

# 28th World Investment Conference

## Event Program

25-27 November 2024  
Fairmont Hotel, Riyadh

As of 12:20, 25<sup>th</sup> Nov



# 28<sup>th</sup> World Investment Conference (WIC)

## DAY 1 – 25 November 2024



Conference Track | Masterclass Track | Governance Track | **Ministerial** | Side Events

Key Themes: Digital Transformation | Sustainability | Economic Cooperation

Timings	Marasem Hall	Mecca Hall	Taif Hall	Dammam Hall	Ministerial Roundtable Venue
08:30 – 09:30				WAIPA Steering Committee (by invitation)	
10:00 – 10:20	Opening Ceremony				
10:20 – 11:00	Defying Gravity				
11:00 – 11:30	Impact Maximization				
11:30 – 12:00	Global Market Navigator: Leadership in Trade and Investment	Saudi-Tajikistan Business Council Inauguration		Saudi-Tunisia Roundtable	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break				
13:00 – 13:30	The Investor Arena	The Future of Private Sector Participation in the Kingdom's Education	UNFCCC GIH Panel - Investing in Climate Action: Catalyzing Transformative Innovations for a Resilient Future		Ministerial Roundtable: Paradigm Shift - Synergizing Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion Strategy (by invitation)
13:30 – 14:00	So Many Economies, So Many Opportunities!				
14:00 – 15:00	Unicorn Hunting in the Web3 Era				
14:00 – 15:00	Coffee Break & Networking				
15:00 – 15:30	The Market Access Forum	This is What Good Looks Like		Impact Insights	
15:30 – 16:15	The Road to Success is Always under Construction	Industry Insights Interchange		Investor Services 2.0	Ambassadors Talk Business (by invitation)
16:15 – 16:45	From FDI to PDI				Pakistan Energy Roadshow
19:00 – 21:00	WAIPA Excellence Awards Ceremony & WIC 28 Cultural Dinner Hosted by Diriyah (by invitation)				

10:00 – 17:00 VIP Matchmaking Zone @ Che Figata Restaurant: "Step into exclusive business opportunities"

08:30 - 09:30 (60 mins) | **WAIPA Steering Committee (Steering Committee Members Only)**

**Governance** | Dammam Hall

The Steering Committee is the executive organ of the General Assembly and meets according to WAIPA Statutes Chapter V, Art. XVIII

10:00 - 10:20 (20 mins) | **Opening Ceremony**

**Conference** | Marasem Hall

### Speakers

H.E. Khalid A. Al-Falih, Minister of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
 Nivruti Rai, Managing Director and CEO, Invest India, and President, WAIPA  
 Dr. James Zhan, Chair, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA  
 Ismail Ersahin, Executive Director and CEO, WAIPA

10:20 - 11:00 (40 mins) | **"Defying Gravity": The Increasing and Changing Role of Emerging Economies in the Global Economy and Investment Ecosystems**

**Conference** | Marasem Hall

This session will examine how emerging economies and a multipolar world are reshaping global investment, trade agreements, and sustainable PPPs. It will cover the impact of economic corridors like the New Silk Road on connectivity, highlighting successful initiatives and future pathways for cooperation.

### Speakers

H.E. Faisal Fadhil Alibrahim, Minister of Economy and Planning, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
 H.E. Eng. Hassan El-Khatib, Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade, Arab Republic of Egypt  
 H.E. Samir Abdelhafidh, Minister of Economy and Planning, Republic of Tunisia  
 H.E. Kostas Fragkogiannis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Diplomacy & Openness, Hellenic Republic  
 H.E. Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser, Chairman, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group

### Moderator

John Defterios, Visiting Professor of Business, NYU Abu Dhabi

11:00 - 11:30 | "Impact Maximization": Leveraging Trade and Investment for Growth and Development"  
(30 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will highlight the key features of the future international trade and investment policies. It will delve into leveraging trade and investment to achieve economic transformation and discuss the role of trade policies, investment incentives, and regulatory reforms in advancing policy objectives and economic priorities such as economic diversification and driving private sector growth.

#### Speakers

H.E. Ibrahim Almubarak, Assistant Minister of Investment and CEO, Saudi Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA)  
Prof. Lars-Hendrik Röller, Chairman, Berlin Global Dialogue and Professor of Economics, ESMT  
Dr. James Zhan, Chair, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA

#### Moderator

Ali Aslan, International TV Presenter and Journalist

11:00 - 12:00 | Saudi-Tunisia Roundtable  
(60 mins)

Side event

Dammam Hall



This roundtable focuses on enhancing economic cooperation and exploring partnership opportunities between Saudi and Tunisian representatives.

11:30 - 12:00 | Global Market Navigator: Leadership in Trade and Investment  
(30 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will explore how trade partnerships, market insights, and international agreements attract investment, focusing on tax incentives, streamlined regulations, and cross-border collaboration to drive entrepreneurship and sustainable growth.

#### Speakers

Rt. Hon Alderman Alastair King DL, Lord Mayor of London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
Nan Li Collins, Senior Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and Chair, UN Sustainable Stock Exchange Initiative

#### Moderator

Stephen Anderson, Partner & Middle East Strategy Leader, PwC Middle East

11:30 - 12:00 | Saudi-Tajikistan Business Council Inauguration (by invitation)  
(30 mins)

Side event

Mecca Hall



The formal launch of the Saudi-Tajikistan Business Council, aiming to strengthen economic ties and promote investment opportunities between Saudi and Tajikistan.

13:00 - 13:30 | The Future of Private Sector Participation in the Kingdom's Education  
(30 mins)

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session will explore the evolving landscape of private sector involvement in the Kingdom's education system, emphasizing its potential to enhance educational quality, accessibility, and innovation.

