impact on the regional entrepreneurial landscape, paving the way for a future driven by innovation, collaboration, and digital excellence.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL CHALLENGE (IWEC) FOUNDATION CONFERENCE

New York-Based Global Women's Business Organization Celebrated Its 15th Annual Conference and Gala The International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge Foundation (IWEC) celebrated some of the world's most successful women business owners during the IWEC Foundation 2022 Annual Conference. New York, NY, November 21, 2022 – The 2022 iteration of the IWEC Foundation Conference and Awards Gala, the organization's 15th annual event, took place Sunday November 13th through Tuesday November 15th. The event celebrated the significant achievements of 41 remarkable women entrepreneurs from all corners of the globe as well as offering educational and networking sessions to attendees. The conference was held on the campus of IESE Business School with additional venues provided by CaixaBank and the Spanish Chamber of Commerce. The conference theme was "Connecting Women Businesses Globally: The Transformational Power of Women in Business." Our sponsors included a variety of international organizations including CaixaBank, Coca-Cola, SDI International, Mass Mutual, IESE, Spanish Chamber of Commerce and others. This year's conference welcomed several keynote speakers and panelists who provided insights into pivotal aspects of global business development, such as "Challenges of Globalization after the Pandemic," "The ESG Agenda Enlightened by Women" and "Global Economy Outlook: Can a Recession Be Avoided?" In addition, a special interview was held with Ms. Teresa Perales, Paralympic Champion, and winner of the Princess of Asturias Award 2021. She was also presented with an Honorary IWEC Business Award. Ruth A. Davis, former US Ambassador and Chairwoman of IWEC, said of this year's event: "The 15th annual conference was a wonderful milestone for us. It has been an honor for the organization to hold our conferences all over the world and to have acknowledged and awarded over 500 successful women business owners over all these years. At the conference we also held curated networking sessions for attendees who are interested in expanding their companies to other countries. We encouraged them to make connections to develop opportunities and form strategic partnerships throughout the globe. Fostering connections and global business development are two of IWEC's most important pillars." This year's 41 awardees come from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the Americas, representing multiple industries and generating a combined annual revenue in excess of US\$3.3 billion. They are all CEO's and have very successful businesses. Over 200 women from around the globe attended. To learn more about IWEC's work visit www.iwecfoundation.org and for further information about the conference visit <https://www.iese.edu/women-in-leadership/international->

women-entrepreneurial-challenge-iwec/ About IWEF Foundation IWEF Foundation is a New York-based international economic empowerment organization exclusively for women business owners, formed in 2007 with the assistance of the U.S. Department of State. In addition to the State Department, its founders include the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce (MCC), FICCI/FLO Chamber in New Delhi. IWEF's mission is to develop a global business network for successful women entrepreneurs, helping them gain and expand access to international markets by presenting a platform to exchange knowledge, experience and connections, and to promote dialogue among women entrepreneurs and business leaders throughout the world.

ATTENDING 1ST ARAB SMES SUMMIT JORDAN



In recent years, multiple emerging issues have posed severe challenges to the Arab region's small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Overcoming these challenges by providing new opportunities for SMEs is fundamental to positioning Arab SMEs for future progress and growth that leaves no one behind. The Summit aims to help Arab SMEs access regional and international markets, mobilize diverse financial resources, benefit from regional and international networks, and increase their ability to scale up. The Summit is a regional platform for national and international leaders from the public and private sectors to advocate inclusive policies and strategies required to support Arab SMEs. The Summit brings together some 600 selected participants, including entrepreneurs, investors, business influencers, political leaders, economists, journalists, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and donors for 20 main sessions and 10 side events.

2ND MEDITERANIAN CREATIVE ECONOMY CONFERENCE

The Mediterranean Creative Economy Forum offered a platform for participants to exchange ideas, resolve challenges and identify opportunities within the creative economy. The event was structured in sessions tackling topics that collectively define the future of the regional creative economy, including: education, labour, technology transformation, sustainability, inclusivity and diversity. As part of its incoming initiatives, ASCAME is working on the New Mediterranean Creative Economy strategy, which aims to double the contribution of creative industries to the region's GDP by 2028. The strategy intends to boost the number of incubators and technology hubs within Mediterranean's creative spaces while creating a new method of measuring the creative economy's impact through the 'creative economy classification and measurement framework'. Through these initiatives, the strategy aims to double the number of creative companies and individual creators and, in turn, achieve the vision of making the Mediterranean "a global HUB for the creative economy", unlocking a new set of possibilities in creative-related fields, such as architecture and transport, among others.

