INVEST IN HOME
BE THE NEXT SUCCESS STORY

A call for Palestinian diaspora’s contribution to economic development
**GRAPHIC DESIGN AND LAYOUT**
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From Occupied Palestine to the World

From the refugee camps of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon to the relative prosperity of life in Europe, Canada and the US, the Palestinian Diaspora has been dispersed across the world. In spite of the unique conditions of the Palestinian refugees and Diaspora, their success has been globally presented in highly level executives, teach and service oriented entrepreneurs. Their achievements didn’t only demonstrate their success but also their passion and commitment to their identity and homeland. Today, in occupied Palestine there is a growing awareness to the importance of linking the Diaspora’s with their homeland. As well as, the important role Diaspora’s can play in building the State institutions. The Diaspora’s level of professionalism, skills and investments can play majorly in addressing the tough domestic socioeconomic challenges and boosting the economy through internationalization, expert mentoring, experience and exposure, entrepreneurship, and angel investing.

**Simon Shaheen (Musician)**

A Palestinian, born in the village of Tarshiha in the Galilee, Shaheen is one of the most significant Arab musicians, performers, and composers of his generation. His work incorporates and reflects a legacy of Arabic music, while it forges ahead to new frontiers, embracing many different styles in the process. This unique contribution to the world of arts was recognized in 1994 when Shaheen was honored with the prestigious National Heritage Award at the White House.

**Rashid Ismail Khalidi (Scholar)**

Widely published and frequently featured in the media, he is one of America’s preeminent Middle East scholars. He is the Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies and the Director of the Middle East Institute at Columbia University. He is also President of the American Committee on Jerusalem and is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Palestine Studies. Born in New York City to a Palestinian father and Lebanese mother, Khalidi’s interest in politics was sparked at an early age. «My father worked in the Security Council at the United Nations,» Khalidi said. «As a kid, that’s what I was brought up around. Dinner table conversation consisted of what the British ambassador said to the Israeli ambassador.»

**Charlie Bisharat (Musician)**

An American Grammy-winning violinist who has toured and/or recorded with numerous notable artists. He was a member of Shadowfax, who won a Best New Age Performance Grammy in 1988 for Folksongs for a Nuclear Village. He has toured with Yanni during the Reflections of Passion, Revolution in Sound, Dare to Dream and Yanni Live, The Symphony Concerts 1993 concert tours. He is also featured on John Tesh’s live concert video Live at Red Rocks.

**Farouk Shami (Businessman)**

Shami was born in the village of Beit Ur al-Tahta in 1942. His family lost three children due to occupation and displacement. Shami’s success stemmed from his people’s suffering from Israeli occupation and his talent. In 1986, Farouk started his spa and hair care products company, Farouk Systems. Over the years Farouk Systems has introduced a wide variety of spa and hair products that have continued to resonate well with the market, making him a very rich man. Du
ring his 35-year journey, Shami registered 13 patents and revolutionized the global beauty industry in collaboration with NASA.

**Cherien Dabis (Filmmaker and Producer)**
Award-winning Palestinian-American filmmaker, graduate of Columbia University’s School of the Arts, Dabis was a writer and co-producer on Showtime’s hit television series «The L Word» and directed several short films including the 2007 festival favorite Make A Wish, which won numerous awards including the Gold Muhr Award at the Dubai Film Festival and the Press Prize at the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival. In 2007, Dabis was awarded the first L’Oreal Paris Women of Worth Vision Award. She has received grants from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the Jerome Foundation and Renew Media/the Tribeca Institute.

**Aron Kader (Comedian and Actor)**
The son of a Palestinian father and a Mormon mother, Aron Kader does not have to look far for inspiration for his standup comedy. The actor and comedian grew up in Washington D.C. and moved to Hollywood at 19, and has appeared on Comedy Central’s Premium Blend and the police drama The Shield. He also filmed a television pilot for NBC called Beverly Hills SUV. Kader is known for his ability to comment on serious issues in the Arab world while still getting a laugh.

**Naomi Shihab Nye: Poet and Author**
Palestinian-American poet Naomi Shihab Nye knew she wanted to write even before she could use a pencil. «Selecting and arranging words seemed comforting,» she says. At age seven she submitted her first poem for publication, beginning a prolific and award-winning calling. Nye was born in St. Louis in 1952. Just four years earlier, her father and his family lost their home in Jerusalem following the establishment of the state of Israel. As a result of her father’s experiences, she learned the importance of place and of being connected - a theme that has been central to her writing ever since.

