The Power of Microfinance
An Era of Achievements
HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
The King of the Kingdom of Bahrain

HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister

HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa
Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander
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MICROCREDIT CAME TO PROMINENCE IN THE 1980’S, ALTHOUGH EARLY EXPERIMENTS COMMENCED BACK TO 1720 IN IRELAND, 1800 IN GERMANY AND USA, AND A FEW OTHER COUNTRIES. TODAY, IT HAS BEEN REALIZED THAT MICROFINANCE IS ONE OF THE SUSTAINABLE TOOLS TO ADDRESS POVERTY AND PROMOTE MICROENTERPRISES. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT HAS BEEN THE HALLMARK OF MICROFINANCE INTERVENTION. MICROFINANCE HAS LARGELY BEEN A NON-PROFIT PRIVATE SECTOR INITIATIVE THAT AVOIDED BECOMING OVERTLY POLITICAL, AND AS A CONSEQUENCE, HAS OUTPERFORMED VIRTUALLY ALL OTHER FORMS OF DEVELOPMENT LENDING.

Microfinanc is a powerful tool for creating microenterprises and self-employment opportunities, was introduced in the Kingdom of Bahrain through a program launched jointly by the Government of Bahrain and UNDP in 1999. Three NGO’s were selected to participate in the pilot microfinance project. Based on the excellent results done by these organizations, Family Bank was established to increase and diversify the offer of microfinance services in Bahrain. The Bank finds its place as part of Vision 2030 to support the small & middle class development, as well as to complete the well-established network of services and target the SME’s as well. Despite the financial difficulties caused by the past financial crisis, the booming economic status of Bahrain is creating the required fertile environment for the launch of Microfinance as there are a lot of opportunities that need to be tapped.

The primary target demography of the Family Bank will be needy families, unemployed, widows and youth that receive various government aids and assistance. Family Bank will provide them with Islamic microfinance (up to BD 5,000) to support income generating activities enabling them to prosper as productive members of a vibrant economy. The proposed target groups for Family Bank are:

- Needy families receiving government welfare support
- Needy families supported by charity organizations
- Microenterprises registered under the “Productive Families” project in the MOSD
- Youth, Women and handicapped individuals interested in establishing microenterprises
- Owners of microenterprises in different economic sectors
- Small business enterprise

Bahrain is a country in transition, where the economic reforms have resulted in the rapid liberalization of domestic economy and improvement in the business environment. Statistic show that micro, small and medium enterprises represent a significant part of the Bahraini economy.

Microfinance encompasses the management of small amounts of money through a range of products, and a system of intermediary functions that circulates money in an economy. Microfinance is small in value amounts targeted at low income clients. It includes finance, savings, insurance, transfer services and other financial products and services. Providers of microfinance include non-government organizations, self-help groups, cooperatives, credit unions, commercial and state banks, insurance, credit card companies, and other points of sale. UNCDF
Vision
Family Bank’s Vision is to enable the low-income Bahrainis to build a secure future while introducing ethical rules and high standards towards development.

Mission
Family Bank’s Mission is to serve the low-income families in the Kingdom of Bahrain through the promotion of Microfinance to lead the social development.

Family Bank Goals
• Activate the mechanism of microcredit as the most successful means to support low-income families and enable them economically and socially.
• Provide an opportunity for the low-income families to obtain affordable financial services to improve their standard of living.
• Implement the best practices in procedures drawn from the experience based on Grameen Bank and other microfinance programs.
• Create the right environment for the establishment of the initiatives to the low-income for develop and encourage them
• Support the initiatives of charitable associations and civil societies to support the low-income families.
The history of the modern microfinance institution can be traced back to Bangladesh and the launch of Grameen Bank by Professor Mohammed Younis in the late 1970s. Through Grameen Bank, Younis was able to provide access to very small amounts of capital with no collateral requirements. Grameen provided this capital at a very low interest rate, which was almost unheard of when loaning to the needy people. This is what Family Bank is doing during the last four years. Needless to say, through the past four years, the Family Bank has contributed within four years of incorporation in improving the income level of hundreds of Bahraini individuals and families with limited income, through funding their ideas & businesses to generate more income and improving their living conditions. The bank succeeded in providing Sharia complaint finances and serving more than 1700 Bahraini micro-entrepreneurs, added to the establishment of numerous partnerships and agreements with Non-Governmental Organizations, development Social institutes and other stakeholders in order to develop the Bank’s work-scope and expand the circle of beneficiaries.

