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**ITPO**  
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME  
MANAMA, BAHRAIN

## 5<sup>th</sup> World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum Master Agenda

Gulf Hotel Bahrain – May 14 to 16, 2024

For Live streaming link <https://linktr.ee/theweif> or scan QR Code



WEIF Masters of Ceremony: Ms. Layla Al Shakar and Ms. Aysha Salem, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce

### Day 1 – Tuesday May 14

#### 10:00 – 10:30 WEIF Inaugural Session

- HE Dr. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (Video Statement)
- HE Mr. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce
- HE Ambassador Ali Bin Ibrahim Al-Malki, Assistant Secretary-General, Head of the Economic Affairs Sector, League of Arab States
- HE Shaikh Ebrahim Al Khalifa, Honorary Chairman Board of Trustees International Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- HE Mr. Sameer Nass, President Union of Arab Chambers
- HE Mr. Khaled El Mekwad, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bahrain
- HE Ms. Maria Fernanda Garza, Chair International Chamber of Commerce (recorded)

#### 10:30 – 11:30 Panel: Building Sustainable Partnerships, Creating a Brighter Future for Arab and African Entrepreneurs

*Keynote: Mr. Ahmed M. El Wakil, President of Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry; President Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce; President Union of African Chambers*

*Moderator: Ms. Sonya Janahi, Board Member Bahrain Chamber of Commerce; Deputy Member of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body*

- Ms. Olive Zaitun Kigongo, President, Uganda Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- *Recorded* Mrs. Ibukun Awosika, Chairperson International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge Foundation, Nigeria
- Mr. Dawood Al Shezawi, President Annual Investment Meeting Congress, UAE
- Engr Jani Ibrahim, Vice President, Nigeria Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture
- Mr. Afif Barhoumi, Investment Promotion Expert, UNIDO ITPO Bahrain



**11:30 – 12:30 Panel Smart sustainable financial inclusion**

*Key note (Recorded) Dr. Wissam Fatouh, Secretary General Union of Arab Banks, Lebanon*

*Moderator: Dr. Zakaria Ahmed Hejres, Chairman, MENA Centre for Investment*

- Mr. Karim Ould Chih, Chief Advisor UNIDO Investment Fund, Austria
- Dr. Jaime Aristotle Alip, Founder and Chairman Emeritus at Center for Agriculture and Rural Development Mutually Reinforcing Institutions, Philippines
- Ms. Seema Prem, Founder and CEO, FIA Global, India
- Mr. Narayan Ganapathy Co-founder and Board Member, Bambucorn Bahrain
- Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Kandari, Director General, National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprises Development

**12:30 – 13:00 Session Saudi Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation City**

- Mr. Tariq Rabea Bamasaq, Consultant & Project Manager
- Mr. Ahmed Fatani Director of Social Entrepreneurship and Social Investment at Arweqah, Saudi Arabia

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch**

**14:00- 15:00 Panel Entrepreneurship and innovation Conducive Ecosystems; were Ideas Forge into Reality**

*Moderator: Mr. Ullas Marar, Head Centre of Entrepreneurship, International Chamber of Commerce*

*Keynote recorded HE Mr. Taha Ayhan, President, Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, Turkey*

- Mr. Kareem Hassan, Executive Director Technology Centre for Development, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
- Mr. Abdel Fattah Al Kayed, CEO Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation
- Mr. Sid Ali Zerrouki, President Venture Algeria and African Federation of Business Angels Network
- Ms. Douja Gharbi, CEO Red Start, Tunisia
- Ms. Antonia Caramba -Coker, President, Business Professional Women, Sierra Leone





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**15:00 – 16:00**

**Panel: Six Transitions: Investment Pathways to Deliver the SDGs**

*Moderator Dr. Abla Abdel Latif, Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council for Economic Development; and the Executive Director and Director of Research of The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES)*

*Key note Mr. Khaled El Mekwad, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bahrain*

- HE Dr. Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, Assistant Secretary General and Head of Social Affairs Sector, League of Arab States (TBC)
- Mr. Mohamed Maher Mannai, Lead Program Management Specialist | Poverty Alleviation and Empowerment, Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development, Saudi Arabia
- Dr. Fatima El Shaikh, Senior Advisor, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, Sudan
- HE Mr. Nasser Al Qahtani, Executive Director, Arab Gulf Program for Development
- HE Dr. Khaled Hanafy, Secretary General Union of Arab Chambers



## 18:00 – 19:00 High Level Plenary Session - The World in 2050

### Welcome Remarks

- *Dr. Hashim Hussein, Head UNIDO ITPO Bahrain*
- *Dr. Khaled Hanafy, Secretary General Union of Arab Chambers*