DISABILITIES "LIVING INDEPENDENTLY" INITIATIVE



The UAE initiative, represented by the “International Expo for People of Determination”, which was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Emirates Group and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Dubai World, was able to prove its position in the world of persons with disabilities, by creating favorable opportunities for them in order to facilitate their daily living conditions and create a future that suits them and makes them individuals able to live independently. The “International Expo for People of Determination” was able to achieve many achievements that are in the interest of people with disabilities at the Arab and international levels. This important initiative comes in line with the efforts of partners in areas related to persons with disabilities, especially supporting Arab efforts to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and related goals within the 2030 Plan, and Arab Convention No. (17) regarding the rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities, as an affirmation of strengthening Tamkeen efforts. Inclusion of people with disabilities in society. The exhibition, which is considered the largest of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa, was held on an area of 12,000 square meters (in halls 5-6-7) with the wide participation of local and international governmental agencies, bodies and organizations, care and rehabilitation centers for people of determination, in addition to international exhibitors, after the success The impressive achievement he achieved in his previous sessions. . In this context, the partners will organize, two days before the exhibition, a training course on entrepreneurship for a number of owners of selected projects and innovations.

The main objectives of the initiative:

Assisting the owners of projects that are in the interest of persons with disabilities by seeking to secure financial and technical support in order to implement their projects and ideas, including the owners of projects and innovations of people with disabilities themselves.

Connecting entrepreneurs with a network that includes a large number of international experts who are ready to advise entrepreneurs.

Introducing entrepreneurs of persons with disabilities to the business community specialized in the manufacture of specialized medical tools and devices, as well as technological devices that help to live independently.

Highlighting pioneering projects and ideas and facilitating their access to the appropriate marketing plan in order to continue the process of research and self-development of the project.

Assisting the participants in the initiative by creating a network among them in order to contribute to coordinating efforts among them in order to serve the Arab community of people of determination.

250 companies/exhibitors from 60 countries participated in the exhibition, and it has attracted more than 10,000 specialized visitors from different countries of the world. On the sidelines of the exhibition, many events and activities specialized in the fields of rehabilitation, sports, arts, health and social inclusion was held.

AICEI ACTIVITIES

MINISTRY OF YOUTH - YOUTH CITY 2022 - BUSINESS IDEA JUDGING



UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain took part in the Youth City Initiative, organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs, as a judge for the business idea competition. This initiative was designed to encourage young entrepreneurs and promote innovative ideas to help shape the future of businesses in Bahrain. Alongside other prominent business leaders from the region, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain provided valuable insights and feedback on each participant's pitch. The event was also an opportunity for UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain to engage with local entrepreneurs and provide them with resources for success. They offered tailored workshops for start-ups and small businesses that focused on topics such as market entry strategies, product development, financial management, intellectual property rights and more. Furthermore, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain also highlighted their commitment to supporting these initiatives through capacity building initiatives that focus on empowering youths to take part in the digital economy. Ultimately, this youth city initiative aims to empower people with knowledge, inspiring innovative ideas while providing opportunities for growth within Bahrain's flourishing entrepreneurial sector. With such support from UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain at the helm of this initiative, it is sure to play an instrumental part in developing a promising future full of potential for all aspiring entrepreneurs.

YOU-PRENEUR YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION COMPETITION



Winners of the YOU PRENEUR youth entrepreneurship and innovation competition have been honoured.

