

UoB to empower 3,000 women students to launch 30 startups

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Aimed at educating 3,000 female programmers with a target of setting up tech businesses by thirty among them, the University of Bahrain has launched the 'Forsati for her' project in partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Microsoft, Think Smart and Tamkeen.

"The road to becoming more than a knowledge economy but an innovation economy starts with having skilled human capital," UoB President Prof Riyad Hamzah said at the launch of the programme yesterday.

The project is part of UoB's five-year Transformation Plan developed in 2016, aimed at making science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education attractive, improving access to technology education, widening active

participation in digital literacy, playing an active part in the entrepreneurship ecosystem and increased partnership working.

"With the launch of FINTECH Bay and the Startup Bahrain initiative, it is good timing that we are able to support a project designed to develop highly skilled female programmers," said the President.

"The digital economy requires talent and infrastructure; here at UoB we have the talent." He added

"The 3,000 digitally empowered female students will provide the backbone for Bahrain's emerging digital economy and growing entrepreneurship ecosystem," said Prof Riyad Hamzah.

United Nations Resident Coordinator Amin El Sharawi and Economic Development Board Managing Director Simon Galpin attended the event.



L-R: Simon Galpin, EDB Managing Director, Prof Riyad Hamzah, President of UoB, Amin El Sharawi, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP President to Bahrain, and Cameron Mirza, UoB Director of Transformation, at the launch



Property expo from tomorrow 2018 'Bahrain For All' festival announced



L-R: Mohammed Isa Sanad, Saleh A. Noor Faqih, Aseel Al Mohandes and Mohammed Mahmood at the press conference

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Bahrain's first-ever property expo bringing together developers, managers and brokers will be held on March 14 and 15 under the patronage of the Minister of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning, Esam bin Abdullah Khalaf, it was announced at a press meet yesterday.

The expo is organized in partnership with Tamkeen Foundation and logistical support from Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The event will be held at the Bahrain Convention Centre at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

"The Bahrain Property Brokerage Expo 2018 will promote a culture of property

investment, and support professionals wanting to work in the real estate sector," said Nasser Al Ahli, President of the Bahrain Real Estate Association.

The expo is expected to attract GCC property investments to the Bahraini market; gather property brokers, property developers, service providers and financial institutions under one roof.

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More than 55,000 people from 40 local and expatriate communities will take part in the upcoming 'Bahrain For All' festival which will be held on March 30 at Prince Khalifa bin Salman Park in Hidd. Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Filipino, Jordanian, Ethiopian, Thai, Bangladeshi, and Egyptian artists, among others, will perform at the show. Special needs children from RIA Institute and Hidd Rehabilitation Centre will also put on special performances.

Tamkeen is the strategic partner of the 6th edition of the festival, which will focus on bridging gaps between Bahrain's communities and supporting local entrepreneurs, with over 250 market stalls dedicated to businesses and productive families. It will also offer a range of live shows, including performances by local DJs and emcees. Organiser Nivedita Dhadphale said: "This year, we're offering a platform to promote entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurism has become a valuable part of Bahraini identity and self-image. By ensuring their success, we can improve our standards of living and contribute towards forming a prosperous society. We are happy to be able to give them such an opportunity where they can market their products as well as engage closely with diverse communities."

More than 55,000 people are expected at the Tamkeen-supported cultural show