### Moderator: *Ms. Lara Habib Chamat, Senior Presenter, Al Arabiya Network*

- HE Dr. Ahmed Abu El Gheit, Secretary General - League of Arab States
- HE Mrs. Fatou Haidara, UNIDO Deputy Director General and the Managing Director of the Directorate of Global Partnerships and External Relations
- HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance & National Economy, Bahrain

## 19:00 – 19:15 Recognition

1. *HE Mrs. Safia Kanoo, Founder of Safia Kanoo Art Hub*
2. *HE Dr. May bint Sulaiman Al Otaibi, Founder and Executive Chairperson of the Board of Directors Bahrain Bayan School*
3. *Mr. Ammar Basheir Creative Art Preneur*

## 19:15 – 19:30 Awarding Sponsors

## 19:30 – 20:00 Expo Opening

- *Smart Zone Art Tech – Preneurs*
- *Disabilities and productive families Expo*





## Day 2 – Wednesday May 15

### 10:00 – 11:00 Panel: Bahrain Conducive Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem (The Bahrain Model)

*Moderator: Dr. Hashim Hussein, Head UNIDO ITPO Bahrain*

- Ms. Maha Mofeez, Chief Executive, Tamkeen
- Mr. Usman Ahmed, Group CEO of the National Bank of Bahrain
- Ms. Fajer Saleh Al Pachachi Director General of the Hope Fund
- Ms. Dalal Al Qais, Chief Executive Officer, Bahrain Development Bank
- Mr. Bader Sater, Chief Executive Officer at Bahrain FinTech Bay
- Dr. Khaled F. Alalawi, Assistant Undersecretary Ministry of Industry and Commerce
- Ms. Sonya Janahi, Board Member Bahrain Chamber of Commerce; Deputy Member of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body

### 11:00 – 12:00 Progress by Innovation: The Role of Digital Transformation and Innovation in Entrepreneurship

*Moderator Dr. Sara Al Gazzar, Economic Advisory for the Union of Arab Chambers, Egypt*

*Keynote HE Dr. Afnan Alshuaiby, Executive Director, Women Development Organization, Saudi Arabia*

- Prof. Mohamed Hammodah, the Saudi Aramco Cybersecurity Chair Professor at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals.
- Dr. Fadila Grine, Senior Adviser Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum, Algeria
- Dr. Hamad Salem Mejegheer, Executive Director Advisory Services & Business Incubation, Qatar Development Bank
- Dr. Wissam Steitie, CEO Manchester Innovation and Technology Academy
- Ms. Noora Al-Nusuf, Head of Corporate Affairs and Brand & Marketing for the Middle East (ex UAE), Standard Chartered Bank, Bahrain



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**12:00 – 13:00**

## **Panel Leveraging the UNIDO Investment and Technology Promotion (ITPO) Network**

*Moderator: Ms. Esther Salguero Gomez, Communications Officer - Office of the Director General, UNIDO*

- Mr. Stein Hansen, ITPO Coordinator ad interim
- Mr. Rolf Steltemeier, Head, ITPO Germany
- Ms. Fumio Adachi, Head, ITPO Japan
- Mr. Yabin Wu, Head, ITPO Beijing
- *Virtual* Ms. Diana Battaglia, Head, ITPO Italy
- Mr. Maengo Shin, Head, ITPO Republic of Korea, Seoul
- Mr. Hashim Hussein, Head, ITPO Bahrain

**13:00 – 14:00**

**Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:30**

## **Panel: Harnessing Agricultural Technology for Food Security**

*Moderator Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, General Manager of Peninsula Farms, Deputy Chair of the Food Wealth Committee*

*Key note Dr. Ibrahim Al Dukheri, Secretary General Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, Sudan*

- *Virtual* Ms. Rana El Akhal, Founder & Managing Director, Medal
- Dr Muhammad Sharif, Advisor Science and Technology, Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- Dr. Tarifa Alzaabi, Director General, International Center for Biosaline Agriculture
- Mr Ahmad Mukhtar, Senior Economist, FAO
- Mr. Basim Mohamed Al Saie, Chairman Bahrain Food Holding Company
- Dr. Osama Al-Rayes, Head of the Entrepreneurship Unit, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, Sudan
- Mr. Farrukh Alimdjanov, Industrial Development Officer, Division of Digital Transformation and AI Strategies, Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Industrial Development, UNIDO



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**15:30 – 16:00**

**Side fire Chat HE Mr. Felipe Buitrago, Former Minister of Culture, Colombia / Moderated by Mr. Rasmus Wiinstedt Tscherning, Managing Director, Creative Business Network**

**16:00 – 17:00**

**Panel: Trade and Heritage Meets Innovation: Unleashing the Creative Orange Potential**

*Moderator Ms. Noora Jamsheer. CEO -Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones (DANAT)*

*Key note Ms. Sarah Ahmed Buhiji, CEO of Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority*