Beyond the challenges facing the MSE’s in Bahrain and in the Middle East area are the regional instabilities encountered for the last four years. Thus, Family Bank continues to face internal challenges during this early stage on development, particularly financially as well as the desire to provide fully Shariah-compliant microfinance products.

On this occasion, on behalf of the Board of Directors, we are pleased to raise our highest gratitude and loyalty to His Majesty King Hamad bin Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain and His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister office and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince of the Secretary Deputy Supreme Commander of the Bahrain Defense Force. We would also like to thank all the members of the Shari‘ah Supervisory Board and executive management, institutions and agencies that contributed to the Family Bank, especially the shareholders: the Ministry of Social Development – Royal Charity Organization – Ahli United Bank – Ithmaar Bank – Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait and Kuwait Finance House. Last but not least, to the Central Bank of Bahrain, who gave us the support and guidance.

Dr. Fatima Mohammad Al-Balooshi
Board Chairperson
Bahrain has an excellent network of Financial Institutions and has been considered a financial hub in the Arab region, accommodating more than 400 financial institutions and insurance companies. Yet, such institutions are providing funds only for formal businesses, mostly with collateral and guarantees. Thus, there is a need for a financial player to bridge the gap of low income families/entrepreneurs who have commercial registration, but no collateral nor guarantees.

In the meanwhile, there is a strong need to have Islamic microfinance services which comply 100% with Sharia. Therefore, in the 1980s the concept of “Microfinance” or “Microcredit” first caught the attention of the world. Microfinance means providing financial services to the needy people (low income families) and those largely considered “unbankable”. Consequently, and needless to say, the microfinance industry provides financial services for micro-entrepreneurs, small-business owners and other individuals who otherwise lack access to formal banking and related services. Family Bank played a massive and vital role to guide and maintain programs that aim at enhancing the living conditions of needy families by providing financial channels for obtaining the required support.

The Bank has contributed, within the last four years since its incorporation, in improving the income level of hundreds of individuals and families with limited income, through funding their ideas and projects, to generate more income and contribute to the development of their living conditions. The bank succeeded in providing Sharia compliant finances and serving for a large segment of Bahraini micro-entrepreneurs, adding to the establishment of many partnerships and agreements with non-governmental organizations, development institutions and other stakeholders in order to develop the bank’s scope and expand the circle of beneficiaries.

Dr. Khalid Abdulla Ateeq
CEO & Board Member
Dr. Al-Balooshi is the Minister of Social Development since 2005, she started her career as a science teacher and in 1992 she obtained her PhD from Columbia University and was appointed as Chairman of the Department of Educational Technology. Later in 2004 she became the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Bahrain.

She is an active member in many organizations, including the Supreme Council for Women and is a member of the Economic Development Board. Seeking economic empowerment for needy families, she worked hard for several years to establish Family Bank as a pioneering project of her Ministry with partnership within the private sector.

Dr. Fatima Mohammad Al-Balooshi
Board Chairperson

Mrs. Sawsan Abulhassan holds an MBA in Finance (with distinction). She graduated with BSC in Management from the University of Bahrain. Sawsan is the Deputy Group CEO – Private Banking and Wealth Management at Ahli United Bank B.S.C. She holds the following directorships: Director of Ahli United Bank (UK) PLC; Director & Member of the Investment Committee for Securities & Investment Company (SICO), Kingdom of Bahrain. She has 22 years’ experience in Wealth Management and Retail Banking with international & regional banks. Current role involves overlooking Private Banking & Wealth Management business in Group Countries associated to Ahli United Bank. She was previously with Citibank N.A. Bahrain as Resident Vice President – Wealth Management & Distribution and Head of Wealth Management with Standard Chartered Bank, Bahrain.

