

Southern Tourism Company signs MoU with Abu Dhabi Maritime

● The signing took place at Abu Dhabi International Boat Show

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Southern Tourism Company, a subsidiary of Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company "Mumtalakat", has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Abu Dhabi Maritime, the custodian of Abu Dhabi's waterways, to explore a number of development goals in key business areas.



The deal signing

The signing took place at Abu Dhabi International Boat Show in the presence of Ahmed Al-Aseeri, Chairman of Southern Tourism Company and the representative of Mumtalakat, Yusuf Al-Manea, CEO of Southern Tourism Company and Captain Saif Al Mheiri, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Maritime.

Ahmed Al-Aseeri said: "This will enable Southern Tourism Company to enhance its contribution to the national economy in alignment with Mumtalakat's objectives".

Yusuf Al-Manea said: "This agreement will enable us to ex-

change knowledge, technical know-how and expertise to explore opportunities and build strategic collaboration in the region".

Capt. Saif Al Mheiri, Managing Director of Abu Dhabi Maritime commented: "Abu Dhabi Maritime is delighted to team up with Southern Tourism Company, to consider the development of Bahrain's maritime infrastructure and services."

The MoU will enable both parties to work closely together to develop solutions for sea transportation logistics and the development of marine facilities as well as ferry services.

Alba to start installing Solar PV Panels over 37,000 m2

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Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), one of the world's largest Aluminium smelters, announced it has awarded its Solar Farm Project to Advanced United Systems (AUS) for installing Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Panels over 37,000 m2 with a capacity of more than 6 Megawatts (MW).

The Solar Farm Project will consist of around 11,300 solar panels to be fixed on the rooftop of Alba car parks and some of its buildings including the Spent Pot Lining Treatment (SPL) Plant.

Commenting on the importance of the Solar Panel Farm to Alba, Alba's Chairman of the Board Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa stated: "Sustainability is entrenched in our Vision, Mission, and Values; this Project is fully aligned with our Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ambitions and our pledge to realise HRH the Crown



Ali Al Baqali



Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa

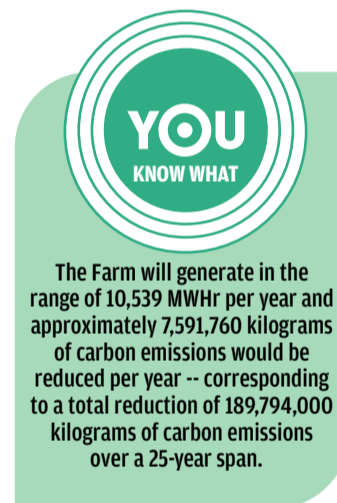
Prince and Prime Minister's objectives of Net Zero Emissions by 2060 as made during the 26th Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)."

"I trust that upon the completion of installing the solar panels, will see more environmentally responsible projects across the Kingdom to scale up the local clean energy genera-

tion and transition to a net-zero economy."

Adding further, Alba's CEO Ali Al Baqali stated: "Safety is first and foremost in Alba; that's why we have engaged with Advanced United Systems to deliver this Project within 15 months."

"I also take the opportunity to call upon all corporates to participate in the energy transition



revolution that is taking shape in the Kingdom so together we contribute to Bahrain's aspirations of Net Zero Emissions by 2060."

The Solar Farm Project is one of the many initiatives under Alba's ESG Roadmap as the Company journeys to further sustainable value for its people and society.

OrderJet wins investment of \$125,000 in Beban 2

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Hope Ventures, the investment arm of Hope Fund and producers of Beban TV show, and private investors invested \$ 125,000 in Bahrain-based F&B solution 'OrderJet'.

OrderJet, a Bahrain-based app co-founded by Ali Haji and Yusuf Almahmood to digitise restaurants' operations through the provision of QR code services, pick-ups, and bring-to-car services, raised \$ 125,000 from Hope Ventures and a Saudi angel investor Dr Abdulrahman Alghosaibi.

"At OrderJet, we are on a mission to streamline and ease operations for the F&B sector by providing the ultimate dining experience for customers in the Kingdom of Bahrain," Ali Haji, Co-Founder, and CEO of OrderJet said.

Fajer Al Pachachi, General Manager at Hope Ventures stressed that Beban aims to be a regional investment platform that matchmakes high-potential businesses with investors who exponentially help them scale beyond local borders.



Ali Haji

She pointed out that OrderJet is a prime example of that; through Beban, the company raised an investment from Hope and Saudi investor Dr Abdulrahman Alghosaibi, whose expertise will contribute to the company's growth and expansion.

"I am thrilled to be investing alongside Hope Ventures in OrderJet, as I believe the company has tremendous growth and expansion potential," Dr Abdulrahman Alghosaibi said.

"I hope to convey my expertise in technology to OrderJet, and I look forward to having a complementary relationship that takes the company to new horizons and boosts the efforts of supporting youth to compete regionally and globally."

Citi Global Tech Hub in Bahrain is on track to employ 1000 Bahraini coders

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Citi Bahrain has celebrated the first anniversary of its Global Technology Hub, which is on track to employ 1000 Bahraini coders over ten years. Currently, the hub comprises of 110 Bahraini employees, out of which 91 Bahrainis have started at the Citi Seef premise, with 19 additional hires set to join soon. Female participants at the Hub make up 22% of the total Bahrainis, outperforming the average of females in other Citi tech hubs around the world.

When selecting a country for its Global Technology Hub, Citi conducted a rigorous technical coding test and interview process, with Bahraini talent showing the highest pass rate when compared to other regions. Even more encouraging was the level of female talent



in Bahrain's candidate pool, as Bahrain ranks first globally in multiple subindices according to Meta's Inclusive Internet Index (2022), including female digital skills training and STEM edu-

cation, open data policies, and privacy regulations.

HH Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al-Khalifa, Member of the Supreme Council for Women and Chairwoman of the Bahrain Women in Fintech Committee, said: "It makes us proud to see Bahraini women directly contributing to the operations and growth of Citi's Global Tech Hub."

The Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain, Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, said: "The Financial services sector has progressed over the last decade, and we expect more changes in the coming years as the pace of digitisation increases. We are proud to see Bahraini talents and competencies benefiting and contributing in developing global centres affiliated with reputable financial institutions in order to promote digital solutions in the financial sector".

According to Citi Bahrain's CEO, Michel Sawaya, Citi has witnessed great results since the launch. "The coders had a big impact on developing our digital platforms, such as Citi Velocity and CitiFX Pulse. Their positive contribution helped implement important features, and subsequently take part of bigger projects that have helped us serve Citi clients globally."

Citi launched its Global Tech Hub last year as part of a strategic partnership between Tamkeen, Bahrain's labour fund, and the Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB), the Kingdom's investment promotion agency.

A first in the region, the Hub aims to develop and improve digital solutions for Citi's regional and global clients while creating 1000 tech jobs for Bahrainis over ten years.