



**WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR SMALL
AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES**

(An International Organisation)

Here's to a New Year of working together to turn new ideas into realities.

May 2025 bring us all the success we deserve and more.

2025
HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

Team WASME

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BAHRAIN

King Hamad bin Isa ratifies 2024 law to empower Bahraini workforce in 2025

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa ratified and issued Law (14) of 2024 amending Article IV of Law (57) of 2006 on the establishment of the Labour Fund, following approval by the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives. The law aims to increase employment opportunities for Bahraini citizens by limiting the Labour Fund's support to Bahraini-owned enterprises and improving the skills, productivity, and competitiveness of Bahraini workers. Article I: Paragraph (A) of Article IV of Law (57) of 2006 shall be replaced with the following text:

(A) The Fund shall undertake all necessary tasks and powers to achieve its objectives, including but not limited to:

1. Providing and supporting programmes to train and qualify Bahraini workers to enhance their skills, productivity, and competitiveness in the labour market.
2. Increasing the comparative advantage of Bahraini workers over expatriate workers.
3. Providing and supporting social programmes and projects related to the development and enhancement of the labour market.
4. Contributing to removing obstacles limiting women's participation in the workforce.
5. Supporting and providing programmes to enhance the private sector's capacity to boost economic activity in the Kingdom.
6. Offering interest-free loans to citizens in compliance with Islamic Sharia to establish and fund small and medium enterprises.
7. Supporting and funding projects where Bahrainis own shares or stakes, especially those contributing to increased employment of Bahrainis, focusing on projects with added economic value.
8. Supporting and offering financial and advisory services to companies and establishments with Bahraini ownership to enhance the efficiency and productivity of their workers.
9. Supporting and providing programmes to enable employers in Bahraini-owned companies and establishments to align with labour market development plans and programmes.
10. Supporting research and studies in the Fund's fields of work and encouraging the utilisation of their results.
11. Acquiring movable and immovable assets, managing and investing the Fund's resources, executing contracts, and undertaking all actions necessary to achieve its objectives, in compliance with Islamic Sharia.

Support outlined in clauses 7, 8, and 9 may be extended to projects, companies, and establishments not covered by these provisions, according to regulations issued by the Board of Directors. These regulations shall consider Bahraini employment rates, investment volume, and the economic impact of such projects, companies, and establishments.

Article II: The Prime Minister and the relevant ministers shall implement this law, which shall take effect the day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

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CAMBODIA

MISTI Launches Online Filing Service for Patents, Utility Models, and Industrial Designs.

The Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology & Innovation (MISTI) has officially launched a new online filing service for patents, utility models, and industrial designs, marking another milestone in modernizing Cambodia's intellectual property (IP) system.

The announcement was made during a launching event on January 14, 2024 presided over by Minister HEM Vanndy, with the participation of representatives from ministries-institutos, private sector, domestic and international organizations, including the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO).

The new online filing service streamlines the process of registering patents, utility models, and industrial designs, making it more accessible and efficient. This is part of Cambodia's ongoing efforts to strengthen its IP framework, aligning with international standards and ensuring the protection of Cambodian and international innovations in global markets.

"The launch of the online filing service for patents, utility models, and industrial designs is another step forward in enhancing public service delivery, ensuring greater convenience for businesses and the public. Applicants can now submit their applications anytime, anywhere, eliminating the need for in-person visits and reducing logistical burdens for businesses." said Minister Hem Vanndy.

Intellectual property plays a crucial role in safeguarding new ideas, enhancing trade, and stimulating new industrial development for long-term economic growth. "IP is not merely about protecting individual rights; it is the foundation of a national innovation ecosystem that promotes creativity, addresses global challenges, and fosters collaboration to bring forth groundbreaking solutions," Minister Hem Vanndy added.

In addition to the official launch, the event included a National Capacity Building Workshop to train stakeholders—such as entrepreneurs, legal professionals, and government officials—on how to use the new online filing system.

