

## Message from the Chairman:

Dear all; Members of The Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies- (PITA) and all the affiliated companies working in the ICT Sector. We send you our sincere gratitude as we proudly reach the 16<sup>th</sup> year of the most significant and the biggest event in all the economic sectors.

This event has been leading the path of opening new horizons towards putting Palestine on the top of the ICT sector in the world, and towards highlighting the human capabilities that are considered to be the mainstay of the development in Palestine. For 16 years this event covered all the international experiences and brought them to Palestine; from experts, international companies and several delegations to conduct B2B meetings with the Palestinian companies. Throughout the 16 years; this event involved partnerships between all relevant governmental bodies, official bodies, donors, economic entities and several universities. Expotech has always been an umbrella that included all the employees working in the ICT sector, decision makers, businessmen and economists. They all have one goal which is developing the Palestinian National Economy and the Palestinian ICT sector to reach the international level and so helping our country to be in the forefront.

Expotech strives to gather all the experiences for the purpose of creating new markets and opening new horizons and partnerships with different economic sectors. Expotech this year focuses on the policies, procedures, laws and benefits of the FinTech and Blockchain that PITA seeks to achieve with the government agencies in order to develop the sector. After all what has been said; The Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies cordially invites you to attend the 16th International Technology Conference on Tuesday 5 Nov, 2019 at the Millennium Palestine Hotel Ramallah at 08:30 am.

We thank everyone who has contributed over the past years in this event and special thanks to our partners this year; we couldn't have done it without you.



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## Opening Statement by Dr. Ola Awad; President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics-PCBS

### **Information and Communication Technology in Palestine: A Fast Growing and Vibrant Sector**

As part of the technological revolution that has swept the world since the end of the twentieth century, large attention has been drawn towards the information and communication technology (ICT) sector. Consequently, all applications related to this fast-growing and vibrant sector have overshadowed communities all over the globe. This, hence, created large changes in the social and economic lifestyles of those communities. Perhaps, the most pronounced impact of those changes was liberation from temporal and spatial dimensions, which were among the largest restrictions to the production process in most economic sectors worldwide. The surge of this sector in recent years has also helped provide more flexible job conditions, especially in small states with limited economies and scarce resources. Moreover, it has directly contributed to the building of whole societies through the reliance of individuals on electronic services in areas such as production and education and through effective communication. This is aside from the role which the ICT sector plays in accelerating the pace of progress achieved in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The ICT sector is considered as one of the most promising sectors not only on the global level, but also on the local Palestinian level, as it helps eliminate geographical barriers that restrict free movement and the exchange of information. In the Palestinian context, the ICT sector has large chances of growing and expanding despite the many challenges and restrictions imposed by the Israeli occupation. This is because Palestine is rich in human resources as data on the labor force for 2018 revealed that those holding university degrees in the ICT field had an opportunity to find work at a rate of 79% in the West Bank and 89% in the Gaza Strip.

## **Information and Communication Technology in Palestine: A Fast Growing and Vibrant Sector**

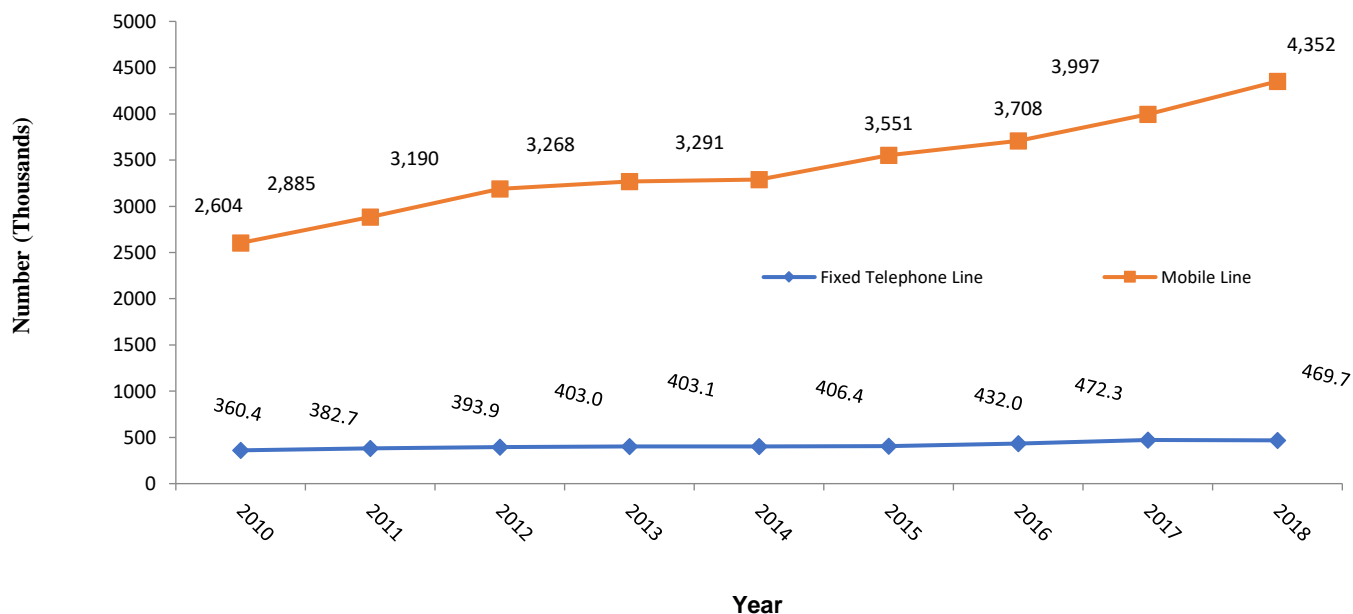
The overall rate of employment in this sector was 69% when taking into consideration that 23% of the labor force were engaged in the informal sector. This data reflects the importance of this sector to the job market and its potential for investment opportunities. Moreover, the 2017 Population, Housing and Establishments Census provided a comprehensive frame and a database of economic establishments working in all sectors, therefore, allowing time based comparisons to be made to determine the extent to which these establishments have developed, especially establishments working in the ICT sector.<sup>1</sup>