Youth and Sports Affairs Minister Aymen bin Tawfiq Almoayyed attended the final ceremony in the presence of Ali and Mohammed Yateem Company Chief Executive Officer Hala Yateem and UNIDO investment expert Afif Barhoumi.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs held the competition in cooperation with Ali and Mohammed Yateem Company and The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). “Your GIVT” project, consisting of 3 members, Khawla Bukhamas, Sarah Buhaimed and Aisha Al Hammadi, won the first place and received the award, which is a commercial store in Yateem Complex exempt from rent for a full year and consultations from UNIDO. The idea of the project is summarized in a comprehensive electronic platform for various types of gifts in quick and easy steps with delivery and packaging. The second place went to the “Glacial ice cream” project, owned by Ahmed Rashdan. The project is an ice cream with new and innovative flavors with fresh ingredients made from scratch and characterized by their high quality and unique taste. It clinched an award which consists of a commercial store in Yateem Complex exempt from rent for a period of 6 months and consultations from UNIDO. The DurrNatural, a project spearheaded by Dr. Nada Hussein and Dr. Dalia Hussein, came third. It consists of products made from 100% natural materials in the field of health and beauty. It was also rewarded with commercial store in Yateem Complex exempt from rent for a period of 6 months and consultations from UNIDO.

CAPACITY BUILDING INCUBATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS / PRINCE TURKI CENTER FOR CREATIVITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain has developed a comprehensive Capacity Building Incubation Management System for the Prince Turki Center for Creativity and Entrepreneurship in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). This system aims to support and enhance the center's incubation programs and services, enabling it to effectively nurture and develop aspiring entrepreneurs in the region.

The Capacity Building Incubation Management System encompasses a range of tools and techniques that are designed to enhance the center's overall incubation process. These tools include training programs, mentoring and coaching services, access to finance and investment opportunities, and networking platforms. By implementing this system, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain aims to provide a holistic approach to capacity building in entrepreneurship, empowering individuals to create bankable projects with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in their ventures.

One of the key components of this system is the provision of tailor-made training programs. UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain works closely with the Prince Turki Center to develop and deliver training courses that address the specific needs and challenges faced by entrepreneurs in Saudi Arabia. These programs cover a wide range of topics, including business planning, marketing and sales strategies, financial management, and legal and regulatory frameworks. By equipping entrepreneurs with the necessary knowledge, the center aims to enhance their chances of success and reduce the risk of failure.

Another essential aspect of this Capacity Building Incubation Management System is the provision of mentoring and coaching services. UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain facilitates relationships between experienced entrepreneurs and aspiring individuals, allowing for the transfer of knowledge, skills, and experiences. The mentors provide guidance, support, and advice to the entrepreneurs, helping them overcome obstacles and make informed decisions. This mentoring process not only enhances the entrepreneurs' skills but also fosters a culture of collaboration and knowledge sharing within the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS KASSALA

