

Top News



A huge win for the IT and Telecom sector! We had the privilege to host key individuals from the public and private sector here at the NIC. The grand event was marked with insightful discussions and keynotes from industry leaders and changemakers all welcoming and celebrating the introduction of Right of Way (ROW) Policy. Great to see [Ministry of IT & Telecom](#), Telcos and Internet Service Providers coming together and working to build a digitally enabled Pakistan.

We were joined by the telecom sector powerhouse including [Amir Ibrahim](#) - CEO [Jazz](#), [Irfan Wahab](#) - CEO [Telenor](#), [Wahaj Siraj](#) - CEO [Nayatel](#), [Nadeem Khan](#) - CFO and Acting CEO [PTCL](#) and [Jeanette Whyte](#) - Head of Public Policy APAC, [GSMA](#). In addition, we had [Syed Amin ul Haque](#) - the Honorable Minister for IT & Telecom, Shoaib Ahmad Siddiqui, Federal Secretary (IT & Telecommunications) and Major General (R) Amir Azeem Bajwa HI (M) - Chairman, [Pakistan Telecommunication Authority](#) all sharing their insights about the Right of Way (ROW) policy.



National Investor Summit 4.0

Our 4th edition of the NIS was marked by investors joining in from across the globe and interacting with young passionate founders geared up to create a strong impact with their ideas and solutions. The startups pitched their ideas for a collective investment opportunity of US\$9.5million. 67% of the startups were able to lock-office hours with at least one investor and a total of 465 minutes of office hours were committed and held on the second day of the summit.

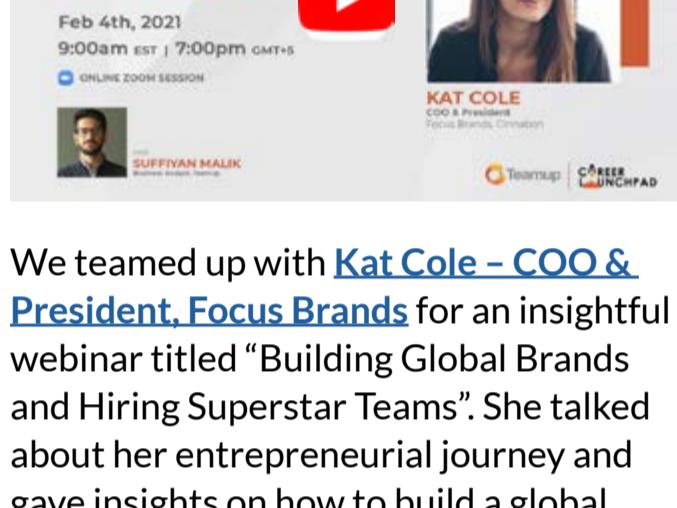
The purpose of the National Investor Summit is to connect startup founders with investors, giving them the opportunity to Scale Up.



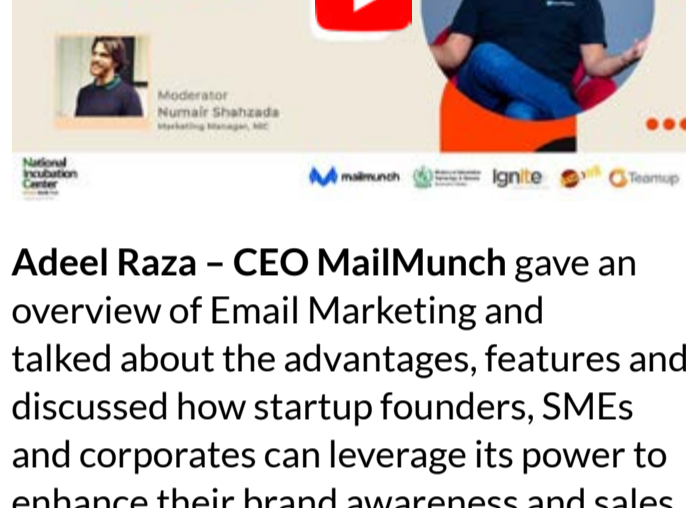
Entrepreneur Growth and Fundraising for Women

The NIC teamed up with [Invest2Innovate](#), [World Bank](#) and [Village Capital](#) to host a 5-day Bootcamp, exclusively for women entrepreneurs. The women founders went through insightful and activity-based sessions to build, grow, and scale their businesses. The participants gained access to the world content designed by Invest2Innovate and VillageCapital, as a part of the World Bank Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) program in Pakistan.