In April 2024, the patent and industrial design database was launched on the Department of Industrial Property's website, making this information accessible to the public and the ASEAN community.

The new online filing system is another step towards full digitalization, making it easier for businesses, entrepreneurs, and creators to protect their intellectual property and support Cambodia's growing national innovation ecosystem.

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HUNGARY

Nagy: 2025 will be the year of families and SMEs

At a press conference opening the new year in Budapest on Tuesday, Márton Nagy, National Economy Minister, said 2025 will be the year of families and SMEs. Minister Nagy said households had felt the positive turnaround from September already and the trend would continue in 2025. He added that the ministry would closely track employment, wages, household consumption and borrowing, stability, and the situation on the home and car markets to ensure an uninterrupted advance.

In the case of SMEs, he said a pickup in lending would be key, adding that the endeavour would require the participation of the banking system and possibly assistance from the central bank. He pointed to the need to strengthen trust and cooperation between the state and the SME sector.

Minister Nagy acknowledged a slight increase in Hungary's state debt, relative to GDP, in 2024, but said both state debt and the budget deficit were on the decline in 2025. He estimated GDP growth would reach 0.5pc-0.6pc in 2024, worse than expected, but a positive turn had taken place in the fourth quarter. He put this year's GDP growth at 3.4pc.

The labour market is stable and the number of inactive Hungarians is at a historic low, he said, adding that a minor increase in the jobless rate was no reason for concern. He projected real wage growth of 4-5pc in 2025 and said that increase would have a broad impact well beyond high earners. He noted that real wages had climbed for 82pc of full-time workers. Minister Nagy said household consumption could climb by 5pc in 2025, adding that retail borrowing would be "very strong", boosted by unsubsidised loans, too.

The number of new home constructions is set to climb, supported by government capital schemes, he said. Amid reduced demand, Minister Nagy said it would pay off for SMEs to boost productivity, cut costs or digitalise. Addressing the merger of the Finance Ministry with the National Economy Ministry, Minister Nagy said the government would continue to exercise fiscal discipline.

He said the relationship between the National Economy Ministry and the National Bank of Hungary (NBH) would be "completely different" after the new central bank governor took his post. The NBH's approach is expected to change after Mihaly Varga's arrival, he added.

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INDONESIA

Indonesia's Second Lady pushes for MSME growth in remote areas

Indonesia's Second Lady Selvi Ananda urged the new management of the National Crafts Council (Dekranas) for 2024–2029 to reach micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the outermost, frontier, and disadvantaged (3T) areas.

Ananda, who also serves as the chairperson of Dekranas, stressed the importance of central management coordinating and working with regional management to develop strategies to support artisans and MSMEs in the 3T areas. "Remote areas that we have not yet reached or visited will become Dekranas' priority in the future," she declared during the inauguration of the new Dekranas management at the Vice President's Palace in Jakarta on Monday.

Ananda emphasized that empowering MSME actors in 3T areas is essential, so they must be a priority for the new Dekranas management. "We will prioritize areas that have not yet been reached to boost our MSMEs so that these small businesses can grow," she added.

On the same occasion, she highlighted the potential of Indonesian MSME products in foreign markets. She encouraged Dekranas to continue efforts to help domestic MSMEs promote their products abroad. "This is why we need a special team focused on establishing relationships with foreign countries, as I want Indonesian MSMEs to be introduced to many more countries in the future," she explained.

Furthermore, she urged the Dekranas management for the 2024–2029 term to start preparing their programs for the next five years. Related to that, Ananda stressed the importance of mentoring programs, enhancing digital literacy, expanding market access, and providing financing to MSMEs. "We will propose fresh new ideas. I hope the programs can be effectively implemented and benefit our MSMEs even more," she said.

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KOREA

Korea's Ministry of SMEs invests 1 trillion won to boost venture funds and markets

On the 16th, the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Startups held a meeting with the venture investment industry at Korea Venture Investment in Seocho-gu, Seoul, to discuss the direction of the fund of funds investment and measures to promote venture investment.