- Mr. Ammar Basheir, Creative Art Preneur
- Mr. Giulio Finzi, Professor, IUAD Accademia della Moda, Italy
- Ms. Tamara Hostal, Entrepreneur - Founder and CEO of ESMOD French Fashion Institute, France
- Mr. Faical Nouach, Chairperson and Visionary Founder of the European Cultural Harmony Music Foundation, Netherlands
- Ms. Samrawit Mersiehazen, Founder and CEO of SAMRA Leather, Ethiopia

**17:00 – 18:00**

**Panel: Role of Universities and Educational Institutions in unleashing entrepreneurship and innovation**

*Moderator: Dr. Abla Abdel Latif, Chair of the Presidential Advisory Council for Economic Development; and the Executive Director and Director of Research of The Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES), Egypt*

*Keynote: Dr. Ismail Abdel Ghafar Ismail Farag President of the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Egypt*

- Prof. Riyad Hamzah, President, Royal University for Women, Bahrain
- Dr. Abdellatif Komat, Dean Faculty of Legal, Economic and Social Sciences, Hassan II University of Casablanca, Morocco
- Ms. Fadwa Suleiman Hussein, Suleiman Hussein Academy, Sudan
- Dr Yianni Doumenis, Course Leader for the MSc in Finance and Risk Management and Senior Lecturer in the MSc in Business Analytics at the Claude Littner Business School, University of West London
- Dr. Olawale Anifowose, Director, Programs and Partnerships Pan-Atlantic University, Nigeria
- Dr. Amal Al Jowder, Senior Educational Expert, UNIDO ITPO Bahrain



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**18:00 – 19:00      WEIF 2024 “Manama Declaration – Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Development”**

- **Official Launch of the UNIDO International Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation in the Kingdom of Bahrain**
- **Certificate Awarding Ceremony**
- **Signing**

**20:00 – 22:00      Bahrain Pearling Night - Souq Al Baraha, Diyar Al Muharaq**





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## Day 3 – Thursday May 16

**10:00 – 11:00**

**Panel: Women, Peace, and Security: how to promote stability in conflict-affected countries by funding female entrepreneurs**

*Moderator Sophia Swire, Founder and CEO, Gender Equity Diversity Investments (GEDI)*

*Keynote Dr. Nicola Tucci, Coordinator EU-MEPEP Programme*

- Tahani Abudaqqa Green energy start-up founder, Gaza, Palestine
- Dr. Alaa Salih Hamadto, Founder, Solar Foods, GreenTech and Agrobusiness, Sudan
- Chada El Islam Benmahcene, CEO, ENTROGX Ventures, Green AI Accelerator, Algeria
- Malalai Helmandi, COO, Helmandi Solar, GreenTech and Agrobusiness Production and Trading, Afghanistan
- Basima Abdulrahman, Founder CEO of KESK, SaaS and Greentech company, Iraq

**11:00 – 11:10**

**Special intervention “Catalyzing Collaboration for Thriving Ecosystems”,  
Dr. Hany Ayaad, Chairperson of Youth Entrepreneurs Association, Egypt**

**11:10 – 12:10**

**Panel: Disruption and Innovation: Entrepreneurs as Pioneers of the Digital Frontier**

*Moderator Mr. Ubaydli Al Ubaydli, Chairman Arab ICT Union*

- Ms. Whynde Kuehn, Founder and Managing Director, S2E Transformation Inc, USA
- Mr. Victor D. Akpan, GITEX Africa 2023; Network Engagement Lead, Creative Business Network
- Mr R. Saha, Senior Advisor- Innovation and IP, Confederation of Indian Industries
- Mr. Nidal Bitar, CEO of the ICT Association of Jordan – int@j
- Ms. Meriem Chehah, Founder, Algerian Women Foundation, Algeria



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**12:10 – 13:10**

**Panel Innovation Focus the Future of Startup Creation: AI-Driven Super tools for Instant Innovation**

*Moderator Mr. Suleiman Barada, President, Lebanon Chapter Global Innovation Institute, Lebanon*

- Mr. Salvatore Dore, Head of Technology Transfer, University of Trieste, Italy
- Mr. Osama Al Khaja, Chairman Spire Technologies and Bahrain Innovation Association
- Dr. Rajni Aggarwal, President, Federation of Indian Women Entrepreneurs
- Mr. Miguel Martin, CEO & Co Founder, TECH4ALL, Nocode AI global expert & investor, Spain
- Professor Dr Selvaraj Oyyan Pillay, Chief Executive Officer, UNIMAS Kuala Lumpur Learning Centre @ GIA
- Dr. Hanadi Al-Mubaraki, Founder & CEO Ecosystem Consultants, Kuwait

**13:10 – 14:00**

**Lunch**

**14:00 – 15:00**

**Panel Women Progression**

*Moderator Mrs. Reem Badran, and CEO Al Hurra for Management and Business Development Consultancy Company*

- Mrs. Afnan Zayani, Founder MENA Businesswomen Network
- