

MIT to host TECHLEB/06, an international conference on technological development in Lebanon

TECHLEB/06, an international conference on technology development in Lebanon, will be held under the auspices of Prime Minister Fuad Saniora at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) over the weekend of May 20-21, 2006. This inaugural event is being organized by the Lebanese Club at MIT in collaboration with the International Network of Lebanon Entrepreneurs and Technologists (INLET) and other advisory partners.

Aim of the conference

TECHLEB/06 aims to define the roadmap of development strategies and initiatives essential to making Lebanon a vibrant and sustainable technology hub in the Middle East Africa region (MENA). In the presence of business leaders, decision makers, and economic development experts from the international community, the conference will convene key players from the Lebanese private sector, government, and emigrant community to connect the building blocks of Lebanon's technology sector: technical and legal infrastructure, capacity development, economic opportunity; global market access, and tax climate. The strategic importance of a thriving technology sector in Lebanon lies in its ripple effect on other economic and social sectors.

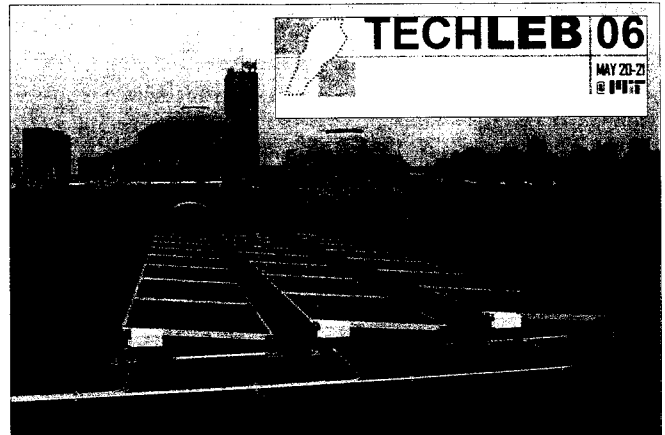
From the Lebanese private sector, government, diaspora, academia, and NGOs, to international organizations, experts, and success models, the conference will feature a roster of premier speakers and domain veterans representing the major players integral to technology development in Lebanon.

The TECHLEB/06 Conference Program is being designed to ensure that the conference objectives and attendees are best served with the most appropriate

content, structure, and format. Specific themes addressed by keynotes and panelists in TECHLEB/06 include:

Current State of Affairs in Lebanon: Challenges, Efforts, and Initiatives

- Empowering Entrepreneurs in an Emerging VC Culture
- Corporate Governance, Legal Infrastructure, and LP protection
 - Academia, Research Commercialization, and R&D Outsourcing
 - High-Tech Vertical Industries (Biotechnology and Pharmaceuticals, Semiconductors, Optoelectronics, and Nanotechnology, Software, Information and Communication Technologies)
 - Models for Technology-Driven Economic Development: Lessons Learned
 - Success Stories of High-Tech Ventures in Lebanon and Abroad
 - Leveraging the Diaspora: Connecting the Human Capital
 - Government & Private Sector Retreat: Exchange of Pledges Roundtables to include:
 - Women's Role in Technology Development
 - Groundwork for Bringing Endeavor to Lebanon
 - Blueprint for TECHLEB/07 conference
 - INLET Chartered Membership
 - Curricular Development for a Technology-Driven Economy
 - Offshore Outsourcing:



Connecting Supply and Demand

- Recruiting, Training, and Internships: Connecting Supply and Demand

- New Enterprises: Connecting Supply and Demand
- Media's Role in Highlighting Role Models & Success Stories
- Hi-Tech in Traditional Industries & Other Niches for Lebanon
- Establishing (T)IDAL for Policy Formulation and Implementation
- Piracy and Intellectual Property Projection: Where does Lebanon Stand?

The conference will span over two days over the weekend of May 20-21 and will feature a number of sessions (registration, orientation, plenary, breakout, and closing) and communication vehicles (keynotes, presentations, panels, colloquies, workshops, case-studies, poster sessions, and/or round tables). The first day of the conference will culminate in a high-profile dinner and one-of-a-kind networking opportunity all attendees.

The Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (MIT) has been chosen as the venue for TECHLEB/06 because of MIT's internationally-acclaimed reputation as a leader in technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship all of which are hallmarks of the conference. Also, given the high placed on Lebanon's youth and human capital, a leading academic institution has been selected to cradle and launch TECHLEB's mission. Go to www.techlebconference.com for more information about TECHLEB/06.

Attendee Profile

TECHLEB/06 aims to attract an audience of 250-300 attendees of diverse domain specialization, industry expertise, and geographic distribution. The TECHLEB/06 Planning Survey has captured the following demographics of prospective attendees. You may take the TECHLEB/06 Planning Survey at www.techlebconference.com/survey. Aggregate survey results from over 500 respondents have been published at www.techlebconference.com/survey/results.htm ■