Mrs. Sawsan Abulhassan Mohammed
Board Member

Dr. Khalid Abdulla Ateeq
CEO & Board Member

Dr. Khalid is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Family Bank and Board Member.
Dr. Khalid has over 30 years experience in banking, finance, auditing and accounting. Prior to his association with VC Bank as Deputy CEO, he was Executive Director of Banking Supervision at the Central Bank of Bahrain, where he was responsible for the licensing, inspection and supervision of financial institutions, insuring that all banks and financial institutions, either operating or incorporated in Bahrain, complied with promulgated laws and regulations. Before joining the CBB, he was Assistant Professor at Bahrain University. In addition, Dr. Ateeq served in senior posts with a number of reputable banks and firms. He holds a PhD in Philosophy of Accounting from UK and he is a Board Member in Al Khair Bank, Al Baraka Bank, Med Gulf Takaful Insurance company, Itqan Capital at Saudi Arbia, and Med Gulf Holding Company.

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Dr. Mustafa Al Sayed is the Secretary General of the Royal Charity Organization. In 2007 he was the Chief Executive of Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO). He has 40 years of experience. His previous positions include: Chief Engineer with the Ministry of Works, Power & Water, Chief Executive at Middle Cables for five years and General Manager with Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) for 17 years. He was also the Power and Utilities Supervisor at Bahrain Petroleum Company. He is currently Board Member of Nass Corporation, National Oil & Gas Holding Co, National Oil & Gas Authority and Bahrain Health & Safety Society.

Dr. Mustafa Al Sayed mechanical engineer by profession, he has a PhD in Industrial Management, Bachelors in Mechanical Engineer and Master in Industrial Management.

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CEO & Board Member
Mr. Khalid Al Maarafi holds a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting from the University of Bahrain, and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). He has been involved in the banking and finance industry and business management for over 33 years. Mr. Al Maarafi is an Executive Manager and Head of Retail Banking Group at Kuwait Finance House-Bahrain and the Chairman of Al Enma’a House for Real Estate. He is also a non-Executive Director at the Boards of Directors of various companies. Mr. Al Maarafi held several positions at the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Industry & Commerce in Bahrain.

Mr. Ahmed Abdul Rahim holds an MBA from the University of Glamorgan, Wales (UK), and is an Associate Financial Accountant from the Institute of Financial Accountants, London (UK). He also holds an Executive Management Diploma from the University of Bahrain and an Advance Banking Diploma from the Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance.

Mr. Abdul Rahim is the Chief Executive Officer of Ithmaar Bank B.S.C. He started his career with Aluminium Bahrain and, after five years of service ending with Senior Supervisor, Cash and Banking, as well as one year with Chase Manhattan Bank where he was Head of Financial Control. He then joined the National Bank of Bahrain where he served 28 years within various executive levels and in different capacities, including Manager of Foreign Exchange and Funding, Chief Internal Auditor and Assistant General Manager of Corporate Services Group.

Mr. Abdul Rahim held the dual roles of Deputy Chief Executive Officer at Shamil Bank and Chief Operating Officer at Ithmaar Bank for approximately four years. Following the reorganization of Shamil Bank and Ithmaar Bank, he took charge of the Retail Banking Group as General Manager. He currently serves as board member of Fayçal Bank Limited (Pakistan), Family Bank, The Benefit Company B.S.C. and Injaz Bahrain.

Mr. Rashad Akbari holds an MSc in Marketing from the University of Stirling, (UK) in 1997. He has 26 years of work experience of which 13 years in Banking. Mr. Rashad joined BBK in 2000 and is currently the Assistant General Manager, Operations of BBK.

