





# AmCham-Jordan's **2020 Newsletter**













amcham@amcham.jo







@AmChamJordan

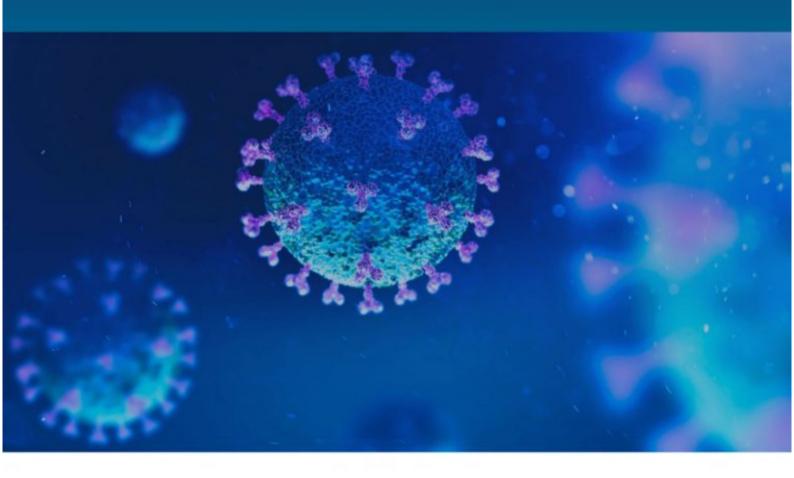








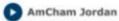
# AmCham-Jordan's COVID-19 Response Activities



















# Public-Private-Donor Platform

AmCham-Jordan initiated establishing a Public-Private-Donor (PPD) Platform to help in developing a shared vision of aligned effective and sustained solutions that can be co-implemented by the government, the donor community, and the private sector, to mitigate socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic through tailor made solutions while maintaining health safety and, security measures to protect the populous.

The platform's objective is to facilitate bringing together development partners and representatives of the private sector, where they can discuss first hand priorities and needs in the presence of the government represented by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), to help in enhancing or directing aid initiatives in a manner that ensures that the Jordanian private sector can withstand the effects of COVID-19 in the coming few months to continue and sustain operations and protect job security.



# Public-Private-Donor Platform **Objectives**



#### Support the Government:

Issuing transparent, fair and stable government decisions and legislations that will allow the private sector to function in a predictable regulatory environment.



#### Support companies:

Providing technical assistance to operate safely, by maintaining Coronavirus control and prevention procedures seeking out best international practices and putting in place SOPs, compliance programs and regulations to be adhere to a national level encompassing all sectors, each based on specific requirements.



#### Sustainability and Recovery:

Assisting companies to be able to trade externally, which includes access to trade financing and securing traditional and new partners, modifying their production lines to meet new global demand on essential products.

"Cashless Payroll Outsourcing Solution: Reduce Costs & Increase Productivity."

#### **April 1st, 2020**

AmCham-Jordan in collaboration with its member SourceitHR held its first Meet the Expert Webinar on "Cashless Payroll Outsourcing Solution." Discussions revolved the benefits of using e-wallets especially during these hard times.

#### **Covered Topics:**

- What is an e-wallet solution? And why is it better?
- What is the solution for those who do not have a smart phone?
- Can workers transfer their money without the need to go to an exchange bureau?
- How does payroll outsourcing work? And what are the benefits?
- Do you have a more hygienic approach to time attendance?

#### **Panelists:**



# Sector Specific Public-Private Dialogue: A Series of Virtual Roundtables.

In light of the current context related to the COVID-19, AmCham–Jordan adopted a rapid response action to serve the private sector business community starting from its members to mitigate the impact of this pandemic on the national economy.

As part of AmCham–Jordan's ongoing effort in assisting the business community, and work towards economic sustainability, AmCham–Jordan took a lead in addressing the challenges, needs and recommendations of the private sector and voicing them to related public authorities, through establishing an effective public- private dialogue platform.

Five virtual roundtable sessions were conducted including one general session focusing on multi-sectorial perspectives and needs during the COVID-19 crisis and four sector specific roundtables covering Pharmaceutical, Food, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Sanitizers, Disinfectants and Detergents industries.

Sessions aimed at offering an opportunity to the private sector to engage in conversation with the public sector, sharing their perspective on how they are operating in a dynamic business environment, trade restrictions, supply chain disruptions, and discuss ways to turn challenges into opportunities.

These valuable interventions and insights provided by the private sector will help direct the government's measures and have an effective and sustained solutions towards reinventing the economic wheel, while maintaining health safety precautions set by the Ministry of Health.

#### **ROUNDTABLE TOPICS:**



Sharing Private Sector Perspectives on Challenges and Needs to recover and mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.



COVID-19 Potential Impact on Global Pharmaceutical Market Dynamics: Challenges & Opportunity



Protecting and Enhancing Jordan's Food Exports and Imports during the COVID-19 crisis.



COVID-19's Potential Opportunity for Jordanian Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Manufacturers Market Dynamics: Challenges & Opportunities.



Protecting and Enhancing Jordan's Sanitizer, Disinfectants and Detergents Exports during the COVID-19 crisis.



The Role of Trade Financing in Supporting and Enhancing Jordan's Exports and Imports during the COVID-19 Crisis.

"Sharing Private Sector Perspectives on Challenges and Needs to recover and mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic."

#### **April 8th, 2020**

In times of the unforeseen pandemic outbreak and as part of AmCham–Jordan's ongoing efforts to build synergies between the public and private sector, AmCham – Jordan hosted a virtual roundtable with leaders from the Jordanian private sector business community, titled "Sharing Private Sector Perspectiveson Challenges and Needs to recover and mitigate the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic."

The roundtable aimed at gathering perspectives from the private sector to collect their insights on their experience during the COVID-19 situation and, share their needs, challenges and, opportunities offered by the pandemic.

This platform offered the private sector an opportunity to engage in conversation with the government in order to better address issues and, come up with solutions that can be implemented by the government to mitigate the negative impacts on the economy resulting from the pandemic.



#### Moderator

Eng. Mohammed S. Bataineh Chairman of the Board – AmCham - Jordan

Participants

H.E. Ayman Hatahet

Chairman & General Manager - Jordan Carbonates

Mr. Mazen Darwazeh

Executive Vice Chairman, President of MENA - Hikma Pharmaceutical

Mr. Ahmad Khudari

General Manager - Blue Mills - Adnan Khudari & Sons

Mr. Mohammad Smadi

Vice President & Business Development - Giants Industrial Group

Mr. Firas Abu Wishah

Managing Partner - Petra Engineering Industries

Ms. Dina Khayyat Vice Chairperson - JGATE

Mr. Tareg Tabbaa

Managing Partner - Advanced Automotive Trading Company
AmCham - Jordan Board Member

Mr. Samer Asfour

General Manager – Jordan Bromine

AmCham - Jordan Board Member

Mr. Samer Joudeh

Chairman – Jordan Wind Project Company AmCham Jordan Board Member

Ms. Nour Jarrar

CEO – CitiBank

AmCham - Jordan Board Member

Mr. Rashad Tougan

Managing Director - Arab Transit Goods Transport

"COVID-19 Potential Impact on Global Pharmaceutical Market Dynamics: Challenges & Opportunity."

