

للتك Dilatech

Young People...Enterprise...Employment...



ANNUAL REPORT 2017 | 2016



“Sila”
(connection)
**reflects our name
and mission**



Arab youth have potential capabilities that can contribute to the promotion of sustainable development in their societies

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About Us

Silatech is an International development nonprofit non-government organization that works on connecting Arab Youth wherever they are to jobs, and enable resources for them to establish and sustain successful enterprises.

Based in Qatar, the organization supports a network of local, regional and international partners with innovative solutions from providing financial and technical contribution mobilizing financial resources to reach more youth and promote the impact of the programs. Silatech believes that Arab youth have the dynamic energy to actively contribute to the sustainable economic and social development of Arabic societies, and has sought to improve the living conditions of youth and their families, in order to protect their communities from poverty, unemployment and radicalization.

Silatech has innovative youth programs in 16 Arab countries including: Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Morocco, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Yemen and the Comoros. The organization is currently working on expanding its operations to other countries and it has recently launched a training and recruitment program for young Arab refugees in Turkey.

In 2008, Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, as a member of the High-Level Group an ambassador to the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, launched Silatech **as a global initiative that seeks to create opportunities for youth to act as change leaders for a better tomorrow**

We ensure that our programs are complementary to **sustainable development goals**

Our Vision

An Arab world in which young people are able to work, and are engaged in the economic development of their societies.

Our Mission

Connect young people to economic opportunities and jobs through innovative enterprise development and employment initiatives.

Our Values

Accountability

We are fully accountable at every step, to everyone from donors to partners.

Passion

We are passionate about changing lives of Arab youth for the better, through innovative projects and initiatives.

Transparency

We foster relationships built on trust, we strive to be fully transparent in everything we do.

Respect

We carry out our business with the utmost respect for the norms and customs of stakeholders we work with and the societies in which we operate.

Empowerment

We help young Arabs in the most challenging environments and circumstances take control of their lives and their future.





Message from the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

In the Arab world, our large population of talented and bright young people is among our greatest assets.

Yet with the highest rates of youth unemployment, under employment and skills shortages in the world, our region will remain stagnated and blocked from fulfilling its potential. Silatech was conceived from the region, by the region, for the region, with a vision to unleash this potential.

Our name and our mission are all about connection- connecting needs with skills; connecting employers with job seekers; connecting young people with opportunities.

The social and economic upheavals that have rocked the Arab world in recent years have compounded my conviction that now, more than ever, it is vital to give all young people the tools to make their societies flourish. It is imperative that we provide them with chances to become active and productive members of their communities.

Only when we connect the hopes and dreams of our youth with the tools to realize them will we build the strong Arab economies of tomorrow.

Moza Bint Nasser
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

Members of the Board of Trustees

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Sheikh Mohammed
Bin Abdulrahman
Bin Jassim Al Thani
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Qatar



Her Excellency
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Former Ministry of
Information &
Communications Technology
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Mr. Rafat Al-Akhali
Former Minister of Youth and
Sports
Co-Founder and Chairman of
of Resonate Foundation
Yemen



Her Highness
Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser
Founder and Chairperson of
the Board of Trustees



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Ooredoo
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CEO of Global Investment
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Ms. Amira Yahyaoui
Founder of Al Bawsala
Organization
Tunisia



Ms. Sabah Al Haidoos
Chief Executive Officer
Member of the Executive
Committee



Silatech promotes **social** and **economic inclusion** of youth through providing them with **access to decent work** and **livelihood opportunities**



Message from the Chief Executive Officer

More than 9 years have passed since Silatech was launched as an international initiative that embodies the unique and inspiring vision of its founder that addresses the unemployment challenge amongst Arab youth, which is one of the highest rates of unemployment in the world, and supporting them to fulfill their potential as an active and essential element for the advancement of their societies.

Since its inception in 2008, Silatech has made significant achievements that reflected on the future of the Arab youth, providing them with practical skills and connecting them with real job opportunities that have enabled them to practice their natural right to live a decent life together with their families.

Through the proactive vision of Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, may God bless her, Founder and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, and the advanced and inclusive mission, Silatech was able to position itself at the forefront of the civil society institutions that focus on economic and social empowerment, thus making the organization a force that attracts the attention and participation of the public, private and financial sectors who share with us the belief in the importance of activating the role of youth to accelerate the advancement of our societies and seek to invest in programs designed to empower them.

