

جائـــزة البـحــريـــن لـريـــادة الأعـمـــال The Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship

> الاحتفاء بالريادة . إلهام الابتكار Celebrating Entrepreneurship . Inspiring Innovation

Under the patronage of

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa
Crown Prince, First Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of Bahrain Economic
Development Board

SEMIFINALISTS SHORTLISTED BAHRAIN AWARD FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Technical committee completes first round of judging as it meets with exceptional award nominees

Manama, Wednesday, February 11th, 2015:

The Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship, held its first round of reviews and evaluation when the panel of experts on the technical committee met with 31 shortlisted Award applicants on 8th and 9th of February. Since the launch of the Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship website in December 2014, over 100 applications from entrepreneurs and businesses have been received.

The Bahrain Award for Entrepreneurship Technical Committee is officially represented by each of the Award partners: Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), Tamkeen, Bahrain Development Bank (BDB), the Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB), the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation Investment & Technology Promotion Office (UNIDO) and

the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC). The committee was also joined by a regional representative from EY, acting as a Knowledge advisor.

The selected 20 semifinalists' profiles will be forwarded to an independent panel of international judges for the second and final judging round as well as being nominated for the People's Choice Award category for online voting from February 10th to February 21st at 1pm on the official awards website.

The second judging round, which follows on immediately, from 11th February to 18th February, will see the technical committee evaluating the entries independently to determine the finalist for each award category, which are Micro-Enterprise of the Year, Startup of the Year, Enterprise of the Year (SMEs), Enterprise of the Year (Large Companies) and Sustainable Business Award (SME & Large enterprise categories). Final announcement, trophy and award presentation will occur in March 2015 at an official awards gala ceremony.

Each of the category winners will receive the chance to further sustain their business and grow for the future as some of the prize packages from the Award's partners include enrollment in development programmes, startup funding capital, business coaching, space incubators and accelerators, growth plan development as well as certification and training.

The semifinalists from the first judging round were: Bayanat DMC, Namaste, Sugar & Lace and Wood Jewelry for Micro-Enterprise of the Year. Amina Gallery, EAT, Obai & Hill and Startup Bahrain for Startup of the Year. Creative Style, Designer Shaik, Ideas Information Technology and Maya La Chocolaterie for Enterprise of the Year (SMEs). 2Connect W.L.L, Abdulla Ahmed Nass & Sons Co., Dadabhai Travel & Tours Co W.L.L and KMC Holding for Enterprise of the Year (Large Companies). and Almoayyed Contracting Group, BMMI, Reef Arabia and The K Hotel for the Sustainable Business Award.

Bahrain's award for Entrepreneurship has been launched with the partnership of Tamkeen, EDB, BDB, and knowledge advisors BCCI, UNIDO, EY Bahrain and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

For further information please visit www.BahrainAE.com, follow Twitter, Instagram and Facebook account on @BahrainAE, contact the award's hotline on 17000710 between 7.30am and 11pm or email info@BahrainAE.com.

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