#### April 13th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan conducted a virtual roundtable on "COVID-19 Potential Impact on Global Pharmaceutical Market Dynamics: Challenges & Opportunity," in collaboration with The Jordanian Association of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers (JAPM) and the PhRMA Local Area Working Group (housed by AmCham-Jordan), to discuss COVID-19's potential impact on the pharmaceutical market dynamic on an international level as well as, its effect on pharmaceutical companies and manufacturers operating in Jordan.

The ripple effect being caused by this pandemic are breaking through the companies' supply chains, causing disruptions. Experts participated in this session poured in their experiences in how they are mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 on their supply chains, in terms of trade facilitation, price volatility and the availability of raw material.

Furthermore, more challenges were being discussed in terms meeting contractual obligations of the pharmaceutical industry, Intellectual Property (IP) rights and compulsory licenses.

From a brighter side, pharmaceuticals are one of the promising and upswing sectors that have opportunity for growth due to the pandemic. During the second leg of the session, discussions changed directions, and focused on the opportunities available resulting from this pandemic, and how the pharmaceutical business community can turn challenges into opportunities for growth in exports to existing markets and new markets.

Moderator	Dr. Maher Matalka  Former Director of The Economic Department, Office of His Majesty King Abdullah  II, Co-Founder- ConsultUs.
Participant	H.E. Dr. Salah Mawajdeh  Former Minister of Health- former Director of JFDA, Vice President, Central Product  Development MENA - Hikma Pharmaceutical
Participant	Dr. Hanan J. Sboul <b>Secretary General - JAPM</b>
Participant	Dr. Wesal Al Haqaish <b>Drug Directorate Director -JFDA</b>
Participant	Dr. Abdul Kareem Dissi <b>Chairman of PhRMA LAWG</b>
Participant	Dr. Thamer Obeidat  Secretary General of the Drug stores Owners Association - DOA JORDAN

"Protecting and Enhancing Jordan's Food Exports and Imports during the COVID-19 crisis."

#### April 14th, 2020

AmCham–Jordan with the support of its long standing partners Jordan Chambers of Industry & Trade, conducted a virtual roundtable on "Protecting and Enhancing Jordan's Food Exports and Imports during the COVID-19 crisis" with Jordanian private sector manufacturers and traders of food products.

The food sector is considered one of the most essential sectors during the current period, it is also one of Jordan's leading export sectors, and one which is providing an increasing number of employment opportunities in general. Jordan is also reliant on imports of food products to meet the demand of the local market.

Strict lockdown caused by the global pandemic imposed several trade restrictive measures on Jordan's food exports & imports, causing disruption in supply chains and price fluctuations. Private sector experts gathered to voice their challenges and discuss solutions to overcome the impact of strict lockdown and ways to maintain Jordanian products' market share in at international, regional, and local level, and to cover import and export demand.

Moderator	Mr. Ahmad Khudari General Manager of Blue Mills –Adnan Khudari & Sons Head of AmCham-Jo Export Committee Board Member of Amman Chamber of Industry
Co - Moderator	Mr. khaldoun Hallak Managing Director –Nader Group
Mr. Jamal Al - Refaei First Vice President, Representative of Services and Consultations – Jordan Chamber of Commerce	Mr. Muhammad Jitan CEO- Jitan Group Representative of the Food Sector – Jordan Chamber o Industry
Mr. Ali Noor Director – Kaylani Food Center	Mr. Ahmad Sallakh CEO – Nabil Food Products
Mr. Yousef Jabri CEO – Subhi Jabri & Sons	Eng. Rima Abdel hadi Daher General Manager – Ameed Food Industries
Mr. Ahmad Zalatimo Director – Zalatimo Sweets Co	Mr. Jad Wakileh MEA Ethanol Consultant, Grain Consultant for Jordan, UAE and Oman US Grain Council
	Khaled Kasih - Kasih Food Production Co.



"COVID-19's Potential Opportunity for Jordanian Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Manufacturers Market Dynamics: Challenges & Opportunities."

#### April 15th, 2020

A virtual roundtable on "COVID-19's Potential Opportunity for Jordanian PPE Manufacturers" was held by AmCham–Jordan with leading Jordanian garment and medical equipment manufacturers.

Private sector representatives have voiced their recommendations on trade facilitation and fast tracking importation of specialized equipment necessary to complete the production process, since the lockdown imposed restrictions on trade.

The objective of the meeting was to discuss the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the market, and discussing how the private sector are adjusting to changes occurring, identifying products that have potential, and can be produced in Jordan. Many garment manufacturers shared their story on producing face masks as an example on how businesses can turn challenges into opportunities through establishing new production lines and tailoring their products to the market's needs.

In conclusion, there is huge potential for growth in this sector if serious efforts were put in place in areas of trade financing and trade facilitation due to high demand in local markets, which is foreseen to last beyond the Coronavirus crisis, as projections shows that PPE equipments, especially face masks will be in demand long after this phase.

Ms. Ragh	<mark>derator:</mark> nad Al-khojah s Development – AmCham Jordan
Mr. Iha Board Member & Represen	c <mark>ipants</mark> ab Qadri tative for the Garment Sector ber of Industry
Mr. Raed Sammara Managing Director - Arabella for Medical Technologies	Mr. Ghassan Nuqul  Chairman - Fine Hygienic Holding
Mr. Sanal Kumar Founding Chairman & Managing Director – Classic Fashion, AmCham – Jordan's Partner	Mr. Radwan Khattab Chief Executive Officer - Sanabel Converting Industries
Mr. Amith Mahtany Chief Executive Officer - Tusker Apparel Jordan	Mr. Murshed Mohammed General Manager – Joy Manufacturing Company Health Care Equipments (Joycoo)
Mr. Mansoor Ali Managing Director - Needle Craft for Clothing Industry	Mr. Waleed Abdulhadi Sales & Marketing Manager – Hitex Manufacturing of Medical Material
	Makhzouni Medical Device - JFDA



"Protecting and Enhancing Jordan's Sanitizer, Disinfectants and Detergents Exports during the COVID-19 crisis."

#### April 16th, 2020

A public-private virtual roundtable was conducted by AmCham–Jordan titled "Protecting and Enhancing Jordan's Sanitizer, Disinfectants and Detergents Exports during the COVID-19 crisis," to discuss the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on sanitizing products, disinfectants and detergents in terms of export restrictions, meeting local demand, opportunity for exports, supply chain disruptions and availability and price of raw materials.

