

TAREK EL KADY

Entrepreneur | Angel Investor | Ecosystem Builder

20+ years entrepreneurship and platform building	Since 2015 Techne innovation platform	45,000+ attendees across Techne editions	400+ speakers across editions	1,000 startups connected through Techne
300 investors engaged through Techne	70+ countries represented across Techne editions	16+ cities reached through Techne Drifts	Up to ~6x MOIC across portfolio companies	2022-present KAUST TAQADAM judging

Executive Profile

Tarek El Kady is an entrepreneur, angel investor and ecosystem builder from Alexandria, Egypt, currently based in Riyadh. Over more than two decades, he has built companies, investment networks and innovation platforms across the Middle East, Africa, the GCC and the Mediterranean.

He is the CEO of KD Group, a portfolio spanning marketing, events, innovation and investment-related platforms, and Managing Director of EZEXPO, a corporate events and experience design company operating across the GCC. Through EZEXPO, Tarek works with corporate and government organizations on large-scale conferences, exhibitions and strategic engagements where execution quality, reliability and scale are critical.

Tarek is also the Founder and Chairman of Techne, an innovation platform launched in 2015 to connect entrepreneurs with capital, markets, corporations, knowledge and international networks. Across its editions in Egypt and Europe, Techne has attracted 45,000+ attendees, 400+ speakers, 1,000 startups and 300 investors from more than 70 countries.

A core part of his work has been expanding access to entrepreneurship beyond traditional capital cities. In 2017, he launched Techne Drifts, a nationwide roadshow that later expanded to more than 16 cities, training local ambassadors and strengthening startup communities outside the usual centers of activity.

Alongside his operating work, Tarek is the Founder and Chairman of Alex Angels and Founder and Chairman of Investors of the Mediterranean, platforms designed to mobilize early-stage capital, syndicate cross-border opportunities and connect angel investors, venture capital firms, family offices and ecosystem leaders. Through these activities, he has contributed to portfolio growth reaching up to approximately 6x MOIC across multiple companies.

His public profile extends across international speaking, moderation, judging and media. He has spoken at World Advanced Manufacturing Saudi, Middle East Energy's Global Innovation Forum, EMERGING Valley, GITEX Africa and Startups Without Borders; evaluated startups through KAUST's TAQADAM accelerator, Biban's Entrepreneurship World Cup, INVESTMED and 0107 Invest; and moderated high-level conversations with figures including H.E. Ahmed Kouchouk, Dr. Mohamed Farid and David S. Rose.

Business & Entrepreneurial Leadership

- **CEO, KD Group:** leads a portfolio spanning marketing, events, innovation and investment-related platforms serving clients and partners across MENA, the GCC and the Mediterranean.
- **Managing Director, EZEXPO:** leads corporate events and experience design across the GCC, focused on high-stakes conferences, exhibitions and strategic engagements for corporate and government clients.
- **Founder and Chairman, Techne:** built a regional innovation platform connecting startups, investors, corporates, public institutions, experts and markets since 2015.
- **Earlier ventures:** founded and scaled WebArchitect and Markade, building the digital, marketing, branding and events foundation that later evolved into larger platform and ecosystem work.

Investment & Ecosystem Leadership

- **Founder and Chairman, Alex Angels:** established Alexandria's angel investment network to support early-stage companies and mobilize local and regional private capital.
- **Founder and Chairman, Investors of the Mediterranean:** created a cross-border investment platform linking angel networks, venture capital firms, family offices, venture builders and ecosystem players across Europe, Africa and the Middle East.
- **Portfolio and capital-building work:** contributed to startup portfolio growth with performance reaching up to approximately 6x MOIC across multiple companies.
- **Ecosystem access:** built programs that connect smaller cities, emerging founders and cross-border investors with practical market access, capital access and institutional networks.

Board & Institutional Roles

Organization	Role	Geography	Relevance
Africa Business Angel Network, ABAN	Board Member, 2022-2024	Africa	Supported development of angel investing across African markets.
World Business Angels Investment Forum, WBAF	Senator / Egypt representative, Global Startup Committee	Global	International angel-investment policy and ecosystem engagement.
Global Shapers Community	Founding Curator, Alexandria Hub	Egypt / Global	World Economic Forum initiative for emerging leaders and local impact.
Forsan American School	Board Member	Alexandria, Egypt	Education-sector board role in Alexandria.
MIT Legatum Center / Kuo Sharper Center	Ecosystem host / participant	Egypt / USA	Engaged with the Foundry Fellowship Egypt ecosystem tour and African entrepreneurship cohort.

Selected International Speaking Engagements

Year	Engagement	Country	Role / Topic
2026	World Advanced Manufacturing Saudi	Saudi Arabia	Speaker / fireside chat: Strategic Leadership in Industrial Growth: Turning Opportunity into Execution.
2025	Middle East Energy - Global Innovation Forum	UAE	Panelist: Venture capital and corporate investment in the energy sector.
2025	EMERGING Valley	France	Speaker on African AI, emerging-market innovation and investment.
2024	Startups Without Borders Summit	Egypt	Speaker: Unlocking Africa's Next Big Thing / regional entrepreneurship and investment.
2024	CREACT4MED Final Conference	Mediterranean / EU	Speaker on access to finance for creative ventures in the Southern Mediterranean.
2023	GITEX Africa	Morocco	Panelist: Angel Investors Perspective: Pan-Africa and Diaspora.