#### Speakers

Eng. Iyad Algarawi, Assistant Minister of Private Education & Investment, Ministry of Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Dr. Abdullah Aldubaikhi, Assistant Minister for Investment development, Ministry of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

#### Moderator

Priya Munro, Senior Director, Office of the Executive Chairman, APCO

**13:00 - 14:00** | **UNFCCC GIH Panel: “Investing in Climate Action: Catalyzing Transformative Innovations for a Resilient Future”**  
(60 mins)

Side events

Taif Hall



This session will explore transformative climate innovations essential for a low-emission future and the crucial role of private capital in bridging a \$27 trillion finance gap by 2030. Discussions will focus on scaling sustainable solutions across sectors and fostering investment ecosystems to accelerate decarbonization and economic growth.

**13:00 – 13:45** | **“The Investor Arena”: The Latest Responses to Enhance Competitiveness – An IPA Performance Pulse Check from an Investor Point of View: Commonalities, Best Practices, Lessons Learned**  
(45 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will assess Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) from an investor’s perspective, focusing on strategies, engagement, and success metrics aligned with SDG 8. It will discuss the need for International Investment Agreements, effective arbitration, and unified investor records to promote fair and sustainable investment.

### Speakers

Eng. Ahmed M. Al Sharqi, Deputy Minister of Labor Affairs, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Githa Roelans, Head, Multinational Enterprises and Responsible Business Conduct Unit, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Dr. Stefan Kratzsch, Head, Sustainable Investments and Responsible Business Unit, UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Ivan Anton Nimac, Global Lead, Investment Policy and Promotion, Prosperity Vice Presidency, The World Bank

### Moderator

Michael Li, Advisor to the Minister of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**13:45 - 14:00** | **“So Many Economies, So Many Opportunities!”: A Global, Cross Sectoral Opportunity and Challenge, How to Leverage Funds for Climate, Blue, Green, Space, Low Altitude, Circular and Other Economies**  
(15 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will spotlight high-potential investment sectors and the policy enablers that support them. It will address cross-sector collaboration, innovative PPP models, and the challenges of leveraging funds for strategic growth.

### Speakers

Dr. Hashim Hussein, Head, Investment and Technology Promotion Office in the Kingdom of Bahrain (ITPO Bahrain), UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Dr. Nadir Mohammad, Regional Director, Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions (EFI), MENA Region, The World Bank

**14:00 - 14:15** | **Unicorn Hunting in the Web3 Era: Transforming Investment and Innovation**  
(15 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will explore how the Web3 economy is revolutionizing the creation and funding of billion-dollar startups. It will explore strategies behind building a “Unicorn Factory” in the digital age, leveraging global crowd financing, tokenized equity, and democratized access to investment opportunities. This session will inspire investors and innovators to reimagine how they identify, fund, and scale the next generation of market disruptors.

### Speakers

Silvina Moschino, Founder & CEO of Unicorns

**13:00 - 15:00** | **Ministerial Roundtable: Paradigm Shift - Synergizing Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion Strategy (by invitation)**  
(2 hours)

**Ministerial**

**Ministerial Roundtable Venue**

The 28th WAIPA World Investment Conference will host a high-level Ministerial Roundtable focused on the theme: "Paradigm Shift - Synergizing Industrial Policy and Investment Promotion Strategy." This roundtable seeks to bring together Ministers from diverse economies to discuss and strategize on aligning industrial policies with forward-looking investment promotion strategies in an era marked by profound global transformations.

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

H.E. Khalid A. Al-Falih, Minister of Investment

**Antigua & Barbuda\***

The Honourable Henry Fernandez, Minister of Tourism and Investment

**Kingdom of Bahrain**

H.E. Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development and Chief Executive, Bahrain EDB

**Union of the Comoros**

H.E. Moustoifa Hassani Mohamed, Minister of Economy, Industry, Investments, in charge of Economic Integration

**Republic of Djibouti**

H.E. Safia Mohamed Ali Gadileh, Secretary of State for Investments and Private Sector Development

**Arab Republic of Egypt**

H.E. Eng. Hassan El-Khatib, Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade

**Hellenic Republic**

H.E. Kostas Fragkogiannis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Diplomacy & Openness

**Republic of Guinea**

H.E. Ismael Nabe, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation

**Islamic Republic of Iran**

H.E. Abdolnaser Hemmati, Minister of Economy and Financial Affairs

**Republic of Kazakhstan**

H.E. Renat Bekturov, Governor of the Astana International Financial Center

**Republic of Kenya**

H.E. Salim Mvurya, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Investments, Trade & Industry

**Islamic Republic of Pakistan**

Hon'ble Musadik Masood Malik, Federal Minister for Water Resources and Petroleum

**Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis**

The Right Honourable Dr. Denzil Douglas, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, Industry & Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Economic Development and Investment

**Republic of Tajikistan**

H.E. Sulton Rahimzoda, Chairman of the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management

**Republic of Tunisia**

H.E. Sameer Abdul Hafiz, Minister of the Economy and Planning

**Republic of Uzbekistan**

H.E. Laziz Kudratov, Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade

**Republic of Zambia**

H.E. Chipoka Mulenga, Minister of Commerce, Trade, and Industry

**Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)\***

H.E. Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, President

**Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund**

Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa, President

**Republic of India**

Nivruti Rai, Managing Director and CEO, Invest India, and President, WAIPA

**Republic of Iraq**

Dr. Haider Muhammad Makiya, Chairman of the National Investment Commission

**Moderator**

Dr. James Zhan, Chair, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA

\*Speakers Tentative

**15:00 - 15:30** | **"The Market Access Forum": Economic Trends and IPA Realities – Enhancing Investor Journeys and Institutional Agility**  
(30 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will explore how evolving policies impact investment landscapes and necessitate strategic adaptations by IPAs. It will address shifts in trade agreements, the role of technology in enhancing investor experiences, and the importance of collaboration among IPAs, governments, and the private sector.