It is evident that this sector is well established having extensive experience but also in need of supporting industries in adapting new business models, and diversifying sources of input of production. Government support is also needed to facilitate trade support financing needs and export promotion programs; as sector representatives emphasized the need to open up exports in order not to lose existing orders and market share.

Jordan and other countries around the world have witnessed a huge shift in the customers' buying behavior, which led to a huge increase in demand on sanitizers, disinfectants and detergents, resulted from panic buying. The roundtable aimed at hearing how these leading Jordanian manufacturers are coping with the increase in demand and how to successfully meet the local, regional and international demands as well as capturing export opportunities.

Eng. Mohamr	<mark>lerator</mark> med S. Bataineh <i>ard – AmCham-Jordan</i>			
Participants				
Mr. Mohammad Hassan Smadi Director of Business Development - Giants Industrial Co.	Ms. Deema Sukhtian CEO – Munir Sukhtian Group			
Ms. Abeer Obeidat	Dr. Bassam Bitar			
Chairperson - Pella Pharmaceuticals	Founder & CEO - Alfa Chemical Manufacturing Est.			
Mr. Mohammed Al Smadi	Mr. Adnan Khudari			
General Manager- Jazeerat Al – Yaqut Company	Business Development Manager – Adnan			
for Investment L.T.D	Khudari & Sons.			
Mr. Asaad Halaweh	Dr. Suhair Al-Makhzoumi			
General Manager- Spartan Modern Industry	Head of Division of Medical Device - JFDA			



"The Role of Trade Financing in Supporting and Enhancing Jordan's Exports and Imports during the COVID-19 crisis."

#### April 30th, 2020

AmCham – Jordan conducted its sixth virtual roundtable on "The Role of Trade Financing in Supporting and Enhancing Jordan's Exports and Imports during the COVID-19 crisis," with leaders from the Jordanian banking and financial sectors next to representatives from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), to discuss the interrelated issues of trade financing and access to financing opportunities.

The session aimed at discussing measures taken by the government represented by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) to mitigate the risks on the economy resulting from the global health crisis. The private sector bank representatives gave insights on the role of banks in Jordan in addressing the crisis through working collaboratively with CBJ to support their clients in dealing with cash flow challenges and collectively agreeing on the ways forward. Furthermore, representatives from the IFC and U.S. DFC shared information on ongoing programs available either to the Banking institutions or directly to the private sector in Jordan.





# AmCham – Jordan's Rapid Response Activities during the COVID-19 **Pandemic**





Activating AmCham-Jordan's members' inquiries and assistance service, through which AmCham-Jordan's members had the opportunity to seek help and receive assistance regarding movement permits, how to apply accepted number of applications, where to apply, as well as technical assistance in regard to specific inquiry.



AmCham-Jordan is conducting a series of "Meet the Expert Webinars", on pressing topics of interest with subject matter experts to address the concerns of businesses, and provide guidance. This comes as part of the AmCham-Jordan's ongoing effort to assist the private sector starting with our members.



Facilitating a **Public-Private Dialogue Platform** by getting government officials, diplomats and the private sector represented by our members on one table to communicate and voice issues, concerns and recommendations.



**Disseminating information** on our social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram in addition to members WhatsApp group, to enable our them to keep abreast of the latest news and regulations announced by the government.



Put together **task forces** on policy matters to assist the government to assess the impact and effect of the rules and regulation on the economy during COVID-19 pandemic.



**Advocating** for members that operate in essential goods to resume business and facilitating their procedures to receive permits.



# Virtual AmCham Briefing

# March 26th, 2020

The U.S. Chamber's Middle East & Turkey Team and AmCham MENA Council organized a teleconference with AmCham leaders around the world.

#### **Objectives:**



Sharing government approaches and measures being adopted by countries in response to the pandemic situation.



Sharing policies being advocated by the private sector that will mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on different economies, provide the best counsel for governments, prioritizing public health, and well-being.



Discussing how the AmCham community in different countries can work together to provide guidance for their members during the crisis and beyond.

#### **Main Panelists:**













# U.S. Chamber's Middle East & Turkey Department and AmCham MENA Council Teleconference with Regional AmChams

#### **April 1st, 2020**

The U.S. Chamber's Middle East and Turkey Department and AmCham MENA Council (Chaired by AmCham-Jordan) held a virtual conference call with AmChams in the Middle East.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington shared insights with participants on their involvement in domestic and international policy issues such as, the Saudi-Russia oil price schism and the passage of the CARES Act as well as, in what ways they have been engaging with their members.

Each AmCham shared its experience on how they are servicing their members and engaging with them closely to help them navigate the COVID-19 crisis.

During the meeting, Ms. Rose Alissi, CEO of AmCham-Jordan, shed light on the private-public dialogue platform that was established by AmCham-Jordan to serve its members and, how it formed a strong collaboration between the government of Jordan and the private sector, also what work has been done in solving policy issues, focused on tariff elimination on medical supplies, trade facilitation and, removal of trade restrictions to allow Jordan to import raw materials.





# International Affairs Division Virtual Briefing with AmCham Leaders

#### April 15th, 2020

The International Affairs Division in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Virtual Briefing with AmChams.

#### **Main Panelists:**



**Hon. Stephen Biegun**Deputy Secretary of State



Hon. Keith Krach
Under Secretary for
Economic Growth, Energy, &
the Environment



**Dr. Ian Bremmer**President and Founder,
Eurasia Group and
GZERO Media





The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Middle East and Turkey Department and AmCham MENA Teleconference: "Response to COVID-19: MENA Market Comparisons & Possible Recommendations."

#### April 16th, 2020

The U.S. Chamber's Middle East and Turkey Department and AmCham MENA Council (Chaired by AmCham-Jordan) held a virtual conference call with AmChams in the Middle East on "Responses to COVID-19: MENA Market Comparisons and Possible Recommendations." The conference call featured welcome remarks by Eng. Mohammed S. Bataineh, Chairman of AmCham – Jordan and AmCham MENA Council, introductory remarks by Mr. Khush Choksy, Senior Vice President, Middle East Affairs- U.S. Chamber of Commerce and valuable interventions by Ms. Sylvia Menassa CEO of AmCham Egypt and Ms. Dina Nawar AmCham – Egypt Director of Operations and Communications.

# AmCham – Jordan Members' **Group**



As a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, businesses and individuals are going through rough economic hardship and uncertainty. Moving towards the new normal, requires us to better utilize technology around us to stay connected and productive.

AmCham-Jordan initiated a WhatsApp group for the benefit of its members; who represent different sectors as a platform for information sharing and announcement of latest regulations. Also, for members to communicate with each other, share their concerns and, post their recommendations.

