

## ENVIRONMENT PARK



Turin's science and technology park hosts 70 companies operating

on Environmental, energy and ICT sectors. The Park also operate technology transfer activities to companies in the field of clean technologies, owning and operating five laboratories on specific subjects (advanced energy systems, green buildings, green chemistry etc). Envipark is member of national and EU innovation association on energy and environmental fields and has a large experience in collaboration with Institutions, R&D entities and industries in the framework of EU and international projects. Environment Park has collaborated inside several

cooperation projects in the framework of Italian National and regional programmes, in particular in the Balkans (Bosnia Herzegovina, Albania) and in the southern Mediterranean countries (Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt), with the role of technical partners in the development of activities on Industrial and technology parks, innovation and technology transfer, sustainable building, water and waste management. Inside HITEC project Environment Park will be involved in the technical phases of elaboration of the feasibility study of the Park, providing and sharing its direct experience and skills on technology parks design and management and Innovation to business services to industries and economic activities.



## CITY OF TURIN



The City of Turin participates in HITEC via its International Cooperation and Peace Department, created by the Municipality to support its international activities and initiatives. The Department acts in the framework of decentralized international co-operation, in partnership with civil society representatives (associations, foreign citizens communities, NGO's, religious organizations, trade unions) and the public authorities (UN Agencies, EU, ministries, regions, provinces, municipalities, chambers of commerce, schools). Cooperation is run activating and supporting twinning agreements, co-operation agreements, support to policies making, training, participation in national and international networks. The cooperation of Turin with the Palestinian State date since 1999, and HITEC project is within the framework of the Collaboration Agreement signed by the Mayors of Hebron and Turin in Palestine on June 2013. Turin will play the role of Coordinator for the Italian partners involved in this project.

## CITY OF MILAN



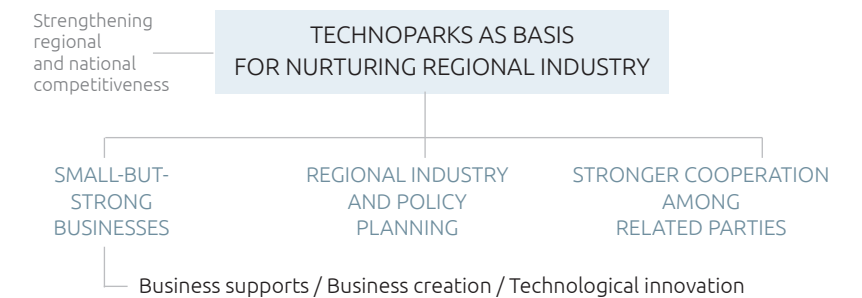
The role of the City of Milan in promoting international activities is pivotal, being Milan the first Italian city to have opened a unit for international decentralized cooperation in 1989. Since then, the unit has widened its competences participating in development aid projects, promoting calls for grants and awareness campaigns and collaborating with the European Commission. Cooperating with national and international organisations, foreign communities and other local actors, Milan has played an active role in more than 200 projects. It has supported and encouraged activities in Palestine, proving its spirit of solidarity through projects dealing with Waste Management, Urban Planning and Institutional Building in Bethlehem - twinned since 2000 - and Tulkarem together with NGOs and Universities (Polytechnic and Agrarian Faculty). The collaboration with the City of Turin on HITEC falls within the framework of Expo 2015, hosted by the City of Milan, and its focus on food security and food chain's innovation.

# HITEC Hebron Innovation Technopark

high level business and innovation services to local industrial environment



This Project has been promoted by the Consulate General of Italy and the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government through the Palestinian Municipalities Support Program (PMSP) funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project will be performed by a partnership among the municipalities of Hebron, Turin, Milan, and the Environment Park-Science and Technology Park for Environmental Technology of Turin. Environment Park will develop a feasibility study for establishing HITEC in Hebron, defining its mission, functions, business model and governance. In this process the Consulate General of Italy will involve the relevant local and national Palestinian institutions, business and research stakeholders (i.e. Ministry of National Economy, Hebron Chamber of Commerce and Hebron Polytechnic).



## HEBRON: A growing economic environment

The city of Hebron plays a leading role in several aspects of the economic situation in Palestine:

- Strong presence of manufacturing industries articulated in several sectors (stone, food, leather, metal processing...)
- High level education and research infrastructures, due to the presence of several universities included the PPU (Palestinian Polytechnic University)
- Very dynamic and leading local institutions, Municipality and Chamber of Commerce

Through an integrated effort of the local government, the enterprises organization and the academic sector, the following objectives will be addressed:

- To strength local industrial competitiveness
- To exploit new market opportunities
- To support the attraction of new investment
- To support creation of new knowledge-based entrepreneurship and workplaces

In order to strengthen the vision of Hebron as a hub of the Palestinian economy, innovation as a competitiveness factor is a strategic target demanding a very committed investment.



Palestine Polytechnic University Hebron Chamber of Commerce

## HEBRON INNOVATION TECHNOPARK: What is? How will it work?

“Presently I don’t match with export standards ....”  
 “I must reduce energy costs ....”  
 “My machinery are obsolete and I’m losing in competition...”  
 “If I only had an international business partner...”  
 “I need training for my employees...”  
 “I would start a new business to employ my graduated students....”