The meeting, chaired by Oh Youngju, Minister of the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Startups, was attended by Yun Geonsu, chairman of the Korea Venture Capital Association, and other venture capital (VC) officials. The Ulsan Creative Economy Innovation Center, which represents local centers responsible for discovering, nurturing, and early investing in innovative startups, also participated.

In the first agenda of the meeting, the Ministry explained the '2025 fund of funds investment direction.' This year, the Ministry plans to invest a total of 1 trillion won in the fund of funds to support the establishment of venture funds worth 1.9 trillion won. First, it aims to create a 'global fund' worth over 1 trillion won to support attracting overseas investments for domestic startups. Starting this year, the Ministry will diversify investment areas including AI, climate tech, and secondary investments while specializing based on preferred investment sectors by country.

The Ministry will invest a record 200 billion won in local areas. This follows the 'Regional Era Venture Fund Formation Plan' announced in November 2024, with a plan to establish a 'Regional Era Venture Fund' of over 1 trillion won together with the fund of funds, local governments, local banks, and regional hub companies from 2025 to 2027.

Considering the recent contraction of early-stage investments, the Ministry will invest 100 billion won in the early-stage startup sector, an increase of 25% compared to the previous year. Funds not specifically for early-stage startups will be preferentially selected if they propose an obligation for early-stage investments.

The fund of funds investment project will be reorganized to be market-friendly. To activate the secondary recovery market, from 2025 to 2026, the purchasing of existing shares will be temporarily recognized as the primary investment (up to 20%), and the management fee system will be completely overhauled to support VC's challenging investments.

During the meeting, the direction of the fund of funds investment and measures to promote venture investment were also discussed. Topics included the influx of new participants in venture investment such as retirement pensions, support for activating the secondary recovery market, expansion of financial incentives for bio-investment, support for the globalization of domestic VCs, and the role of the Creative Economy Innovation Centers as public accelerators.

Oh Youngju, Minister of the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises and Startups, said, 'Investment in innovative ventures and startups, which are future growth engines, must continue steadily amid increasing uncertainties both domestically and internationally and slow domestic recovery.' She added, 'The Ministry will expedite the announcement of the 1 trillion won fund of funds investment project in January to quickly supply funds to the venture investment market and recognize the purchase of existing shares as the primary investment for the next two years, thereby promoting a virtuous cycle of investment, recovery, and reinvestment.'

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LEBANON

USAID Announces a New \$10 Million Activity in Lebanon to Empower Local Systems in Agriculture

the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), launched a new five-year \$10 million activity, Empowering Local Systems in Agriculture (ELSA) in Lebanon. The activity will develop agriculture market systems that focus on sustainable access to inputs and market channels. With Lebanon's agriculture sector facing significant challenges as a result of the ongoing economic crisis, this initiative will focus on strengthening and revitalizing local agriculture.

Throughout its five years of implementation, ELSA will partner with local organizations, agri-businesses, and other market actors to reach its objectives. The initiative takes a localization-centric approach that builds the capacity of local organizations and prepares them for future direct USAID funding opportunities. Through ELSA, USAID plans to provide business development services, including equipment and technical assistance, to at least 50 small and medium enterprises (SMEs), open new markets for more than 270 SMEs, and improve the living conditions of more than 3,300 rural households.

"Supporting agriculture is essential not only for the economic growth of Lebanon but also for the sustainability of its rural communities. Strengthening agricultural systems empowers local producers, improves food security, and contributes to broader economic stability. Through initiatives like ELSA, USAID is committed to fostering long-term resilience and helping Lebanon's agricultural sector thrive," said USAID Lebanon Mission Director Julie Southfield.

Over the past decade, USAID invested more than \$80 million in Lebanon's agriculture sector. This support increased the incomes of more than 40,000 rural households, leveraged over \$40 million in private sector investment, generated more than \$170 million in sales at firms and farms level, provided business development services to more than 35,000 enterprises and farming households, and benefited over 19,000 households from food security programming.