AmCham-Jordan aimed at sharing members' services and expert advise on current matters that benefit the business community and announcement of AmCham-Jordan series of "Meet the Experts Webinars" for the benefit of all who would like to participate.

#### THE GROUP'S OBJECTIVES:

- Share experiences, and information to help each other cope with the current crisis and to sustain business operations.
- Introducing a platform to gather members' recommendations and accumulate them with inquiries received to understand their issues and challenges in order to present them to the authorities, and voicing the private sector's opinion. As it is important that the government receive well-informed guidance regarding private sector's needs.



Visit: www.amcham.jo

AmCham – Jordan took the lead in helping businesses by gathering information and documents issued by the government of Jordan on their website to help businesses navigate the COVID-19 crisis and find everything they need to know about:



Defense Law Decisions 2020



Issuing Permits and Approvals



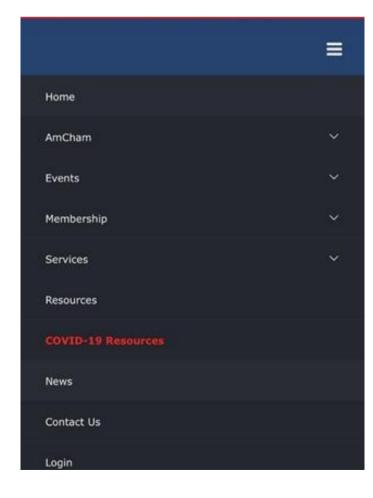
**COVID-19 Work Health & Safety Government Procedures** 



Relevant Directives & Instructions



Local & International Studies







# AmCham-Jordan's

Newsletter May-July 2020











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"Enterprise Level Support Programs Offered by JEDCO."



"Understanding the U.S. Market Requirements."



"Progress and Priority of Public-Private Partnership Projects in Jordan."



"The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Investment in Jordan."



"Tips on Coronavirus Survival Strategy."

# "Enterprise Level Support Programs Offered by JEDCO."



#### May 14th, 2020

Economic contraction brought on by the coronavirus pandemic has caused many companies hard times adapting to the new market dynamics. The private sector, along with the public sector are adopting innovative solutions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on businesses through providing rapid support tools, paving the way for the business community to alleviate these economic hardships.

AmCham-Jordan hosted H.E. Dr. Bashar Zu'bi, CEO of Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) as a keynote speaker to a webinar session moderated by Eng. Mohammed Bataineh, Chairman of AmCham-Jordan to give context on the two recently established Enterprise Level Support Programs offered by JEDCO, giving AmCham-Jordan members insights on how to benefit from these programs.

During the webinar session, Dr. Zu'bi explained that the two programs budgeted for JD 680,000 aim at providing support to Jordanian SMEs covering all governorates of the Kingdom and advising on the application process.

The first program budget totals JD 280,000, providing financial grants of up to JD 7,000 benefiting 40 industrial projects and comprises to support services in fields of e-commerce, e-marketing and automating some of the SMEs activities to enable them to work remotely, with the aim of facilitating the registration of products in virtual markets to promote online selling of Jordanian products locally and internationally.

The second program budget totals JD 400,000 allocated to 10 companies at up to 70% cost share, targets export-ready companies that can modify their production lines to manufacture medical supplies or production of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to combat the coronavirus.



"Understanding the U.S. Market Requirements."

#### May 17th, 2020

The COVID-19 unprecedented circumstances has impacted customers' buying behavior around the world and caused shifts in demand to other types of products, such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), sanitizers, disinfectants, and detergents. Listing them as essential goods, manufacturers are pivoting to produce these products in response to market needs and demands.

As Part of AmCham-Jordan's ongoing effort in promoting bilateral trade between the U.S. and Jordan though its technical assistance support programs, AmCham-Jordan held a webinar session titled "Understanding the U.S. Market Requirements," which hosted Mr. Benjamin Thomson, Economic Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Amman and Prof. Hanee Al-Dmoor, Director of Scientific Food Center as speakers, and moderated by Ms. Rose Alissi, CEO of AmCham-Jordan.

At the outset of the webinar session, Ms. Rose Alissi, AmCham-Jordan's CEO stressed on the fact that the "COVID-19 outbreak has offered opportunities amidst disruption for Jordanian manufacturers in certain sectors and markets, especially in areas of two way trade with the U.S."

Speakers in the session raised awareness to Jordanian manufacturing companies who are willing to export, on the importance of being informed of the changes in requirements for registering newly in-demand products to access the U.S. market, including that for the U.S. Federal Government contracts, giving comprehensive guidelines for Jordanian manufacturing companies on the procedures and requirements needed to register their company database to access the U.S. market and be eligible for export, digging deep into explaining the prerequisites for registrations such as; Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS), NATO Commercial and Governmental Entity (NCAGE) and System for Award Management (SAMS), with a specific focus on the requirements needed to register Jordanian products in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



"Progress and Priority of Public-Private Partnership Projects in Jordan."

#### May 18th, 2020

Facilitating dialogue between the public and the private sector during the COVID-19 global pandemic is extremely important to keep business communities updated on developments in the public sector, by hearing directly from policy makers so that businesses stay in the know, and be better positioned to plan ahead and mitigate the impact of the unpreceded outbreak on their businesses.

AmCham-Jordan was pleased to host H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Al Khoshman, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Jordan & Head of the National PPP Program at Government of Jordan as a keynote speaker, to a webinar session titled "Progress and Priority of Public-Private Partnership Projects in Jordan," moderated by Mr. Samer Judeh, Chairman of Jordan Wind Project Company & AmCham-Jordan Board Member, and attended by AmCham-Jordan's distinguished partners, members and stakeholders in addition to representatives from the International donor community.

At the beginning of the session, Eng. Mohammed Bataineh, AmCham-Jordan Chairman gave his welcoming remarks "The PPP unit based at the Prime Ministry is what we were calling for and hoping materialize for a longtime, we are happy to finally have this unit operational to look at projects holistically and push for them in the right direction."

The session aimed at focusing primarily on how the revised Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Law, No. (17) of 2020, and the newly allocated PPP Unit at the Prime Ministry will mobilize supporting the private sector investment and prioritize key projects as a result of the pandemic, with the objective of reviving the economy and enhancing the business environment, enabling trade and commerce as well as generating employment.

At the end of the session, H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Khoshman extended his deepest gratitude to AmCham-Jordan "We highly appreciate AmCham-Jordan's support and engagement for being among the first to show genuine enthusiasm and interest in the PPP Program."



"The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Investment in Jordan."



May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

During the global COVID-19 outbreak, Jordan and the world have witnessed a change in market dynamics as well as uncertainty in the traditional way of doing business. Yet, business leaders continue seizing new opportunities created by the global pandemic.

