

# SELECTED ICT STARTUPS IN LEBANON



This document includes a selective list of Lebanese startups which have grown into regional and/or international players over the past five years. The list is non-exhaustive and serves to give interested stakeholders an overview of the Lebanese ecosystem; it will be regularly updated to include new industry players.

If you are a Lebanese startup and wish to be listed here, please [contact us](#).



<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Anghami</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2012
<b>Contact Person</b>	Elie Habib, Eddy Maroun
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:elie@anghami.com">elie@anghami.com</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 9 938693
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.anghami.com">www.anghami.com</a>

**Activity:** Music Streaming

**Description:** Anghami is the first mobile and web music streaming platform in the Arab world. The digital music application offers listeners unlimited Arabic and International music to stream and download. It is the most downloaded music application in the Middle East with 4.3 million downloads in 2013, and has the largest catalog of songs. Anghami was awarded “Red Herring Asia Top100 Finalists award” in 2012 and was funded and supported by regional VC firm MEVP.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Band Industries</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2012
<b>Contact Person</b>	Bassam Jalgha, Hassane Slaibi
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:bassam@bandindustries.com">bassam@bandindustries.com</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.roadietuner.com">www.roadietuner.com</a>

**Activity:** Big Data & Data Analytics

**Description:** Band Industries created Roadie®. Roadie Tuner is a device connected to an app that lets you fine tune your guitar or any other string instrument in seconds. To use it you open an app on your phone, connect to the device via Bluetooth, and pluck a string. The app can tell which string you’ve plucked and it will tune it to standard or any number of alternate tunings. Band Industries is one of the 15 companies selected for phase II of the UK Lebanon Tech Hub accelerator taking place in London.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Cardio Diagnostics</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2011
<b>Contact Person</b>	Ziad Sankari
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:info@cardiodiagnostics.net">info@cardiodiagnostics.net</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 71 547 115
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.cardiodiagnostics.net">www.cardiodiagnostics.net</a>

**Activity:** Medical Technology

**Description:** CardioDiagnostics developed the world's first HIPAA-compliant, secure, cloud-based cardiac management system accessible from any internet connected device. CardioDiagnostics provides cardiac patients with devices that are 24/7 GPS-enabled heart rate monitors allowing for heart monitoring centers to communicate diagnostic and preventive information to patients in the United States and in Lebanon. It is focused on helping physicians diagnose and treat patients with arrhythmia as well as Ischemia. It is the leading supplier of innovative mobile cardiac telemetry solutions in the MENA region. The company received USD 500,000 investment from Berytech and was awarded First prize in the "Global Innovation through Science and Technology" competition in 2012. It is one of the 15 companies selected for phase II of the UK Lebanon Tech Hub accelerator taking place in London.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Cinemoz</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2011
<b>Contact Person</b>	Karim Safieddine, Maroun Najm
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:karim@cinemoz.com">karim@cinemoz.com</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 1 742 540
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.cinemoz.com">www.cinemoz.com</a>

**Activity:** Video Streaming

**Description:** Cinemoz is the premium Video On Demand platform in the Arab World. It provides viewers from the region with free streaming of premium Arabic content. You can watch, share, and discover all the best of Arab films, TV Series, documentaries and short films while interacting with the community. In less than 6 months, this startup has gone from idea to concept and is today a state of the art platform dedicated to the Arab World, while matching a globally competitive quality in user experience. By August 2012, Cinemoz had already crossed the 1,000,000 "Unique Monthly Viewers" milestone.

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**Company Name**  
**Year of Establishment**  
**Contact Person**  
  
**E-mail**  
**Phone**  
**Website**

**Dermandar**  
2011  
Elie-Gregoire Khoury,  
Elias Khoury  
[egk@dermandar.com](mailto:egk@dermandar.com)  
+(961) 3 280 908  
[www.dermandar.com](http://www.dermandar.com)

**Activity:** Digital Image Technologies

**Description:** Dermandar has created a novel way to take panoramic images. The company has successfully developed an image stitching algorithm that allows the creation of fast and seamless panoramas. In 2011, the iPhone application "Dermandar Panorama" (or DMD Panorama in the US market) was released on the Apple store. After two weeks, it became a major hit, reaching the number 2 ranking in the photo category, right after Instagram. It reached 6 million downloads and 50,000 active daily users in 2013, and won the "World's Best App" award in the Lifestyle and Entertainment category at the World Summit Award for Mobile Content.