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SRI LANKA

FinMin unveils SME debt relief package

Package developed in collaboration with CBSL, SLBA, SME sector representatives, and relevant government agencies. Assures the measures were prepared with a long-term perspective to provide breathing space for affected SMEs while ensuring the stability of the banking sector. SMEs that obtained credit facilities from a licensed bank classified as stage 3 (on or after 1. 4.2019, and those commencing discussions with the respective Relief Banking Unit on or before 31.3.2025, are eligible for the package

Sri Lanka's struggling businesses can find some respite as the Finance Ministry yesterday announced details of a relief package for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) facing difficulties servicing their debt due to the economic crisis following the global health pandemic.

The package was developed in collaboration with the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), the Sri Lanka Banks' Association, SME sector representatives, and relevant government agencies. The Finance Ministry assured that the measures were prepared with a long-term perspective to provide breathing space for affected SMEs while ensuring the stability of the banking sector.

Accordingly, SMEs that obtained credit facilities from a licensed bank classified as stage 3 (non-performing loans - NPLs) on or after April 1, 2019, and those commencing discussions with the respective Relief Banking Unit on or before March 31, 2025, are eligible for the package, subject to submission of all required documents. Specific relief measures have been proposed under three categories based on the aggregate capital outstanding of credit facilities as of December 15, 2024.

Under general relief, the commencement of legal action is extended until March 31, 2025, allowing SMEs to enter a revival plan by amending the Recovery Loans by Banks (Special Provisions) Act No. 4 of 1990. If required, eligible SMEs may be granted a working capital loan, subject to repayment capacity and the submission of a credible business revival plan on a case-by-case basis to re-boost them to their pre-crisis operating status.

An adverse Credit Information Bureau (CRIB) report shall not be the sole reason for declining loan applications from eligible borrowers. Licensed banks, in consultation with the CRIB, may develop an appropriate reporting modality for restructured credit facilities under this relief. Furthermore, SMEs may request a breakdown of the capital, interest, and other charges of their credit facilities from their bank.

In addition to the specific and general relief measures, the Finance Ministry has requested the CBSL to explore the possibility of incorporating a few additional measures to the package to ensure smooth implementation and maximum benefit to the SME sector.

The first is the introduction of a reasonable interest rate for restructured loans below Rs. 50 million, subject to a maximum of the Average Weighted Prime Lending Rate (AWPR) plus a reasonable margin. The second is for the maximum loan repayment period to be 10 years (unless the original agreement provided a longer period), subject to a grievance handling process for aggrieved parties. The third is to rename "Business Revival Units" of the respective banks as "Relief Banking Units."

Furthermore, all legal actions are to be suspended for cases during the proposed relief period: 12 months for loans below Rs. 25 million, nine months for loans between Rs. 25 million and Rs. 50 million, and six months for loans above Rs. 50 million, including a complete freeze on legal proceedings related to NPL loans in the relevant categories, except for dates already scheduled.

Lastly, a transparent mechanism is to be established for grievance handling in the event of a dispute over the valuation for auctioning a property between banks and the defaulter, ensuring the borrower's property is auctioned at the highest possible rate to maximize its value.

Meanwhile, as additional policy measures to assist the SME sector, the Ministry of Finance called for the establishment of an advisory committee for SMEs under the leadership of the Ministry of Industries as a prime arm for SME policy development. This committee will provide guidance and coordinate the work of all relevant stakeholders under different institutions for SME sector development, bringing them under one umbrella.

It also urged the need to introduce a scorecard/rating mechanism in collaboration with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (ICASL) and other professional accounting bodies to support SMEs in increasing their ability to access finance. Lastly, it suggested providing backup support by offering credit guarantees for bank loans of SMEs, alleviating collateral issues in obtaining bank loans in collaboration with the National Credit Guarantee Institution Limited (NCGIL), which is scheduled to commence operations from January 2025.