AmCham-Jordan hosted H.E. Dr. Khalid Wazani, Chairman of Jordan investment Commission (JIC) as a keynote speaker in its webinar session, titled "The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Investment in Jordan," moderated by Mr. Samer Asfour, General Manager of Jordan Bromine Company & AmCham-Jordan Vice Chairman and, was attended by AmCham-Jordan's distinguished partners, members and stakeholders, in addition to representatives from the international donor community in Jordan. This comes as part of AmCham-Jordan's contribution towards building synergies between the public and the private sector.

At the commencement of the session, Dr. Wazani stated that "the Royal directives and His Majesty King Abdullah II direct follow-up on government measures have contributed to attracting global attention to Jordan for its ability to deal with the coronavirus pandemic." Highlighted the fact that JIC in partnership with the public and private sector, have developed work plans and an initiative for investment resilience and economic sustainability.

The session offered a high-level discussion on the impact of the unprecedented circumstances and the way of doing business. Hearing Dr. Wazani's valuable insights on how he visions the future of the investment climate in Jordan post-COVID-19 pandemic, discussing JIC's proactive approach towards sustaining Jordan's economy, through its agility towards attracting investment opportunities and maintaining existing ones necessary to sustain Jordan's economy at present. As well as, what kind of support or integration Dr. Wazani is looking for with the international donor community in Jordan.

Eng. Mohammed Bataineh, AmCham-Jordan Chairman, expressed his appreciation in his closing remarks, for JIC's continuous cooperation with the AmCham-Jordan, and the commission's efforts to market Jordan as an attractive investment environment, stressing AmCham-Jordan's continued effort to build bridges between the U.S. and Jordan, to create partnerships aimed at reaching regional and global markets.



# "Tips on Coronavirus Survival Strategy."



#### June 17th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan conducted a webinar session in collaboration with Great Place To Work®- Cyprus titled "Leading During the COVID-19 Era."

During the session, Kyriacos Iacovides, General Manager of Great Place to Work-Cyprus, defined the key drivers of creating a High-Trust culture, as perceived by employees and connects them with leadership and management practices endorsed during the COVID-19 challenging times. He suggested, on the one hand, how best practices will add value in developing a High Trust-High Performance work environment and on the other hand, how leadership 'malpractices' will negatively impact the organizational culture.



# AmCham-Jordan's Webinar Sessions Under the Silicon Valley Matchmaking Program.





"Fundraising in the Age of Coronavirus."



"Evaluating New Proudcts & Market Fits."



"What to Expect after a Market Recession."



"Startup Traction."



"Tips on Coronavirus Survival Strategy."

# Silicon Valley Matchmaking Program **Webinar Sessions**

#### May 20, 2020



The spread of COVID-19 led many companies, especially SMEs and startups to face enormous uncertainty and financial hardships. According to surveys results conducted by international companies, a large percentage of startups' fundraising timeline was slowed for most founders, mostly for seed and Series A companies.

AmCham-Jordan in partnership with TechWadi organized the fifth webinar session in series entitled "Fundraising in the Age of Coronavirus," by the veteran entrepreneur, operator and venture capitalist, Sharif El Badawi, Managing Partner at 500 Startups MENA. In this session, Sharif shed light on why investors might be sharing mixed information, and how startup founders can navigate this environment when they're looking to raise capital, adding to that, Sharif will share his insights on how to understand your own chances to raise and how to run a successful fundraising process.

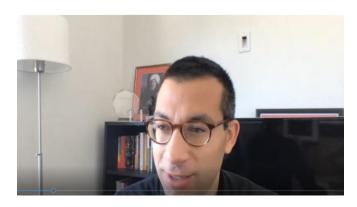




#### May 27th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan in partnership with TechWadi organized the sixth webinar session on "*Evaluating New Proudcts &Market Fits"* by Hossam Tewfik, Product Leader at Facebook and TechWadi Board Member.

The session aimed at discussing the importance for startups to have a proactive approach and providing participants with tactics on speed in thinking and reacting when seeking product market fit to navigate the dynamic market environments and survive intense competition.





# Silicon Valley Matchmaking Program **Webinar Sessions**

# Tech Wadi

#### June 2nd , 2020

Under the Silicon valley Matchmaking Program, AmCham-Jordan in partnership with TechWadi, hosted Ramy Adeeb, General Partner at 1984 Ventures to a webinar session titled, "What to Expect after a Market Recession." In this session, Rami gave context on the impact of the financial crisis and market recessions resulting from COVID-19 on the venture capital market, and how entrepreneurs should handle the current crisis, sharing with them the best practices on how to operate under uncertainty.





#### June 7th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan in partnership with TechWadi, hosted May Habib, CEO of Qordoba, to conduct a webinar session for the Silicon Valley Matchmaking participants on "**Startup Traction**," to discuss five main tips on when, what, and how startups should pivot during uncertain times, giving insights on what does category creation mean and how startups should implement it.





# Silicon Valley Matchmaking Program **Webinar Sessions**



#### June 16th , 2020

Under the Silicon Valley Matchmaking program, AmCham-Jordan in partnership with TechWadi, organized a webinar session with Riley Rodgers, Principal at Valia Ventures, to discuss "**Tips on Coronavirus Survival Strategy**," with Jordanian entrepreneurs.

Riley delved into explaining the funding perspective of venture capitalist and angel investors during these uncertain times, what is the future of the size of raises and, the importance of approaching and connecting with investors during the COVID-19 outbreak. Moving forward into advising them on how to respond effectively to the changes encountered, how investors are advising entrepreneurs about raising funds and, key leadership lessons during crisis.











# AMCHAM-JORDAN'S UNIVERSITY STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The AmCham-Jordan's University Internship Program is implemented in partnership with the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University with support from the U.S. Embassy in Jordan-Public Affairs Section.

The Goal of the program is to develop career options for students; provide knowledge about the labor market in Jordan; help develop students' employability skills; and provide businesses of suitable pipeline for new staff.

The program is part of AmCham-Jordan's community outreach initiatives that aim to support the career path development for young Jordanian university Students by linking them to job training opportunities with leading Jordanian businesses represented by AmCham-Jordan members.

Host companies will offer students profession-based internship placements where they will be paired with senior staff to work and gain practical experience and exposure to the workplace.





# AmCham-Jordan's University Student Internship Program **Training Sessions**

#### June 24th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan held its first training session for university students under the AmCham-Jordan's Internship Program, supported by the public Affairs Department at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, entitled "Laws Governing Work Relationships," conducted by the Advocate Lana Nimri, legal advisor and head of the FTA Unit at AmCham-Jordan, and the Founder of Jordan Better Workplace Association.

The session aimed at giving students insights on the Jordanian labor law and, explaining the legislation that govern the relationship between the employer and employee. So that students entering the workplace can understand their rights and duties.





