

TASMU Smart City Program

Qatar has defined the National Vision 2030 to transform Qatar into an advanced society capable of achieving sustainable development. The rapid growth of technology and innovation still has unfulfilled potential for transforming the economy and society. Therefore, in 2017, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Qatar, launched the TASMU Smart Qatar program with the vision of harnessing the power of technology and innovation to deliver digital solutions to the public. As such, TASMU catalyzes Qatar's ICT ecosystem by uniting global innovators with the local market's needs to fuel Qatar's digital transformation and evolve the country's economy into a more diversified and sustainable system.

Startups hold deep knowledge and understanding of the local market and play an important role in developing Qatar's economic diversification, which is why TASMU is looking to support new innovations and scale them up continuously. Hence, to orchestrate the digital supply required for the sectors under TASMU (Health, Sports, Environment, Transport, Logistics) and to advocate on Qatar's ICT sector, MCIT launched TASMU Digital Valley (TDV), one of TASMU's flagship initiatives, to help achieve the vision of Smart Qatar by linking digital solution providers with available opportunities in the market and facilitating the establishment of digital startups from ideation to commercialization. This said this initiative is aimed at:

- ✓ Connecting entrepreneurs, startups, investors, academics, researchers, students, multinational corporations and institutions with the common goal of innovating new digital solutions.
- ✓ Facilitating access to incubation and acceleration network, startup exchange programs as well as co-working spaces and office set-up.
- ✓ Supporting local institutions and organizations by enhancing their capabilities to compete at an international level.
- ✓ Supporting international organizations with business registration, access to specialized visa packages, open lab space, technology IP advisory and registration support, digital investment catalogue and the TASMU procurement platform

Furthermore, in line with its goals and objectives, TDV aims to provide a range of targeted programs to support digital startups across their entire business growth journey, from market awareness and planning to commercialization and expansion:

- A dedicated platform for startups to provide holistic information about the ecosystem's trends, investments, funding, matching tool, relevant statistics, Qatari market entry opportunities and know-how, and so forth.
- Accelerate startups and SMEs by providing a wide range of services allowing the startups to grow and help in the realization of a diversified economy. The services will include access to funding, investor as well as skills development and mentorship
- One of the several priority programs of TDV aims to support mature and promising start-ups, digital companies, and SMEs demonstrating a great potential to scale rapidly, throughout their growth stage. At the ecosystem level, the program will enable the increase of digital contribution to the GDP, the creation of jobs within the digital and ICT sector, and the Digital exports & expansion to international ecosystems.
- Through International Ecosystem partnerships, TDV aims to leverage and accelerate the attraction of international startups and vice-versa. The program support startups interested in expanding to Qatar and assist Qatari startups interested in expanding to other attractive geographies and ecosystems.

With TASMU Digital Valley initiative, the digital ecosystem in Qatar is set for a paradigm shift as it plays a major role in fostering cooperation between Qatari digital businesses and global tech firms, resulting in the transformation of Qatar into a leading digital hub in the region.

Should you require further information on TASMU Smart City Program, please do not hesitate to contact us on info@tasmu.gov.qa or TDVinfo@motc.gov.qa.