



CHALLENGES/CONTEXT

Project name

Diaspora Angel
Investors and Mentors
Network (DAIMN)

Region

Palestine



Implemented by



MENACatalyst

Budget

700,000
USD

Duration

18 months

Contribution to SDGs

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Financed by

Welfare Association
(Taawon)& KOICA
(Korean International
Cooperation Agency)

About the Project:

The project created a gateway for Palestinian diaspora members to become active participants in the local startup ecosystem. Likewise, for local entrepreneurs to connect, collaborate and partner with the Palestinian diaspora for market access, investment and mentorship opportunities.

Target Audience:

Emerging Palestinian self-starters, established startup founders, and business enablers, industry partners, investors, and entrepreneurs from Palestine's expansive diaspora community.

APPROACH

The project utilized a range of tools to bridge the gap between Palestine's expansive diaspora community and local self-starters and startup founders. This included sharing startup stories to the diaspora to help raise awareness about the local entrepreneurial ecosystem.

An expansive mentorship network was utilized to help self-starters and startup founders hone in on their skills and learn what it takes to develop a strategic business plan, and how to integrate into regional and international markets.

Mentors also guided participants through the process of developing investor worthy pitch decks. Pitch competitions were then organized to help project participants get ready for real world investor networking opportunities via a series of global DEMO events.

MENA CATALYST EFFECT

DEVELOPMENTAL ORG

We are reducing barriers and fostering dynamic cross-border collaborations by enhancing the technical competencies of emerging professionals, innovators, and young changemakers to create a more equitable and resilient socioeconomic future for all across the MENA region.

MISSION & VISION

MENACatalyst (MC) is an impact-driven nonprofit with the vision of creating the conditions necessary for the marginalized to rise up and become leaders of positive social impact and effect lasting economic growth across the MENA region.

To fulfil our mission, our multifaceted integrated approach includes a range of interconnected programs that empower our communities with the tools, resources, in-demand skills, and networks of support needed to overcome structural inequalities and catalyze far-

PRIVATE SECTOR APPROACH

All our programs incorporate the Market Systems Development (MSD) Approach which has proven to be an effective tool that fosters resilient local and regional economic ecosystem development by tapping into the resources of the private sector to generate inclusive market-based opportunities in which no one is left behind.

EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- Established Palestine's first ever diaspora networking and access community that encompassing 100 business enablers, industry partners, investors, mentors, and entrepreneurs from around the globe.
- Shared over 40 professional business profiles with our diaspora community to help grow the entrepreneurial ecosystem and create connections.
- Organized a series of entrepreneurial pitch events.
- Organized five regional and international demo events in Jordan, the UAE, the UK, the US, and Chile.
- Published one study exploring the potential of diaspora investments and market access opportunities.



LESSONS LEARNED

What worked well:

Creating synergies between the Palestinian diaspora business enablers with emerging local startups via a digital platform.

Connections and networking events to enhance market access opportunities.

Mentorship, pitching, and international and regional DEMO Events helped local startups develop their professional skills and learn what it takes to approach investors.

To be improved:

Logistical coordination between participants from various inaccessible areas across Palestine. Virtual implementation would have helped create a more cohesive environment and bring together participants more effectively to learn, connect, and collaborate.

LEARN MORE OR CONTACT US:

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