#### June 25th , 2020

The second training session was held for university students under the AmCham-Jordan's Internship Program, supported by the public Affairs Department at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, entitled "Communications Skills & Dealing with Difficult Personalities," conducted by Ms. Rose Alissi, AmCham-Jordan CEO.

During the session, Ms. Rose emphasized the importance of having effective communication skills in the workplace, and how it could lead to professional success. She also covered the components of effective communication, challenges encountered by the sender or receiver, types of verbal communication, and non-verbal such as; body language and, strategies for dealing with miscommunication. Furthermore, Ms. Alissi shed light on the different types of personalities students might deal with during their internship period and strategies on how to deal with them professionally.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Jordan

U.S. Jordan

Free Trade Agreement Unit

The American Chamber of Commerce In Jordan

Free Trade Agreement Unit

The American Chamber of Commerce In Jordan

The American Chamber of Chamber

# AmCham-Jordan's University Student Internship Program **Training Sessions**

#### June 24th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan held a training session with the support of the Public Affairs Department at the U.S. Embassy in Amman entitled "Work Ethics & Dealing with Conflicts," delivered by the Advocate Lana Nimri, legal advisor and head of the FTA Unit at AmCham-Jordan, and the Founder of Jordan Better Workplace Association.

The session aimed at introducing university students on the importance of having an ethical behavior, and its role in promoting professionalism in the workplace. In addition to the difference between ethical and non-ethical behaviors and guidelines on idealistic behaviors that students should be aware of before entering the workplace. The second leg of the training session shed light on the types of workplace conflicts, ways to deal with them, their impact on the work environment, and the reason for their occurrence.





# AmCham-Jordan's University Student Internship Program

# Training Sessions

#### July 20th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan held the 4th training session on "Time & Attention Management," which was delivered by the consultant, mentor and life coach practitioner Ms. Fida Al-Americani, the Cofounder and Managing Director of Mind Print.

The trainer gave university students guidelines on how to manage their time more effectively and efficiently, using innovative tools and practices to be able to prioritize their daily tasks to achieve their overall goals. She also shed light on the importance of identifying and managing distractions to beat procrastination which aids in yielding the highest productivity.

This session comes as part of AmCham-Jordan University Internship Program supported by the U.S. Embassy in Amman- Public Affairs section.





### **Businesses Awareness Session**

#### July 20th, 2020

An interactive session was held for Jordanian businesses to give them an overview on AmCham-Jordan University Internship Program expectations and requirements, giving a perception on the importance and value of institutionalizing the Internship Program at their establishments.

Special thanks go to Ms. Mayyada Abu Jaber, CEO at Jowomenomics & World of Letters and Mr. Khaled Hijab, Founder & Executive Director at TechTribes for sharing their success stories on hosting interns and how it can bring new blood to the company's culture.





## AmCham-Jordan Signs Partnership with **Jordan Tractor**



#### June 22nd, 2020

AmCham –Jordan is proud to renew its partnership agreement with Jordan Tractor (CAT) for the fifth year in a row, signed by Eng. Mohammed Bataineh, Chairman of AmCham-Jordan and Mr. Amin Amireh, General Manager at Jordan Tractor (CAT).





# Meet the Expert Pathway to Exporting to the U.S. Market: Plastic Products

#### June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

As part of the National Tijara Coalition, AmCham-Jordan technical team Ms. Raghad Al-Khojah, Deputy CEO & Head of Business Development, along with the Advocate Lana Nimri, Legal Advisor and Head of FTA Unit, conducted a training session titled "Pathway to Exporting to the U.S. Market" tailored specifically to the Jordanian plastic sector representatives at Jordan Chamber of Industry (JIC). The session shed light on ways to scale the export of plastic products to the U.S. market, giving an overview of the requirements needed for export readiness on a company and product level, ways of developing a value proposition, and effective marketing tools for the digital and traditional market place.

The session was organized by JIC with the support from the World Bank Group, represented by Mr. Maher Mahrouq Director-General of JCI, and Mr. Ala' Abu Khazneh, Board Member at JCI & Representative of the Plastics Sector in Jordan, and was attended with over 50 participants, amongst them were Ms. Nancy Al-Momani, General Manager of Jordan Exports (JE), briefing attendees on JE's role and latest programs.



## Our Chairman's Interview with Roya News Channel

#### July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Eng. Mohammaed Bataineh, Chairman of the Board at AmCham-Jordan, during his interview with Roya News discussing Jordan-U.S. 20 years deeply-rooted relations, especially during COVID-19 crisis, stressing on the fact that the crisis has not affected Jordan's exports or imports to and from the U.S. Yet, it created opportunities for other sectors. Adding to that, the U.S. economic assistance and development aid are still ongoing despite the unprecedented situation the world is facing.

Link to interview: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yxh6up9p">https://tinyurl.com/yxh6up9p</a>









## AmCham-Jordan's

Newsletter July - August 2020



















## Congratulations to Our Newly Appointed **Board Members**

AmCham-Jordan is pleased to announce the appointment of

Mr. Ahmad Khudari , Managing Partner of Adnan Khudari & Sons Trading Co. & Mr. Sanal Kumar Chairman & Managing Director of Classic Fashion Apparel Industry

On AmCham-Jordan Board of Directors

Looking forward to further enhance U.S. - Jordan business and optimize opportunities that lead to economic development in Jordan.





# Export Awareness Session at Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO)



#### August 19th, 2020

As part of the ongoing partnership under the National Tijara Coalition to promote Export Growth Pathway to Jordanian Companies wishing to export and have an interest in the U.S. market, AmCham-Jordan represented by Ms. Rose Alissi CEO and Ms. Raghad Alkhojah, Deputy CEO & Head of Business Development were hosted as guest speakers by Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) to give an overview presentation on AmCham-Jordan's services and export promotion activities to support industrial companies to access the U.S. market. Adding to that, Ms. AlKhojah announced the upcoming SourceDirect virtual trade show to participants sharing information about the show's objective, benefits, and method of registration.







## Launching the 1<sup>st</sup> Virtual Trade Show Opportunity for Importers & Exporters





To learn more, copy the link: https://tinyurl.com/y6fnpgbg

Do you import of export from the U.S. Indoor and Outdoor home furniture, kitchen or garden gadgets, Food, Beverage, Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), Garments & Apparel, Disposables, packaging, Disinfectants, Sanitizers, Detergents, Cosmetics, Personal Care, Dead Sea Products, Jewellery, Gifts and Accessories?

#### **IF YES**

AmCham- Jordan is organizing the participation in the SourceDirect, the1<sup>st</sup> virtual trade show opportunity for importers and exporters, the premier show for retailers to buy directly from U.S. and other international buyers. It is the top destination for global importers, distributors, wholesalers, and product development companies, launching its virtual market place directly as registration starts September 2020 and show duration is October 2020 – March 2021.