The specter of unemployment haunts those young people who can work but are not provided with the opportunities. As a result, they feel marginalized and socially excluded and become easy prey for extremist groups. Unemployment threatens not only the future of young people but also the social and economic stability of the societies and its repercussions have become a major concern for each and every country.

The strength of Silatech lies in its strategy and innovative initiatives that have connected young people with jobs that have enabled them to build their future and establish a stable life. It also engaged them in the economic development of their communities, which eventually led to the attracted of a number of international organizations who asked Silatech to be to be an effective partner in their fight against terrorism.

Cooperation is the foundation of our success, and we look forward to establishing partnerships with more entities that believe in the potentials of youth in order to launch new projects and initiatives that provide sustainable employment opportunities for a greater number of young Arabs.

Our organization, our partners and everyone who supports us: We have created a world of difference for our youth. This is only a starting point for a new phase that we hope will help us reach new horizons, as high as our aspirations, towards achieving an Arab world that enables young people to work and participate in the development of their societies.

Sabah Al Haidoos
CEO



Abdi Sahl Dawali, a young man from Somalia, was dreaming of migrating to Europe for a better life. During his journey to Europe he passed through Ethiopia and Libya Abdi spent more than three years in Libya trying to find a way to cross the Mediterranean to Europe but all his attempts ended in failure.

"During my stay in Libya, I saw many of my friends get killed while trying to cross the sea. These incidents convinced me to give up on my dream to reach Europe and I decided to return to Somalia," says Abdi.

Upon returning Abdi learned about the **Entrepreneurial Loans Program** provided by Silatech, the American Refugee Committee (ARC) and Kaah Islamic Microfinance Services. He applied for a loan and founded a cafeteria project in the city of Hargeisa.

"Now I have a successful project that changed my life and the living conditions of my family for the better and I also hired three other young people in the project. I have hope for life and I feel that I am an active member in my community."

Abdi Sahl Dawali

"I saw many of my friends get killed during our attempt to migrate to Europe"

The loan helped me establish a successful project in my country and provide a decent living for me and my family"

Overview

Years 2016-2017 witnessed remarkable achievements for Silatech reflected in the launch of innovative programs and initiatives in collaboration with a wide network of strategic partners. These achievements saw the creation and sustainability of large-scale employment opportunities for Arab youth.

Over the past two years, the organization has worked to strengthen coordination with Arab governments as well as national, regional and international NGOs to ensure the greatest possible impact of its youth-oriented programs. Silatech's initiatives are integral and complementary to the national programs of each country in which the organization operates, which enables Silatech, through registered partners, to provide solutions tailored to the specific needs of each country in line with local laws and regulations.

Silatech has intensified its efforts to support the Syrian refugees, especially young people, to mitigate the effects of the crisis on their future. The organization has cooperated with Qatar Red Crescent in the construction of mud houses for displaced people and the employment of youth in this project, and it has also partnered with Qatar Charity to launch two agricultural projects that generated job opportunities for young people.

Furthermore, Silatech has partnered with the Sudanese Commission for Refugees (COR) to financially empower Syrian refugees in Sudan. Silatech has also expanded the scope of its operations outside the Arab world to establish a center for the rehabilitation and employment of Syrian refugees in Turkey in cooperation with Rizk Institute for Professional Development.