**Maysoon Zayid (Actor and Comedian)**
Palestinian-American Muslim actor-cum-comedian with cerebral palsy has been steadily making a name for herself, performing standup comedy nationwide as well as overseas. Born in New Jersey in 1976, Zayid is a woman of firsts. She is America’s first Muslim woman comedian and the first person ever to perform standup in Palestine and Jordan. «It was fabulous being in Palestine,» Zayid says, «because I didn’t have to give a context for my jokes. The first time I did standup was during the height of the second Intifada. When they laughed, they were so relieved. They said how good it felt to laugh.»

**Carlos Flores Facusse (Former President of Honduras)**
Born to a Honduran journalist (Oscar Flores Midence) and Palestinian mother (Margarita Facusse de Flores), Flores Facusse served as the president of Honduras from January 27, 1998 – January 27, 2002. A graduate of Louisiana State University with degrees in Industrial Engineering and International Economics and Finance, he ran as the candidate for the right-of-center Liberal Party of Honduras. Flores Facusse was president during Hurricane Mitch, a historic tragedy that brought unprecedented rains and left 18,323 dead. At least
14,000 of them were Hondurans. With the economy devastated, Flores Facusse secured large amounts of international aid, as well as implemented guidelines recommended by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund to help stabilize the economy. In 2000, Honduras qualified for debt relief under the Debt Initiative for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries.

Said Musa (Prime Minister of Belize)

Is a Belizean lawyer and politician. He was the Prime Minister of Belize from 28 August 1998 to 8 February 2008. Said Wilbert Musa was born in 1944 in San Ignacio in the Cayo District of what was then British Honduras. He was the fourth of eight children by Aurora Musa, née Gibbs, and Hamid Musa of Palestinian descent. Hamid Musa was also involved in politics, running for the British Honduras Legislative Assembly as a National Party candidate in the 1957 general elections.[1]

Ghada Karmi (born 1939) is a Palestinian British doctor of medicine, author and academic. She writes frequently on Palestinian issues in newspapers and magazines, including The Guardian, The Nation and Journal of Palestine Studies. She is a fellow and lecturer at the Institute of Arab & Islamic studies at Exeter University. Karmi was born in Jerusalem to a Muslim family. Her father, Hassan was Palestinian while her mother was Syrian. In her 2002 autobiography, In Search of Fatima: A Palestinian Story, she describes growing up in the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Katamon, with its mixture of Palestinian Christians and Muslims. Among the family friends and neighbors was Khalil al-Sakakini and his family. Her family fled Jerusalem in 1948, and their family villa was seized by Israel. In 1983 the New York Times bought it and installed its correspondents on a second story structure built onto the Karmi villa. The Karmi family received no compensation for the confiscation.[1] The family eventually settled in the predominantly Jewish neighbourhood of Golders Green, in London, England, where her father, Hasan Sa'id Karmi, worked for the BBC Arabic service.

Naser Khader (born July 1, 1963) is Danish-Palestinian and a member of the Parliament of Denmark for the Conservative People's Party. He was first elected to Parliament representing the Danish Social Liberal Party in 2001. In 2007 he left this party to found New Alliance (later Liberal Alliance), whom he represented from 2007 until 5 January 2009. A leading proponent of peaceful co-existence of democracy and Islam, he established a new movement, Moderate Muslims (later renamed Democratic Muslims), when the Jyllands-Posten Muhammad cartoons controversy began. Khader co-founded an association of Islamism critics in 2008, with the aim to promote freedom of speech and inspire moderate Muslims worldwide. Khader and the Conservative Party advocate a complete ban on the burqa as part of an integration initiative by the Conservatives' parliamentary group, describing it as "un-Danish" and "oppression against women".

Emily Jacir is a Palestinian artist and filmmaker. Born in Bethlehem in 1972, Jacir spent her childhood in Saudi Arabia, attending high school in Italy. She attended Memphis College of Art and graduated with an art degree. She divides her time between Rome, Italy and Ramallah. Jacir works in a variety of media including film, photogra-
phy, installation, performance, video, writing and sound. She has exhibited extensively throughout the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East since 1994, holding solo exhibitions in places including New York, Los Angeles, Ramallah, Beirut, London and Linz.