# INVEST IN THE FUTURE! FIND YOUR FUTURE EMPLOYEES



Be part of the AmCham-Jordan University Student Internship Program By Hosting an Intern At Your Establishment!

To register, copy the link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y7s9tc29">https://tinyurl.com/y7s9tc29</a>

The program is part of AmCham-Jordan's community outreach initiatives that aim to support the career path development for young Jordanian university students by linking them to job training opportunities with leading Jordanian businesses.

Host companies will offer students profession-based internship placements where they will be paired with senior staff to work and gain practical experience and exposure to the workplace.



## **Training Sessions**



Time and Attention Management.



Working within Teams.



CV Writing and Steps for a Better LinkedIn Profile.



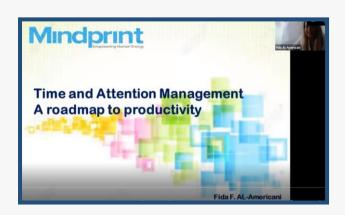
Written Communication Skills.

### Training Sessions

#### July 20th & 23rd, 2020

AmCham-Jordan held two training sessions for the Yarmouk University and University of Jordan students on "*Time & Attention Management*," delivered by the consultant, mentor and life coach practitioner Ms. Fida Al-Americani, the Co-founder and Managing Director of Mind Print.

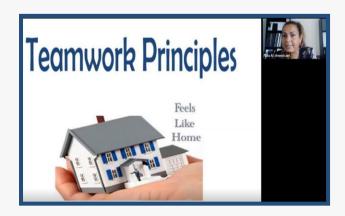
Ms. Americani gave students guidelines on how to manage their time more effectively and efficiently, using innovative tools and practices to be able to prioritize their daily tasks to achieve their overall goals. Adding to that, Ms. Americani also shed light on the importance of identifying and managing distractions to beat procrastination which aids in yielding the highest productivity.





#### July 27th & 28th, 2020

Ms. Fida Al-Americani conducted an additional two training sessions on "Working within Teams," highlighting the importance of being an active team player within the organization, explaining how high-performance team functions effectively, and how can team work help in improving their problem-solving capabilities and communication skills.







## Training Sessions

August 10th & 12th, 2020

Mr. Khalil Wahab, founder of Nuddge Jordan (نضج) conducted informative training sessions on "C.V. Writing & Steps for a Better LinkedIn Profile", covering key steps for developing an outstanding C.V. specifically for fresh graduates to improve their potential job prospects, understand which parts employers look at and, which educational and professional qualifications to include. Moreover, he also highlighted the importance of having a LinkedIn account, especially during this digital era, showcasing a proper way for students to reflect skills and experience to create an online professional brand that opens doors to opportunities and networks.







#### August 11th & 13th, 2020

Mr. Khalil Wahab conducted two sessions on "Written Communication Skills." The sessions aimed at helping students understand the importance of enhancing their formal writing skills, giving them principals and techniques for effective written business communication to develop clear and well-constructed written messages to avoid ambiguity and enhance their proficiency.







### **Businesses Awareness Session**

#### July 20th, 2020

An interactive session was held for Jordanian businesses aimed at giving an overview of the AmCham-Jordan University Student Internship Program expectations and requirements, giving perception on the importance and value of hosting interns at their establishments.

Special thanks go to Ms. Mayyada Abu Jaber, CEO at Jowomenomics & World of Letters and Mr. Khaled Hijab, Founder & Executive Director at TechTribes for sharing their success stories on hosting interns and how it can bring new blood to the company's culture, raising awareness on the positive impact the companies they will encounter if they institutionalized internship programs at their companies.





## Our Chairman's Interview with Roya News Channel

#### July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Eng. Mohammaed Bataineh, Chairman of the Board at AmCham-Jordan, during his interview with Roya News discussing Jordan-U.S. 20 years deeply-rooted relations, especially during COVID-19 crisis, stressing on the fact that the crisis has not affected Jordan's exports or imports to and from the U.S. Yet, it created opportunities for other sectors. Adding to that, the U.S. economic assistance and development aid are still ongoing despite the unprecedented situation the world is facing.

To watch the interview, copy the link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yxh6up9p">https://tinyurl.com/yxh6up9p</a>





## Meet the Expert Sessions

## **Topics:**



Recommended Approach for Successful Implementation of E-Detailing.



Journey into Digital Transformation Powered by Alibaba Cloud.



Overcome your Data Security Challenge.

### **Meet the Expert Session:**

Recommended Approach for Successful Implementation of E-Detailing.



#### July 29th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan in partnership with Wilson Learning SEM held an interactive session for AmCham-Jordan members in the Pharmaceutical industry titled "Recommended Approach for Successful Implementation of E-Detailing." The session was conducted for the benefit of Pharmaceutical companies, with kind support of Dr. Abdulkarim Dissi, Chairman of Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA LAWG) in Jordan, moderated by Ms. Raghad Alkhojah, AmCham-Jordan Deputy CEO & Head of Business Development.

Kyriacos Iacovides, Managing Director of Wilson Learning SEM and Great Place to Work Cyprus, explains how Wilson Learning provides Pharma representatives with the skills and tools they need to create effective relationships with Health Care Practitioners (HCP) by developing the right mindset and learning proven best practices for E-detailing and other vital competencies that can drive performance and lead to a sustainable advantage for their organizations.

E-Detailing have the potential of decreasing marketing expenses, increasing access to HCP, and at the same time preserving many of the advantages of standard face-to-face meetings. It is a revolutionary method for promoting pharmaceutical products which increases both the quality and the variety of promotional activities of pharmaceutical companies. It proves its benefits for HCP and pharmaceutical companies alike. The approach is a major time-saver for the former while ensuring higher ROI for the latter. E-detailing is not a substitute for standard, Face to Face visits but a complementary option to the company marketing mix, possibly necessary, during the challenging times of social distancing.

Ortiacos tacovides	AmCham - Jordan	Abdillareem Al Ossi	Raghad Akhojah	Rami Abu Shehab
Ahmad Hamdan	Rasha Darawsheh	RASHA Shamm	Laith Abu Aifalay	Yahya Abdallah
Christie Janho	Sawsan Ramadan	Mohammad Att	Arabieh Magabi	Fatima Katanani
Jan Qardan	Rand Ejeilat	Nadine Melhem	Lina Fasheh	Ramzi Bassil
msbt	Rasha El Abed	Dina Bashiti	Mohamad Shah	Luai SHALABI



### **Meet the Expert Session:**

## Journey into Digital Transformation by Alibaba Cloud.

### (-) Alibaba Cloud

#### August 10th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan in collaboration with Alibaba MENA conducted a webinar session *titled* "Journey into Digital Transformation Powered by Alibaba Cloud." Moderated by Raghad Alkhojah, AmCham-Jordan Deputy CEO & Head of Business Development.