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) is keen on keeping pace with the development and growth of all sectors, especially the ICT sector, which is considered as a promising sector in Palestine worthy of attention at all levels. Therefore, PCBS initiated a strategic partnership with the Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies (PITA). PITA consists of a large number of companies operating in the ICT field in Palestine. This partnership seeks to establish mutual collaboration to determine the size of the ICT sector, to discover investment opportunities, and to work on developing the sector by shaping policies and designing motivational programs based on concrete statistical figures and evidence based data. Consequently, this will contribute to the development of the Palestinian economy given the available resources provided it is implemented in accordance with international standards. In this context, PCBS in partnership with the Arab American University (AAUP) and with the support of the Palestine Telecommunication Group (Paltel), the Bank of Palestine Group (BoP), and PARIS21 launched the "Data Science Initiative". This initiative was first announced during the celebration activities of the World Statistics Day. It will undoubtedly help raise awareness on the importance of using data as a main asset which contributes to serving humanity as a whole and also contributes to measuring the achievements made in meeting Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). This is especially so as the world is changing at an extremely rapid pace due to the introduction of the new concept of data science, also known as the "oil of the 21st century".

Furthermore, data retrieved from the Palestinian Ministry of Telecom and Information Technology indicates that there has been a large expansion in fixed network infrastructure, accompanied by the increased use of this network and related services by households and institutions, especially the use of Internet services. The data revealed that there were 469,741 telephone lines (home, commercial and governmental) in Palestine at the end of 2018 compared to 360,402 lines at the end of 2010 with an increase of 30% <sup>2</sup>.

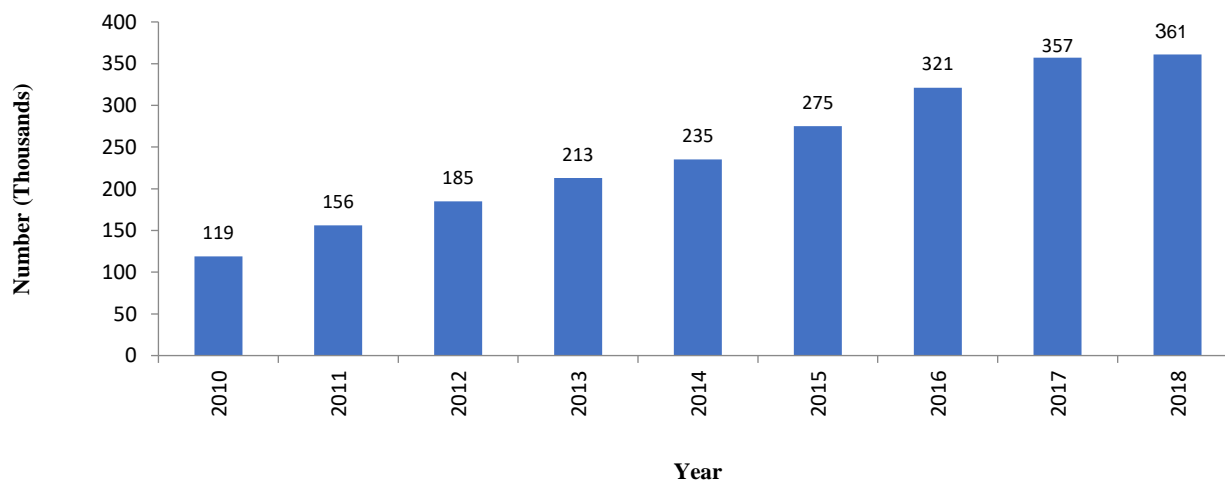
## Information and Communication Technology in Palestine: A Fast Growing and Vibrant Sector