### Speakers

Dr. Asya Akhlaque, Practice Manager, Investment Climate Global Practice, The World Bank  
Antti Aumo, Executive Director, Invest Finland, Business Finland  
Biviana Riveiro Disla, Executive Director, Export and Investment Center of the Dominican Republic

### Moderator

Ismail Ersahin, CEO and Executive Director, WAIPA

**15:00 - 15:20** | **"This is what good looks like": A success story of relationships, partnership, opportunity identification and stakeholder engagement**  
(20 mins)

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session explores key success factors in investment projects, with a focus on government-private sector collaboration and the unique role of family businesses in sectors like banking and healthcare. It will examine how these enterprises manage public-private partnerships to effectively drive economic growth.

### Speakers

Dr. Ayth Almubarak, CEO, National Center for Family Business (NCFB)  
Kareem J. Jaroudi, Chief of Staff, Jaroudi Group

### Moderator

Yumna Naufal, Director, APCO

**15:00 - 15:30** | **"Impact Insights": Turning Data into Investment Wins**  
(30 mins)

Masterclass

Dammam Hall



This masterclass will explore how IPAs can set KPIs to measure FDI impact on the domestic economy and UN SDGs, refining budgets and strategies to position regions as sustainable investment hubs. Practical frameworks for data-driven KPIs will be discussed.

### Speakers

Githa Roelans, Head, Multinational Enterprises and Responsible Business Conduct Unit, International Labour Organization (ILO)

**15:30 - 16:15** | **"The Road to Success is Always Under Construction" - Infrastructure Innovation in Emerging Economies**  
(45 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will explore infrastructure strategies in emerging economies, focusing on access to essential services, economic growth, and social equity. It will discuss how improved infrastructure reduces inequalities and boosts trade, highlighting impactful projects and policies.

### Speakers

H.E. Ismael Nabe, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Republic of Guinea  
H.E. Kostas Fragkogiannis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Economic Diplomacy & Openness, Hellenic Republic  
H.E. Dr. Sidi Ould Tah, President, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)  
Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa, President, Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) Fund  
Dr. Manar Al Moneef, Chief Investment Officer, NEOM

### Moderator

Rami Nazer, Partner, EMEA Government & Public Services Leader, PwC Middle East



15:30 - 16:15 | "Industry Insights Interchange": Building Inclusive Growth Brick by Brick  
(45 mins)

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session will examine how manufacturing drives inclusive growth in emerging markets through policies like tax incentives and trade agreements, highlighting successful strategies to boost economic resilience and reduce inequalities.

### Speakers

Dr. Trevor Gunn, Vice President, International Relations, Medtronic  
Nasser Al Shawaf, Member of the Board of Directors, Al Bawani Company  
Sun Yao, Director General, Beijing Investment Promotion Service Center (BIPSC)

### Moderator

Courtney Fingar, Senior Advisor, WAIPA

15:30 – 16:15 | Ambassadors Talk Business (by invitation)  
(45 mins)

Side events

Ministerial Roundtable Venue

This roundtable will explore how ambassadors promote trade and investment and enhance economic cooperation in their respective roles.

15:30 - 16:15 | "Investor Services 2.0": Enhancing Support and Engagement in the Digital Age  
(45 mins)

Masterclass

Dammam Hall



This masterclass will explore how IPAs can boost investment retention and reinvestment through advanced aftercare, including VR site visits, AI-driven analytics, and workforce development strategies, enhancing engagement and driving economic benefits.

### Speakers

Yago Aranda Larrey, Private Sector Specialist, The World Bank

16:15 - 16:45 | "From FDI to PDI": Investment needs are bigger than ever; definitions and perspectives may have to change  
(30 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will examine the shift from traditional FDI to Partnership Direct Investments (PDI), focusing on collaboration for sustainable growth. It will address the impact on investment strategies, innovation, and resilience in emerging markets, while considering sustainability and geopolitical implications.

### Speakers

R. Yofi Grant, CEO, Ghana Investment Promotion Centre (GIPC)  
Achim Hartig, Managing Director, Germany Trade and Invest (GTAI)  
Salman Badr, Executive Vice President, Commercial Advisory, National Center for Privatization & PPP

### Moderator

Anjani Trivedi, Global Business Correspondent, The Economist

16:30 - 18:30  
(120 mins) | **Pakistan Energy Roadshow**

### Side events

H.E. Dr. Musadik Malik, Minister for Petroleum of Pakistan and the leadership of the Pakistan Refinery Limited will present the investment opportunity and hold discussions with potential investors in the project

19:00 - 21:00  
(120 mins) | **WAIPA Excellence Awards Ceremony & WIC 28 Gala Dinner Hosted by Diriyah (by invitation)**

### Side events

#### Jury Members

**World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies**

Dr. James Zhan, Chair, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA

**World Economic Forum**

Matthew Stephenson, Head, Investment and Services

**United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

Dr. Stefan Kratzsch, Sustainable Investments and Responsible Business Unit

**International Labor Organization**

Githa Roelans, Head, Multilateral Enterprises and Responsible Business Conduct Unit

**International Trade Centre**

Escipión J. Oliveira-Gómez, Director, Division of Enterprises Competitiveness and Institutions (DECI)

**The World Bank**

Ivan Anton Nimac, Global Lead for Investment Policy and Promotion, Prosperity Vice Presidency