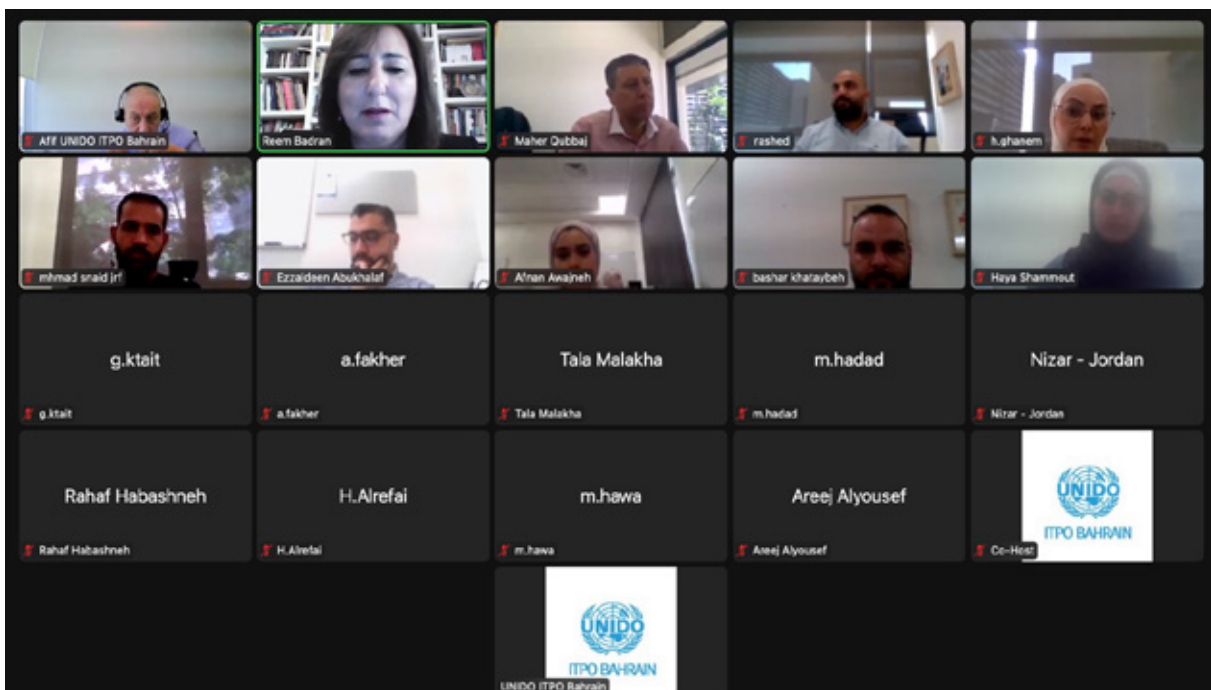




UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain welcomed a special group of trainers from Kassala, Sudan to their facility in Manama. This event was the first of its kind in Bahrain and brought together these experienced professionals to learn about entrepreneurship, innovation and business management.

The participants included entrepreneurs from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, ranging from youth to the more experienced. During their five-day visit, the trainees had the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge about entrepreneurship, financial management and business development. They were also able to exchange information with each other and discuss best practices for starting and running a successful venture.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS JORDAN RIVER FOUNDATION



AGRO-PRENEURS (AGRO POLE)



Our Training of Trainers (ToT) program for Enterprise Development and Investment Promotion (EDIP) Implementation, in collaboration with the Jordan River Foundation (JRF) in Jordan, is an innovative initiative designed to empower local trainers and strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem within the country. This comprehensive program focuses on equipping trainers with the knowledge, tools, and methodologies required to deliver high-quality entrepreneurship training and support services to aspiring entrepreneurs and business owners.

The ToT program consists of several key components that collectively contribute to the successful implementation of EDIP across Jordan:

- 1. Curriculum Development:** The program involves the creation of a customized, context-specific curriculum that addresses the unique challenges and opportunities faced by entrepreneurs in Jordan. This ensures that the training content is relevant, practical, and aligned with local market conditions.
- 1. Capacity Building:** Through the ToT program, participants develop essential skills in areas such as mentorship, coaching, and facilitation. This enables them to provide ongoing support and guidance to entrepreneurs as they navigate the various stages of business development, from ideation to growth and expansion.
- 1. Monitoring and Evaluation:** The program incorporates a robust monitoring and evaluation framework that enables trainers to assess the impact of their training interventions, identify areas for improvement, and continuously enhance the quality of the support services provided to entrepreneurs.
- 1. Networking and Collaboration:** The ToT program fosters a strong sense of community among the trained trainers, encouraging knowledge sharing, peer learning, and collaboration. This helps to create a supportive environment that nurtures the growth and development of both trainers and entrepreneurs.

By implementing the Training of Trainers program for EDIP Implementation, we aim to significantly contribute to the capacity building of the Jordan River Foundation and enhance the overall entrepreneurial ecosystem in Jordan. This will ultimately lead to the creation of sustainable businesses, job opportunities, and economic growth within the country.

BAGHDAD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain recently held a Training of Trainers Capacity Building Program to support the launch of the Enterprise Development and Investment Promotion Program in Iraq, implemented by the Baghdad Chamber of Commerce. This program was intended to help equip entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge necessary for success in the digital economy. The Training of Trainers Capacity Building Program provided guidance on topics such as digital marketing, entrepreneurial research, project management, and promoting new business opportunities. By helping prepare aspiring entrepreneurs with these key strategies, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain is enhancing their chances of success in the digital economy. Additionally, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain also provided mentorship programs to assist participants in building their confidence and better managing their operations. UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain's capacity building efforts are setting up Iraq's youth for success as they venture into the global market. Through this program, young Iraqis can gain access to a wealth of resources that will enable them to make more informed decisions when it comes to launching their own businesses or investing in new opportunities. By empowering its citizens with knowledge and opportunities for growth, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain is helping create a brighter future for all aspiring entrepreneurs within Iraq's dynamic entrepreneurial sector.