Alibaba Cloud is always looking for ways to support SMEs and businesses to help them thrive in their cloud transformation. During the session, Abdulrehman Mohammed- Solution Cloud Architect, Piyush Karkkar- Director Industry Solution and, Long Li – Channel Head, gave insights on Alibaba Cloud solutions that aim at supporting businesses in their cloud transformation. Speakers during the session gave an overview on the opportunities and challenges of digital transformation for SMEs such as disaster recovery solution and management, e-commerce solutions & partner marketplace and, smart solutions for the government, smart city, manufacturing and warehouse.







### **Meet the Expert Session:**

## Overcome your Data Security Challenges.

#### August 24, 2020

In an IT complex environment where data is captured, created and shared across, simply performing traditional static data protection is always going to leave modern organizations exposed to cyber-attacks.

AmCham-Jordan in collaboration with Omar MT. Zeitoun, General Manager of Al-Manhal Data Protection & Support and Mr. Ahmad Abdallah, Country Manager Thales CPL conducted a webinar session titled "Overcome your Data Security Challenges."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, work patterns have changed. Thales Data Threat Report, Global edition has shown an increase in the number of cyber-attacks in the last year and some companies have been breached more than once in a year, this highlights that companies need a new modern way to protect their data.

During the webinar session, speakers shared key data protection insights from the latest Thales Data Threat Report and latest trends to build data a protection strategy robust enough to meet the challenges of this extraordinary times.





Mr. Ahmad Abdallah
Country Manager
Thales









## AmCham-Jordan's

Newsletter November - December 2020

















@AmChamJordan







## His Majesty King Abdullah accepted the credentials of Henry T. Wooster as **U.S. Ambassador to Jordan**.

#### October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

His Majesty King Abdullah II accepted the credentials of Henry T. Wooster as U.S. Ambassador to Jordan.

Henry Wooster was sworn in as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on August 27. He most recently served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Maghreb and Egypt. Previously, he was the Deputy Chief of Mission in Paris and Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. at U.S. Embassy Amman.

Prior to those assignments, he was Political Counselor at U.S. Embassy Islamabad. Other assignments have included Director for Central Asia at the National Security Council, Foreign Policy Advisor to the Commanding General, U.S. Joint Special Operations Command; Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iran, Political Officer, Embassy Moscow; Executive Officer, U.S. Mission to NATO; Desk Officer, the Office of Russian Affairs; Consul, Embassy Port-au-Prince; and Political Officer, Embassy Tbilisi.



### Webinar Session

## U.S. Free Trade Agreement & Lessons Learned (Jordan/ Egypt)

#### November 24th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan Chairman Eng. Mohammed Bataineh was hosted as a panelist to a webinar session conducted by the Jordan Strategy Forum (JSF) in cooperation with the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES). The session aimed at discussing the importance of the Egyptian & Jordanian Free Trade Agreement with the United States for the business communities, highlighting the opportunities and challenges faced by traders and investors in both countries.

The session was moderated by Dr. Ibrahim Saif, CEO of JSF in conversation with Eng. Mohammed Bataineh, Chairman of AmCham-Jordan and Dr. Abla Abdulatif CEO of ECES.

In his intervention, Eng. Bataineh addressed the meaning of Jordan-U.S. FTA for businesses, and AmCham-Jordan's role in translating the opportunities of preferential trade into economic benefits, highlighted that after twenty years of the Jordan-U.S. FTA, the U.S. is Jordan's main trading partners absorbing 80% of Jordan's goods exports to the world. The opportunities provided by the agreement remain unrealized by the business community especially as related to trade diversification and trade in services. AmCham-Jordan is working to support businesses in overcoming behind the border challenges related to marketing and business linkages.

During the discussion, Dr. Saif highlighted the important trade figures that resulted from the U.S.-Jordan FTA and the gradual progress occurred as a result of the agreement, since its entry into force. Stressing the need for Jordanian investors to benefit from the trade agreements that Jordan enjoys with regional and international countries; in order to diversify the portfolio of local exports and export new goods and services, in addition to the need to strengthen cooperation between Egypt and Jordan in the industrial fields.



### **Congratulations to our Board Member**

#### November 27th, 2020

AmCham-Jordan would like to extend its deepest congratulation to its Board Member Ms. Nour Jarrar, CEO of Citi Bank-Jordan, for her latest appointment in the Board of Trustees of the King Abdullah II Fund for Development. We wish you all the success and luck in serving our beloved country.

Nour Jarrar is the CEO of Citibank Jordan since January 2018. She is an experienced banker with substantial experience across Corporate Banking, Trade Finance, Structured and Corporate Finance, Strategic Development and Planning and Financial Institutions Management.

Ms. Jarrar joined Citibank from Bank ABC in Jordan where she was most recently Head of the Wholesale Banking Group. Her career with Bank ABC dates back to 2006, and during that time she has held a number of increasingly senior positions including Head of Global Trade Finance for MENA. Prior to joining Bank ABC, she worked in the Economic Development Division of the Royal Hashemite Court in Jordan and in Jordan's Housing Bank for Trade Finance.

Ms. Jarrar has an MA in Finance and Investment from the University of Nottingham in the UK and a BA in Finance from the University of Jordan.

Ms. Jarrar is a member of the Board of Directors of Association of Banks in Jordan and a Board Member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Jordan.



## Launch of AmCham-Jordan's **New Website**

#### December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

AmCham-Jordan launched its newly-revamped website, designed specifically in a way to stay close to our members, business community and stakeholders.

Visitors can have access to AmCham-Jordan's latest activities, upcoming events and everything you need to know about U.S.-Jordan economic relations.



### **Online session**

## Celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the U.S. – Jordan **Free Trade Agreement**

#### November 27th, 2020

The American Chamber of Commerce in Jordan (AmCham-Jordan) and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington D.C. jointly organized an online session to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the U.S.-Jordanian Free Trade Agreement and look ahead to the future of U.S.-Jordan business, as the first of a series of activities to be carried out in 2021 to strengthen private sector engagement in the trade and investment fields.

The high level session brought together from the Jordanian side the Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply and Jordan's Ambassador in Washington, and from the U.S. side the U.S. Department of State Assistant Secretary for Near East Affairs and the U.S. Ambassador in Amman. It was attended by over 250 government officials and business representatives from the United States and Jordan.

The discussions revolved around the special economic partnership between the two countries, highlighting the positive impacts of the Free Trade Agreement in cementing business relations since the agreement's entry into force on December 17, 2001. The event also highlighted the measures that the public and private sectors can take together to unlock the potential of bilateral and regional trade, and investment aimed to support Jordan's recovery process after the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.