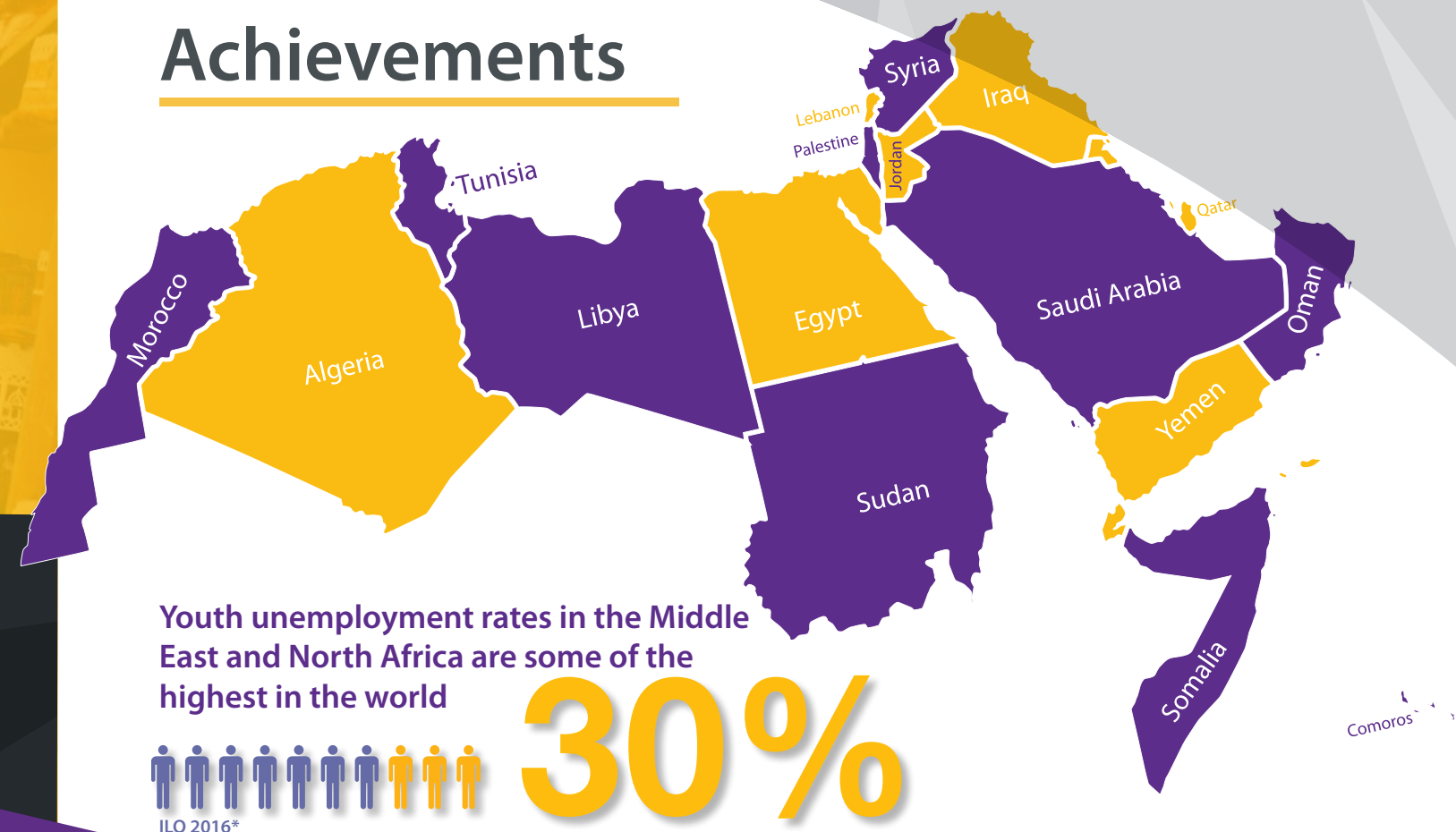
On the sidelines of the historic visit of Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, (founder and chairman of Silatech's board of trustees), to the Tunisian and Sudanese Republics, Silatech has signed a number of strategic agreements with the support of the two governments to secure more than 2 million job opportunities for young people in both republics by 2021.

Over and above, the organization has strengthened its presence in Tunisia by officially registering the Silatech branch in the Presidency of the Tunisian Government.

As part of its efforts to activate the youth agenda at an international level, Silatech joined the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO), an international organization that aims to unite non-governmental organizations around the world to promote global peace and prosperity, so as to provide Silatech with the opportunity to exchange experiences with leaders of institutions serving young people.

Silatech has appointed a number of young Arab figures who have a wide impact at a regional and global levels as international ambassadors for its mandate. The organization continues to put more strategic partnerships into operation and launch innovative programs that support the strategic development of each country in coordination with its international partner organizations and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Our Achievements



+2,000,000
Job Opportunities by 2020



+500,000
Job Opportunities



\$237,000,000
Partners Co-Funding
* As of 2016



+16
Countries of Operation



+150
Local, Regional and International Partners



\$148,000,000
Funded by the State of Qatar

Our Operations

We are working on the economic empowerment of Arab youth and seek to help them develop income-generating projects by facilitating access to financial resources. We also provide technical support and various innovative financing instruments to help MFIs and other financial institutions in designing and marketing youth-oriented loans and implementing training programs for credit and lending officers, in addition to applying best practices for the benefit of both young people and financial institutions.

Silatech collaborates with governmental, educational and private sector partners to develop effective employment and training mechanisms and programs. It also provides young people with access to career guidance, training and jobs through innovative technological platforms, builds the capacity of local institutions, and direct connection between employers and young jobseekers.