Mr. Rashad Akbari holds an MSc in Marketing from the University of Stirling, (UK) in 1997. He has 26 years of work experience of which 13 years in Banking.

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Dr. Khalid Bin Mohammed Al-Khalifa holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of North Umbria (UK), 2003. He is the founder & president of UCB 2002 and enjoys 28 years of working experience and skilled expertise.

Dr. Khalid also worked in AGU 2002 and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has wide knowledge in information technology and community development.

Professor Latifee is the Managing Director of Grameen Trust, which has implemented more than 150 Grameen Bank Replication Programs in 40 countries.

He has 40 years of experience and is well known for his contribution in the field of microfinance, poverty alleviation, financial inclusion, social business and value building growth. He has been associated with Professor Muhammad Yunus since the inception of Grameen Bank.

He serves as Member of a number of Board of Directors at home and abroad including Grameen America Inc. in U.S.A, Family Bank in Bahrain, Grameen Carso in Mexico, Grameen Asul Colombia in Colombia, Kosovo Grameen Missione Arobaslone Micro credit Fund in Kosovo, Grameen Credit Agricole Micro finance Foundation in Luxembourg, Nithran Utthan Bank Limited in Nepal, Microcredit Initiative of Grameen in India and Grameen Microcredit Companies (Aba Sorgaan Grameen MCC and Grameen-Shangdu MCC) in China.
Mr. Abdulla Mohammed Saleh holds a BSc degree from Beirut University-Lebanon, majoring in business administration and is a member of the Association of Accounting Technicians- United Kingdom majoring in Accounting, finance, Audit and taxation. He has 28 years of extensive experience and his expertise is specialised in the finance function in several organizations including the Fortune Investment House and Gulf Air Co.

Mr. Abdulrazzaq Al-Matri is certified by EDEXCEL [UK] as Professional Management Consultancy (Professional Diploma), member in Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development [CIPD-UK] - Personnel Practice program [CPP]. Graduated from Kingdom University with Bachelor Degree in Business Administration and holding a Commercial Diploma from University of Bahrain - UOB.

He has an experience of 12 years and he has worked with various organizations in private and government sectors; such as Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA), Bahrain Telecommunication Company (BATELCO) and Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO) prior to join Family Bank.

During his professional career, he attended several courses, seminars and conferences related to Human Resources and Development.

Mrs. Sana Salim Abdulla holds a Diploma in Commercial Studies from the University of Bahrain. She has over 15 years of experience with Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait and Eskan Bank.

During her professional career, she attended several courses, seminars and conferences in banking, management, Islamic banking, economy and banking laws.

Ownership Structure

As of 31st December 2013, the distribution schedule of shares, setting out the number and percentage of holders is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Number of Shares</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Social Development</td>
<td>15,200,000</td>
<td>30.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Charity Organization</td>
<td>15,000,000</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ithnaa Bank</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahli United Bank</td>
<td>6,000,000</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait Finance House</td>
<td>3,800,000</td>
<td>7.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50,000,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE IMPORTANCE OF MICROFINANCE

Microfinance is a long-term sustainable solution to alleviating poverty. After nearly four decades of experience it has been shown that when low-income people have access to financial services – loans, savings, insurance and money transfer facilities – they can lift themselves out of poverty. Needy people in general and needy women in particular, are a good credit risk. They invest their loans wisely, not only in income generating activities, but also in the welfare of their families. With access to successive loans over a longer period of time and through the cycle of further investment and increased income, low income entrepreneurs can, through their own efforts, gradually climb the ceiling and reach the sky.

