Hossam Elgamal
CEO – IKEN, Chair – ARISE Egypt

Startups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Egypt are making significant contributions to providing accessible digital products and services that are addressing critical societal needs, particularly for individuals with disabilities.

These innovative companies are leveraging technology to break down barriers and promote inclusion in essential sectors like healthcare, emergency telecommunications, and transportation.



In Healthcare

In the healthcare sector, Egyptian startups are developing mobile health applications and telemedicine platforms that provide remote medical consultations, health education, and disease management tools to patients with disabilities, regardless of their location. These solutions are particularly valuable in regions with limited access to traditional healthcare infrastructure, enabling individuals with disabilities to receive timely & appropriate care.



Examples worth noting for Digital Inclusion for People with Disabilities in Healthcare:

Shezlong: A mobile application that provides on-demand physiotherapy services to people with disabilities, connecting them with qualified physiotherapists for virtual consultations and personalized exercise plans.

Doctoora: An online platform that connects patients with disabilities with qualified doctors for online consultations, offering a range of specialties, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy.

Esmany: Wearable IOT solutions for deaf-blind people to communicate like normal one. Its main objective is to bridge the communication gap by translating Arabic sign language into written Arabic sentences. The system captures sign language gestures and converts them into meaningful Arabic text, displaying them on a screen

In Emergency Telecommunications

During emergencies, access to reliable telecommunications is crucial for coordinating relief efforts and ensuring the safety of affected populations, including individuals with disabilities.

SMEs are developing innovative communication solutions tailored to the needs of people with disabilities, ensuring they can stay informed and connected during times of crisis.



Examples worth noting for Digital Inclusion for People with Disabilities in Emergency telecom:

TapTapSee: A mobile camera application designed specifically for blind and visually impaired users, powered by the CloudSight Image Recognition API. TapTapSee utilizes your device's camera and VoiceOver functions to take a picture or video of anything and identify it out loud for you. (available with data use for free in Egypt per the order of NTRA)

Be My Eyes: a mobile camera application that connects people needing sighted support with volunteers and companies through live video around the world..

Wasel: A mobile application that enables people with hearing impairment and communication difficulties to access several services, including ambulance, police emergency, firefighting, and electricity emergency, via free video calls.

In Transportation

Startups are revolutionizing the transportation sector by developing accessible and affordable mobility solutions for people with disabilities and those in underserved communities.

For example, companies are designing accessible ride-hailing platforms, wheelchair-friendly public transportation options, and innovative mobility aids that improve the lives of people with limited mobility.







Examples worth noting for Digital Inclusion for People with Disabilities in Transportation:

London Cab Egypt: It has a website and a mobile app and a 24/7 call center ready to accept reservations with a large fleet of vehicles with wheelchair accessibility.

Braingizer: it is a startup that produces Brain-Controlled wheelchairs. Designed to help disabled to control their wheelchair freely just by their thoughts.

Rahty: it provides Accessible ride-hailing platforms that connect individuals with disabilities with trained and equipped drivers, ensuring safe and reliable transportation options.

"As technology and access to internet continue to evolve in the Arab Region, Innovative Startups and SMEs are at the forefront of developing digital solutions that empower individuals with disabilities to live more independent and fulfilling lives with resilience."

THANK YOU