### Total Number of Fixed and Mobile Lines in Palestine 2010-2018 (Thousands)



During the past few years, the total number of ADSL subscribers in Palestine<sup>1</sup> increased reaching about 361 thousand at the end of 2018 compared with 119 thousand at the end of 2010, with an increase of 202%. The average internet speed was 11.0 Mbps at the end of 2018 compared with 0.5 Mbps at the end of 2010.<sup>3</sup>

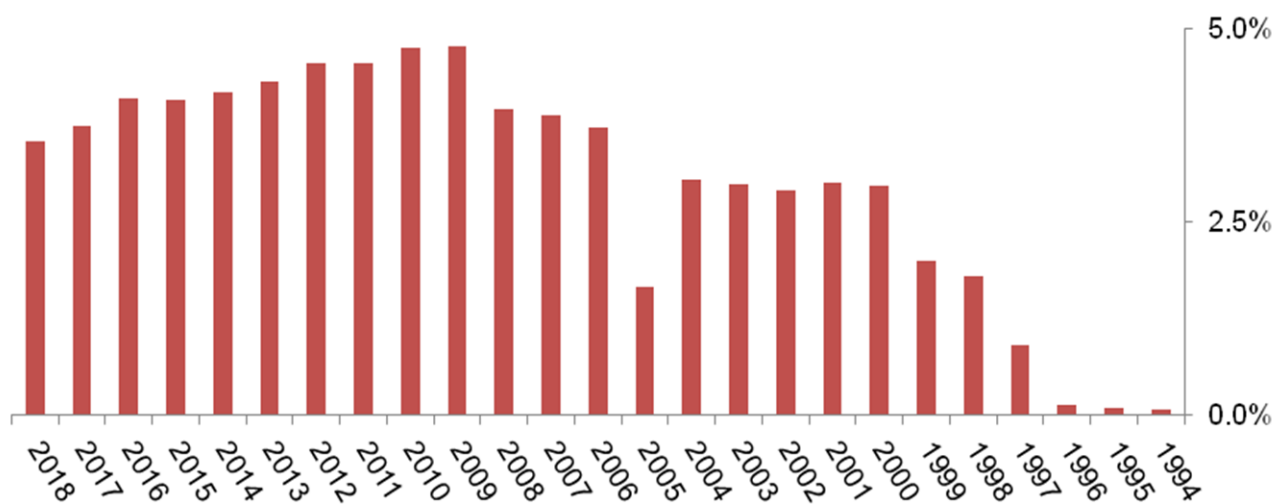
### Total Number of ADSL Subscribers in Palestine, 2010-2018 (Thousands)



## Information and Communication Technology in Palestine: A Fast Growing and Vibrant Sector

In regards to the economic aspects of the ICT sector, it is worth noting that establishments involved in information and technology activities, amounting to 677 establishments, contributed to providing 8815 jobs within the Palestinian job market.<sup>4</sup> Thus, the contribution rate of the ICT sector to the Palestinian economy reached 3.5% of the total value added in Palestine in 2018<sup>5</sup> where 86% of the value added by telecommunication activities resulted solely from the communications sector. Meanwhile, computer programming, consultancy and all other related activities contribute to only 8%. Also, publishing activities, motion picture, video and television program production, audio recording, music publishing activities, and programming and broadcasting activities shaped 5% of the total value added for the sector. Moreover, information service activities constituted 1% of the total value added for the sector during 2018. It is also worth mentioning that the current available indicators are only concerned with information and communications activities, whilst all activities and services related to information and communications are included in one main activity considered to be part of the industry, commerce and services sector.

### Percentage Contribution of the ICT Sector in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in constant Prices\* 1994-2018<sup>6</sup>



- Base Year: 2015

<sup>1</sup> PCBS, 2019. *Labor force database, 2018*. Ramallah – Palestine.

<sup>2</sup> PCBS, 2019. *Press release on the eve of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, 16/5/2018*.

<sup>3</sup> PCBS, 2019. *Press release on the eve of the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, 16/5/2018*.

<sup>4</sup> PCBS, 2019. *Economic Surveys Series, 2018 – Primary Results*. Ramallah – Palestine.