# 28<sup>th</sup> World Investment Conference (WIC)

## DAY 2 – 26 November 2024



Conference Track | Masterclass Track | Governance Track | Side Events

Key Themes: Digital Transformation | Sustainability | Economic Cooperation

Timings	Marasem Hall	Mecca Hall	Taif Hall	Dammam Hall	Ministerial Roundtable Venue
10:00 - 10:45	Opening Session Future Frontiers				
10:45 - 11:00	Unlocking Investment Opportunities	Partnering for Success	Towards a Sustainable PPP Ecosystem	WAIPA SCRIPA Session in partnership with ANIMA, CAIPA and African IPAs Group (by invitation)	Saudi-Tajikistan Joint Committee
11:00 - 11:30	Sowing the Seeds of Collaboration				
11:30 - 12:00			Coffee Break & Networking		
12:00 - 12:45	GSCRI Event	To Predict the Future, You Must Create It	Sustaining Growth	COP 29 High-Level Roundtable at WIC 2024 (by invitation)	Saudi-Tajikistan Roundtable
12:45 - 13:15		Money Moves for Meaningful Change			
13:15 - 14:30				Lunch Break	
14:30 - 15:30	Industrial Zones and Special Economic Zones (SEZs)	Everything Tech!	UNFCCC GIH Roundtable	Roundtable on Unlocking Central Asia's Investment Potential (by invitation)	
15:30 - 16:00	The Big Bets	Advanced Data Analytics for Trade & Investment Intelligence			
16:00 - 16:45	Diversifying Energy Sources	Responsible Roaming			
16:45 - 17:00			Coffee Break & Networking		
17:00 - 17:30	Tech Hubs and Innovative Ecosystems	Data Dynamo	Strategic Planning Mastery		
17:30 - 18:00	Addressing Emerging Challenges & Opportunities for Investment Facilitation	WAIPA General Assembly (by invitation) [ends 19:00]			
19:00 Onwards	Indo-Saudi Bridges of Opportunity (by invitation)				

10:00 – 18:00 VIP Matchmaking Zone @ Che Figata Restaurant: "Step into exclusive business opportunities"

\*IAC Meeting at Oud Square (15:00-19:00)

10:00 - 10:45 | **Opening Session**  
(45 mins) | "Future Frontiers" Investing in Tomorrow's Industries

Conference | Marasem Hall |

This session explores how sector-focused investment strategies aligned with national goals attract targeted investments by leveraging national strengths and incentives. It will examine public-private collaboration, policy frameworks, and strategies for emerging industries amid global challenges.

### Speakers

- H.H. Prince Sultan Bin Khalid Al Saud, CEO, Saudi Industrial Development Fund (SIDF)
- H.E. Zaher Al Qatarneh, Secretary General, Ministry of Investment, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- H.E. Christophe Farnaud, EU Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; Non-resident to Bahrain and Oman

### Moderator

John Deferios, Visiting Professor of Business, NYU Abu Dhabi

10:00 - 11:30 | **WAIPA SCRIPA Session in Partnership with ANIMA, CAIPA and African IPAs Group: Fostering Regional Value Chains through Cooperation within IIPA networks** (by invitation)  
(90 mins)

Side event | Dammam Hall |

This session focuses on strengthening regional value chains through enhanced cooperation among IPA networks, driven by a need for economic sovereignty, resilience, and environmental sustainability.

10:00 - 11:00 | **Saudi-Tajikistan Joint Committee Meeting** (by invitation)  
(60 mins)

Side event | Ministerial Roundtable Venue |

The 4<sup>th</sup> Saudi-Tajikistan Committee Meeting will serve as a platform for enhancing economic cooperation and exploring partnership opportunities between Saudi and Tajikistan representatives.

10:00 - 11:30 | **"Towards a Sustainable PPP Ecosystem"**  
 (90 mins) | **Insights from the KSA Journey**

Masterclass

Taif Hall



This workshop organized by the National Center for Privatization (NCP) delves into Saudi Arabia's PPP ecosystem, covering its legal framework, project pipeline, and lessons from cross-sector partnerships to foster sustainable collaboration.

10:45 - 11:00 | **"Unlocking Investment Opportunities"**  
 (15 mins) | **Fostering Foreign Direct Investment in new asset classes**

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session explores government initiatives leveraging emerging technologies like blockchain to attract FDI, enhance transparency, and streamline operations. Investment opportunities in new asset classes and platforms supporting cross-border growth will be examined, providing insights into blockchain's transformative impact on FDI.

### Speakers

Baxter Roberts, Counsellor, Director for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

10:45 - 11:30 | **Partnering for Success: The Guide to Winning Collaborations**  
 (45 mins)

Masterclass

Mecca Hall



This masterclass will examine how partnerships between government entities and IPAs boost FDI and bilateral trade. It will cover strategies for identifying aligned partners, key initiatives for supporting foreign market entry, and case studies on successful IPA collaborations to strengthen economic ties.

### Speakers

Andreas Dressler, Managing Director, FDI Center

11:00 - 11:45 | **"Sowing the Seeds of Collaboration"**  
 (45 mins) | **Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships for Agricultural Innovation and Sustainability**

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session explores how Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) drive agricultural reform and innovation in food processing through policy interventions. It will analyze successful models and collaborations that enhance productivity and sustainability, identifying strategies for significant sectoral reform.

### Speakers

Abdullah Albader, CEO, Almarai

Esteban Barrachina Martinez, Founder & CEO, Integra Agricultura y Tecnología, S.L.

Dr. Peter Ramsaroop, CIO, Office of the President and Agency Head, Guyana Office for Investment

### Moderator

Mohammed AlOhalay, General Manager Food and Agriculture at Ministry of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

12:00 - 12:45 | **"To Predict the Future, You Must Create It"**  
 (45 mins) | **Empowering Fintech Pioneers With Safe Spaces For Innovation**

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session will explore policies that support the development and implementation of fintech sandboxes. The effectiveness of these policies and the balancing between regulatory flexibility with innovation incentives will be examined and the discussion will highlight how fintech sandboxes can drive innovation and productivity in the sector.