Samir El-Youssef (born 1965) is a Palestinian-British writer and critic, who was born in Rashidieh, a Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon, where he lived until he was ten, before moving to Sidon. He emigrated to Cyprus in 1989 and since 1990 has been living in London, where he studied philosophy and gained a Master of Arts degree from the University of London. In 2000, he was granted British citizenship. In 2004, he co-authored a book with Israeli author Etgar Keret, called Gaza Blues: Different Stories.[2] His latest book, The Illusion of Return, published in 2007, is his first novel written in English. He is also an essayist with a wide range of interests including literature, politics, philosophy and cultural studies. His essays and reviews have appeared in major Arabic periodicals and newspapers such as the London-based Al-Hayat, as well as on openDemocracy.net, The Guardian's Comment is Free and in the New Statesman. In 2005, the Swedish branch of the organisation International PEN granted El-Youssef the Tucholsky award, named after Kurt Tucholsky and given each year to a writer or publisher who is either being persecuted or threatened, or living in exile.

Michel Khleifi (born 1950 in Nazareth) is an Arab (born in Israel) film writer, director and producer, presently based in Belgium. Khleifi emigrated from Israel to Belgium in 1970, where he studied television and theatre directing at the Institut National Supérieur des Arts du Spectacle (INSAS). After graduating from INSAS, he worked in Belgium television before turning to making his own films. He has directed and produced several documentary and feature films. He has received several awards, including the International Critics’ Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, the Golden Shell at San Sebastián International Film Festival and the André Cavens Award in 1987 for his film Wedding in Galilee. Khleifi currently teaches at INSAS.

Diaspora and Palestine in Action: The MedGeneration programme

While, occupied Palestine is still suffering from the absence of a State and the Diaspora continue to advance in their success worldwide. The Medgeneration project came to facilitate the relations between Diaspora and occupied Palestine by understanding the potential, profile and expectations of highly skilled Palestinian professional in Europe and the world. As well as, identifying opportunities to engage the Diaspora in investments projects, while, providing the necessary recommendations to improve frameworks and enhancing communications to develop value added services in occupied Palestine.
According to the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) 2016, there are around 6.1 million Palestinian worldwide, 44 % live in Arab countries while 5.5% live in Western countries. Most recent statistics from the OECD, PCBS and MPI counting only foreign-born migrants indicate that the Gulf region is still home of the largest concentration of Palestinian migrants, with a total of approximately 900,000. The map below shows the global breakdown of Palestinian expertise.

**There are two main groups of Palestinian Diaspora distinguished according to location:**

**Palestinians in Western Countries:**
- Their estimated numbers vary widely, but less than 5.5 percent of the Palestinian people live in the Western Diaspora communities. They are divided into European communities and those in the Americas.

**Palestinians in Arab countries:**
- Jordan: The largest of the Palestinian Diaspora communities is situated in Jordan and numbers approximately are 2.6 million.
- Syria: The exact number of Palestinians in Syria is unknown, but 528,616 Palestinians are registered as refugees, 27 percent of whom live in the ten UNRWA administered camps.
- Lebanon: Their number is widely debated and the only numbers available are limited to registered refugees 452,669.

**History of Palestinian Migration**

After the partial loss of the Palestinian territories in 1948 and the complete loss in 1967, the relationship between members of the Palestinian Diaspora and their homeland became symbolic. Though, after the beginning of the peace process and the Oslo Agreement, which led to the establishment of the Palestinian Authority (PA) many who were left in the Diaspora have begun to focus their attention again on their homeland.

**Palestinian Migration can be traced historically in 6 major stages:**

**The 1936-1939 Arab Revolt.**
The first event caused a larger emigration of younger males to seek employment education, and fortune outside of Palestine. Due to the British persecution and the tough economic situation.

**Palestinian Nakba 1947-1948**
The Palestinian catastrophe resulted in transforming 75% of the Palestinian people to refugees.
Many of them fled their villages and became refugees in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria.

**The 1950s and 1960s Economy Depression**
The economic situation was extremely depressed, further complicated by political oppression in Israel, where Arab towns and villages stayed under the Israeli military occupation. Palestinians left historical Palestine in search of employment. Many sought employment in the gulf states, where the discovery of oil demanded skilled laborers and professionals.