SHAKE BOX OPENING CEREMONY



UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain was honored to be invited to the grand opening of Shake Box, a company that builds vending machines for protein shakes. The event marked an important milestone in the development of this innovative business and its potential impact on the local economy. Attendees were given a tour of the facility and had the opportunity to learn more about how Shake Box is leveraging technology to revolutionize people's access to healthy snacks. UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain also highlighted their commitment to supporting small businesses by providing valuable resources such as training and capacity building initiatives which can help entrepreneurs succeed in today's competitive global market.

AHLIA UNIVERSITY - 5TH ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

The 5th Ahlia Entrepreneurship Week was a resounding success, with a total of 11 entrepreneurship awareness workshops conducted by Ahlia MBA candidates for different courses across Ahlia's colleges. The week-long program provided a unique opportunity for students to learn about the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, including identifying business opportunities, developing business plans, and securing funding.

The workshops were designed to cater to a diverse range of interests and skill levels, covering topics such as social entrepreneurship, digital marketing, and financial management. Each session was led by experienced MBA candidates who shared their insights and practical knowledge gained through their studies and real-world experiences.

One of the highlights of the event was the "Entrepreneurial Mindset" workshop, which aimed to instill an entrepreneurial mindset among participants. The session focused on fostering creativity, developing leadership skills, and embracing a growth mindset, all of which are essential attributes for successful entrepreneurship.

The Ahlia Entrepreneurship Week also provided an opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs to network with like-minded individuals and industry experts. Participants had the chance to connect with local entrepreneurs and investors, gaining valuable insights into the local business landscape.

Overall, the 5th Ahlia Entrepreneurship Week was a fantastic initiative that helped inspire and equip the next generation of entrepreneurs with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. We look forward to seeing what innovative ideas and ventures emerge from this dynamic and talented group of future business leaders.

SPECIAL EDIP FOR RECOVERED INDIVIDUALS FROM DRUG ADDICTION

In Bahrain, UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain is tackling an important social issue through a special program. The program, organized in cooperation with Bahrain Foundation for Dialogue and Taafi is designed specifically to help individuals who have recovered from drug addiction has been introduced. This unique program offers resources such as financial literacy training, legal advice, and access to a network of mentors and support institutions. Through EDIP, recovering individuals have the opportunity to gain real-world experience and build confidence in their ability to launch successful enterprises. With the support of EDIP, former substance abusers can leave their past behind them and transition into productive members of society by becoming entrepreneurs. By providing these vital resources, Bahrain is leading the way in showing its commitment to helping those who once struggled with addiction achieve success in today's global economy.



EDIP PROMOTION PART OF SUMMER CAMP UM AL HASSAM SPORT AND CULTURE CLUB



As part of an initiative to promote the Enterprise Development and Investment Promotion Program (EDIP), UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain in held an introductory session on the EDIP modality at Um Al Hassam Sport And Culture Club. The session included an overview of the EDIP program, its benefits, and the various levels of support and services provided to entrepreneurs. The participants also had the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions and activities that focused on identifying and developing business ideas.

BAHAR JEWELRY & NADIA ART : ART & GOLD FASHION SHOW



Bahar Jewellery established by Mr. Harshad Jani, an Indian national with the support of UNIDO Bahrain – AICEI and Arab International Centre for Entrepreneurship & Investment (AICEI) was opened in the historic Manama souq. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Ambassador Piyush Srivastava, Dr. Hashim Suleiman Hussein, UNIDO Bahrain, Mr. Ahmed Saloom and many Indian & Bahraini dignitaries. Art & Gold Fashion Show by Ms. Nadia Jar, Bahraini artist & entrepreneur was also organized. AICEI was established under the banner of SouthSouth Cooperation with the support of Inter Regional Centre for Entrepreneurship & Investment Training, Govt. of India and they work very closely with EDII Ahmedabad and has Confederation of Indian Industry as international partner. Ambassador appreciated the expat and business friendly policies of Kingdom of Bahrain and said that such endeavours, besides promoting bilateral economic cooperation, also represents our shared cultural heritage and strong people to people connect

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