Webinars



We teamed up with [Kat Cole - COO & President, Focus Brands](#) for an insightful webinar titled "Building Global Brands and Hiring Superstar Teams". She talked about her entrepreneurial journey and gave insights on how to build a global brand. [Watch here](#)



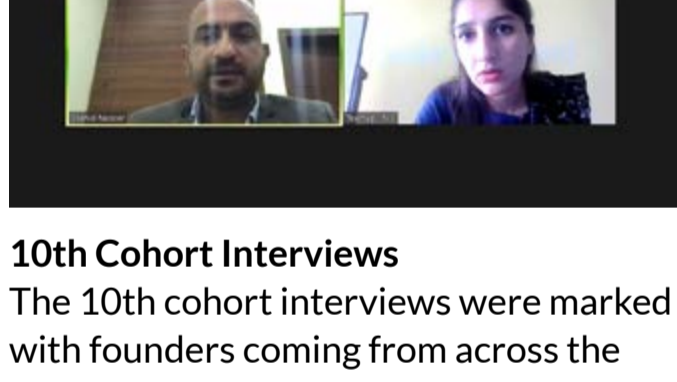
[Adeel Raza - CEO MailMunch](#) gave an overview of Email Marketing and talked about the advantages, features and discussed how startup founders, SMEs and corporates can leverage its power to enhance their brand awareness and sales volume. [Watch here](#)

Welcome @ NIC

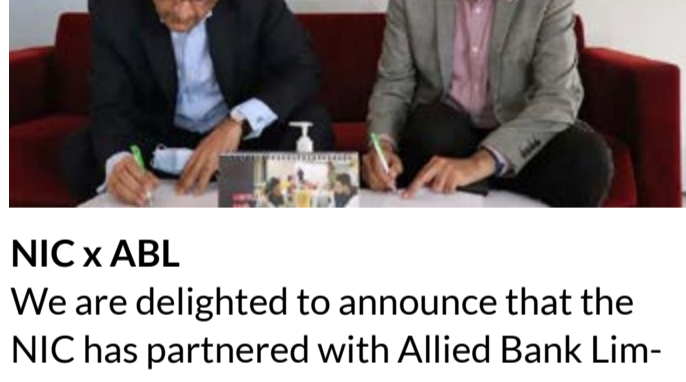


[Muhammad Saleem Ahmad Ranjha](#) has joined the NIC as an advisor. With 36 years of governmental and 20 years of NGO sector experience and Masters in Public Administration, Mr. Ranjha is a Pakistani philanthropist who is upscaling Agriculture, Education, Entrepreneurship, Environment, Governance, Trade & investment with ICT4D.

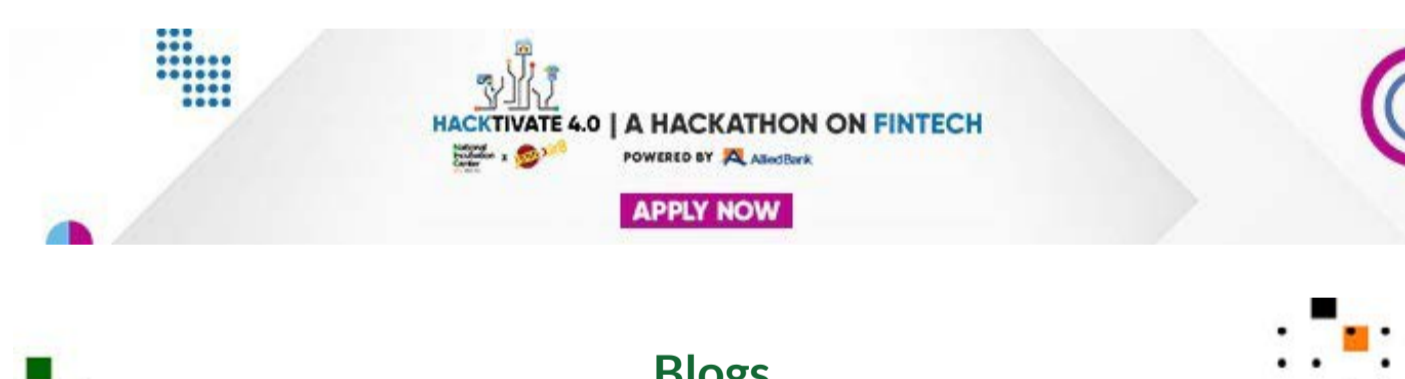
Saleem Ranjha has served organizations such as Prime Minister's Office, Pakistan Customs, the Ministry of Commerce, BOI, FBR, BISP & Civil Services Academy. He has worked closely with Ignite to train and provide finances to one million freelancers in Pakistan by helping develop collaborations between [Digiskills](#) and [Akhawat](#), of which is a founding director.



