Project Qatar receives overwhelming response with 15,000 visitors

Project Qatar 2021 has been wrapped up with overwhelming success after attracting 15,000 professional visitors.

The expo, which now registers a total of 116 exhibitors from 13 countries, provided new opportunities for the participating companies to catch up with their industry peers, reconnect with their industry counterparts through Project Qatar, and win with a successful comeback after the four-day mega-event reflected a positive and strong comeback for the construction sector as they look to meet project deadlines in the run-up to the country’s hosting of the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

Qatar’s hosting of the 2022 FIFA World Cup is a major turn-around, attracting more than 260 applications from “logical entrepreneurs and innovative thinkers” who identified new ideas and solutions for today’s most relevant challenges across the event’s industry-specific themes.

The expo presented a cross-section of building a national infrastructure and logistics performance and sustainable mobility with 5G. The hackathon’s participants presented innovative solutions that earned a wide spectrum of technological excellence from the innovation of various projects presented.

The winning projects will be leveraged by ODB, and the incubation ecosystem will continue supporting in a multitude of ways. And with the hundreds of promising work of ten winning projects, which we will continue supporting in a multitude of ways, the hackathon has achieved and exceeded its set goals, whether in creating an atmosphere that celebrates innovation and creative competition, supplying Qatar’s entrepreneurs with new ideas, innovation, and creativity, projects and solutions presented in key sectors of the economy.

The hackathon honoured the promising work of ten winning teams across the event’s various challenge themes, namely, Rob- bi, Shop, Atlantic, Build, Technology, Qatar Shell, Qatar Fintech, NavBuddy, Juego Football, and Right, Swap On, and A Smokeless Exhaust Tube.

QDB organised the hackathon and the incubation ecosystem in collaboration with a diverse range of local and international institutions that included Ooredoo as the incubation partner, Wistron X, Amazon Web Services, Virginia Commonwealth University, Qatar Shell, Qatar Qatari Diar, delta Blockchain, the Bank of Qatar, and Madinah Rashid University, among others.

Furthermore, such winning teams will receive a cash prize to further develop their ideas with the support of prominent mentors and coaches as well as access to investment and support services that include training, networking opportunities, and more.

QDB’s most inclusive hackathon to date has successfully concluded with a major turnaround, attracting more than 300 applications from “social entrepreneurs and innovative thinkers” who identified new ideas and solutions for today’s most relevant challenges across the event’s industry-specific themes.
Qatar's large state footprint in economy recapitalises local banks in 2021; one-off美化（美化）unmapped

India’s economic growth is supported by

The UAE has set a 2050 net-zero goal, first in the Gulf

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China central bank governor vows to continue fintech crackdown

China will continue taking steps to curb monopolistic behavior among financial tech companies and protect consumer privacy and data security, central bank Governor Yi Gang said.

“We will continue to cooperate with anti-monopoly authorities to curb monopolistic behavior among financial tech companies and protect consumer privacy and data security,” Yi said Thursday during a keynote speech at the Bank for International Settlements’ conference on Regulation and Fintech.

The People’s Bank of China (PBOC) has taken a series of steps to regulate the payment systems of those companies and curb any potential antitrust behavior.

Yi said China has been cracking down on fintech companies for the past year after largely giving them free rein to grow. Regulators fired their first salvo in November with new regulations on fintech, which forced Jack Ma’s Ant Group to call off what would have been a record initial public offering.

Beijing has also launched investigations into e-commerce giant Alibaba and food delivery leader Meituan, while earlier this year it prohibited payments platform WeChat and digital wallet Qbao from offering services to users under 18.

Yi named three principles when making steps to curb monopolistic behavior of tech companies.

“Behavioral antitrust” is the first principle. Yi said that to keep companies and their affiliates from entering areas where they are not licensed to provide financial services, the central bank will roll out new rules governing payments and financial holding companies.

The second principle is that steps taken to curb monopolistic behavior of fintech companies must not affect the overall financial system. Yi said the central bank will continue working to strengthen controls over technology platforms and curb monopolistic behavior.

The third principle is that steps taken to curb monopolistic behavior must not affect the overall industry. Yi said the central bank will ensure that fintech companies can continue to develop and compete with traditional financial institutions.

Regulatory steps are aimed at preventing monopolistic behavior and protecting consumers, Yi said.

“A successful fintech is one that can make traditional financial systems stronger,” Yi said.

The regulatory crackdown on fintech in China has been broadening.

China has been cracking down on its biggest tech firms for the past year after largely giving them free rein to grow. Regulators fired their first salvo in November with new regulations on fintech, which forced Jack Ma’s Ant Group to call off what would have been a record initial public offering days before the firm was due to go public.

A logo of Ant Group is pictured at the headquarters of the company, an affiliate of Alibaba, in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province. China has been cracking down on its biggest tech firms for the past year after largely giving them free rein to grow. Regulators fired their first salvo in November with new regulations on fintech, which forced Jack Ma’s Ant Group to call off what would have been a record initial public offering days before the firm was due to go public.

Banning has also launched anti-monopoly investigations into e-commerce giant Alibaba Group holding Ltd and food delivery leader Meituan, while earlier this year it prohibited payments platform WeChat and digital wallet Qbao from offering services to users under 18.

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The regulatory crackdown on fintech in China has been broadening.
Moderna plans African plant as drugmakers are urged to help the poorest

Moderna plans to invest up to $1bn to build a factory in Africa to make up to 100m doses of mRNA vaccines each year, according to a Reuters report, as pressure grows on the pharmaceutical industry to manufacture drugs on the continent.

Africa controls and the World Health Organization (WHO) have been urging drugmakers for months to set up vaccine plants in the continent to help a region that is facing a shortage of vaccines. As of Thursday, only about 4.5% of the continent’s population has been fully vaccinated.

Moderna said in August that it was looking into building mobile and expandable vaccine production units using mRNA technology in Rwanda and Kenya. The WHO has been trying to persuade Moderna to set up a manufacturing hub in Africa that could become a tech transfer hub.

“Healthcare is facing an enormous talent shortage,” said the WHO’s regional director for Africa, who has been urging drugmakers to manufacture vaccines on the continent. Moderna has not responded to a request for comment.

At a news conference, he welcomed any efforts to address the continent’s needs, but said Moderna’s plans would not solve its problems securing doses now.

The move comes as a debate rages over how to quickly and effectively address vaccine needs, with some countries calling for the waiving of intellectual property rights for Covid-19 vaccines to help and end the pandemic and give more developing countries access to shots. The US drugmaker said it would support a waiver, but the idea has faced opposition from the pharmaceutical industry, which is worried about setting a precedent that other drugs could follow.

Prevention, said he had not seen the Moderna statement and the company had not consulted with him. The United States said it would support any technology transfer due to the company’s manufacturing process.

Potential candidates to host Moderna’s African plant include South Africa, Rwanda and Senegal, health experts say, although a senior WHO official involved in the drive to boost local vaccine manufacturing didn’t respond to a request for comment.

But the rise in layoff s was dwarfed by an increase in the number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits, which increased by 34,000 to a seasonally adjusted 326,000 for the week ended October 2, according to the Labor Department.

Away from California, there were increases in claims in several states, with 2,328 layoff s announced by US-based employers in September compared to 2,000 in August.

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