



European Union – Palestine Business Forum

Public-Private Dialogue

Organised in the framework of the 4th Meeting
of the European Union (EU) – Palestine Investment Platform



AM QATTAN FOUNDATION
27 An-Nahda Women Association St.
Al-Tira, Ramallah



7th, December 2022
13:00 – 18:00



European Union – Palestine Business Forum

AGENDA

Public-Private Dialogue – 07/12/2022

13:00 – 18:00

AM QATTAN FOUNDATION

27 An-Nahda Women Association Street, Al-Tira, Ramallah

13:00 - 14:00	Registration & coffee
14:00 - 14:30	Opening Speeches Khaled al-Osaily, Minister of National Economy Maciej Popowski, acting Director General, European Neighbourhood and Enlargement, European Commission (VC message) Gelsomina Vigliotti, Vice President, European Investment Bank (VC message) Sven Kühn von Burgsdorff, European Union Representative Dr. Mohammad Shtayyeh, Prime Minister of Palestine
14:30 - 14:40	Signing ceremony of agreements worth EUR 81.65 million European Union – Palestinian Authority, Financing Agreement: Fostering Sustainable Economic Development (EUR 30.5 million) European Union – European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Financing Agreement: MSME Financial Inclusion Programme (EUR 3 million in guarantees to cover a portfolio of EUR 20 million in loans) PROPARCO, French Development Agency Group – FATEN Microfinance, Loan and Guarantee Agreement (USD 8 million line of credit, USD 2.25 million in portfolio guarantees) FMO Dutch Development Bank – Vitas Palestine, Guarantee Agreement funded by the European Union (USD 10 million) Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) - Palestinian Employment Fund, Loan Agreements, Start-up Palestine Programme funded by AICS (FATEN USD 2.9 million, ACAD USD 1.9 million, Reef USD 1.6 million, & ASALA USD 1.5 million)
14:40 - 15:00	Coffee Break

15:00 - 15:40	<p>High-level panel on the challenges and opportunities of the Palestinian economy & Team Europe response moderated by Amal Dareghmeh Masri, Editor in Chief & CEO, Middle East Business Magazine & News</p> <p>Dr. Mohammad Mustafa, Chairman of Palestine Investment Fund and Member of the P.L.O. Executive Committee</p> <p>Oliver Owczar, Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany</p> <p>Giuseppe Fedele, Consul General of Italy</p> <p>Michel Rentenaar, Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands</p> <p>Heike Harmgart, Managing Director, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</p> <p>Hashim Shawa, Chairman, Bank of Palestine</p> <p>Manal Zraiq, Chairwoman of Zoom Advertising, Board Member of The National Bank, Palestine Investment Development Company</p>
15:40 - 16:40	<p>Showcasing of high visibility investments financed by Team Europe under the chair of Ibrahim Laafia, European Union Head of Cooperation (introduced by European Financial Institutions and presented by business owners)</p> <p>Bassem Khoury, CEO, Pharmacare, former Minister of National Economy (financed through French Development Agency & Italian Agency for Development Cooperation)</p> <p>Mohammad Sawafta, CEO, Nakheel Palestine (financed through Proparco, French Development Agency Group & Italian Agency for Development Cooperation)</p> <p>Shireen & Nisreen Shilleh, Owners of the Shilleh Supplies Company (financed through European Investment Bank)</p> <p>Mohammed Awartani, Director, Solar Energy, Massader Company (financed through European Investment Bank)</p> <p>Elham Zaben, Owner, CEO, Palovina (financed through European Bank for Reconstruction and Development)</p> <p>Habib Hazan, General Partner, Ibtikar Fund (financed through the Dutch Good Growth Fund)</p> <p>Hussein Habbab, General Manager, European-Palestinian Credit Guarantee Fund (financed through KfW German Development Bank)</p>
16:40 - 17:20	<p>Pitching of investment opportunities of the National Investment Roadmap outlined under the chair of Khaled al-Osaily, Minister of National Economy (presented by large-scale project promoters and start-up entrepreneurs)</p> <p>Jawwad Sayyed al-Herbawi, CEO, Palestine Power Generation Company</p> <p>Ahmad Abu Laban, City Director, Commercial Affairs, Ramallah Municipality</p> <p>Rafiq Abu Munshar, Chairman, Izdehaar Investment Fund</p> <p>Dr Yahya Al Salqan, CEO, Jaffa Net Company</p> <p>Basma Ali, CEO, Co-founder, Gaza GGateway</p>
17:20 - 17:30	<p>Perspectives on European Union's future investment instruments and financing architecture (NDICI/EFSD+)</p> <p>Barbara Banki, Head of Unit, International Financial Institutions & Investment, European Neighbourhood and Enlargement, European Commission</p>
17:30 - 18:30	<p>Musical performance by European-Palestinian ensemble, followed by business matchmaking and reception</p>

Opportunity for investment matchmaking between entrepreneurs and businesses, local banks and micro-finance institutions, EU Member States, Development Agencies and European Financial Institutions with dedicated information booths.



European Union – Palestine Business Forum

BACKGROUND:

The EU – Palestine Investment Platform was established by the European Union (EU) and Palestinian Authority (PA) in an effort to foster policy dialogue on investment and to help better identify, prioritise, coordinate and promote investment opportunities that the **EU External Investment Plan** offers through its many instruments in Palestine. A key objective of the Platform is to **better attract investment into Palestine** through mobilisation of additional public, institutional and private financing that contributes to Palestine's political, policy and reform priorities

Since the launching of the Platform in December 2020, **three high-level meetings** convened under the **patronage of the Prime Minister of Palestine and the European Union Representative**. Two working groups were established on matters of SMEs Finance and Energy Finance meeting three times under the auspices of the Governor of the Palestine Monetary Authority and the Chairman of the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority.

Moreover, in December 2022 the EU issued the second edition of the **EU-Palestine Investment Review** detailing and analysing **all investment projects promoted** by the EU, its Member States and European Financial Institutions as **'Team Europe' in Palestine**. It reveals that over the last years European partners stepped-up their investments into the Palestinian economy. Of the **total amount of EUR 1.82 billion**, around 60% were committed only in the last two years showing a remarkable growth in mobilisation of finance for Palestine.

OBJECTIVES:

For the very first time a new **EU-Palestine Business Forum** is held on the margins of the 4th official meeting of the Platform, bringing together 200 to 300 business leaders, bankers, investors and government representatives. The main objective of the Business Forum is to better **mobilise private and institutional investors** towards the Palestinian economy by means of establishing an avenue for **public-private dialogue** in the framework of the EU – Palestine Investment Platform

The new Business Forum will help **expand the engagement of the private sector** in the workings of the Platform, it will offer the business community a forum to **engage with policy makers** on strategic priorities and policies for investment, to learn about prospective **investment opportunities** and available **financing possibilities**.

The Business Form will work to better **engage the Palestinian business community with financiers and investors of 'Team Europe'**, which includes the EU, its Member States and European Financial Institutions. It will help creating **linkages** between investment opportunities promoted by Palestinian partners with financing possibilities from Team Europe, helping **boost private and institutional investment flowing into Palestine**.