MICROFINANCE CAN HELP THE NEEDY PEOPLE IN A NUMBER OF WAYS;

• It provides micro entrepreneurs with the capital needed to operate and expand their businesses.
• Through the increased income generated by their businesses as well as the ability to save and obtain loans, microfinance allows needy people to build their assets, and improve their living standards.
• It can reduce poor people’s vulnerability. Access to credit, savings and insurance that can help them to smooth cash flows. Microfinance can make it easier to manage shocks such as sickness to the family breadwinner or theft.
• It instills a culture of hard work and regular saving among the needy.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS WHY NEEDY PEOPLE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH BANKS. THIS INCLUDES:

• They may not have enough money to open a saving account or the minimum balance that the bank requires them to maintain may be too high.
• They may not have sufficient collateral to secure their loan.
• They may be self-employed without regular verifiable sources of income.
• They may have no existing history of receiving loans with the bank.
• They may be illiterate and be unable to complete all the necessary paperwork required for applying for a loan or opening a savings account.
• They may feel intimidated by a bank’s premises.
• Some banks think it will be uneconomical for them to deal with needy people and they deliberately exclude low-income earners from their services.
MICRO FINANCE

Financing home base project:

Under this program the bank provides support from BD 500 to BD 3000 to micro-businesses, mostly home-based, the finance amount is determined based on the type of business, business experience of the applicants, and revision of the client business data such as sales and cost volume. The bank also studies client’s credit bureau putting in consideration to the number of business funds taken in the past.

- Repayment period varies from 3 months to maximum 24 months
- This program reached more than 1300 customer during last four years

Our Financial support is:

- Fully Islamic-Shariah compliant;
- Better priced than other microfinance institutions in the Kingdom;
- Convenient monthly repayment installments;
- Low management fees;
- Without collateral;
- Payment of installments at convenient locations at Bank or Nanao Exchange branches;
- A package of non-financial services support – training, advisory, marketing;
- 50% of the profit covered by Tamkeen.

Micro Enterprises Finance program

Under the Micro Enterprise Finance Program the bank provides support from BD 3,000 to BD 5,000 to micro-businesses holding CRs, the finance amount is determined based on the type of business, business experience of the applicants, and revision of the client business data such as sales and cost volume. The bank also studies the client’s credit bureau with consideration to the number of business funds taken in the past.

- Repayment period varies from 6 to maximum 36 months
- This program reached nearly 400 customers during the last four years

Our Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):

NGOs are playing a very vital role in developing and supporting the needy families community. Family Bank was keen to involve the NGOs in such developments by creating a program to finance the clients of NGOs. The finance amount in this program reaches to BD 100,000 under agreed financing conditions between the bank and NGO.

Our Growth graph

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Many Micro Finance Institutions focus solely on providing financial services, others often labeled ‘credit-plus’ just like Family Bank who do provide additional services such as training and counseling to borrowers as well because they believe that needy people face more than just financial constraints. The addition of training components has been justified as a means of guaranteeing effective use of credit and improvements in productivity and income for entrepreneurs, as well as being necessary to overcome a variety of non-financial barriers that they may encounter.

Therefore, Family Bank are concerned with encouraging entrepreneurs to diversify into new business opportunities.

As Family Bank, we embark on a journey together with our clients to see that they don’t only access finance, but they access knowledge and expertise needed to propel them to higher heights in their business endeavors.
NON-FINANCIAL SERVICES

The Non-Financial Services program is the backbone in supporting Family Bank customers through a vital window of opportunities for local & international marketing, training, counseling, workshops, exhibitions and projects or any other customized service that will boost the business of an individual in the Micro & SME sectors.

Training
To empower clients by improving their entrepreneurial and technical skills through courses and programs.

Counseling
To empower clients’ businesses by providing counseling and advisory services in-house and also by external experts.

Customized Projects
Tailoring projects which aim to enhance business opportunities & develop individual’s living standards by proposing projects to organizations that support business startups.

Marketing
To increase the sales of customers’ products by facilitating advertising services and providing access to selling outlets.