We work closely with all programs in the organization to provide supporting information for program design, improving the results and carrying out impact assessments. Silatech is working on the preparation of applied research and collaborates with policy makers to enrich the process of effective policy formulation to improve the entrepreneurial climate and generate employment opportunities and to achieve the economic integration of young people.



+16 Countries of Operation

Enterprise Development

- Funding 146,000 youth projects
- Training 42,000 young men and women in entrepreneurship
- Building the capacity of +30 financial institutions
- Designing and launching 29 existing financial products for youth

Employment

- 65,000 young people received training to enter the labor market
- Over 57,000 professional consultations
- 250 vocational centers in the Arab world
- 900 Professional Counselors Certified by Tamheed

+500
Thousand
Job
Opportunities

Policy & Research

- Over 50 Research papers on policies and programs that support Arab youth
- Over 30 International conferences and workshops on youth issues



“The loan enabled me to transform my small project into a factory consisting of 12 Workshops & participate in the employment of young people in my area

Niazi Mahsoub Wahbi is a Sudanese young man who has benefited from Silatech's entrepreneurship programs in Sudan. By receiving a loan from the Agricultural Bank of Sudan which is supported by Silatech, Niazi managed to expand his small pastry business into a factory with 12 workshops and two showrooms.

“The loan supported by Silatech enabled me to turn my small business into a successful one and support my family, in addition to hiring more young people in my area,” says Niazi.

Niazi Mahsoub

Enterprise Development

Brief on our Programs



narwi

Narwi Platform

Narwi, which was established by Silatech in 2014, is the first innovative Islamic Crowd-funding Waqf platform in the world (based on the 'waqf' or endowment model). The platform raises funds to help providing young entrepreneurs with the necessary financing to start and grow their income-generating activities. The platform aims to tackle unemployment and poverty, and to promote economic empowerment of Arab youth. In 2016, Silatech partnered with the World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists (WCMP) with the goal of further developing the Narwi Platform and achieving its independence and sustainability.

Shari'a-compliant Funding: USD 12 million, i.e. 33% of the total funds collected through the platform.

Strategic Objectives Performance Indicators: Focusing on supporting refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), in addition to combating terrorism and extremism.

Targeted Beneficiaries: Initial focus on the Middle East and North Africa (5-8 countries) and expand into South Asia (3-5 countries).

Donors: Primary focus on the western market and expansion in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia microfinance in the world.

Innovation

Narwi is the worldwide first platform for **Waqf-based microfinance**

Raising approximately
600,000\$
and creating over
20,000
Job

Opportunities
in six countries over four
years

and providing
107,100
Job
Opportunities
by 2020

Our preparation partners:



Our launching partners:



Awards:



Bedaya - Enda

Partner: Enda Tamweel
State: Republic of Tunisia

In partnership with Enda Tamweel, Silatech works on supporting and financing young entrepreneurs in Tunisia to help them launch and grow their income-generating activities through providing youth loans via an innovative mechanism. In addition, Silatech is supporting the expansion of financial services to reach young people in rural and remote areas through setting up mobile branches. Silatech also works with Enda Tamweel to support a social center that aims at training young people and developing their businesses.

creating over
928,000
Job
Opportunities
by 2021

Financial Inclusion ”
of youth in rural and remote
areas through Enda's mobile
branches

Al-Amal – Hope

Partner: The Sudanese Government
Supreme Commission for Combating
Extremism and Fighting the Ideologies of
Terrorist Groups
State: The Republic of the Sudan

Silatech supports the efforts of the Sudanese government to address the phenomenon of terrorism through a program aiming to reintegrate and rehabilitate a number of young Sudanese who had formerly fallen into the trap of extremism and terrorism. The innovative program provides training for 400 young people from the target group and provides them with the funding needed to launch small, productive businesses. The project was launched under the supervision of the Supreme Commission for Countering Extremism and Combating the Ideologies of Terrorist Groups.