### Speakers

H.E. Renat Bekturov, Governor, Astana International Financial Center, Republic of Kazakhstan

Yazeed Alnafjan, Deputy Governor, Financial Innovation, Saudi Central Bank (SAMA)

Faisal M. Alsharif, Director General, Financial Sector Development Program

Henri Arslanian, Co-Founder, Nine Blocks Capital, Crypto Hedge Fund

### Moderator

Irina Asktrakhan, Practice Manager, Finance and Markets Global Practice, The World Bank

12:00 - 12:30 | **"Sustaining Growth"**  
(30 mins) | **Investment in Localization and Value Chains**

Conference

Taif Hall



This session explores major initiatives like the New Silk Road and IMEC, focusing on localization, value creation, and policies like tax breaks and trade deals. It will discuss how these projects boost trade connectivity, attract talent, and drive regional growth, while addressing sustainability, fairness, and global impacts amid geopolitical tensions.

### Speakers

Oussama Abdel Rahman Kaissi, Founder - Principal, The Meridiem Group  
Tang Song, Deputy Director, Investment Promotion Agency of the Ministry of Commerce of P. R. China (CIPA)  
Ibrahim Alhelali, Executive Director for Saudi Arabia, and Chair for the Middle East Regional Council, United Nations Global Compact

### Moderator

Ryan Alnesayan, Partner, Arthur D. Little, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

12:00 - 13:00 | **COP 29 High-Level Roundtable at WIC 2024 (by invitation)**  
(60 mins)

Side event

Dammam Hall



This high-level roundtable will aim to decipher the outcomes of the COP29 conference, including the implications and opportunities for the finance and investment community. The roundtable will aim delve into key decisions, and mechanisms to foster innovative and inclusive solutions to close the finance gap.

12:15 - 14:15 | **Global Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (GSCRI) Event**  
(120 mins)

Side event

Marasem Hall



The GSCRI event will spotlight Saudi Arabia's role and commitment to strengthening global supply chain resilience by leveraging the Kingdom's competitive advantages to attract strategic, export-oriented investments. The event will feature the announcement of strategic deals and investment opportunities by global and local companies, totaling over SAR 35 billion

### Speakers

H.E. Khalid A. Al-Falih, Minister of Investment, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
H.E. Bandar Ibrahim Alkhorayef, Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Dr. Ali Al-Khatib, Executive Vice President, Aerospace & Marine, National Industrial Development Center (NIDC)  
Assaad AlJomoai, President and Board Chairman, Boeing, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Dr. Fadi Trabzuni, Managing Director, Advanced Metal Industries Cluster Co (AMIC)  
Hanns-Peter Knaebel, President, Smart Health, ALAT  
Rod MacGregor, CEO, Glasspoint  
Faysal Hamza, Head of GSCRI and Senior Advisor to H.E. Minister of Investment of Saudi Arabia

12:45 - 13:15 | **"Money Moves for Meaningful Change"**  
(30 mins) | **Social Impact Investing and Ethical Finance Models**

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session explores social impact investing and ethical finance as avenues for achieving financial returns alongside positive social and environmental outcomes. It will cover socially responsible investing (SRI) and ESG criteria, evaluating their viability compared to traditional models and addressing integration challenges.

### Speakers

Majed bin Mohammed Al-Dakhil, Executive Vice President, Finance, Social Development Bank (SDB)  
Jonathan Robinson, Chief Investment Officer, Diriyah Company  
Dr. Massamba Thiolye, Project Executive, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat, UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub  
Dr. Noor Ulain Rizvi, Lecturer, School of Business, Curtin University Dubai

### Moderator

Sarah Cocker, Founder, Amplify

12:00 - 13:00 | **Saudi-Tajikistan Business Meeting (by invitation)**  
(60 mins)

Side event

Ministerial Roundtable Venue



The Saudi-Tajikistan business meeting aims to bring together business leaders from Saudi Arabia and Tajikistan with a focus on exploring investment opportunities and enhancing bilateral economic cooperation

14:30 - 15:30  
(60 mins)

## “Industrial Zones and Special Economic Zones (SEZs)” Engines of FDI Growth

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session explores how government incentives attract investors to industrial zones and Special Economic Zones (SEZs), examining the effectiveness of tax breaks and infrastructure in fostering economic growth and analyzing current trends in manufacturing FDI through global case studies.

### Speakers

Dr. James Zhan, Founding Co-Chair, Global Alliance of Special Economic Zones (GASEZ)  
 Dr. Samir Hamrouni, CEO, World Free Zones Organization (WFZO), Co-Chair, GASEZ  
 Nabil Khojah, Secretary General, Economic Cities and Special Zones Authorities (ECZA)  
 Awad A. Alsulami, Executive Vice President of Economic Policies and Logistics Services, GACA  
 Hossam Heiba, President, General Authority for Investments, Arab Republic of Egypt

### Moderator

Yassir Zouaoui, Partner and Global lead, Economic Development Service Line, McKinsey & Company

14:30 - 15:15  
(45 mins)

## “Everything Tech!” Institutional Responses in Digitization, Investments in Tech, Sustainability Considerations and Collaboration

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session explores aligning tech investments with strategic goals, emphasizing cybersecurity, compliance, and sustainable data center practices, while balancing regulatory demands and energy efficiency.

### Speakers

Dr. Margarete Schramboeck, Former Minister of Minister of Digital & Economic Affairs, Austria and Board Member, Aramco  
 Ammar Mirza CBE, CEO, AmmarM and Chairman and Founder, Asian Business Connexions (ABC) and Chairman & Founder, SME Centre of Excellence (CofE) group of companies  
 Dr. Heba Atyah, Founder & CEO, Gameit

### Moderator

Mamoon Sbeih, President, MENA, APCO

14:30 - 15:30  
(60 mins)

## UNFCCC GIH Roundtable – “Accelerating Transformative Action for Climate and Sustainability”

Side event

Taif Hall



This roundtable will introduce the UN Climate Change Global Innovation Hub, highlighting its vision and initiatives for driving global climate action. Solution providers will present their climate and sustainability innovations, while investors will discuss their investment strategies and support for funding climate initiatives.