**The Six-Day War of 1967**
In this war Israel occupied the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza and turned many Palestinians into refugees for the second time.
An estimated 250,000 West Bank residents and 75,000 residents of Gaza were driven from their homes between June 1967 and December 1968.

**The Gulf War of 1991**
This war resulted in the expulsion of a large number of Palestinians from Kuwait. Many attempted to settle into a difficult life in Jordan after losing their livelihood and savings in Kuwait.

The negative effects of these two major political events on safety, the political climate, the economy, and education, forced more Palestinians to leave the Occupied Palestinian Territories and prevented many others from returning.

**Diaspora Professionals**
Assessing the number of ‘highly skilled diaspora professionals’ is by definition complex and poses challenges in terms of statistical analysis. Most diaspora expatriates do not declare themselves as such and often do not wish to be categorised within a defined ethnic community. The challenge is particularly important for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which are not taken into account in most statistical analyses.
According to a study published by the Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration (CARIM) – Highly skilled migration in the occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt): Socio-political perspectives – and OECD data from 2008 and updated in 2015, highly skilled people account for a quarter of the total number of Palestinians leaving their country every year. Europe is the number-one destination for highly skilled Palestinian professionals. Almost 34% of highly skilled migrants migrate to Europe, while 21% migrate to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, 15% to the United States, 14% to Canada, and 15% to other countries.
How do they support the Palestinian economy?

Despite the unique settings of the Palestinian economy under the Israeli restrictions, the Diaspora can play a significant role in the development of the Palestinian economy. Beyond sending remittances, they can also promote trade and foreign direct investment, create businesses and spur entrepreneurship, and transfer new knowledge and skills.

The impact of Diaspora engagements is felt strongly in the following areas, among others:

**Trade**
There are demonstrable links between the presence of a Diaspora and increased trade, as Diaspora members create connections between producers and consumers in countries of origin and destination. Diaspora population also buy the products of their countries of origin and introduce these products to new markets in the countries of settlement.

**Investment**
Diasporas invest directly in their countries of origin and persuade non-Diaspora investors to do the same boosting investor confidence in (and knowledge of) emerging and undeveloped markets. Tools such as Diaspora bonds have helped mobilize Diaspora wealth for development.

**Skills and Knowledge Transfer**
Diaspora often gain valuable skills, experiences and contacts aboard that they can "transfer" back to their country of origin by seeding businesses and entrepreneurship, training and mentoring native workers, and boosting emerging industries.
ECONOMIC NATURE OF PALESTINE
The latest IMF reported under a baseline scenario that assumes no change to the Israeli restriction on trade movement and access, growth is expected to remain unchanged in 2016 at 3.2%. In the West bank, growth is projected at 2.7% in 2016 whilst growth in Gaza is projected at % in 2016, as reconstruction advances.

WHAT DOES PALESTINE HAVE TO OFFER THE PALESTINIAN DIASPORA?
Palestine enjoys numerous advantages that make it a highly interesting destination for investment: The strategic geographic location of Palestine, the presence of a skilled and young labor force, along with the attractive incentive packages provided by the International Community, numerous free trade agreements with the main trading partners all over the world, the industrial states incentives, strongly encouraging governmental policies for trade and investment in the framework of the Palestinian Investment Promotion Law and investment guarantees and insurance from local and international institutions.

PALESTINE HAS FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH GLOBAL ECONOMIC PLAYERS
Arab Countries, EU, USA, Canada, Turkey, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina.

Numerous Incentive Programs
Here is the list of investment incentives by The Palestinian investment promotion Agency (PIPA)

- Spare part important by the enterprise shall be exempt from customs duties provided that their value does not exceed (15%) of the fixed assets.
- Investors may freely transfer all financial resources out of Palestine At the applicable market currency exchange rates in effect the time of transfer in a convertible currency acceptable to the investor.
- Income tax (%0) for the Agriculture projects, industrial and tourism projects (5%) Up to Five years and 10% for 3 years, preceded by a grace period of a maximum of four years or until they generate a profit.
- Investment that increases their production exports for more than (40%).
- Investment use (70%). Of the local content. Investments that employ additional at least 25 workers during the period of benefit.
- No distinction between foreign or domestic investors.
Huge Investment Opportunities in Many Sectors

Today’s Palestine presents growth and investment opportunities for companies both large and small. There is much work to be done in infrastructure, energy, transportation, and communications. Currently, investment opportunities are located in a wide range of economic sectors:

**Construction**
The importance of the real estate sector is evident: With its contribution of 14.1% to economic activities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, it is the most important sector after services. Because it is linked to numerous sectors, including trade, tourism, mining, manufacturing, etc., the real estate and construction sector has grown by almost 700 percent since 2005.