Reintegration and
rehabilitation of
400
Young
returnees who had formerly
fallen into the trap of
extremism and terrorism

”
The promotion of
Economic Empowerment
as an effective way to
rehabilitate young returnees
and promote their
productivity in the society

Bodour

Partner: Attawfiq Micro-Finance Foundation
State: Kingdom of Morocco

Building on the success of the first initiative between Silatech and Attawfiq Micro-Finance, Bodour Program was launched to promote employment and expand economic opportunities in Morocco to help young entrepreneurs start and expand their businesses. The program also includes training of loan officers in 120 branches of Attawfiq Micro-Finance Foundation, providing marketing support for loan products and connecting youth-owned enterprises with the organizations that offer services to them.

creating over
+180,000
Job
Opportunities
by 2021

Providing
Innovative Financing ”
mechanisms and expanding
access to financial services
for the vulnerable segment
of youth

“Al-‘Aysh al-Karim” - Decent Living

Partner: Qatari Red Crescent
State: Syria

The “Decent Living Program” provides internally displaced Syrian youth with professional training and employment opportunities in alternative mud houses projects that target displaced families inside Syria. The project also funds the establishment of small projects for displaced youth, such as workshops, and provides the workers with light equipment that may be of help in future projects.

Operating and funding
1,690
internally displaced Syrian
beneficiaries
and developing their
workshops for future projects

”
The program focuses
on enhancing the
stability
of the displaced communities
by actualizing the potential of
their youth through engaging
them in productive and
income-generating activities

” We share the same ambition and objective as Silatech with respect to the social and economic development of youth. Building on the success of the first phase of our partnership program “Bodour”, expanding the scope of our partnership is highly important due to their extensive experiences in youth work. We need to integrate their experiences into our own in order to provide financing and support mechanisms for delivering a comprehensive, innovative range of financial products tailored to support and fund youth business
Mr. Mohamed Alloush, Managing Director of Attawfiq Micro-Finance Foundation



The Bedaya Center for Entrepreneurship and Career Guidance

Silatech programs, including employment and entrepreneurship programs, operate closely with the Bedaya Center to deliver programs and services for youth inside the state of Qatar. The Bedaya Center for Entrepreneurship and Professional Development is a joint initiative between Silatech and Qatar Development Bank that provides a wide range of services for youth in Qatar including career guidance, self-evaluation and skill development in the fields of employment and entrepreneurship. The center also provides volunteering opportunities, practical training and communication activities in addition to a program for lecturers.

323
Students

benefiting from the work environment simulation program

251
Projects

supported by Bedaya center from concept phase to implementation



مركز ريادة الأعمال والتوجيه المهني
Center for Entrepreneurship and Career Guidance
بدعم من صلتك وبنك قطر للتنمية
Powered by Silatech & Qatar Development Bank

3,589
Youth

attending workshops and training programs

12,988
Students from
9 Universities

& **38 Schools**
provided with professional development programs

8
internationally accredited Qatari graduate
Life Coaches

5,075
Students

undergoing Tamheed Assessment

Conducted by

20
speakers & trainers

The Bedaya Center provides a wide range of services to students and young entrepreneurs in Qatar including:

Professional Development:

School Visits, Career Development Chain, Advise Clinic, Career Planning Campaign, Career Development Awareness Week, Internship Program, Career Café, Career Camps

Entrepreneurship

Special programs for students:

Business Enterprise Challenge, University Workshops, & Summer Bootcamps

Programs for Early Stage Startups:

Advisory Sessions, Training Programs, & Networking

Programs for Established Businesses:

Startup Markets, Mentoring Programs, & Networking Sessions



Our goal is to
help young people discover their path in life and achieve their dreams



“Circumstances forced me to leave school and seek refuge in Istanbul without having any certificates or experience

“I am continuing to attend Turkish Language courses to mingle with the Turkish society and to be integrated into the labor market

A 20 year-old young woman from Aleppo forced by the circumstances to leave school and move to Istanbul along with her family, but she does not have any certificates or experience qualifying her to apply for a job with a good salary, especially that she cannot not speak Turkish. Rizk department, under the sponsorship of Silatech, has enrolled her in several training courses to develop her skills, in addition to employing her in an embroidery factory where she designs drawings to be embroidered with modern machines.

“Rizk department has enrolled me in a three-month intensive computer and training course and has also offered me a job in the same field. I am also continuing to attend Turkish language courses to mingle with the Turkish society and to be integrated into the labor market,” said Laila.

Laila Abdel Ghani,
A Syrian refugee in Turkey

Employment

Brief on our Programs



Ta3mal Platform

Co-Founded by Microsoft and Silatech, Ta3mal is the region's first employability platform. Providing a one-stop-shop for young Arabs looking for career guidance, online and offline training and, ultimately, access to job opportunities

Available in:

Arabic, English, and French

Localized Portals in 8 Arab countries:

Qatar, Iraq, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Palestine, Lebanon and Egypt

With plans to establish localized platforms in the Sultanate of Oman, in addition to a portal dedicated to Syrian refugees.