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**Company Name**  
**Year of Establishment**  
**Contact Person**  
**E-mail**  
**Phone**  
**Website**

**Et3arraF**  
2013  
Cédric Maalouf, Rakan Nimer  
[contact@et3arraF.com](mailto:contact@et3arraF.com)  
+(961) 3 157 882  
[www.et3arraF.com](http://www.et3arraF.com)

**Activity:** Online Dating

**Description:** Et3arraF is the first Arabic dating website or, as its founders prefer to call it, an "online marriage agency". Et3arraF adapted the compatibility algorithms used in well-known dating sites like eHarmony, to the Arab culture and aims to help Arabs who care about traditions and are serious about wanting to get married, meet each other. Et3arraF received USD 76,000 in funding at the "Seeqnce 2012 Accelerator Program's Grand Finale: Rise of the Startups", borrowed USD 250,000 from the Kafalat program, and in 2014 raised USD 150,000 from a fundraising round.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>ETobb</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2013
<b>Contact Person</b>	Paul Saber, Jad Joubran
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:paul.saber@etobb.com">paul.saber@etobb.com</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 1 398 862
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.etobb.com">www.etobb.com</a>

**Activity:** Online Medical Portal

**Description:** ETobb is the first premium, online, medical platform connecting patients and doctors in the Arab World. The company's mission is "improve people's quality of life and well-being by facilitating access to healthcare and expert medical knowledge". At first a health Q&A platform linking doctors to patients, today the platform has grown to include a number of other services, including live video chats with doctors, finding doctors and booking appointments, a way to keep track of annual physical exams, and the option to "follow" health topics. ETobb recently launched an Arabic language version of the site as well as a mobile application available on Google Play and the Apple Store. It was nominated "Best National eHealth" at the 2013 UN World Summit Award, "Global Track Winner" at the MIT Enterprise Forum Arab Startup Competition in 2013, and "Alpha Startup" at the 2013 Web Summit.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Game Cooks</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2012
<b>Contact Person</b>	Lebnan Nader, Lara Noujaim
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:info@gamecooks.net">info@gamecooks.net</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 71 255 595
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.gamecooks.net">www.gamecooks.net</a>

**Activity:** Mobile Gaming

**Description:** Game Cooks was born out a shared passion for gaming. Following the success of their first game Birdy Nam Nam, Game Cooks was officially founded in January 2012 and launched their hit title, Run For Peace, about a character named Salim who embarks on a peace-spreading journey throughout the Middle East. Since then, Game Cooks has released 6 more titles and counting. Based in Lebanon and catering to the world, Game Cooks is a collective of designers, developers and communicators creating original, fun and feel good type mobile games with a twist people from the region can relate to and players all over the world can enjoy. Game Cooks is one of the 15 companies selected for phase II of the UK Lebanon Tech Hub accelerator taking place in London.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Instabeat®</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2011
<b>Contact Person</b>	Hind Hobeika
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:hind@instabeat.me">hind@instabeat.me</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 3 268 569
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.instabeat.me">www.instabeat.me</a>

**Activity:** Sports Technology

**Description:** Hobeika, a former professional swimmer, decided to develop Instabeat® while training for the American University of Beirut swimming team. She founded Instabeat® when she realized there was a need for a heart rate monitoring device for swim practices. Instabeat® is the first waterproof heads-up monitor that tracks, stores, and displays instant feedback of your heart rate during your swim to optimize your training and allow you to achieve your peak performance. Today, Instabeat® exports worldwide to more than 56 countries. The company was awarded first prize at the “MIT Enterprise Forum Pan Arab Business Plan Competition” in 2012, third prize at the “Stars of Science” competition, and was nominated CES best of wearable technology.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Kashida Learning</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2011
<b>Contact Person</b>	Hassan Mourad, Ruba Mourad
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:info@kashida-learning.com">info@kashida-learning.com</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 76 994 494
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.kashida-learning.com">www.kashida-learning.com</a>

**Activity:** E-Learning

**Description:** Kashida is an innovative and dynamic e-learning service provider that targets the enhancement of education through custom services for all educational levels. The company empowers education through bespoke tools, consultancy, training, and the development of learning content that harness the latest in educational theories and technology. Kashida’s services encompass both online and blended models of delivery, and integrate the latest web 2.0 technologies while adhering to international standards for SCORM, AICC and IMS. It works in partnership with MoWerks Learning, Tatweer International and Docebo. Kashida provides its services locally as well as to countries such as the USA, Italy, and Kuwait.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>MySouk</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2013
<b>Contact Person</b>	Mira Mabsout, Karl Bachian, Ghassan Mabsout, Theo Ohanessian
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:info@mysouk.com">info@mysouk.com</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 70 005 054
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.mysouk.com">www.mysouk.com</a>