For the period of April 1, 2019, to September 30, 2024, approximately 494,000 loans amounting to Rs. 886 billion have been classified as stage 3 loans (NPLs) in the banking industry. It is noted that 99 percent of the number of loans categorised under stage 3 are below Rs. 25 million.

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ASIA

India plans about US\$3 billion aid, tariff cuts for electronics

INDIA'S government is considering fresh subsidies for electronic component-makers and cutting tariffs on imports to help boost local manufacturing, especially of smartphones made by companies such as Apple.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT proposed giving manufacturers of components such as batteries and camera parts at least 230 billion rupees (\$3.7 billion) in support, according to sources familiar with the matter, who asked not to be identified as the discussions are private. The ministry also recommended reducing tariffs on some electronic components, an industry demand that will help bring down production costs, one of the sources said.

A final decision on the proposals will be made by the Cabinet, and if approved, details may be announced in the government's upcoming budget in February, the sources said. India's Ministry of Electronics and IT and Finance Ministry did not immediately respond to requests for further information. The Economic Times of India earlier reported on the subsidy plan.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has spent billions of US dollars in incentives to lure companies such as Apple and Samsung Electronics to set up manufacturing plants in the South Asian country. Apple's iPhone exports from India. Authorities now want to build on that momentum by creating a broader supply chain for smartphone makers, who import the bulk of their electronics parts from countries including China.

Some of the components being targeted by the proposed subsidy include microprocessors, memory, storage, multi-layered printed circuit boards, camera components such as lens, and lithium-ion cells, one of the sources said. The subsidies are likely to differ depending on the component, another source said.

Government think-tank Niti Aayog said in a report last year that the government should rationalise its tariffs and provide fiscal incentives to bolster electronic components production in India. The South Asian country faces tough competition from rivals such as Vietnam in luring foreign businesses looking to diversify their supply chains from China.

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Arrow Electronics Teams Up with Asosiasi Startup for Industry Indonesia to Support Tech Startups

Global technology solutions provider Arrow Electronics has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Asosiasi Startup for Industry Indonesia (STARFINDO). This collaboration is designed to bolster tech startups within Indonesia's ecosystem.

Through this collaboration, startups will gain access to cutting-edge electronics technologies and vital engineering expertise, empowering them to drive innovations in AIoT (Artificial Intelligence of Things) and EvTech (Electric Vehicle Technology).

According to research conducted in 2023, Indonesia's startup ecosystem ranked second in the Southeast Asian region¹. Industry-wide and cross-sector support are crucial for the sustainable development of the tech startup ecosystem. STARFINDO is committed to nurturing the growth of tech startups in Indonesia. By collaborating with government bodies, institutions, and the private sector, STARFINDO offers startups access to funding sources, technology ecosystem support, and opportunities to market their products both domestically and internationally.

"Our collaboration with Arrow, a global provider of technology solutions focusing on engineering and distribution support and supply chain services, is a significant addition to our network of industry-leading partners. This strategic collaboration will help us establish a more robust I&T (Information & Technology) ecosystem, fostering deeper engagement among local tech community, public, and private sectors, accelerating growth within Indonesia and beyond," said Lukas Dedy Setiyawan, chairman of Asosiasi Startup for Industry Indonesia.

Arrow and STARFINDO intend to provide substantial support to startups with the knowledge needed to accelerate their innovation journey. This commitment was exemplified by a recent AIoT and EvTech seminar held in Jakarta, Indonesia, where Arrow joined forces with several international technology suppliers, including Diodes, Inolux, onsemi, Silicon Labs, STMicroelectronics, and Yageo Group.

During the seminar, engineering experts from Arrow and these technology suppliers presented the latest market trends. They also showcased new AIoT, EvTech, and battery technologies and products through live demonstrations, allowing over 90 attendees to see firsthand how these technologies are applied to real-world scenarios.

