

KNOWLEDGE GIFT TITLE:

Learning by sharing: Data & exchange for better acceleration

COUNTRY(IES) / REGION:

Jordan and Egypt / MENA

LEAD ORGANISATION:

GIZ MSME Promotion Projects in Jordan and Egypt

CHALLENGE / PROBLEM

- Weak systems in place for accelerator programs to track impact
- Lack of institutionalized domestic, regional and international learning opportunities for accelerator programs in Jordan and Egypt
- Although a highly dynamic region, MENA is underrepresented in international entrepreneurship assessments, networks and events

MAJOR ASSUMPTIONS MADE

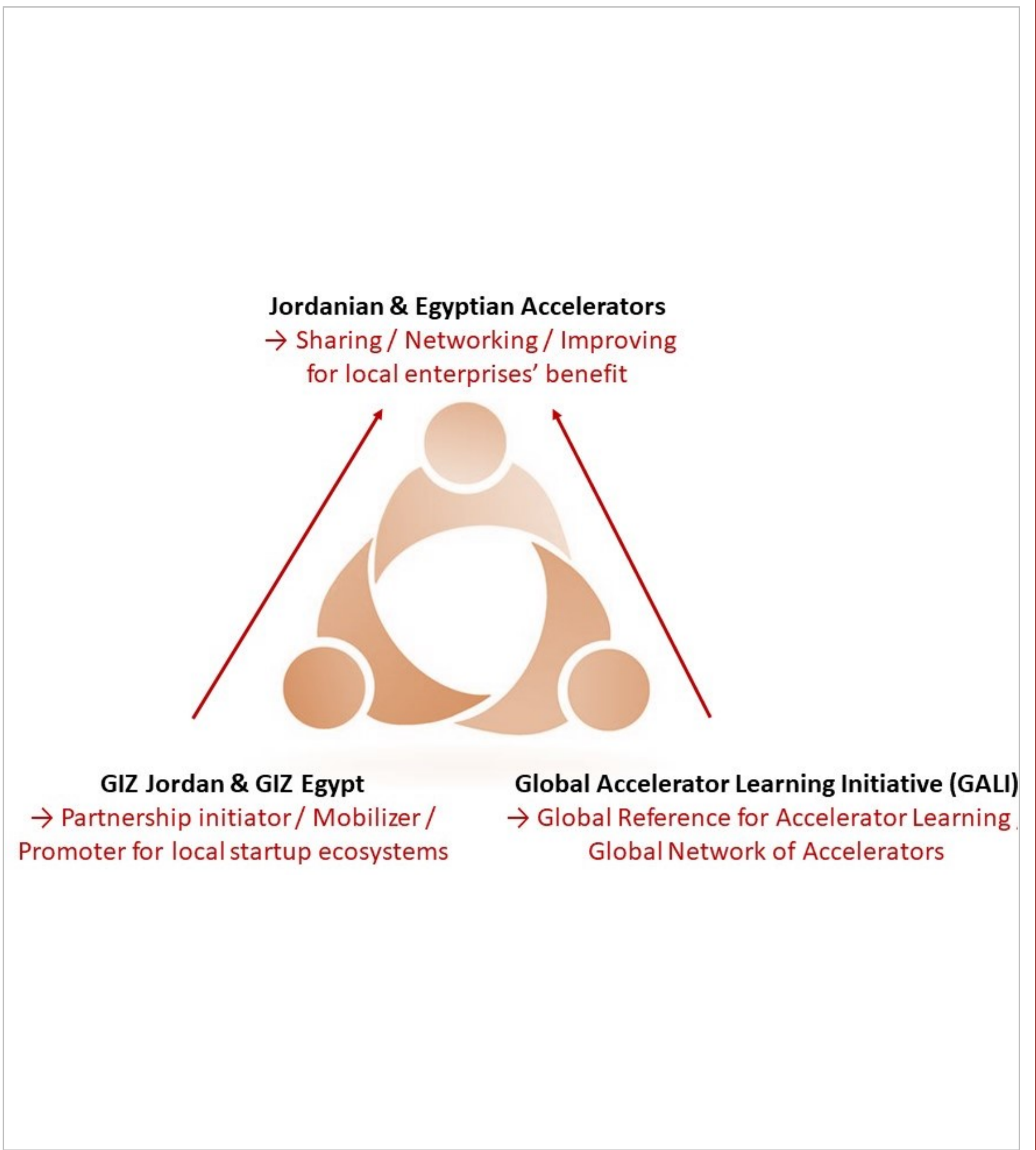
- Accelerators play an important role in promoting startup growth in the MENA region contributing to needed job opportunities for youth.
- Understanding impact helps accelerators to better make decisions, raise funding, and attract promising entrepreneurs.
- Regional exchange inspires learning and cooperation

SOLUTION OFFERED

GIZ MSME Promotion projects from Jordan and Egypt signed an agreement with the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE) to make Jordan and Egypt the first countries in the MENA region to join the Global Accelerator Learning Initiative (GALI) to:

- Promote data-driven impact assessments, decision-making and improvements in accelerator programs
- Promote exchange and linkages amongst accelerators and further ecosystem stakeholders in Jordan, Egypt, and the region to advance peer learning and collaboration
- Provide regional and global benchmarks for accelerator programs in Jordan and Egypt
- Put the dynamic entrepreneurship ecosystems in Jordan and Egypt onto the global map to increase representation in international networks for continued learning, cooperation and improvement

ILLUSTRATION / VISUAL



OUTPUTS CREATED

- Three data learning workshops conducted combined elements promoting linkages and learning between participants with more than 30 Jordanian and Egyptian accelerator and incubation programs joining national and regional learning and cooperation program
- Eleven MoUs signed between Jordanian and Egyptian accelerator programs with the Global Accelerator Learning Initiative to join global data and benchmarking efforts
- Four organizations plan to join Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs thus increase MENA representation in global network

INDICATORS / SCALE / IMPACT

- Accelerators equipped with specific tools and training to better assess their impact and improve their services accordingly
- Lasting network established with linkages to regional and international learning initiatives.

PARTNERS

- The Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE)
- The Global Accelerator Learning Initiative (GALI)
- GIZ Jordan MSME Promotion Project
- GIZ Egypt Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises Project
- Accelerator programs from Jordan and Egypt

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS / UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLE

- Sharing for learning: Sharing own data is first step in learning process to understand own impact through benchmarking
- Beyond borders: Involving accelerators from different countries in one program can mobilize efforts to advance peer learning and collaboration - amongst accelerators, donor-funded projects and international initiatives

REPLICATION POTENTIAL / SUSTAINABILITY

- GALI provides methodologies and trains accelerator's staff on using data to measure impact; accelerators receive cleaned and consistent data that supports further analysis by accelerator staff in the future
- Acceleration programs in other MENA countries are interested in adopting GALI and joining ANDE network
- GIZ can help to further sensitize local stakeholders for successful global initiatives such as GALI and ANDE

TOPICAL FOCUS

- MSME segmentation & entrepreneur-centred approaches
 Interplay between financial & non-financial services
 MSME support in digital era
 Entrepreneurial eco-systems & local advisory service providers
 New trends in MSME development

- Green
 Gender
 Fragility

SUB-TOPIC SELECTED

Facilitated by: