

ArabNet Beirut – Celebrating 10 Years of Tech and Innovation

On the occasion of ArabNet's 10-year anniversary, the ArabNet will hold the Beirut 2019 Conference to celebrate digital creativity, business, development and entrepreneurship. As part of this Conference, the [Arab Development Portal](#) will hold a parallel workshop titled ***“Investing in Data Ecosystems to Advance Youth Economic Empowerment”*** on Thursday, 13th of June from 2:00PM to 3:30PM at Seaside Arena, Downtown Beirut.

The ArabNet Beirut 2019 Conference will feature more than 80 speakers from across the MENA region and abroad to discuss the opportunities in web and mobile for the media and entertainment industries, fashion, creative communities, food and beverage and more on the **12th and 13th of June 2019**.

The [Arab Development Portal \(ADP\)](#), a joint initiative between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Coordination Group of Arab, National and Regional Development Institutions, is a knowledge platform that offers timely and high-quality data and knowledge content on key development topics in the Arab region and a dynamic multi-source database on more than 6,500 development indicators covering fourteen topics.

The world of data has changed over the past decade and is changing every day. Many technologies have emerged and will continue to emerge in the coming decades. Big data, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Internet of Things and other new technologies are developing rapidly and will have a great impact and potential in the future. This workshop aims to highlight success stories and new technologies from entrepreneurs/startups data community, outlining, how new data generates policy insights and supports decision-making, innovation, economic activities, more efficient services, and, eventually, profit generation. Also, how entrepreneurs and tech startups act/could act as producers of data in the region, hence shaping the data ecosystem through their contributions as innovative data sources. This session will also dwell into the data currently being produced and discuss the kind of data being utilized and explore the limitations to bridging the gap between data production and utilization.

UNDP-ADP's parallel workshop Agenda:

THURSDAY, 13 JUNE (14:00-15:30)

Investing in Data Ecosystems to Advance Youth Economic Empowerment

- 2:00-2:15 **Opening remarks**
Khadija Hamouchi – **moderator**
Social and Tech Entrepreneur
- 2:15-2:30 **“Title TBD” (15 minutes)**
Farah Choucair
Arab Development Portal (ADP) Project Manager and Technical Specialist, UNDP
- 2:30-2:45 **Arab Youth Employment in the Second Machine Age (15 minutes)**
Ghassan Dibeh
Professor and Chair of Economics at the Lebanese American University (LAU)
- 2:45-3:00 **“Title TBD” (15 minutes)**
Tarek Zebian
Director of Research and Communications, Capital Markets Authority (CMA) – BDL
- 3:00-3:15 **Devising innovative ways to tackle the societal challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (15 minutes)**
Imen Hajji and Ali Belhaj Zahi
Evocraft co-founders and programmers – Tunisian technological startup
- 3:15-3:30 **Q&A**

For more details on ArabNet's event, please refer to:

<https://www.arabnet.me/english/conference/beirut>