Family Bank found a need for establishing a unit which could act as a think tank for potential customers; any underprivileged Bahraini individual with business instinct but without a clear vision of any business idea. This unit would provide the above individuals with business solutions that cater to their level of interest, education, and need, helping them excel through consultation, providing them with business and marketing plans, and training them with basic business skills.
IDEA FACTORY

Vision
Strengthen the capacity of clients to start and succeed in their businesses.

The Idea Factory proposes to do this by providing access to ideas, skills training and facilitating business planning, hosting entrepreneurial and vocational training workshops to enhance skills, talents, and competencies.

Mission
Generate ideas and facilitate training; liaise between professional networks and effectively market on behalf of Family Bank’s clients.

Objectives
Idea Factory will play the part of helping create businesses and marketing the underprivileged people of our society as part of achieving the goals outlined by Non-Financial Services program of Family Bank:

• Provide access & support for micro-enterprise individuals to earn stable income
• Nurture & expand the potential of needy families
• Empowering business activities to be locally promoted to generate income & Financial independence
• Development seeks to alleviate poverty, increase productive capacity, and promote the creative culture of Bahraini traditional products, services & handicrafts.

Target Beneficiaries
To start their own micro businesses and create a sustainable income while getting the training, financing, business and marketing plan and counseling from Family Bank.

The project will chiefly benefit, support and encourage the following:

• Skilled people that lack business skills
• Unemployed who lack a business idea
• Youth with enthusiasm to start a business
• Women who need sustainable income
Access to affordable financial services enables the needy to seize livelihood opportunities, manage cash flow spikes, and mitigate risks. Microfinance is the supply of loans, savings, insurance and other basic financial services to low-income households and microenterprises, often in emerging economies, where people do not normally have access to normal bank loans. Most microfinance credit is provided without collateral and loans are small.

Since no collateral is collected from beneficiaries, microfinance programs are sustained by joint liability. Peer groups of less than a dozen clients guarantee each other’s debits and a default by one could result in the entire group ensuring each other. Repayment rates exceed 95 percent.

Microfinance and microcredit are in fact quite distinct. Microfinance is a much broader concept than microcredit and refers to financing, savings, insurance, money transfers, and other financial products targeted at needy and low-income people.

Microfinance serves as a powerful poverty-alleviation tool, increasing income, protecting against risk and empowering women.

Microcredit refers more specifically to making small financing available to needy people, especially those traditionally excluded from financial services, through programs designed specifically to meet their particular needs and circumstances.
Nothing is as beautiful as transforming the dreams of those independent individuals to be financially independent into a reality that will raise the standard of their lives and their families. Today their success stories and achievements are acknowledged with pride.

We support those individuals and families to achieve their dreams and to enhance their lives, through encouraging their work and establishing their successful small businesses. Family Bank explores the way forward with those who have talent and will, but lack the financial opportunity, skills and expertise.

We take this opportunity to thank all the individuals and institutes who collaborated and supported Family Bank’s mission to achieve its goals in supporting individuals and institutions through microfinance and in turn, highlighting the skills of the Bahraini Society.
Abdullah who incorporated Bahrain’s heritage in his productions, an artistic hobby turned to a professional business for almost 32 years.

His designs are a mixture of fabrics, shields, traditional wooden boxes and house-ware and these products are considered unique and distinctive as they are creatively employed in designs that represent Bahraini heritage in the field of carpentry in the Gulf region.

Nagham is a young Bahraini woman with a great ambition and diligence to expand her own business.

She has an experience that spans over 7 years in manufacturing silver jewelry from her own house. She was able to market her products and pieces in diversified galleries and malls such as Capital Mall for productive families and the like. Trained by silver and jewelry specialists, Nagham enhanced her production line and abilities and infused the latest fashion trends in her pieces. Nagham availed for Family Bank financing which provided her with the necessary funds that helped her business expansion plans and increased her productivity.
Naima a young Bahraini who had a flair for interior design was able to develop her talent during her university studies and has specialized within this scope.