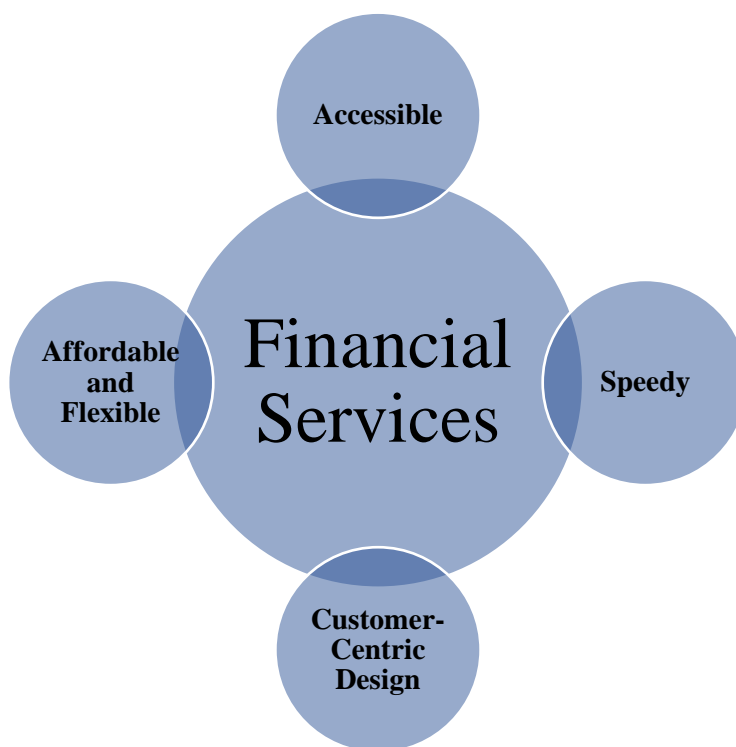
<sup>5</sup> PCBS, 2019. *Quartet National Accounts Statistics, 2017–2018*. Ramallah – Palestine.

<sup>6</sup> PCBS, 2019. *National Accounts statistics, 1994 – 2016*. Ramallah – Palestine.

## **Propelling FinTech and Blockchain from back-end services to every day's life**

Over the past few years, the financial services industry has been technologically-led. Thanks to mobile and cloud computing, customers are embracing on-demand finance, through which they feel more comfortable in managing their money and business online. Nowadays, Banking, Financial Services and Fintech companies are the beneficiaries that stand to gain tremendously by demonstrating innovation in their business conduct and the services they provide, thus making them highly profitable over the years.

Innovators in this sector consistently work hard and try to realize new business models that provide efficient and accountable financial services in a speedy nature. Such models are unlocking the creation of entirely new products and services and are including people more in the formal financial system. As technology behind FinTech is growing fast, the financial sector is changing worldwide. Thanks to FinTech, access to financial products and services has never been easier.



## FinTech Trends to watch in 2019

	Lending	Marketplace lending and alternative underwriting platforms
	Block chain / Crypto	leveraging block chain technologies for financial services
	RegTech	Audit, risk and regulatory compliance software
	Personal Finance	Tools to manage bills and track personal or credit accounts
	Payments / Billing	Payments processing and subscription billing software tools
	Insurance	Companies selling insurance digitally
	Capital Markets	Sales and trading tools for financial institutions
	Wealth Management	Investment and wealth management platforms



Money Transfer

International money transfer and tracking software



Mortgage / Real Estate

Mortgage lending and financing platforms

## **Local Context**

FinTech indeed has changed the way business is done in an effort to bring more financial inclusion to the table. The Prime Minister; Dr. Mohammad Ishtaya, stated in a press release *“We will not let the occupation stand in our face from being pioneers in the field of cryptocurrency.”*

He also added that the Palestinian government is consistently working on developing a payment mechanism other than the Israeli currency in order to avoid problems linked to the surplus of the shekel in the local market.

Over and above, the Palestine Monetary Authority (PMA) recognized the importance of advancing financial inclusion and the driving benefits from global experience through formulating a National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS) in joint leadership with the Palestine Capital Market Authority (PCMA); which will cover the period between 2018 – 2025. Subsequent to the formulation of the NFIS, PMA created several steering committees to oversee the formulation of the strategy, amongst them is the FinTech Committee that is headed by the Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies (PITA). This committee is dedicated to discuss the importance of FinTech, its policies, procedures, rules, regulations, benefits, etc., thus recognizing its vital role in the rise of the Palestinian society in front of the Israeli Occupation as an independent body.

Results of the committee’s work shall be reflected during Palestine Tech week 2019! Stay tuned!

The overarching goal of the NFIS is to “*increase financial inclusion from the current level of 36.4% of adults to at least 50% of adults by the end of 2025.*” This goal will be achieved through promoting & improving financial



capability among students in schools/universities, women, youth, unemployed people, increase access to and usage of financial services, strengthen and protect the right of consumers of financial products and services, and most importantly strengthen the role of information and communication technology to expand the access to and usage of formal financial services.

The governor of Palestine Monetary Authority, Mr. Azzam Shawwa, stressed the importance of being up-to-date with developments in FinTech and to provide developed and safe technological infrastructure for those engaged in FinTech businesses. He also emphasized the importance of encouraging innovation and creativity in the development of services in the financial sector, in which such development is accompanied by regulatory environment to protect the rights of consumers and to launch awareness-raising campaigns about the risks and use of such technology.

The PMA has been lately working on changing the Palestinian society from relying on traditional cash methods in daily transactions to relying on modern technology for conducting transactions. Therefore, Palestine Monetary Authority has improved the level of financial services delivered to the Palestinian society by actual implementation of the National Financial Inclusion Strategy in Palestine.