**Public Transport**
As the Palestinians plan to build their own state, the private sector will play a key role in developing the infrastructure in the public transportation sector and its sub-sectors.

**Stone and Marble**
Stone and marble products have good potential based on its large value of exports, a large number of existing exports markets, a strong supply base and solid global demand. Palestinian stone and marble is in high demand in international markets, particularly the bright colored natural lime stone. The sector is a priority sector and therefore part of Palestine’s National Export Strategy (NES), which benefits from preferential treatment to all countries that Palestine has concluded trade agreements/arrangements with.

**Handicraft**
Handicraft production facilities and individual producers are scattered all over the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The sector is composed of diversified production facilities and product types, classified as oriental handicrafts, olive wood carving, and mother of pearl, ceramics, glass works, pottery, embroidery, carpet knitting, wax products, accessories jewelry and other handmade products. The religious im-
The importance of Bethlehem has led to a predominant role of this city for handicraft producers.

**Pharmaceutical Sector**
Considerable investments in facilities and equipment to comply with international standards and requirements have led to a high diversification of targeted import countries in the global market, a high technological level, and the capability to satisfy the overwhelming regional demand for its associated products. Over the last 25 years, Palestinian pharmaceutical companies have expanded capacities and product lines at a rate of 7-10 percent per annum.

**Leather and Footwear**
The leather and footwear industry, as one of the identified priority sectors within the NES, is largely concentrated in Hebron with 10 tanneries and 420 businesses. The sector produces high quality products, including casual shoes, tennis shoes, women’s and children’s slippers, sandals and hand and travel bags, and exports to Europe, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

**Paper Industry**
This industry goes back to the early parts of the last century and has shown a great development after mid-nineties. In the printing sector, almost 90% of the market volume is Palestinian. The number of operating firms increased to 300 firms, with about 140 firms being active players in the industry. In recent years, the sector experienced a great shift towards quality production, with large investments that were seen in the cities of Nablus, Hebron and Ramallah.

**Chemical Industries**
This sector is comprised by three major categories: paints and ink, detergents and cosmetics, and recently, a growing tendency was noticed in developing these products. The industry is spread all over the West Bank, with a total number of 60 firms. Cosmetics are the most exported products, and export opportunities exist in markets like Jordan, Algeria, Gulf States and Yemen.
ICT
The Palestinian ICT sector, as one of the priority sectors in the NES, is the fastest growing sector in Palestine. It benefits from a well-educated and skilled workforce, low costs for human resources compared to other countries in the region, an excellent infrastructure in the telecommunication sector, and high recognition in the past years both in Palestine and in the rest of the world.

TOURISM
With an improvement in the security situation, the tourist industry has proven to be an important growth sector. The World Bank estimated that given the political stability, Palestinian industry can expect to receive between 500,000 and 1,000,000 tourists annually. The sector has not only realized but surpassed this target, with approximately 2 million tourists in 2010. Domestic and foreign investments therefore have a great opportunity to modernize the sector and expand its scope, which in turn will have pulling effects on numerous sectors such as real estate (hotel development), tour operators and guides, handicraft, wholesale and retail, car rental, cultural events, restaurants etc.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND WATER
The plan to build a state includes enabling the Palestinians throughout their whole national territory to build utility networks, including national and regional networks that are capable of delivering sustainable supplies of energy and water.

EDUCATION
The lack of facilities and schools provides significant opportunities.
**Regional Support Networks**

**Palestine Information & Communication Technology Incubator (PICTI)**
PICTI is the first national incubator in Palestine founded in 2004, based in Ramallah with a branch in Gaza, it was built to revitalise and sustainably grow the ICT sector in Palestine.

**YEP Young Entrepreneurs of Palestine**
YEP organises workshops, training and mentoring for young entrepreneurs, students and young people who want to start up their own business. It works to promote entrepreneurship at a policy level.