10th Cohort Interviews
The 10th cohort interviews were marked with founders coming from across the globe presenting their business solutions to our team, partners and mentors. From a total of 833 applications, 49 were shortlisted to pitch their ideas in our 2-day interview process.



NIC x ABL
We are delighted to announce that the NIC has partnered with Allie Bank Limited to work together and explore opportunities in the fintech space including conducting a fintech hackathon titled "Hacktivate 4.0", which will be held on the 10th and 11th of April 2021.



Blogs



HR Challenges for Startup Founders
Human resource is the biggest asset of an organization, no matter how big or small. Having human resource to complement each other's skills paves way for companies to succeed. As a startup founder, you might be lacking in either business... [Read here](#)

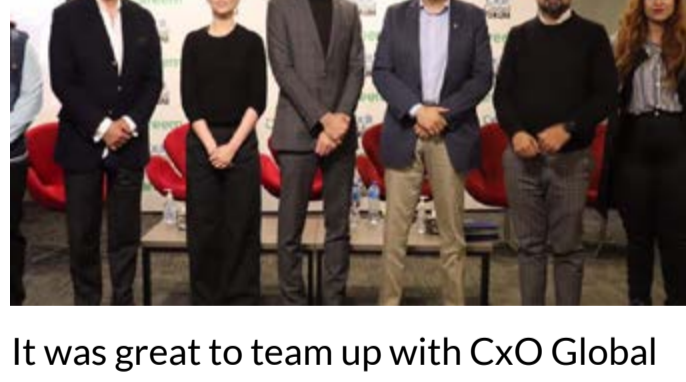


#HumansOfNIC
I come from a middle-class family. As a child, I was a bright and always took everything as a challenge. When I was in Government College University Lahore, I joined the debating society which evolved into a passion. I was quite active in extra-curricular... [Read here](#)

Community Outreach



As part of our community-building initiatives [Numair Shahzada](#) - Marketing Manager, [NIC](#) and [Ahad Wazir](#) - Former Head of Investments & Partnerships, NIC were invited as guest judges to listen to Afghani Startups pitching at the "2nd Youth Entrepreneurs Conference" arranged by CRSS and to provide entrepreneurship support. [Read here](#)



It was great to team up with CxO Global Forum to host the CXO Meetup Islamabad, here at the NIC. The star-studded panel included [Amer Hashmi](#) - Chairman [Special Technology Zones Authority - STZA](#), [Zouhair Khaliq](#) - Co-Founder [Teamup](#), [Purush Chaudhry](#) - President [Aga-hi](#) and [Wahaj Siraj](#) - CEO [Nayatel](#). [Read here](#)

Community Outreach



Congratulations to our 4th Cohort Alumnus [Radical Growth Solutions](#) for raising pre-seed funding from BRINC MENA. [Radical Growth Solutions](#) is an Agri-Innovation startup, that makes easy-to-use hardware, software, and mobile apps for digital agriculture. [Read here](#)



Our 3rd Cohort Alumni [Syed Ommer Amer](#) - Founder [Daastan](#), has been short-listed for the Commonwealth Youth Awards 2021. The awards recognize outstanding Commonwealth young people helping in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [Read here](#)

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National Incubation Center

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