

BENEFIT Launches Fifth Edition of “MASAR” Fintech Summer Internship Program



BENEFIT, the Kingdom's innovator and leading company in Fintech and electronic financial transactions service, has launched the fifth edition of its annual “MASAR” Fintech Summer Internship Program, Program for third and fourth-year university students. The two-month program offers participants hands-on exposure to the fintech sector through practical experience across several departments at BENEFIT. It is designed to help students understand real workplace dynamics, build professional confidence, and develop the skills needed to support their transition from university to the labor market.

This year's edition focuses on providing a well-rounded internship experience that combines daily workplace learning with cross-functional collaboration and professional development opportunities. Participants will have the opportunity to work closely with different teams, gain insight into BENEFIT's operations, and learn more about the compa-

ny's role in supporting Bahrain's digital payments infrastructure and electronic financial services ecosystem. Mr. Salah Al Awadhi, Chief Human Resources Officer at BENEFIT, commented: “We are proud to launch the fifth edition of MASAR, a program that reflects BENEFIT's continued commitment to investing in Bahraini youth and preparing them for the future of the fintech sector.

Our aim is to give students a real opportunity to learn from the workplace, build confidence, and develop practical skills that will help them take their first steps into their professional careers.” Mr. Al Awadhi added: “This year's program has been tailored to offer a more comprehensive experience by combining hands-on training across our departments with enrichment activities outside the workplace that focus on communication, teamwork, and career readiness.

These activities broaden the overall internship experience and give students additional opportunities to learn, engage, and grow beyond their day-to-day training.



Salah Al Awadhi, Chief Human Resources Officer at BENEFIT

We look forward to seeing the participants make the most of this opportunity and carry the experience forward into their future careers.” Through “MASAR,” BENEFIT continues to strengthen the connection between higher education and the labor market by providing young talent with direct exposure to professional environments and practical learning opportunities in one of the Kingdom's most dynamic sectors.

The program also supports Bahrain's broader ambition to further develop its position as a regional financial hub by helping prepare a new generation of talent equipped to contribute to the continued growth and innovation of the financial services ecosystem.

Eskan Bank Participates as Platinum Sponsor at Bahrain Smart Cities Summit 2026 and Receives “Innovation” Award for Baity Platform

Eskan Bank announced its participation as a Platinum Sponsor at the Bahrain Smart Cities Summit 2026, held under the patronage of His Excellency Shaikh Khalid Bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister, and organized by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, from 30 June to 1 July 2026. The Bank's participation reflects its continued commitment to advancing Bahrain's smart city agenda through innovative digital housing solutions and supporting the Kingdom's vision for sustainable urban development.

During the summit, Eskan Bank received the “Innovation Award in Digital Real Estate Services” for its pioneering Baity platform, Bahrain's digital real estate advisor, developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning. The award highlights the platform's role in transforming the homeownership journey through an integrated digital ecosystem that enhances accessibility, transparency, and efficiency across the Kingdom's housing sector.

Baity provides citizens with a comprehensive digital experience, enabling users to search for properties, explore residential developments, take virtual tours, access housing finance services, track their financing applications with real-time status updates, complete digital reservations, make electronic payments, obtain online property valuations from certified valuers across the Kingdom, and securely verify their identity through integration with the Electronic Key 2.0 platform. The plat-



form also delivers valuable analytical insights and data-driven tools that support real estate developers, financial institutions, and government entities in enhancing services and enabling informed decision-making.

Her Excellency Mrs. Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning and Chairperson of Eskan Bank's Board of Directors, stated:

“This recognition reflects the Kingdom of Bahrain's steadfast commitment to leveraging digital innovation to transform the housing sector and enhance the quality of services provided to citizens. The Baity platform stands as a flagship national initiative, demonstrating how strategic collaboration between the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning and Eskan Bank can deliver integrated, citizen-centric digital services that simplify the homeownership journey, strengthen transparency, and improve accessibility. As we continue advancing Bahrain's vision for sustainable urban development, we remain committed to developing innovative solutions that elevate the customer experience, em-

power informed decision-making, and contribute to building more sustainable, connected, and citizen-centric communities.”

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Abdulla Taleb, General Manager of Eskan Bank, said:

“Our participation in the Bahrain Smart Cities Summit as Platinum Sponsor, alongside receiving this prestigious recognition for the Baity platform, reflects Eskan Bank's ongoing commitment to delivering innovative digital solutions that simplify the homeownership journey and enhance the overall customer experience. We remain dedicated to supporting Bahrain's smart city ambitions by driving digital transformation across the housing sector and developing services that create lasting value for citizens and stakeholders alike.”

Through its participation in the Bahrain Smart Cities Summit 2026, Eskan Bank continues to demonstrate its leadership in digital housing innovation while reinforcing its commitment to supporting Bahrain's vision for smart, sustainable, and citizen-centric communities.