Palestine Monetary Authority shall also be working, in the future, on an experimental environment (sandbox) in cooperation with technical parties. Mr. Shawwa said that Palestine Monetary Authority was working on launching electronic clearance system for cheques and had started to authorize companies to deliver payment services in Palestine.

### **Palestine Technology Week – Expotech 2019**

The way people connect, communicate, engage and discover is carrying great implications for businesses. It's not so much that technology indeed is part of almost everything in our daily lives. We are living in an era where technology



and society are rapidly evolving and people perceptions' and behaviors' are constantly changing. This in turn, sets a new era of leadership and a new generation of business models.



Some forward-looking companies in the information and communication technology sectors are investing in digital technology and transformation, where IT is the driving force for how businesses can effectively run, manage and grow their companies.

By contributing to the sector business development and the strategic thinking success, EXPOTECH is an event that is dedicated to the information and communication technology in Palestine, hence spotting the lights on the latest technological trends and opportunities happening on both local and global levels.

For its 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Expotech technology week has proved itself globally and made itself a great platform to learn about new technologies & trends and offer innovative solutions in ongoing technologies through showcasing the success stories of Palestinian businesses and entrepreneurs who seek to tap into the potential of the tech sector in Palestine.

Under the slogan ***“The Rise of FinTech and Blockchain”***, this year’s Expotech is being organized by PITA, the main organizer and its partner organizer, PICTI for 2 sequential days, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 under its main components:

- **The Gala Dinner *“It’s All About Networking”*:** This event is organized Under the Patronage of the Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Ishtaya, on Monday November 4<sup>th</sup> 2019, at 9 am at the Millennium Palestine Hotel/Ramallah. The event focuses on the policies, procedures, laws and benefits of the FinTech and Blockchain that PITA strive to achieve with various government agencies in order to develop the sector, improve its growth and investment opportunities and provide an opportunity to meet with well-known ministers, decision-makers and businessmen. Furthermore, this event will include several key note speeches that highlight the trend of moving towards the use of FinTech and Blockchain in everyday life.
- **The ICT Conference *“The Rise of FinTech and Blockchain”*:** A one-day conference that will be held On Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6 pm at the Millennium Palestine Hotel, Ramallah, Palestine Under the Patronage of His Excellency President Mahmoud Abbas “Abu Mazen”. After the opening speeches, 3

international keynote speakers will be invited to deliver a 10 minutes' presentation around FinTech & Blockchain.

- The conference will include 4 main sessions that will be hosted by international & local experts and businessmen from the largest companies in the ICT sector:

- 1- Session 1: Politics, Regulation and FinTech.
- 2- Session 2: Building an Inclusive FinTech Ecosystem.
- 3- Session 3: International FinTech Experiences.
- 4- Session 4: Emergence of FinTech and Blockchain in Palestine.



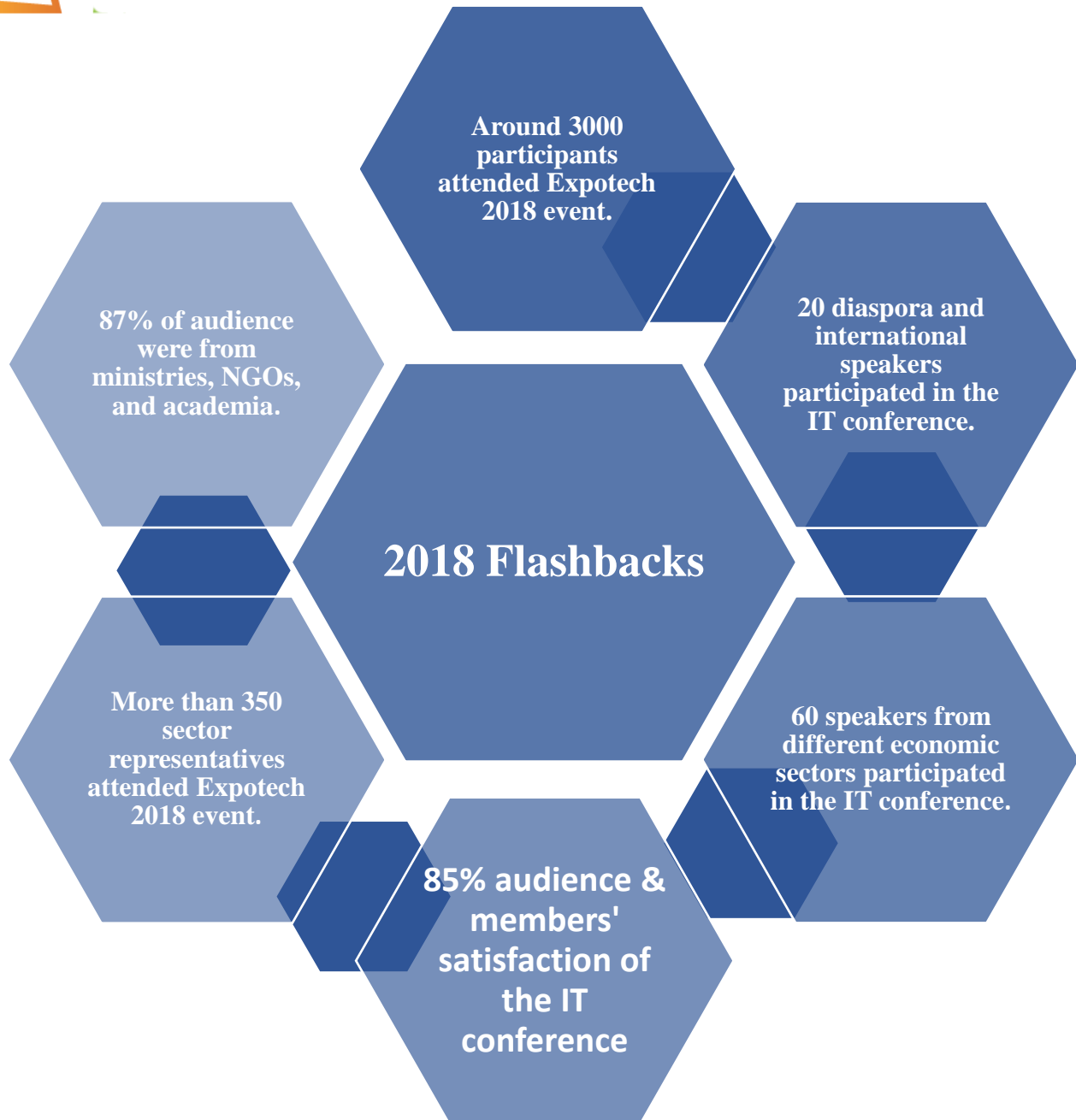
On the sidelines of the conference, stands will be provided to various parties who'd like to present any products/services/business models or technological solutions in the field of FinTech and Blockchain.