Resources available in Ta3mal Platform: E-learning, online career guidance, entrepreneurship training, soft skills training and access to job opportunities.

450,000
Youth
Signed Up

More than

7,200
Employers

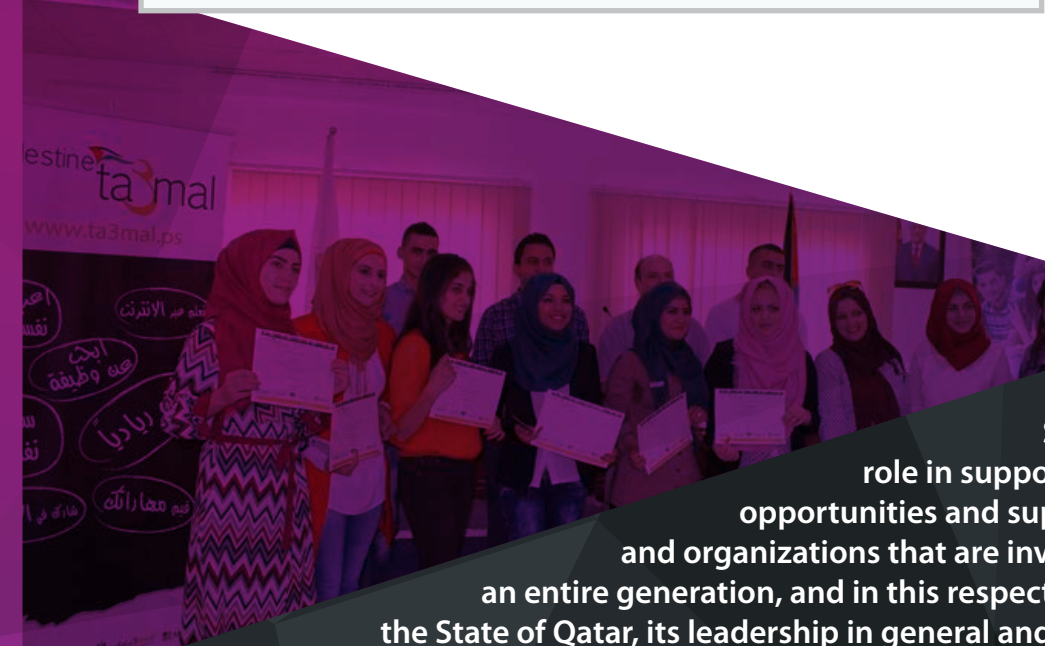
Joined, and more than

215,000
Job
Opportunities

have been made available on the platform

More than

35,000
Youth directly connected to
Employment Opportunities



"In Tunisia,

Silatech plays a pioneering role in supporting young people by creating opportunities and supporting a number of programs and organizations that are involved in changing the reality of an entire generation, and in this respect, we value the interest given by the State of Qatar, its leadership in general and HH Sheikha Moza, the founder of Silatech, in particular."

HE Dr. Mohammed Anwar Marouf,
Minister of Communication Technologies and Digital Economy, Republic of Tunisia

Supporting the Employment of Syrian Refugees

Partner: Syrian Forum

State: The Republic of Turkey

Silatech has partnered with Rizk for Professional Development, one of the organizations under the Syrian Forum, to launch the Rizk Center for the training and employment of Syrian refugees in Istanbul to connect Syrian refugees with job opportunities that suit their qualifications and skills.



Creation of
4,650
Job
Opportunities

More than
2,036
Youth
signed up to the program
and

708
Youth
received access to
Job
Opportunities

more than
15,000
young people have received
consultancy services and training

“The program focuses on preserving the
Right of the Syrian Youth
affected to find work & make a decent
living for themselves & their families in
stable conditions

تمهيد Tamheed™
Making Informed Career Choices

Tamheed for Career Guidance

Silatech has developed “Tamheed”, a psychometric assessment tool normed to the Arab world. “Tamheed” helps young people identify their profession and personal preferences and make informed career decisions. Silatech trains career center staff on how to benefit from the assessment and offer professional advisory services to young job seekers.