Providing University Students with Comprehensive Professional Experience for Two Months Seef Properties Launches Second Edition of “Taasis” Program to Train Young National Cadres

As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting national talent and enhancing the readiness of Bahraini youth for the labour market, Seef Properties announced the launch of the second edition of its “Taasis” training program. This program aims to provide university students with comprehensive professional experience, allowing them to gain firsthand knowledge of the corporate work environment while acquiring the skills necessary for their future careers.

The program builds on the company's investment in human capital and development of promising national talent by providing high-quality training opportunities that bridge academic knowledge with practical application. It empowers participants to explore various career paths within the real estate, asset management, and shopping mall sectors.

The new edition was launched on the first of July and will run for the duration of two months. Par-



Ahmed Yusuf, CEO of Seef Properties

Participants will engage in hands-on training within different company departments, gaining insights into operational and administrative functions. They will furthermore benefit from interactive workshops led by company officials, mentorship and career guidance sessions, and direct meetings with executive management, in addition to field visits to Seef Properties' projects.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Ahmed Yusuf, CEO of Seef Properties, stated, “We are proud to continue the Taasis program for the second consecutive year, following the success of its first



Abeer Al Shaikh, Human Resources and Administrative Manager at Seef Properties

edition, which reflected the importance of providing qualitative training opportunities for Bahraini youth. The program embodies our commitment to granting national talent practical understanding of the business environment, enhancing their career-readiness and contributing to the Kingdom's economic development.”

He added, “Investing in youth is central to our vision for corporate sustainability. We continue to develop initiatives that provide them with opportunities to learn,



experiment, and gain practical experience, enabling them to better build career paths and develop a deeper understanding of the modern business environment.”

For her part, Ms. Abeer Al Shaikh, Human Resources and Administrative Manager at Seef Properties, commented, “Taasis focuses on broadening participants' experiences by allowing them to explore various roles within the company and comprehend how these roles contribute

to achieving corporate goals. This approach provides a comprehensive understanding of the real estate sector and the competencies required in today's workplace.”

She added, “We are keen to ensure that participants benefit from practical learning experiences and interactions with specialists in various fields. This enriches their professional knowledge, expands their career prospects, and maximises the value of their training.”

The program will conclude in a final project where participants will apply their acquired knowledge to address a practical business challenge and present their project to a panel of company experts. Outstanding participants will be recognised, demonstrating their professional and personal development, while reinforcing the role of Taasis as an effective platform for nurturing national talent.

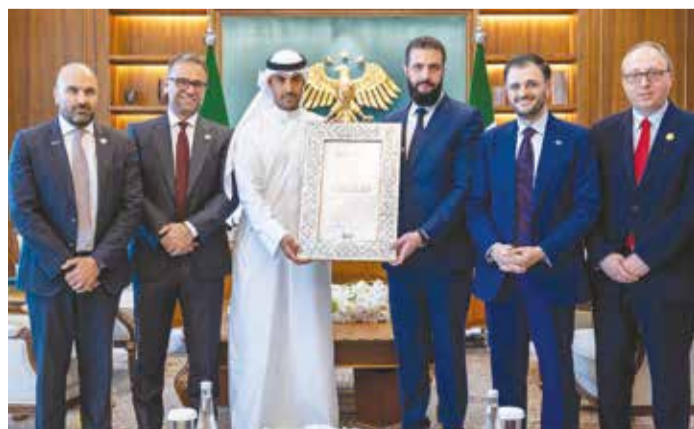
Seef Properties is a leading real estate developer in Bahrain, with a diverse portfolio of commercial, leisure, and residential projects that contribute to economic growth and enhance the quality of life in the Kingdom. The company remains committed to supporting community, educational, sports, and cultural initiatives as part of its dedication to the welfare of Bahraini society.

Zain awarded 25-year Syria telecom license following USD 747 million bid

Zain Group, a leading regional technology company, has been awarded a 25-year licence to operate a mobile telecom network in the Syrian Arab Republic following a competitive tender process conducted by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

The licence, valued at USD 747 million, will allow Zain to operate Syria's existing MTN network. The agreement includes a 20-year term with the option of a five-year extension.

- Zain Syria will invest USD 800 million over next decade in roll-out of 5G and digital technologies
- Commercial launch under Zain Syria brand expected in Q1 2027
- Zain involved in six-month transition period to ensure continuity of services for 6.3m customers
- Bader Al-Kharafi: “Zain's expansion to Syria reflects our confidence in the country's future prosperity and reinforces Kuwaiti Syrian socio-economic relations”



Zain will establish a new operating company in Syria, holding a 75% stake, while a Syrian government entity will own the remaining 25%. The commercial launch of the “Zain Syria” brand is expected in the first quarter of 2027, subject to regulatory approvals.

A six-month transition period will see Zain working closely with Syrian authorities and the current operator to ensure service continuity for around 6.3 million customers.

As part of the agreement, Zain plans to invest more than USD 800 million over the next decade to modernize and expand the network, including the rollout of 5G and AI-powered digital technologies.

Zain Group said the expansion reflects confidence in Syria's telecom market and long-term economic prospects, and aligns with its regional strategy to grow in high-potential markets and strengthen digital connectivity across the Levant.