"By leveraging our global network of resources, industry insights, and in-market presence, we serve as a trusted technology partner. We guide and assist aspiring startups and entrepreneurs in transforming their creative ideas into impactful innovations more efficiently and cost-effectively," said Dr. Raphael Salmi, president of Arrow Electronics' South Asia, Korea & Japan components business.

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EUROPE

Workwize raises €12.6 million to become the “first platform to fully automate the IT equipment lifecycle”

Workwize, an Amsterdam-based leading platform for global IT hardware asset management, today announced that it closed €12.6 million in Series A funding to fast-track integration of AI-driven automation. The funding round was led by Klass Capital, with continued support from early-stage investors Peak and Graduate Entrepreneur Fund.

According to Workwize, this investment will enable them to become the first platform to fully automate the IT equipment lifecycle—from procurement and deployment to retrieval and disposal. “IT teams worldwide are overwhelmed by the inefficiencies of managing equipment for distributed teams. They waste valuable hours on manual, repetitive tasks and getting caught up in complex vendor management,” said Michiel Meyer, CEO and co-founder of Workwize. “This investment further solidifies our vision of a barrier-free future where managing a global workforce becomes effortless and enables IT workflows to shrink from hours to minutes through smarter automation.”

Co-founded in 2021 by Michiel Meyer, Victor Dik, and Sebastiaan Scholten, Workwize was built to simplify IT asset procurement, onboarding, and offboarding for a distributed workforce. The platform provides employees with individual budgets to order IT equipment, peripherals, and ergonomic furniture. Workwize operates in 100+ countries, managing over 100,000 devices for 25,000+ users. Companies like Elastic, EQT, and HelloFresh are among those included in their client portfolio. The new funding will also enable Workwize to launch a U.S. office and double its headcount – both by 2025. A recent survey conducted by Workwize of over 150 global enterprises revealed that 48% of IT leaders prioritise ‘operational efficiency and automation.’ According to Workwize, their platform cuts IT management time from 27 hours to just 10 minutes per employee for tasks like procuring, deploying, managing, retrieving, and decommissioning IT equipment.

Traditional IT hardware asset management platforms provide a centralised record of the locations and status of IT equipment, but moving equipment still relies heavily on manual interventions by IT teams. An illustrative example: If an overseas employee needs a laptop repair, an IT manager must coordinate with multiple international vendors: sending a shipping label and packaging to the employee, booking the repair, arranging and configuring a replacement laptop, seeking cost approvals, and more.

Once fully automated, Workwize’s AI-driven platform aims to automate the entire lifecycle of IT equipment, eliminating the need for labor-intensive interventions. Workwize improves the efficiency and scalability of repetitive tasks so that IT teams can focus on strategic initiatives. “Our investment in Workwize reflects our strong belief in its ability to revolutionize IT management for an increasingly global workforce that demands streamlined solutions,” said Will Anderson, Managing Partner at Klass Capital. “Workwize provides the efficiency and scalability modern enterprises need to thrive in today’s dynamic, borderless business environment.”

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AFRICA

How Egypt's oliv is providing electronic invoice financing to SMEs

Egyptian startup oliv is providing electronic invoice financing to small and medium businesses, performing data-driven credit assessment that approves credit limits within minutes, and disburses funds to clients within 48 hours.

Founded in February 2024 by Ziad Mokhtar, ex-founding partner of Algebra Ventures, and Hatem Sabry, ex-director at Deutsche Bank, oliv is a digital invoice financing company serving SMEs, whose service involves minimal manual interactions and no tech requirements, thus delivering funding in less than two days.

last month the startup had secured Egypt's first digital factoring license from the Financial Regulatory Authority (FRA). The digital factoring license issued by the FRA is the first business lending license to be issued under the fintech law number five for the year 2022 and the FRA decree 268 for the year 2023, which is tailored for venture-backed fintech companies. It allows oliv to offer fully digital factoring and reverse-factoring services to Egyptian businesses.

oliv is contributing to filling a US\$39 billion funding gap in the SME segment in Egypt, including around US\$8 billion in invoice financing specifically. "oliv competes with traditional factoring companies that typically take longer times to underwrite clients and only serve 600 clients, mostly large companies, leaving behind more than 219,000 SMEs underserved," said Mokhtar.

oliv raised a pre-seed round last year from Algebra Ventures and Alter Global to fund its path to licensing and initial launch. Mokhtar said it is now in discussions with investors to bring its total capital raised up to US\$4 million.