More than
65,000
Youth
received guidance sessions
from qualified advisors
across more than

250
Professional
Guidance
Centers
in the Arab world and
through online advisory
services

Trained over
950
Professional
Advisors
and
15
Certified Trainers
to ensure the continuity of the
program



“Tamheed helps young
people to choose the
academic
specialization and
career path that is
most suitable for them

Supporting the Career Guidance and Employment Center

Partner: A'Sharqiyah University
State: The Sultanate of Oman

Silatech provides technical support to A'Sharqiyah University in establishing a career guidance and employment center that will allow youth to smoothly transition from their education into labor market. It provides young people with the skills and expertise that will facilitate their integration into the working environment.

2,000
Youth

receiving career guidance sessions, &

600
Graduates

will be connected with job opportunities during 2016-2017

Building the capacity of independent secondary school career advisors

Partner: Ministry of Education and Higher Education
State: The State of Qatar

This program builds the capacity of school career advisors by training them on the use of the psychometric assessment tool, "Tamheed".

Impact

Raising students' self-awareness of their academic and professional choices and helping them build professional development plans that matching their needs

The program is characterized with the fact that it will benefit the local economy in the near future by raising labor productivity together with reducing drop-out rates and career change

Supporting the Smart Tunisia Program

Partner: Smart Tunisia, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and Digital Economy
State: The Republic of Tunisia

Silatech has provided technical support to the "Smart Tunisia" program, launched by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and the Tunisian Digital Economy with the support of the Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment. This program connects Tunisian youth with employment opportunities available on the Tunisia Ta3mal Employment Portal and aims to capitalize on, and retain, local Tunisian expertise.

Creating

50,000
Jobs

by 2020

The program is characterized

by Attracting major international companies to move or expand their activities in Tunisia, thus creating jobs for Tunisian youth and reducing the emigration of competent Tunisian individuals abroad



We offer youth access to career guidance, training and jobs, through innovative technology platforms

Career Guidance and Employment Center

Partner: J. P. Morgan, Glowork
State: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

In collaboration with J. P. Morgan and Glowork, Silatech has established a career center to support the employment of women in Saudi Arabia. The center provides women with career guidance, training and employment services to harness their potential and benefit Saudi society as a whole.

Directly connecting
380
Saudi Women
with employment
opportunities and providing
877
Saudi Women with
Vocational Training & Guidance Services

Developing the capacities of young women in the field of manufacturing and packaging food products

Partner: Palestinian Food Industries Union - PFIU
State: The state of Palestine

This program builds the capacities of young women in Gaza, Jenin and the West bank by providing them with skills in the manufacturing and packaging of food products. These skills will provide young women with job opportunities and allow them to compete in local and international markets.

Training
1,000
Young Women

“ The program is **characterized** by its contribution in reducing the high unemployment rate in Gaza Strip and Jenin due to repeated war conditions

“ We design programs to **empower women economically** and involve them in the **achievement of stability and development**





Policy and Research

Research Program

Silatech conducts research and applied studies aimed at increasing the effectiveness of Silatech's programs and activities as well as the programs and activities of its partner institutions, in addition to supporting the policies relating to the empowerment and economic integration of Arab youth.

The research program is structured around **three main areas**:

Preparation & Formulation of Public Policies

Silatech conducts researches to formulate and develop public policies in targeted countries, with a major focus on improving the business environment, supporting entrepreneurship and creating and facilitating access to jobs

Assessment of Program Impact

Silatech conducts research and studies to assess the impact of its programs and the programs of its partner institutions to identify best practices, solutions and experiences implemented and to benefit from them in redesigning the programs, improving performance and implementation levels and upgrading them

Program Design

Silatech research supports the development and design of programs that address the challenges of employment and look to economically empower young people

“We are working to provide supportive information for program design, improvement of results and impact assessments”

The Silatech Policy and Research Department conducts research and applied studies to assist in policy making and the adaptation of Silatech programming. The department works on collecting information to improve the effectiveness, impact and sustainability of Silatech's programs as well as to facilitate the development of successful initiatives and identify and advocate for policy changes that empower Arab youth and support their capabilities and competences

“We are working on the preparation of applied research and cooperating with policy makers in order to enrich the process of effective policy development with regard to improving the entrepreneurial environment, creating employment opportunities and the economic integration of youth”

“Taqeem” Initiative

“Silatech” has supported the “Taqeem” initiative from 2011 until 2016. The initiative was managed by the “International Labour Organization (ILO)” in partnership with a number of international organizations including the “World Bank”, aiming at supporting the capabilities of organizations, institutions and agencies which work in youth-related fields in the Middle East with regard to monitoring and evaluating their programs, projects and initiatives through the provision of technical assistance and small-sized grants. The initiative has also worked on identifying the evidence and learning lessons from the impact assessments on the most effective programs and approaches that may be implemented in the area of youth employment.



