

Start-ups to flourish next year

Mohammed Zafran/DTNN
zafran@dt.bh

Manama

2017 will provide a suitable environment for all start ups to grow and flourish in the Kingdom, according to a senior official of Bahrain Economic Development Board.

EDB Managing Director Simon Galpin told *DT news* that a new strategy is being envisioned to revitalise the start up scene in Bahrain.

"We have a new branding for the start ups, which is something that the whole community can use and

promote. 2017 is going to be really exciting. We want to have more events where the community can get together," Galpin said.

He added that more promotions would be done outside Bahrain where potential investors in the Kingdom would be taken overseas to promote themselves more effectively at big start up events.

"More events, initiatives and programmes could be held next year as Bahrain Economic Development Board looks to strengthen and promote start ups in Bahrain. EDB has started implementing

a new brand named 'Startup Bahrain' to compliment the strategy," he said.

"We want to grow the number of investors here by persuading high net worth individuals to invest in start ups. We will also look

to work with universities as well to create that spirit of entrepreneurship within the youth, so we have lots to do," he added.

He said that encouraging start ups in FinTech will be on the agenda.

"There are a number of different startup verticals that we are looking at. FinTech of course offers a great potential here. And we would like to work with CBB to develop a sandbox type concept," he said.

EDB Managing Director
Simon Galpin

Bahraini Women's Book Fair to be held tomorrow

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

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Isa Cultural Centre is set to organise the Bahraini Women's Book Fair tomorrow under the patronage of HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW).

The event, which will continue until December 12, is part of Bahrain's celebrations of the Bahraini Women's Day.

Marking the occasion, Board of Trustees Chairman and Executive Director of Isa Cultural Centre Dr. Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa lauded the empowerment efforts of SCW to promote women's standing and motivating them to bring about more achievements to the nation.

He also voiced appreciation of the initiatives undertaken by HRH Princess Sabeeka to further consolidate the academic status of Bahraini women.

Sex for money: Man jailed

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Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced an American man, accused of inciting men to have paid sex with him, for ten days behind bars.

The defendant is believed to have lured his customers via social media, before inviting them to a five-star hotel to have sex with him. According to court files, the defendant was receiving amounts between BD150-400 from each customer.

The defendant is believed to have lured his customers via social media, before inviting them to a five-star hotel to have sex with him

He was arrested following a sting operation, where an officer in disguise encouraged the defendant to have sex with him. The American man told prosecutors that he had

undergone several cosmetic surgeries to imitate women and he was having sex with men twice a week. The defendant will be deported following imprisonment.

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