



# TAG-Tenders Newsletter

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## Abu-Ghazaleh: We designed and manufactured TAGTECH Laptops & Tablets at the highest

RABAT – Addressing the Rabat International Social Responsibility Congress as guest of honor, HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, founder and chairman of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Global (TAG.Global) emphasized that social responsibility is not only providing positive social assistance, but also offering building capacity programs to empower community to be able to forgo aid.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh's statement came during his opening keynote speech at the said Congress entitled 'Social Responsibility and Business Ethics: International Experiences to Enhance Competitiveness', held under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Saadeddine Othmani, Prime Minister of Morocco.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh stated that Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Foundation (TAG-Foundation) advocated the second track by managing and funding more than (50) capacity building programs for the benefit of tens of millions of people, noting that TAG-Foundation adopted a set of initiatives that strive to develop society, particularly in areas that suffer high-rates of unemployment and poverty.

Moreover, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh referred to TAG-Foundation's latest initiative embodied by the support of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh for Technologies (TAGTech) which has recently launched its first high-tech specs laptops and tablets at competitive prices.

Issue No. 57

October  
2019

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh noted that TAGTech products; designed, produced and manufactured as an Arab investment, are characterized for their international technical specifications that outperform products of global companies.

Abu-Ghazaleh affirmed that TAG-Foundation, established as a non-profit organization to serve community is funded by TAG.Global which allocates 50% of its annual profits to finance TAG-Foundation's activities.

"TAG-Foundation is based on the vision that every business owes the successes and profits it achieves to the community. TAG.Global experience attested that giving back to the community is received by more giving from the community," Abu-Ghazaleh stated.

It is worth mentioning that the International Social Responsibility Congress was organized by the Regional CSR Network, a member of the UN Global Compact.

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## Doing Business 2020: With a Strong Reform Agenda, Jordan Joins the Top 3 Global Improvers

AMMAN - For the first time, Jordan has been selected this year among the top 3 business climate improvers by jumping an unprecedented 29 ranks in the 2020 Doing Business rankings, thanks to a series of economic reforms enacted over the past year, according to the World Bank Group's Doing Business 2020 report.

For the past year, Jordan implemented important economic reforms, vaulting it to 75th out of 190 economies in the Doing Business rankings for 2020, a significant improvement from last year's 104th ranking. This marks Jordan's highest ranking in over a decade.

"Jordan has faced unparalleled challenges over the past few years, which have put a strain on our economic growth," said Mohamad Al-Issis, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation and State Minister for Economic Affairs. "In order to provide a stimulating ecosystem for our private sector to reach its potential, we have implemented a series of reforms to encourage risk-taking and streamline processes. The outcomes of structural changes are often not immediately tangible, but the country has made an inspiring stride in its Ease of Doing Business rank this year. Jordan

has jumped an unprecedented 29 points. We expect and demand from ourselves more leaps in our reform process in the years to come."

"It is encouraging to see that Jordan is adopting international best practices in business regulation, laying the foundation for private sector-led growth," said Saroj Kumar Jha, World Bank Mashreq Regional Country Director. "We look forward to the continuation of this reform momentum for strong growth and job creations, especially for women and youth."

One of Jordan's key reforms was to improve the legal rights of borrowers and lenders. The country implemented a unified legal framework for secured transactions and launched a geographically-centralized, unified and notice-based collateral registry. As part of reforms in this area, Jordan's private credit bureau improved access to credit information by providing credit scores to banks, financial institutions, and borrowers. This helped Jordan score 95 on 100 in the Doing Business category related to the ease of getting credit and ranked the country 4th, on par with the United States and Australia.

"The fact that Jordan is this year among the world's top-10

reformers is a milestone," said Dalia Wahba, IFC Manager of the Levant. "The reforms are highly conducive to a more effective business environment as they help cut red tape. Through these efforts, officials are stimulating private-sector-lead growth, improving competitiveness and efficiency, and making Jordan a more attractive destination for investors."

In another key reform, Jordan also amended its insolvency law to help unviable firms exit the market efficiently and allow viable but financially distressed firms to reorganize their operations and restructure their debt.

Finally, Jordan implemented

electronic filing and payment for labor taxes and other mandatory contributions, reducing the time businesses spend on complying with fiscal obligations. The number of payments that businesses need to file every year was also cut to nine from 23.

Going forward, Jordan can achieve more improvements, focusing on business regulation, including dealing with construction permits (138th) and starting a business (120th).

Source: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/24/10/2019/doing-business-2020-with-a-strong-reform-agenda-jordan-joins-the-top-3-global-improvers>

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## Abu-Ghazaleh Academy', NAFES and Cell Avenue Sign Cooperation Agreement for Training in Marketing

AMMAN - Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Academy (TAG-Academy), a member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Global, signed a tri-lateral agreement with the National Fund for Enterprise Support (NAFES) and Cell Avenue for Mobile Phones Trading Company for the purpose of implementing a comprehensive training program in the field of sales and marketing. According to the agreement, the program will be implemented by TAG-Academy for presentation to Cell Avenue employees in cooperation with NAFES.

TAG-Academy will be executing the program as part of its role in offering training courses that build and enhance work environment at companies and enterprises in the field of behavioral development and training. The program will be financed by NAFES which offers support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Jordan to improve their administrative competitiveness locally and globally.

The agreement was signed by TAG-Academy Executive Director Mr. Yousef Al Rawas, NAFES Manager Mr. Madhar Al Majali, and Cell Avenue General Manager Mr. Bashar Kamal. During the signing ceremony, Al Rawas stated that the TAG-Academy mission entails the provision of consulting and supervision services to the project to ensure its implementation at high standards.