### **Why Expotech?**

- Connect: The largest meeting platform that connects all the key players under one roof.
- Create: B2B meetings and networking with decision makers, corporate buyers & innovators.
- Captivate: Take your business and brand reach across boundaries in one step.

Investing further in your participation at Expotech and becoming a sponsor in this event will elevate your brand in the eyes of participants and all players in the ICT sector. Moreover, your help will be highly valued and will open-up the window for various players in the ICT sector to expand their brand reach across boundaries in one easy step.

Being a sponsor in the event will help in recognizing the special innovations in the field of technology and research and will subsequently open the eyes to a whole new era of leadership and business models.



For more information, please visit [www.expotech.ps](http://www.expotech.ps)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ExpotechWeek/>

Looking forward to seeing your benign presence as sponsors in Palestine Tech Week – Expotech 2019

# Going Digital: BlockChain, FinTech, and Palestinian Academia Collaboration

By : Dr. Muntasser Khater

## Blockchain Technology

The question is: What technology to change and improve higher education in Palestine? Is it the big data, the social web, MOOCs, virtual reality, or the artificial intelligence? No, they are not! They will be all together the main components of a new technology ... all enabled and transformed by an emerging technology called the blockchain. Bitcoin, Cryptocurrency, is one of the most important achievement of the last century. It allows fast and unknown transactions and attracts millions of investors. However, Bitcoin is an entire system that can change all spheres of our social activity. The system is known as the blockchain, a technology already utilized by financial. Blockchain will be adopted by other industries including education definitely.

The blockchain represents the second generation of the Internet, and it holds the potential to disrupt money, business, government, and of course, higher education.

So, what is the impact of blockchain technology on education? Education technology moves fast, and it goes beyond smart boards and remote learning. How might the blockchain be put to work in the education sector?

Students of tomorrow may use the blockchain to keep student records and credentials, copyright and digital materials protection, human resources, partnership platforms, and innovative learning platforms. For example, the Education Ecosystem platform is one of the first projects that use blockchain to connect academicians, students, developers, and content producers. The colleges and schools can use the same principle to create internal ecosystems and allow learners to get access to study materials and share their projects and ideas. The internal tokens can be used to download books, request materials, and ask for feedback.

## Fintech Ecosystem

Technological innovations focusing on the financial industry has led to a rapidly growing new ecosystem called Fintech.



## Higher Education, Human Capabilities and Digital Development & Entrepreneurship Senior Consultant

### Innovation and Collaboration

The Fintech entities: Fintech companies, mainly young, entrepreneurial start-ups, producing innovative digital technologies to improve the customer experience, efficiency and range of the financial services such as lending, payments, and investments.

While the convergence of entrepreneurship, financial services and digitization necessarily means the involvement and collaboration of the Fintech entities, the synergy created by the Fintech ecosystem is much larger due to the fundamental influence of both financial services and digital technology in our day-to-day lives. So, we are seeing start-ups, experienced entrepreneurs, local and foreign investors, financial institutions, government, information technology & telecom providers, corporations, consumers, educational institutions, and specialist consultants which then gets networked into hubs, accelerators, incubators and so on.