"Prior to launch, oliv has gathered interest from potential clients in various sectors and already disbursed its first financing transactions days after obtaining the license from the Financial Regulatory Authority," said Mokhtar.

"We believe the problem we are solving is common across the Middle East and Africa. We further believe that the enabling factors for our solution are also happening across the region. That said, for the medium term will be focusing on Egypt."

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► Membership

WASME has members in different countries across the world. Member constituents represent industrial promotional organizations of various types and come from highly industrialized, developing and transition economies, as well as least developed countries. WASME has a broad membership spectrum that includes:

Categories

General Members

- ◆ Ministries/ Government Departments
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- ◆ Export Promotion Councils/ Trade Councils
- ◆ Financial Institutions/ Banks/ NBFCs
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Chambers/ Industry Associations/ SME Associations

International & Regional Federations/ Associations

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- ◆ Corporations, Consulting Firms
- ◆ Partnership/ Proprietorship/ LLP etc
- ◆ Research Institutes/ Technical Institutes/ Universities
- ◆ Individual Consultants/ Experts/ Students
- ◆ NGOs/ SMEs etc.

Permanent Members

- ◆ Any General Member or Associate Member who is willing to be Permanent Member of WASME

Benefits to Members

Collaborating with other members on issues of common interest to enable local SMEs gain access to a variety of advantages, such as:

- ◆ Making advantage of a vast network of WASME to create new alliances
- ◆ Building a global network and making your voice heard
- ◆ Globally promoting your company using WASME marketing platforms
- ◆ Possessing the chance to organise or present at WASME Global Conferences, Seminars, Exhibitions, events, and programmes
- ◆ Having your interests represented at multilateral organizations including UN organizations, national and international forums etc.
- ◆ Sharing your opinions and ideas in WASME publications
- ◆ Get access to WASME Resource Centre of Knowledge, Experts, Technology, Trade Facilitation, Financial Assistance, Market Linkage etc.
- ◆ Get tailor made services and support



For any query related to membership write to membership@wasmeinfo.org

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (WASME),



WASME is an International Non-Governmental Organization that has observer and consultative status with many UN agencies, such as UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNICITRAL, WIPO, ILO, ECOSOC, UNESCAP, ITC, and UNESCO. Additionally, WASME has several inter-governmental and international organization affiliations. It has been striving to stimulate, foster, promote, and coordinate international cooperation for the growth & development of MSMEs.

WASME was founded in 1980 with the goal of supporting MSMEs in member countries. We have achieved this through our strong association with local government bodies, regional authorities, international linkages, civil societies, SMEs, etc. We are continuously working to improve our innovative and sustainable framework so that we can better serve MSMEs around the world.

WASME's fortnightly SME e-Bulletin "WORLD SME UPDATE" aims to keep its readers abreast of latest information on various developments taking place in the SME sector around the globe. If you have any news/information on the issues related to Government policies & programmers and latest developments in the SME sector i.e. technology and innovations, success stories, case studies, research and methods, planning and programs, training and developments, finance and management, and marketing that you would like to share with the world SME community, please do send them to us at editor@wasmeinfo.org

We always welcome your valuable feedback/comments on the SME e-Bulletin to further enhance our services on information dissemination. Hence, please send us your valuable guidance as well as meaningful articles as a regular contribution to SME e-Bulletin and our website in the larger interests and benefits of SMEs the world over.

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