

"Bahrain is capitalising on opportunities to transform the digital landscape, which is accelerating the pace of economic diversification"

Mastercard

"Bahrain's digital ecosystem gives us instant access to the Gulf's \$1.5tn economy"

**PayTabs** 

"Bahrain's young workforce is by far the most tech-smart in the region"

**NEC Payments** 

#### Get in touch

Discover how the GCC's FinTech hub will benefit your business.

Visit BahrainEDB.com, email us at investorenquiries@bahrainedb.com or call us on +973 175 89 999.

Our business hours are Sunday to Thursday, 8am to 4pm (GMT +3hrs).

250 projected number of MENA FinTech

start-ups by 2020<sup>1</sup>

average growth of the financial services sector between 2006 and 2016<sup>2</sup>

400
financial
institutions have
made their homes
in Bahrain

WRL State of Finteen Report
 Bahrain Economic Development Board





## Fintastic Bahrain

# FinTech hub of the Middle East

At the heart of the digital revolution, FinTech is growing rapidly – nowhere more so than in Bahrain. Our country has always been an appealing proposition for financial services. As the region's longest established financial centre, we have led the way in both sound regulation and innovation.

Now we're laying the foundations for the new wave of FinTech companies to flourish, with new infrastructure, tech-friendly regulations and regular infusions of fresh thinking.

Read on and learn about the latest developments.

### Solid foundations (built on sand)

Our regulatory sandbox is designed as a testbed for innovation. Try out ideas in a safe virtual space, one that has already been put to the test by several companies.

## Drop anchor in FinTech Bay

The liveliest hub in the Middle East, FinTech Bay makes the perfect base. State-of-the-art facilities and shared workspaces create a nourishing ecosystem for both start-ups and corporate innovation labs.

### StartUp Bahrain

Our initiative is bringing together entrepreneurs, investors, incubators and academia, as well as the Bahrain government. The goal: to create a community in which startups can find support, share ideas and ultimately thrive.



#### Opening the e-wallet

With the world's highest level of mobile phone ownership, Bahrainis are particularly tech-savvy.

They're eager to embrace our national e-wallet, a truly innovative payment system.

## **\$200**m

projected investment in MENA FinTech companies by 2020

### A pillar of support

The Central Bank of Bahrain has championed innovation for over four decades.

Now they have opened a specialist unit to support the burgeoning FinTech sector.