After graduation she established a business for organizing events for different kinds of occasions and started producing her own line of giveaways and gift items. As a newly graduated student, she did not have sufficient capital to start-up her career; however she insisted on expanding gradually and used the social networking channels for marketing and promoting her items. Today she stands to be one of Family Bank clients who benefited from simplified processes and procedures, distinct from the rest of the banks, in terms of simple profit rates with no guarantees.

Jameel is a skilled Bahraini artist who developed his talent and carpentry hobby into a business where he started mixing materials and woodworking tools to produce handmade items and paintings that have an artistic impact and secured a market share in exhibitions.

His modern approach fused with traditional heritage enabled him to achieve success in local and international markets and thus his achievement helped him support his family and enhance his living standards.
Nada started from home with a business project combining educational and craft programs targeted towards children through artistic techniques. With time, she was able to expand her activities through mobile services in collaboration with entertaining stores in local malls.

Her services included sand, pottery and henna painting in addition to activities and contests customized for children in events with nominal prices.

Ahmed an ambitious Bahraini, faced many difficulties with other banks to obtain finance for his home-based business specializing in women’s accessories and children games. Family Bank welcomed Ahmed’s request with a set of unique services and minimal requirements; Ahmed was funded with BD 1500.

Despite his humble and simple beginning, he was able to expand his business project through his participations in exhibitions and workshops offered by the bank as part of the non-financial services program. Supported with an additional fund, Ahmed turning point commenced where he opened his first shop in Muharraq area “Final Touch Accessories” and because of his hard work and diligent efforts he managed to open another shop for massage equipments “Rest Time” in Isa Town Mall and he seeks to expand in malls.

Ahmed appreciates the facilities and services of Family Bank which supported his success and transformed his home-business into diverse multiple stores in Bahrain.
Husain began his career in the tourism field for 6 years and was able to successfully transform an idea to a business.

He started designing modern piece of art used in decoration, such as creative painting of Bahraini wood which he used in his products. Husain aims to own a gallery where he can sell his heritage and modern art work in both, the local and international markets.
In December 2013, Family Bank won the award of “Mohammed Bin Rashid Award for Young Business Leaders” at UAE in the category of “Best supporting Banks UAE and Arab world” where it represented Kingdom of Bahrain’s initiative to support SMEs. The awards ceremony was held at the Dubai World Trade Centre under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

Family Bank won this award for the leading role played by the bank in enhancing the concepts of social and micro development sector in the Kingdom by targeting low-income families, women, disabled people, youth and unemployed people.

A delegation from the Kingdom of Bahrain headed by the Minister of Social Development, Dr. Fatima Al-Balooshi and the Board Chairperson of Family Bank, attended the opening ceremony of the Global Social Business Summit in the city of Kuala Lumpur among 550 people from various countries around the world.

Dr. Fatima was invited to participate in one of the opening sessions in the international event to demonstrate the leading role played by the Kingdom of Bahrain in establishing the concepts of social economy and partnership in the development that was vividly embraced by the Social Business Week launched by Family Bank for the second year in a row.

Bahrain’s delegation consisted of representatives from the Ministry of Social Development, Family Bank, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tamkeen and Bahrain Development Bank.
Family Bank organized Social Business Week 2, in October 2013, in collaboration with “Grameen” creative lab. The strategic partners of this event were Ministry of Social Development, the Economic Development Board of Bahrain, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tamkeen, Bahrain Development Bank, Bahrain Polytechnic and University of Bahrain.

The week incorporated a series of lectures and specialized workshops that shed light on establishing awareness on social business, where the main objective focused on meeting social needs rather than seeking opportunities to maximize profits.

The Social Business offers products and services at competitive prices, and provides opportunities for low-income earners to be involved in commercial businesses and its success.

Social Business Week 2 targeted civil societies, students and young leaders, private and public sectors, all under one umbrella, to explore opportunities and exchange ideas and experiences on best practices and to further develop the social businesses to be established in the Kingdom of Bahrain.