He affirmed that the Academy provides comprehensive professional training solutions in more than 20 fields through more than 500 comprehensive training programs. It also provides contractual programs customized to meet the training needs of every institution to achieve its goals. Training courses are taught by renowned experts in their fields who are selected according to specific criteria. Meanwhile, Al Majali said that NAFES will offer the required fund for the project reiterating that it aims at assisting in the modernization of Jordanian SMEs by providing them with financial support to manage development projects that enhance their efficiency and competitiveness at local and regional levels.

Al Majali pointed out that NAFES was established in 2001 as one of the important outcomes of the Jordan-Japan Industrial Development Program, the implementation of which was followed up by the General Secretariat of the Higher Council for Science and Technology during the period 1998-2002.

For his part, Cell Avenue Manager expressed gratitude to the Academy and NAFES for their cooperation in implementing the project which will effectively serve the Company expressing readiness to provide whatever is required to facilitate the mission of TAG-Academy and ensure the project's success.

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## EBRD supports access to education in Upper Egypt



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CAIRO - The young people of Upper Egypt will benefit from the construction of new environmentally friendly buildings for Assiut University, financed by a €25 million loan from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

The funds will be provided in local currency to Cairo Investment and Real Estate Development (CIRA), an Egyptian joint stock company. Around a third of the investment will be dedicated to green financing to ensure efficient use of water and energy-efficient construction material during the development of the new campus.

Upper Egypt is home to 30 percent of the country's total population, yet is underserved in terms of services and economic opportunities. The new university will have four faculties as a first phase and will introduce new and modern learning programs.

The EBRD will work to ensure that the buildings meet environmental standards, such as silver certification under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating certificate.

CIRA is a joint stock company incorporated in Egypt and listed on the Egyptian Exchange with a market capitalization of €440 million as of 30 September 2019.

Egypt is a founding member of EBRD. Since the start of its operations in the country in 2012, the Bank has invested over €5 billion in 96 projects in the country. In 2018, Egypt was the largest EBRD country of operations in terms of new commitments.

Source: <https://www.ebrd.com/news/2019/ebrd-supports-access-to-education-in-upper-egypt-.html>

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## Abu-Ghazaleh Signs MoU with UNESCO's Regional Center of Quality and Excellence in Education

CAIRO - HE Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh, chair of the Arab Organization for Quality Assurance in Education (AROQA), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dr. Abdulrahman Almedaires, Director General of the Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education (RCQE – UNESCO), based in KSA.

The purpose of the MoU is to exchange expertise in the field of school accreditation in addition to hosting an educational forum in Jordan by AROQA to discuss and review the final report of the 'School Accreditation in Arab Countries' project with the participation of accreditation experts from the Arab countries.

Furthermore, Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh expressed his pride in cooperation with RCQE – UNESCO which is considered a house of expertise specialized in quality and excellence in education in the Arab world, noting that AROQA and the UNESCO's RCQE share the same objective in advancing level of education and disseminating culture of quality and self-evaluation in education in the Arab world.

Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh asserted that AROQA devotes all its resources and expertise to disseminate the culture of quality and accreditation to take education to the next level up, adding that the Organization works tirelessly to update its standards, therefore; it has recently introduced Standards of Digital Learning and Scientific Research in addition to the level of their use at schools, which became a basic

requirement at all educational institutions.

For his part, Dr. Almedaires noted that the UNESCO annual accredited programs and projects cover the needs of the education ministries in the Arab world, striving to present the best international practices and outcomes of scientific studies and research to decision-makers in the educational field.

Additionally, Dr. Almedaires highly praised AROQA and Dr. Abu-Ghazaleh's efforts in developing and improving the educational level at the educational institutions, noting that the UNESCO's Regional Center seeks through cooperation with the Organization to boost quality of education in the Arab region.

It is worth noting that the Arab Organization for Quality Assurance in Education (AROQA) is an international non-profit independent association established in Belgium in 2007. Its main objective is to promote the quality of higher education with a particular focus on the Arab world.

The Regional Center of Quality and Excellence in Education (RCQE – UNESCO) is a significant initiative in international development of education by the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Its main objective is to improve the quality of education in the Arab world and enhance excellence in educational environment.

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## Regional Collaboration Centre Established in Dubai



DUBAI - The Regional Collaboration Center (RCC) Dubai was officially launched on October 20, 2019, a collaboration between UN Climate Change and the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO) dedicated to advancing the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia.

RCC Dubai was launched, with support from the Government of the UAE, at the opening ceremony of the Global Ministerial Conference on Green Economy, convened by WGEO, by Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary of UN Climate Change, and HE Saeed Al Tayer, Chairman of WGEO. The launch took place on the margins of the World Green Economy Summit.

"As a result of the fruitful strategic

partnership between the World Green Economy Organization and UN Climate Change we also add, and officially inaugurate today, a new Regional Collaboration Centre here in Dubai, to serve the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. This is another milestone for WGEO," said Al Tayer during the launch ceremony.

The UN Climate Change Executive Secretary marked the launch of the Dubai center by citing its expected contribution to the regional and international response to climate change.

"I am delighted to celebrate the opening of RCC Dubai. Regional collaboration is a key to informing, activating and catalyzing action on climate change," said Ms. Espinosa, the UN's top climate change official.

"This collaboration will be instrumental in enhancing the scale of climate action in the region in an efficient, impactful and collaborative manner, and we look forward to working with WGEO to facilitate, enhance and promote the region's response to the climate challenge."

Source: <https://unfccc.int/news/regional-collaboration-centre-established-in-dubai>

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Showrooms Open: 11 am to 8 pm (weekdays)  
11 pm to 8 pm (Saturdays)

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