These are some of the needs emerged from local Business and Industrial community during the preparation phase, according to which the project will develop an investment plan to create a center of innovation services able to answer to the specific questions arising from Hebron business and innovation community .

Following the example of similar initiative made in Italy and at international level, Hebron Innovation Technopark - HITEC is conceived as a tool for the development of knowledge and technology-based activities supporting the competitiveness of the Hebron’s industrial environment.

### HEBRON INNOVATION TECHNOPARK

#### ROOM FOR SETTLEMENT

of innovative enterprises and infrastructures for development of innovation activities

#### BUSINESS INCUBATOR

to support the creation of start-ups working inside innovative sectors, involving local academies and universities students and graduates

#### INNOVATION CLUSTER

to support and promote Hebron’s business community, providing them high level services in the fields on innovation, quality and internationalization /export

It aims to be a pilot initiative with a strong local value but with a high potential to play a leading role at a national and regional level.

HITEC will play the role of innovation hub, strictly integrating local public and private assets, competencies, programmes and resources in a single entity, able to create opportunities and provide solutions for Palestinian industrial development. The aim is to group up needs, skills and opportunities of the different Hebron’s and Palestinian stakeholders, coordinating all efforts into concrete initiatives that will positively affect the economic development process in Hebron.

With the goal to support diversification of present local business scenario, HITEC’s mission will be to provide high level business and innovation services to local industrial environment, and will host the following functions:

Via the realization of a physical settlement and technology transfer infrastructures, together with the build-up of a multi-tasking skilled experts team, HITEC aims to provide a portfolio of services to local innovation and business community, supported by Municipal and Palestinian development programme and in cooperation with the Italian and International Programmes for economic development



## RENEP: An example of innovation

RENEP project (Renewable Energy for Palestine) is one of the on-going successful projects designed under the strategic partnership between the cities of Hebron and Turin, involving other three Partners: SiTI (Higher Institute on Territorial Systems for Innovation), AI Engineering and the Province of Turin.



RENEP is a key driver to develop the energy sector in the city of Hebron, Palestine, bringing know-how at local level and helping creating innovative entrepreneurship and new jobs in the market of renewable energy in the Middle East. At the same time there is an interesting opportunity to demonstrate, through a real implementation, the advantages offered by new technologies that can be also exported in other Middle East countries. Starting from Energy, the City of Hebron aims at an effective integration of all utilities (energy, water, telecommunications), creating smart ICT infrastructures for e-governance, attracting external investors and enabling funding by international organizations.

The main objectives of RENEP are the improvement of the efficiency of electric energy networks and the enhancement of the quality of life for citizens through continuous availability of electric energy from renewable sources connected within a smart network, reducing energy costs and environmental impacts.

These objectives will be met through the design and building of a Pilot Site, interconnecting existing solar panels, through a “smart grid approach” consisting of an experimental production of energy optimized in economic and environmental terms. The role of energy storage capacity will be also thoroughly investigated. International donors may be interested in being involved in order to fund project implementation, since the experience made in Hebron can be at the basis of further activities in the Middle East. Therefore, the project will define technical and organizational requirements to build economically and environmentally sustainable intelligent infrastructure systems and services for smart cities. Moreover, the systematic installation of photovoltaic systems on Hebron’s roofs can become part of the city urban planning strategies and, at the same time, offer new opportunities for qualified jobs for installation, management and maintenance.

RENEP represents a unique opportunity to create new energy-related companies in Hitech, Hebron’s Technology Park.

## Palestinian Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Development Programme

The Palestinian SME Development Programme is a joint initiative between the Ministry of Finance of the Palestinian National Authority and the Italian Development Cooperation. With a EUR 25 million credit line, four participating Palestinian Banks are currently offering low interest rate loans, ranging between EUR 50,000 and 500,000, to finance the purchase of equipment and/or services of Italian origin as well as investments in working capital.

Loan amount	EUR 50,000 - 500,000
Beneficiaries	Palestinian SME (MONE definition)
Declining annual interest rate	Max 5%
Application requirements and procedures	According to each participating bank’s internal requirements and procedures
Grace period	Up to 1 year
Loan Maturity	3 - 7 years
Italian origin of the equipment purchased	Min 60% of the loan amount
Investment in working capital	Max 30% of the loan amount
Sectors	Manufacturing industry; agriculture and agro-industry; related services

In the framework of the Programme, two new components have been recently added to make the initiative more appealing to Palestinian entrepreneurs:

#### 1-Business Advisory Service (BAS)

The Italian Development Cooperation is covering 75% of the consultancy fees, up to a maximum contribution of 1% out of the total loan disbursed, to draft a feasibility study or a business plan, showing clearly the economic potential of new investment projects to be financed through the Italian Credit line. Four licensed BAS consultants and consultancy companies are currently offering the service.

#### 2- Small Loan Facility (SLF)

In the next few months, participating banks will start offering loans ranging between EUR 15,000 and 50,000. Palestinian SME will have the opportunity to use this facility to acquire goods and services totally untied from the Italian origin, and with no limit concerning the share of working capital out of the total loan disbursed.