14:30 - 16:30  
(120 mins)

## Roundtable on Unlocking Central Asia's Investment Potential: Building a Regional Approach to Attract Investment and Enhance Trade (by invitation)

Side event

Dammam Hall



This workshop organized by UNESCAP will provide training for Central Asian IPAs to support skill building, foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing with the aim of strengthening regional investment opportunities and cooperation.

15:30 - 16:00  
(30 mins)

## “The Big Bets” Unicorns in the Tech Space as Investors and Investment Attraction Multipliers

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session examines the role of tech unicorns in driving Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and fostering innovation ecosystems. It will address mergers and acquisitions, supportive policies, and talent retention strategies, focusing on balancing large FDI projects with the growth of emerging global champions.

### Speakers

Eng. Ali Aldamanhori, CEO, HungerStation  
 Tamer Azer, Partner, Shorooq Partners  
 Emon Shakoor, Founder and CEO, Blossom Accelerator

### Moderator

Courtney Fingar, Senior Advisor, WAIPA

**15:30 - 16:00** | **"Advanced Data Analytics for Trade & Investment Intelligence"**  
(30 mins) | **Leveraging Insights for Competitive Advantage**

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session examines how government initiatives enhance trade intelligence through data sharing and collaboration, addressing implementation challenges, investment trends in data analytics, and successful case studies that highlight the competitive advantage of advanced analytics in global trade.

### Speakers

Angelica Schempp, Consul General of Switzerland, Dubai and Head, Swiss Business Hub Middle East  
Dr. Caroline King, Global Head, Business Development, Government Affairs, SAP

### Moderator

Lama Alghair, Director, Market Intelligence, Saudi Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA)

**16:00 - 16:45** | **"Diversifying Energy Sources"**  
(45 mins) | **Accelerating FDI in Energy and Minerals Projects**

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session explores government incentives aimed at attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in renewable energy and long-term projects, assessing the effectiveness of policies and opportunities in green technologies and mining for sustainable economic growth.

### Speakers

H.E. Dr. Musadik Malik, Minister for Petroleum & Water Resources, Islamic Republic of Pakistan  
H.E. Daler Juma, Minister of Energy, Republic of Tajikistan  
Sujatha U.G., Vice President, Global Partnerships and Net Zero, Invest India  
Omar Aldaweesh, CEO, EDF

### Moderator

Raad Al-Saady, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, ACWA power

**16:10 - 16:45** | **"Responsible Roaming"**  
(35 mins) | **Sustainable Tourism in Emerging Economies**

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session will explore sustainable tourism investments in emerging economies, focusing on the government's role in providing incentives and infrastructure. It will emphasize stakeholder engagement and highlight successful models that promote environmental conservation and economic benefits.

### Speakers

Hon. Henry Fernandez, Minister of Tourism, Investment and Economic Development, Antigua and Barbuda  
H.E. Kamoliddin Muminzod, Chairman, Committee for Tourism Development, Republic of Tajikistan  
H.E. Samer AlKharashi, Director, UN tourism Regional Office for the Middle East  
Jonathan Robinson, Chief Investment Officer, Diriyah Company

### Moderator

Khalid Alaamer, Lead, Investment Policy and Practice, World Economic Forum (WEF)

**17:00 - 17:30** | **"Tech Hubs and Innovative Ecosystems"**  
(30 mins) | **Driving FDI in Emerging Markets and Innovation**

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session explores how tech hubs and innovative ecosystems drive FDI in emerging markets, focusing on strategies for attracting investments. It will highlight the role of government policies, infrastructure, & collaboration, with case studies on tech hubs' impact on economic growth and sustainability amid geopolitical challenges.

### Speakers

Dr. Ibrahim Saad AlMojel, Founding Partner, Khwarizmi Holding  
Ibrahim Neyaz, CEO, National Technology Development Program  
Babak Ahmadzadeh, Co-founder, Forma

### Moderator

Paula Tavangar, CIO, Injaz Capital

17:00 - 17:30 | "Data Dynamo"  
(30 mins) | Powering IPA Prospecting with Stack Automation

Conference

Mecca Hall



This session will explore how IPAs can use data stack technologies, including predictive analytics, to automate prospecting & forecast investment trends. It will discuss machine learning's role in analyzing data, supportive policies for attracting foreign investment, & case studies on sustainable tech adoption amid geopolitical challenges.

### Speakers

Dr. Mishari Almishari, Deputy Director, National Information Center (NIC), Saudi Arabia  
Matthew Stephenson, Head, Investment and Services, World Economic Forum (WEF)  
Chris Knight, Managing Director, fDi Intelligence portfolio (Financial Times)

### Moderator

Paula Naoufal, Senior Reporter, CNN Business Arabic

17:00 – 17:45 | "Strategic Planning Mastery"  
(45 mins) | What Investors Want

Masterclass

Taif Hall



This masterclass will address private sector expectations from IPAs, focusing on how IPAs can attract and retain high-impact investments. Participants will learn about strategies that align with investor priorities while driving sustainable economic growth.