### The Academia –Fintech -Blockchain collaboration

Academia's collaboration with the Fintech ecosystem is occurring through several streams. The Entrepreneurship, Finance and Banking, IT and Communications disciplines are supplying the founders of Fintech startups. Universities and centers are providing mentoring programs and boot camps, sponsoring student-led Fintech clubs and allowing the use of their campus spaces for Fintech meets and events. Chances are, blockchain will become an integral part of schools and universities in the years to come. Let's mention some of the potential thoughts and initiatives that might help moving towards successful fintech and blockchain technology applications in Palestine:

# Going Digital: Blockchain, FinTech, and Palestinian Academia Collaboration

By : Dr. Muntasser Khater

- The academia must focus on blockchain technology as “this will be the way we transact globally in the future” by establishing Blockchain Centers acting as a learning Centers, incubators and accelerators for blockchain-related startups. Universities to train and teach lecturers and students blockchain technology to better equip them for future employment.
- Support digital offices for businesses and employees since the ‘digital workplace’ is the office of the future.
- The Palestinian Higher Education Plan has to highlight the need to take collaboration between universities and the industry using technology so that to enable the latter to lead curriculum design and delivery through partnership models which include apprenticeships, hands-on training, vocational training, and corporate learning and development, and training programs. This way, corporations can help shape the curriculum to enable graduates to fully understand the talents that they are looking for.
- Schools and universities must prepare students with the necessary skills and information to conceptualize business use cases and produce technically-oriented graduates to build these systems.
- Offering blockchain as a specialization for computer science students. that there is a need for computer scientists with knowledge of blockchain who are well-versed in the financial and banking sector.
- Offering Global MBA in “Digital Business”, “FinTech”, and “Blockchain Technologies”
- Blockchain technology should be included in the syllabus at university. “Essentially it is a new component in a system, similar to cloud, operating system, networking, databases, and data analytics.
- Some courses with a focus on blockchain targeted at students and the masses alike:
  - The introductory Fundamentals of Blockchain course is for the public;
  - Blockchain and Cybersecurity is a technical course on the technology and its implementation in cybersecurity for the public and students;
  - Blockchain Technology for Developers is for computer science and related students;
  - and Blockchain Technology for Practitioners takes a technology user approach for non-computer science students.
- Joint projects on Fintech, Blockchain, & Corporate Competency Learning & Development

We understand that collaboration between universities and industries is critical to accelerate students’ skills development, enhance their industry exposure as well promote participation and engagement via learning. Then, we are able to produce skilled manpower for the industry

With 4IR already upon us, we want to do our bit to contribute to Palestine’ digital readiness by ensuring that its young population is equipped with the necessary skills to leverage on big data, data analytics, fintech, blockchain technology, and digital innovations.

We strongly believe that through industry collaboration together with various initiatives mentioned above and human resource development tools, we will be sure that Palestine’ future digital talents are ready to take the region forward.

By working on these projects, students develop critical skills including teamwork, creativity, communication and critical thinking.”

## Invitation for Conference on Fintech

It is suggested that PITA and all Fintech entities organize a conference on “Palestine Fintech Conference 2020”, where the Palestinian Government, Association of Banks in Palestine, and PITA to bring the financial industry, technology, and academia.

The proposed conference will address strategic initiatives, projects, and the vital topics such as Fintech ecosystem, digital banking, Blockchain, and corporate human capabilities, and, ... etc.

**The way Forward: The mindset has to change “Academia-Industry work together, hand in hand and side by side”.  
Going Digital!**



**The Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies**  
**cordially invites you to attend the [Gala Dinner](#) on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of**  
**November 2019 at the Millennium Palestine Hotel Ramallah at 06:00 pm**  
**and invites you to attend [the 16th International Technology Conference](#) on**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> of November 2019 at the Millennium Palestine Hotel**  
**Ramallah at 08:30 am.**



## Expotech 2019 Sponsors

Main Sponsor	Paltel Group
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**We thank you for your benign contribution; we couldn't have done it without you.**





## Upcoming Events

### EXPOTECH 2019

#### Stay Tuned!

**1. Expotech, Palestine 4 - 5 November 2019;** EXPOTECH is an event that is dedicated to the information and communication technology in Palestine, hence spotting the lights on the latest technological trends and opportunities happening on both local and global levels. For its 16th anniversary, EXPOTECH technology week made itself a great platform to learn about new technologies & trends and offer innovative solutions in ongoing technologies through showcasing the success stories of Palestinian businesses and entrepreneurs who seek to tap into the potential of the tech sector in Palestine. The focus this year will be on FinTech and highlighting all the services and solutions that FinTech provides.

**2. GESS, Istanbul, 2 - 4 April 2020 / Dubai, 25 - 27 February 2020;** A platform to launch products and ideas in the Middle East education market and reach out to the widest target audience. It is a 3 days of inspirational talks dynamic, hands-on workshops from global industry leaders and influential local experts to enable educational suppliers to access and make connections with decision makers in the education sector.