International
Labour
Organization



WHAT WORKS
In Youth Employment

The “Taqeem” initiative has provided technical support to more than **20** organizations working on supporting young people in connection with developing monitoring and evaluation platforms

The initiative has also organized **12** workshops and forums to share lessons learned and build the capability of several institutions and individuals in the field of monitoring and evaluation

Moreover, it has contributed to conducting seven impact assessments, continuing to conduct policy studies in several Arab countries, including Egypt and Morocco, as well as participating in multiple events and activities with policy makers in relation to youth in the Arab world

The initiative has also issued a report on evidences concerning successful youth programs, in addition to a draft report on future research priorities

**Provision
of technical
assistance
and small-
sized grants**



Policy Program

The policy program uses the evidences, findings and conclusions of “Silatech’s research” and other institutions to formulate policies related to empowering and supporting young people, building their capabilities, facilitating their access to the labor market, identifying and expanding successful programs and initiatives across the Arab region.

The policy program activities revolve around **three main areas**:

Linkage with policies

The policies program uses evidences, findings and conclusions to ensure effective and productive communication with decision and policy makers and to inform them of the recommendations, proposals and initiatives addressing the challenges and economic constraints faced by Arab youth

Innovation in expanding successful programs

In order to achieve wider impact and benefit from successful programs, the policy program aims to identify successful programs, initiatives and projects related to empowering Arab youth and works on expanding their scope and benefiting from their experience and success factors for the preparation and design of similar programs

Policy Design

Special emphasis is placed on working with governments in the Arab region to design nation-wide initiatives and policy programs with a view to achieving the economic empowerment of Arab youth and supporting entrepreneurship

**Harvesting
success factors
to support
initiatives and
programs**

Entrepreneurship Policy Observatory

Silatech plays a leading role in the Arab region with respect to supporting and empowering young entrepreneurs to establish and develop their own projects and businesses and overcome the difficulties and obstacles they encounter, in addition to providing advice, guidance and recommending the best policy changes to the governmental partners in their pursuit to support the Arab youth.

In this context, Silatech has adopted a project for the establishment of a business entrepreneurship observatory in the Sultanate of Oman in cooperation with the General Organization for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprises (Riyada). It will be responsible for promoting the sector of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and enhancing its role in the national economy through providing a full range of technical, training and advisory services.

The Entrepreneurship Observatory aims at providing information to decision and policy makers on the progress of Oman's entrepreneurs and the nature of difficulties encountered during the establishment or expansion of their businesses

In addition, the work of the observatory includes field research that consists of interviews with a group of Omani entrepreneurs, including the winners of Entrepreneurship Award in 2015/2016

Additionally, a joint workshop has been organized on the outcomes of the study and how to institutionalize this type of research and monitoring, including the support provided for "Riyada", especially in the area of policies and procedures which support entrepreneurs



Entrepreneurship Observatory

**Providing
Information
to decision
and policy
makers on the
progress of
entrepreneurs
in the Sultanate
of Oman**

Policy Research Initiative for Arab Youth

The initiative seeks to support Arab youth in the establishment and creation of non-profit research centers and organizations that conducts various researches in support of development policies of all types and those related to employment, unemployment, youth empowerment and entrepreneurship support in the Arab World.

In cooperation with the International Development Research Center of Canada (IDRC), the institution has supported the establishment of research centers, one in Lebanon (Center for Solutions) and another in Tunisia (Middle East Center for Youth Policy Studies Project).

Moreover, the "Bayanant Box" platform has been launched on social networking sites, such as Instagram and Facebook, in January 2017, which tackles development topics that are of interest to young people

In addition to that, about 28 articles have been published in Arabic and English

**Supporting
Arab youth
in the
establishment
and creation
of non-profit
research
centers and
organizations**



Silatech

Young People...Enterprise...Employment...

14th Floor, Tower 2, The Gate Mall, P.O.Box: 34111, Doha, Qatar

T: +974 4499 4800 | F: +974 4499 4848 | www.silatech.org | info@silatech.org



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