### Speakers

Dr. Trevor Gunn, Vice President, International Relations, Medtronic; Member of the Business Advisory Board of WAIPA  
Dr. Caroline King, Global Head, Business Development, Government Affairs, SAP; Member of the Business Advisory Board of WAIPA

### Moderator

Courtney Fingar, Senior Advisor, WAIPA

17:30 - 18:00 | "Addressing Emerging Challenges and Opportunities for Investment Facilitation"  
(30 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will discuss strategic opportunities and challenges in global trade and investment. Insights from policy, governance, and academia will be shared to develop actionable strategies and strengthen collaboration among diverse stakeholders

### Speakers

Dr. Heather Taylor-Strauss, Head, FDI Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Programmes, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)  
Khawaja Aftab Ahmed, Regional Director, Middle East, Pakistan & Afghanistan, International Finance Corporation (IFC)

### Moderator

Khalid Alaamer, Lead, Investment Policy and Practice, World Economic Forum (WEF)

17:30 - 19:00 | WAIPA General Assembly (by invitation)  
(90 mins)

Governance

Mecca Hall

The General Assembly is the deliberative organ of WAIPA and convenes as per WAIPA Statutes Chapter 4, Art. XII/1

19:00 onwards | Indo-Saudi Bridges of Opportunity (by invitation)

Side event



The Bridges of Prosperity Session brings together a curated group of leading investors, policymakers, and thought leaders from India and Saudi Arabia. Dialogue will focus on identifying mutual synergies in investment, trade, and research and development.

# 28<sup>th</sup> World Investment Conference (WIC)

## DAY 3 – 27 November 2024



Conference Track | Masterclass Track | Governance Track | **Ministerial** | Side Events

Key Themes: Digital Transformation | Sustainability | Economic Cooperation

Timings	Marasem Hall	Mecca Hall	Taif Hall	Dammam Hall	Ministerial Roundtable Venue
8:00 – 9:00				WEF Breakfast: "Leave no one behind"	
9:00 – 9:30					
9:30 – 9:45					
9:45 – 10:00					
10:00 – 10:10	Navigating to Certainty and Overcoming the Unknown			Youth Programme Panel "Bridging Generations: Insights on Investment Policy for a Sustainable Future"	International SolarX Startup Challenge – Accelerator Workshop
10:10 – 10:20	Bridging Borders		Venture FDI Unleashed: A Blueprint for Global Innovation		
10:20 – 11:00			Click Invest Repeat		
11:00 – 11:45	Informative Advertising is Persuasive				
11:45 – 12:30	Coffee Break and Networking				
12:30 – 13:15	To Finish First, First you Have to Finish		Visibility Attracts Opportunity		
13:15 – 13:45	Strategic Alliances				
13:45 – 14:30	Lunch Break			Innovation Austria Roundtable	
14:30 – 15:15	Ready, Set, Go		Promoting Responsible Investment through investment opportunity preparation packaging and appraisal		
15:15 – 15:35	Closing of the 28th WIC: Highlights and the Way Forward				
15:45 – 16:00	Sponsor Appreciation Award				
17:00 – 19:30					Saudi-Swiss Joint Economic Committee Meeting

10:00 – 16:00 VIP Matchmaking Zone @ Che Figata Restaurant: "Step into exclusive business opportunities"

08:00 - 09:30 | **WEF Breakfast: "Leave no one behind" (by invitation)**  
(90 mins)

Side events | Dammam Hall

This session will examine how FDI can drive job creation, equality, and socio-economic development, with a focus on benefiting youth, women, and all regions within a country. It will highlight actionable strategies such as gender-responsive investment policies, youth entrepreneurship support, and frameworks to ensure that FDI benefits are equitably distributed across regions.

10:00 - 10:10 | **Opening Session: "Navigating to Certainty and Overcoming the Unknown" - The Imperative for Investment Promotion Agencies**  
(10 mins)

Conference Track | Marasem Hall |

This session will explore how Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) can build resilience and adaptability to attract investment in uncertain times. The discussion will also include proactive strategies and innovations to maintain investor confidence, sharing case studies of successful IPA initiatives to highlight best practices for fostering a stable investment climate amid global challenges.

### Speakers

Kaye Anne Greenidge, CEO, Invest Barbados  
Sujatha U.G., Vice President, Global Partnerships and Net Zero, Invest India



**10:00 - 11:30** | **Youth Programme Panel: “Bridging Generations: Insights on Investment Policy for a Sustainable Future.” (by invitation)**  
(90 mins)

Side events

Dammam Hall

The forum will connect Saudi and Spanish officials with private sector representatives to foster bilateral investments. This will include MoU signing ceremonies, breakaway panel discussions and presentation of investment opportunities.

**10:10 - 11:00** | **“Bridging Borders”: Facilitating Global Corporate Partnerships and Investments**  
(50 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will explore building trust in cross-border collaborations, emphasizing transparent communication and mutual benefits. It will address challenges such as regulatory and cultural differences, share tools for streamlining investment, and showcase case studies of successful partnerships that support local economies.

### Speakers

Ambassador Andrea Rauber, Head, Bilateral Economic Relations Divisions, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Swiss Confederation

Davide Cichero, Chief of Staff, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Escipión J. Oliveira-Gómez, Director, Division of Enterprises Competitiveness and Institutions (DECI), International Trade Centre (ITC)

James Tu, Chief Investment Officer, Hon Hai Technology Group (Foxconn) (Video Message)

### Moderator

Emmanuel Noutary, General Delegate, ANIMA Investment Network

**10:15 - 11:00** | **“Venture FDI Unleashed”: A Blueprint for Global Innovation**  
(45 mins)

Masterclass

Taif Hall



This masterclass will explore strategies for driving growth in emerging economies by boosting tech advantages, global competitiveness, and cybersecurity. Topics include creating tech innovation hubs, policies for scaling innovations, and workforce development for high-tech skills.

### Speakers

Nitin Pangam, CEO, Maeflower

**11:00 - 11:45** | **“Informative Advertising is Persuasive”: The Art of Investor Engagement**  
(45 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will explore effective techniques for engaging investors and understanding their preferences. It will discuss strategies for building long-term relationships, focusing on trust, transparency, and personalized interactions. Insights from successful engagements will offer practical approaches for Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) to attract and retain investors, ensuring sustained growth and strong investor relations.