## Why Participating is important ?

- Knowledge-sharing
- Keep pace with the changing world
- Strengthen the professional ties
- Challenge and grow
- Identify needs and challenges in ICT sector
- Essential factor for economic growth
- Creating Opportunities and enhancing capacity and understanding

## PITA Latest Activities

- **21/10/2019, Ramallah;** PITA held a meeting with the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) represented by its president Dr. Ola Awad. The purpose of the meeting was to identify where the both parties are regarding the implementation of a study concerning the ICT Indicators in Palestine. The meeting included a workshop in which the PCBS staff reviewed their indicators and mechanisms they are following, the both parties discussed all the prospects and indicators of conducting a comprehensive mapping of the sector; in order to identify and determine its strength in terms of employment, powerful source of income, imports and exports and possible future investments.
- **17/10/2019, Ramallah;** PITA has met with a delegation from the World Bank within the project QIF, the parties discussed the gap between the educational sector outcomes and the labor market needs in Palestine; the meeting focused on the skills that the graduates must have before entering the labor market. These visits are directed towards the preparations of the next steps of the project to study its expectations and directions.





- **16/10/2019, Gaza;** PITA participated in the final event of BITPAL project which is implemented by the University College of Applied Sciences in partnership with PITA and different eight Palestinian and European universities such as (University College of Applied Sciences, Al-Azhar University, Islamic University of Gaza, Gaza University, UNICAL University in Italy, FIS University in Slovenia and HWTK University in Germany). PITA presented its work plan regarding developing a partnership between the private sector and the academic sector and they presented their recommendations for the next phase of the project. It is worth mentioning that PITA has contributed in various stages and activities of the project from its beginning including conducting the local and regional labor market study, and its members participation in developing the universities' curriculums for more than 11 university programs in accordance with the labor market needs.
- **14/10/2019, Ramallah;** Finishing Google Skills Training Program in partnership with Berzeit University and with (IEEE), Korean-Palestinian IT Institute of Excellence and Google MENA - Dubai DIC Officers. More than 120 students from different specializations have attended the workshop. The training was carried out at Berzeit University in which it covered the following topics: Digital Marketing, E-Growth and Online Opportunities, New Aspects of the Marketing Process, the Impact of Technology on Business and Basic Marketing Concepts.
- **14/10/2019, Gaza;** PITA has participated in the workshop "Vocational Licensing System" for the purpose of regulating and controlling the labor market through the licensing of the professionals and classifying them based on the professional levels that are stated in the Palestinian Standard Classification. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Labor through the general administration of the vocational training. MoL Undersecretary Mr. Musa Al-Sammak attended the workshop in addition to representatives from the vocational training center and Gaza Chamber of Commerce and Industry and different key members. The meeting was cultivated with different recommendations regarding the vocational licensing system and how to develop it .







- **14/10/2019, Gaza;** PITA held a meeting with Al-Israa University. The goal of the meeting was developing and strengthening the relationship between the Academic Sector and the Private Sector, the meeting included representatives from the university and they discussed methods and prospects of mutual cooperation during the next phase in terms of developing the academic curriculums and scientific research in the field of ICT that will accordingly develop the academic sector to be in compliance with the labor market needs.
- **2/10/2019, Ramallah and Gaza;** The top 5 winners in the AgriTech competition have been selected. The Ja-Pal's DigiBiz Solution is an initiative launched for the 2nd year by the Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies (PITA) and the Palestine Information & Communication Technology Incubator (PICTI) in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme/ Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (UNDP/PAPP) and funded by the Government of Japan (GoJ). The competition aimed to identify AgriTech innovative technological solutions to support the Palestinian economy and the agricultural sector in specific. A jury comprising of technical, agricultural, academic and business experts have listened to the 25 short-listed applicants and chose the top 5 most relevant and innovative ideas in the ICT sector. The evaluation took place in the 2nd of October, 2019 at Al-Carmel Hotel/Ramallah in the presence of H.E Dr. Ishaq Sider Minister of Communications and Information Technology and H.E Mr.Usama Sadawi; Minister of Entrepreneurship & Empowerment. A video conference has been also conducted during the event with Gaza Strip applicants, who presented their AgriTech business ideas at the UNDP office/Gaza.



# PITA's New Members 2018 – 2019

( Gaza and Ramallah)

<p>شركة صبري البريم وشريكه عبد الله البريم</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>Advanced Technologies for Business</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	
<p>Auxilium Technology</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>Synergy Company</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	
<p>HYPER TECH</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>ORCAS</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	
<p>Rwad Al Tayseer Company</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>Wegroup</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	
<p>Tatwer</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>Hexa For Information Technology</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	
<p>Inspire IT Solutions</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>Tweets Tec</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	
<p>IT Venue</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>		<p>Shift ICT</p> <p><a href="#">اضغط هنا</a></p>	

**Be A Member ! <http://home.pita.ps/wp/join-pita/>**

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