**Activity:** E-Commerce

**Description:** MySouk is a virtual online marketplace that allows designers to open a virtual store. Instead of creating the usual e-commerce website that sells various brands, on MySouk designers rent an online space for affordable prices, and can expose and sell their products. It reached 3,500 unique visitors after only 1 month after its launch, and reached 25,000 global visitors in 2014.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Presella</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2012
<b>Contact Person</b>	Louay El Kadri, Walid Singer
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:info@presella.com">info@presella.com</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 70 488 170
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.presella.com">www.presella.com</a>

**Activity:** Online Ticketing Platform

**Description:** Presella is the first platform in the world that allows anyone to organize an event risk free. Indeed, users can start pre-selling tickets to an event in order to discover audience demand and secure the minimum funds needed to confidently prepare for its success. This allows the event creator to know how popular his event will be and to start organizing and paying for the event only when they are sure about its popularity. The company received USD 76,000 in funding at the "Seeqnce 2012 Accelerator Program's Grand Finale: Rise of the Startups", USD 200,000 from Bank Al Mawarid and USD 100,000 from angel investors. It has also been one of the 15 companies selected for phase II of the UK Lebanon Tech Hub accelerator, taking place in London.

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**Company Name**  
**Year of Establishment**  
**Contact Person**  
**E-mail**  
**Website**

**Saily**  
2014  
Jihad Kawas, Dani Arnaout  
[jihadkawas@gmail.com](mailto:jihadkawas@gmail.com)  
[www.saily.co](http://www.saily.co)

**Activity:** E-Commerce

**Description:** At only 18 years old, Jihad Kawas is already part of the Silicon Valley Community. A serial entrepreneur, his latest venture, Saily, has already attracted investments from Gary Kremen, creator of Match.com, and Philippe Dagher, founder of Cash United, investing a total of around USD 100 000. Kawas also became one of the 20 entrepreneurs selected to receive the prestigious USD 100 000 scholarship from the Thiel Foundation. He partnered with Dani Arnaout to create Saily, a social marketplace to buy and sell with people nearby. It brings the power of geolocalization to the buy and sell process, and allows buyers and sellers to chat directly with each other.

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**Company Name**  
**Year of Establishment**  
**Contact Person**  
**E-mail**  
**Phone**  
**Website**

**Sohati**  
2013  
Elsa Aoun, Zena Sfeir,  
Naji Gehchan, Wassim Kari  
[admin@sohati.com](mailto:admin@sohati.com)  
+(961) 3 963 157  
[www.sohati.com](http://www.sohati.com)

**Activity:** Online Medical Portal

**Description:** Sohati.com is a medical and health portal in Arabic, aiming to provide Arab Internet users with trustworthy medical information. The website allows users to ask medical questions and get a doctor's response within 24 to 48 hours, anonymously, and for free. The website focuses on nutrition and fields like sexology, dermatology, psychiatry, and gynecology. Sohati is leaning towards advertisement and sponsorship to monetize their platform. On the ad side, selling banner space on the website on a cost per click or cost per impression basis would generate some revenue. As for sponsorship, Sohati are looking for partnerships with pharmaceutical companies, universities, insurance companies, and hospitals.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Viamobile</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2010
<b>Contact Person</b>	Karim Khoury
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:karim@viamobile.co">karim@viamobile.co</a>
<b>Phone</b>	+(961) 1 649555
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.viamobile.biz">www.viamobile.biz</a>

**Activity:** Mobile Banking

**Description:** Viamobile provides customizable mobile payment solutions to both corporate and retail customers using the most innovative technologies. The company provides its corporate partners (banks and retailers) the possibility to offer modular mobile money services to their clients by using Via Mobile's user friendly platforms and creating tailor made services that facilitate financial transactions. Buyers can then proceed with a secure and safe payment. Viamobile has partnered with major financial institutions in Lebanon, as well as banks, telecom companies and retail stores such as Fransabank, Khoury Home, Alfa, and Touch, to provide the most advanced payment solutions.

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<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Yellow</b>
<b>Year of Establishment</b>	2014
<b>Contact Person</b>	David El Achkar, Ola Doudin, James Piechota
<b>E-mail</b>	<a href="mailto:hello@yellowpay.co">hello@yellowpay.co</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.yellowpay.co">www.yellowpay.co</a>

**Activity:** Bitcoin

**Description:** Yellow is the first Bitcoin payments startup in the Middle East. Their first product is a Bitcoin payment gateway for businesses in Middle East. Yellow makes it easy and risk-free for companies to accept Bitcoin for payment. By using Bitcoin and Yellow, companies save on transaction fees and can accept transactions from all over the world while receiving the payment in local currency of choice instead of Bitcoin. They are already providing services to companies in Beirut, Jordan and the GCC, and plan to cover the entire Middle Eastern region. They have already raised USD 250,000, mainly from angel investors.

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