### Speakers

Gareth Hagan, CEO, OCO Global

Marios Tannousis, Deputy Director General, Invest Cyprus

Zehra Fattah, Founder and Managing Director, Kent Consulting & Events

### Moderator

Nawied Jabarkhyl, Director, Head of International Media Relations, APCO

10:00 - 16:00 | **International SolarX Startup Challenge – Accelerator Workshop (by invitation)**  
(6 Hours)

Side events

Ministerial Roundtable Venue

The SolarX Startup Challenge 2024 focuses on identifying innovative solar solutions in ISA member countries, with a particular emphasis on startups from the APAC region. The acceleration workshop in Riyadh will connect top startups with mentors, investors, and industry leaders to scale their innovations. Participants will explore synergies and investment opportunities in the solar sector.

11:00 - 11:45 | **"Click Invest Repeat": Revolutionizing IPAs with Cutting-Edge Technology**  
(45 mins)

Masterclass

Taif Hall



This masterclass will explore how cutting-edge digital tools, including AI and big data, enhance the entire investment promotion cycle for IPAs—from marketing and investor targeting to information provision, streamlined procedures, and data analysis.

#### Speakers

Chris Knight, Managing Director, fDi Intelligence

12:30 - 13:15 | **"To Finish First, First you Have to Finish": Operational Excellence in IPAs for the Benefit of our Investors**  
(45 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall

This session will explore operational excellence in Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs), focusing on balancing marketing, promotion, aftercare, and relationship management. It will cover governance structures, the role of aggregators in lead generation, and best practices to enhance IPA efficiency and impact.

#### Speakers

Levon Ohanesyan, CEO, Enterprise Armenia

Natalia Bejan, Director General, Invest Moldova Agency

Dr. Damie Sinanan, Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency

#### Moderator

Dr. Abhishek Saurav, Senior Economist, Finance, Competitiveness, and Innovation, The World Bank

13:15 - 13:45 | **"Strategic Alliances": Leveraging Partnerships for Investment Success**  
(30 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session will examine partnerships in investment promotion, focusing on building alliances with governments, industry groups, and global organizations. It will address challenges such as balancing public-private interests and ethical considerations and provide case studies and best practices to help Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) drive investment and economic growth.

#### Speakers

H.E. Bandar Ibrahim Alkhorayef, Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Right Honourable Dr Denzil L Douglas, Senior Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, Industry & Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Economic Development and Investment, Saint Kitts and Nevis

#### Moderator

Nawied Jabarkhyl, Director – Head of International Media Relations, APCO

12:45 - 13:30 | **"Visibility Attracts Opportunity": 10 Digital Marketing Tactics for IPAs**  
(45 mins)

Masterclass

Taif Hall



This masterclass will guide IPAs in crafting unique marketing strategies to attract high-value investors by leveraging targeted approaches, aligning with national goals, and optimizing with tools like big data, SEO, and CRM. Attendees will learn to track investor behavior and adapt strategies in real time to boost competitiveness.

#### Speakers

Gareth Hagan, CEO, OCO Global

13:30 - 14:30 | Saudi-Austrian Innovation Roundtable (by invitation)  
(60 mins)

Side event

Dammam Hall



This session focuses on enhancing economic cooperation and exploring partnership opportunities between Saudi and Austrian representatives

14:30 - 15:15 | "Ready, Set, Go": Strategic Approaches to Specialized Industry Investment Promotion  
(45 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



This session examines strategies for promoting investment in specialized industries, focusing on identifying high-potential opportunities and balancing innovation with regulatory support. The discussion will cover sharing of insights and best practices, equipping IPAs to effectively navigate emerging industry opportunities.

### Speakers

Mario Vargas, Trade and Investment Director of Peru to the UAE & GCC  
Chitra Sharma, Assistant Vice President, Global Partnerships Team, Invest India  
Eng. Badr Alherbish, Chief, Strategy, Tourism Development Fund, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Dr. Mohammed A AlQuwaizani, Managing Director of Saudi Arabia, Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine

### Moderator

Dushyant Thakor, Deputy Executive Director, WAIPA

14:30 - 15:15 | Promoting Responsible Investment Through Investment Opportunity Preparation Packaging and Appraisal  
(45 mins)

Masterclass

Taif Hall



This masterclass will cover some perspectives of UNIDO's ongoing work in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and will serve to detail UNIDO's technical and advisory support to investment promotion agencies, showcasing its digital tools and the UNIDO Investment Platform as a means to promote responsible investment to enable global sustainable development.

### Speakers

Dr. Brian Portelli, Chief Technical Advisor, UNIDO

15:15 - 15:35 | Closing of the 28th WIC: Highlights and the way forward  
(20 mins)

Conference

Marasem Hall



### Speakers

H.E. Ibrahim Almubarak, Assistant Minister of Investment and CEO, Saudi Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA)  
Nivruti Rai, Managing Director and CEO, Invest India, and President, WAIPA  
Dr. James Zhan, Executive Board of World Investment Conference, WAIPA  
Ismail Ersahin, Executive Director and CEO, WAIPA

15:45 - 16:00 | Sponsor Appreciation Award  
(15 mins)

Side events

Marasem Hall

The Sponsor Appreciation Award will provide an opportunity to recognize the invaluable contributions of our sponsors in making this event a success, presented by H.E. Ibrahim Almubarak, Assistant Minister of Investment and CEO, Saudi Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA)

17:00 - 19:30 | Saudi-Swiss Joint Economic Committee Meeting (by invitation)  
(90 mins)

Side events

Ministerial Roundtable Venue



The Saudi-Swiss Joint Economic Committee Meeting will serve as a platform for enhancing economic cooperation and exploring partnership opportunities between Saudi and Swiss representatives