**FastForward**
Fast-forward is Palestine’s first start-up accelerator, providing aspiring Palestinian entrepreneurs with the resources they need to succeed in the global market. Selected start-ups are given a seed investment of USD 20,000 and project-based mentorship from a seasoned pool of knowledgeable entrepreneurs.

**PIPA**
PIPA’s mission is to build a better future for all Palestinians by providing constantly improved customer service to foreign and domestic investors, by utilising an effective One-Stop-Shop, special investment incentives and state of the at technology to attract investment.
Get involved!

This section includes the regional and international support networks that consist of identified organisations and networks that aim to engage highly skilled diaspora professionals with their home country through specific investment-generation events.

Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies

The Palestinian information technology Association of Companies represents more than 150 major ICT companies in Palestinian’s emerging Technology and start-up ecosystem. PITA organizations Expotech: In 2014 the focus was on “intelligent cities”

Palestine Trade Center (PalTrade)

PalTrade is a not-for-profit organisation, gathering together 327 Palestinian business leaders promoting an enabling business environment. It is dedicated to improving trade competitiveness through trade promotion and capacity building

INJAZ Palestine

INJAZ Palestine is part of the global organisation Junior Achievement Worldwide, in which more than 10 million students participate in over 126 countries annually. INJAZ has been a registered Palestinian organisation since 2005. It is led by a board of directors representing top multinational companies and organisations in Palestine.

Arabreneur

Arabreneur’s aim is to encourage young entrepreneurs to develop their businesses and provide them with facilities to use their creativity provide economic and social growth

Get involved!
The staff of the European Commission offices located in Gaza and East Jerusalem includes European Commission officials of various European nationalities posted from Brussels, local Palestinian staff, as well as a team of technical experts, who advise the Commission on project identification, formulation and implementation.

After hosting a successful Mowgli Mentor Experience (MME) programme in Palestine, Mowgli signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with PICTI to recruit and train mentors, partner them with Palestinian entrepreneurs and lead future yearlong mentoring programmes.

Mowgli (in partnership with PICTI)

MIT Enterprise Forum Arab Start-up Competition

It has a proven track record in promoting MIT-style entrepreneurship by organising the annual MIT Enterprise Forum Arab Start-up Competition in partnership with Abdul Latif Jameel Community Initiatives. The competition targets 21 countries in the Arab region and attracts more than 4,000 applications a year. The competition has trained over 900 entrepreneurs and has helped start more than 200 knowledge-based and technology-driven companies in Yemen, Jordan, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia, UAE, Tunisia and others.

AFD

AFD is active in Palestine. It has an office there and is involved in the emergence of new clusters. Interviewed by ANIMA, AFD is interested in being involved in MedGeneration.

Delegation of the European Commission in Palestine

Sourcing Mentoring

Coaching Mentoring

International

Strategic Partner
**GIZ**
GIZ has been working in the Palestinian territories since the 1980s. It has two offices in Palestine, one in Al-Bireh/Ramallah and another in the Gaza Strip. Collaboration can be initiated under the Economic Development and Employment programme.

**PALinnO**
PALinnO is a mentorship-based programme that provides office space, international mentoring, seed investment and follow-up funding for innovative Palestinians to succeed globally. PalinnO is a programme funded by successful European ICT entrepreneur. It aims to empower Palestinian entrepreneurs and start-ups, support them in reaching a global market and international customers, and help them gain exposure among Silicon Valley investors.

**ARAMEX CORPORATE ENTREPRENEURSHIP RESPONSIBILITY (CER)**
Aramex CER is an initiative launched by Fadi Ghandour, founder and CEO of Aramex, and led by Ola Doudian. This initiative aims to mobilize and organize private sector efforts in building entrepreneurial ecosystem in the MENA region.

**ARABCRUNCH**
Since 2008 has been the only private sector organisation in the world that is dedicated to empowering entrepreneurs, start-ups, tech professionals and geeks in the Arab and emerging world via its network of sites and events. It receives 100,000 page views per month.

**WAMDA**
A major media player and investor in the region. Its investment fund, Wamda Capital, currently backs some of the region’s most exciting start-ups like Akhtaboot and Social Wire. It organises regular mentoring sessions (like Mix & Mentor).

**Mentoring**

**Support Networks**

**Media Partner**

**Coaching**

**Strategic Partner**
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