



Dear Members/ Readers,

At the end of this year we would like to share our last Update in 2014. This issue brings variety of news and information about upcoming events in the region. We wish you enjoyable journey...

Best Regards..

MENAinc secretary

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Launching RuWWad.ME

A new online platform for entrepreneurs in MENA is launched: RuWWad.ME. This platform enables and empowers early stage entrepreneurs to design, develop and present their business and financial models as well as structure a pitch. Entrepreneurs can also express their needs for co-founders, talent, access to market, mentors and investment (of all stages, debt and equity).



The RuWWad business model is double sided; it also serves as a central deal source for early stage investment opportunities and early adopters. This way it compliments incubators and accelerators in featuring full profiles and integrates them with the supporting eco-system. The service is free of charge. The platform is launched by Enter Ventures together with Palestinian and other MENA entrepreneurs. To sign-up And be featured Visit RuWWad.ME Contact: Laith Kassis, laithkassis@gmail.com

Oman Updates

National Entrepreneurship Award

As a result of the SME support workshop in Saih Al-Shamikat in Oman, it was decided by his Majesty Sulta Qaboos Bin Saeed to establish a high level entrepreneurship award in 2014. Accordingly the award has started and managed by the Public Authority for SME Development and it is now in the final stages. In December the Jury panel met in Muscat and decided on the winners. More than 500 applicants have applied to the award and they are competing to win more than 30 awards in different categories. The award winners will be announced in January 2015. For more information please contact the Award Manager Badir Al-Harthy: Email fahad.harthy@alraffd.gov.om Website: www.theaward.om



New Badir White papers is now online

Badir Program for Business Incubation have published new white papers recently that covers the Angle investment and Business Accelerators and Business Incubators. These papers are available online for free download through the Saudi Business Incubators Network website : <http://sbin.org.sa/en/resources/articles>



New Incubators

Taif Multimedia Women Incubator (KSA)

The Business Support and Development center in the Prinses Noora Bint Abdulrahman has announced the launch of a multimedia women incubator "Taif". The incubator will offer the usual incubation services in addition to the Imagin Lab which serves as a shared lab for the entrepreneurs to implement and test their ideas. The incubator serves the following types of business: media production, e marketin, games development, educational applications and mobile applications. For more info: Vedio



Makkah Vally

Makkah Techno Valley Company (MTVC), a company fully owned by Umm Al Qura University (UQU) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), aims at establishing Makkah Techno Valley (MTV), an Innovation and Entrepreneurship Park, on a 200,000 m² plot to be managed by MTVC. For more info: [Vedio](#)



Flat6Labs Accelerator (UAE)

In partnership with twofour54, the commercial arm of the Media Zone Authority-Abu Dhabi, Flat6Labs launched the first start-up accelerator in Abu Dhabi at this year's Abu Dhabi Media Summit 2014.

Designed to support a generation of entrepreneurs from the UAE and abroad, the accelerator aims to launch digital businesses in Abu Dhabi and help to scale them regionally and globally. Flat6Labs provides seed funding, strategic mentorship, workspace and direct support for start-ups through an expansive network of partners and entrepreneurial activities. The accelerator started receiving applications for the Spring 2015 Cycle deadline for application is Jan 15th 2015.

MENAinc Incubators Map is Now Online

MENAinc have launched new Mapping Service that is currently available for all the Incubators, Accelerators and Techno parks. This will help in promoting the new programs in addition to linking the programs to those who are seeking business opportunity or offering funds to the incubation programs. The only requirement to be added in the map is to provide basic information to be provided for those who are trying to reach you. the map will be available all the time however only the updated profiles will be published. i.e please make sure that you provide information when requested. If your incubator, Techno park, Accelerator is not listed please contact the MENAinc Secretary on the emails provided end of the Update.



infoDev Business Incubation Management Training Program

MENAinc offers a specialized training program for incubators technology parks managers. This I called the infoDev Business Incubation Management Training which is developed by the infoDev the worldbank program for information development. More information about the program is available in our website [Click HERE](#) Also, you can download the report of our previous training program [Click HERE](#). We kept the registration open for the upcoming infoDev business incubation management training programs in the MENA region. You can now register your interest [Click HERE](#). The next expected training program is expected to be in Bahrain beginning of 2015. Also, you can organize this training in your home country with subsidized training cost. For more information please Mohammad Allam Email: m3allam@gmail.com / mallam@bdb-bh.com

Upcoming Events

ARTECNET Meeting #3

The meeting was held in Bahrain, Amwaj Island and gathered Mr. Slaheddin Maaraf and Mr. Mohammad Allam. During the meeting the next steps for the proposed ARTECNET was discussed. The next meeting of the network is proposed to be held in the Smart Village, Giza, Egypt end of April 2015. The event will tentatively include a workshop for Business Incubation and Techno parks Managers, Exhibition for the incubated companies in the network members in addition to a possible Business Incubation Management Training. The final agenda will be confirmed and published in our next issue.



Arab Entrepreneurs Conclave 2015

(Special Rate is offered for MENAinc Members)

The Arab Entrepreneurs Conclave is organised by MICE Quotient in partnership and will be held in the 23rd - 24th February 2014 in Dubai - United Arab Emarate.

The Arab Entrepreneurs Conclave will host speakers from across the region, and attract over 150 professionals, Arab Entrepreneurs, investors,

Government authorities to connect and network under one roof. The Arab Entrepreneurs Conclave will have a specific and deep focus on the rise of innovation, tech driven entrepreneurial ventures and the challenges and lessons learned from Arab Entrepreneurs. The Arab Entrepreneurs Conclave would also revolve around discussions on making the economic and social climate, in the GCC region more conducive to Entrepreneurship.



For More information and registration: <http://micequotient.com/arab-entrepreneurs-conclave/> contact: Mr. Samuel Kennedy Email: samuel.kennedy@micequotient.com

NBIA Annual International Conference

NBIA's 29th International Conference on Business Incubation will be held April 26-29, 2015 in Denver, Colorado. This event will bring together more than 600 people from around the world who are working to support entrepreneurs. Through, interactive discussions, educational panels, receptions tours and more, the conference will provide opportunities for making connections, sharing ideas, gaining new insights and having fun. More info are available on : www.nbia.org/events

Final Note

We hope that you enjoyed reading this issue. We would like to invite you to participate in this update by sending to us your news, upcoming events and activities to publish it in our upcoming issues. Also, please don't forget to check our new map and locate your incubator there. If it is not there please contact us. The registration in the map is open and free for all the incubators in the region.

Best Regards...

MENAinc Secretary

MENAinc Update is the newsletter of the Middle East and North Africa Incubators and Technoparks Network. News, Articles and upcoming events for publication are invited and will be published under the name of the author. Editor: Mohammad Allam, MENAinc, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, Email m3allam@gmail.com / mallam@bdb-bh.com www.menainc.org