Selected Moderating Engagements

Year	Engagement	Country	Moderated Discussion
2025	Techne Summit / Egypt Innovation Week	Egypt	Moderator, dialogue with H.E. Ahmed Kouchouk, Minister of Finance, on entrepreneurship, private investment, tax facilitation and the business environment.
2025	Techne Summit / Egypt Innovation Week	Egypt	Moderator, From Startup to Stock Exchange / Stock Market, with Dr. Mohamed Farid, Chairman of the Financial Regulatory Authority.
2022	Techne Summit with David S. Rose	Egypt	Moderator, Fueling Today's Ecosystem: A World Class Catalyst for Startups, with the Founder of New York Angels.
2022	Hellenic International Business Angels Summit	Greece	Moderator, Tips for Mastering Deal Closing and Syndication within Business Angel Networks.

Judging & Investor Evaluation

Year	Engagement	Country	Role
2022-present	KAUST TAQADAM Startup Accelerator	Saudi Arabia	Recurring judge / startup evaluator. Public evidence confirms KAUST-linked TAQADAM judging and recurring participation; annual history since 2022 is user-confirmed.
2025	Entrepreneurship World Cup Global Finals at Biban Forum	Saudi Arabia	Judge / startup evaluator for global startup finalists. The EWC Global Finals brought 100 startups from 46 countries to Riyadh.
2025	EMERGING Valley	France	Investor evaluation / startup selection, representing Mediterranean investment networks.
2025	0107 Invest	Egypt	Investor selection role for Alexandria, representing Alex Angels in a nationwide governorate-based initiative.
2023	INVESTMED Summer School, LUMSA University	Italy	Jury member / investor evaluator for the INVESTMED pitch competition in Rome.

Awards, Recognition & Institutional Engagement

Year	Institution / Platform	Country	Recognition / Engagement
2019	AUC Venture Lab Award	Egypt	Recognized by the American University in Cairo Venture Lab for outstanding contribution and support to the entrepreneurial ecosystem.
2023	MIT Legatum Center Foundry Fellowship Egypt Ecosystem Tour	Egypt / USA	Selected Egyptian ecosystem leader and host / participant engaging African entrepreneurs and ecosystem leaders during the Egypt tour.
2025	Entrepreneurship World Cup at Biban Forum	Saudi Arabia	Institutional judging engagement with one of the largest global startup competitions.

Media Interviews & Podcasts

Year	Platform	Format	Focus
2025	CNN Business Arabic	Featured interview	Startup growth, access to finance, corporate innovation and Techne's role in helping startups scale.
2025	CNN Business Arabic - Egypt Innovation Week	Featured interview	Egypt Innovation Week, participating startup stages, funding needs and international market access.
2025	CEO Level Podcast by Al Mal	Long-form podcast	Entrepreneurial journey, Techne, Alex Angels, angel investing, startup performance and investment returns.
2025	StartupScene	Interview / feature	Techne, Mediterranean ecosystem building and entrepreneurship beyond traditional capital cities.
2021	Startup Guide	Profile interview	Alexandria's startup ecosystem, Techne's origins and how ecosystem events create meaningful matchmaking.

Education

Bachelor's degree in Architectural Engineering, Alexandria University.

Tarek's architectural training informs a career that has moved from designing businesses and experiences to designing platforms, ecosystems and investment infrastructure across markets.

Profile & Media Links

Profile / Platform	Link / Relevance
LinkedIn	Primary professional profile.
Techne	Innovation platform and summit profile.
Alex Angels	Angel investment network founded in Alexandria.
Mediterranean Investors	Cross-border investment platform spanning Europe, Africa and the Middle East.
CNN Business Arabic	Featured business-media interview.
CEO Level Podcast	Podcast platform page for CEO Level by Al Mal.
Facebook	Public social profile.
X / Twitter	Public social profile.

Credential Source Links

Category	Credential	Linked Source
Business	Techne platform and current summit presence	Techne official site
Business	Alex Angels founder / chairman profile	Alex Angels official site
Business	Mediterranean Investors / MED Angels platform	Mediterranean Investors official site
Institutional	ABAN board service, 2022-2024	Africa Business Angel Network
Institutional	WBAF Senator / Egypt representative profile	WBAF speaker profile
Institutional	MIT Legatum Center ecosystem engagement	MIT Sloan / Kuo Sharper Center report
Award	AUC Venture Lab Award, 2019	AUC School of Business announcement
Speaking	World Advanced Manufacturing Saudi	WAM Saudi official site
Speaking	Middle East Energy - Global Innovation Forum	Middle East Energy conference agenda
Speaking	EMERGING Valley	EMERGING Valley speaker announcement
Speaking	Startups Without Borders Summit	Startups Without Borders agenda
Speaking	CREACT4MED Final Conference	Union for the Mediterranean event page
Speaking	GITEX Africa panel	GITEX Africa agenda
Moderating	Dialogue with H.E. Ahmed Kouchouk	Techne speaker / summit page
Moderating	Dialogue with Dr. Mohamed Farid	Financial Regulatory Authority news
Moderating	David S. Rose session	Universities of Canada in Egypt recap
Moderating	Hellenic International Business Angels Summit	Hellenic IBAS agenda
Judging	Entrepreneurship World Cup Global Finals at Biban Forum	Judging panel public post
Judging	Entrepreneurship World Cup / Biban context	EWC Global Finals announcement
Judging	KAUST TAQADAM recurring judging role	Tarek El Kady TAQADAM judge post
Judging	TAQADAM accelerator powered by KAUST and SABB	KAUST TAQADAM official page
Judging	INVESTMED Summer School jury / pitch competition	INVESTMED closing report
Judging	0107 Invest Alexandria investor role	0107 Invest official site
Media	CNN Business Arabic interview	CNN Business Arabic feature
Media	CNN Business Arabic - Egypt Innovation Week	CNN Business Arabic interview
Media	CEO Level Podcast by Al Mal	CEO Level video interview
Media	StartupScene profile / interview	StartupScene feature
Media	Startup Guide profile	Startup Guide interview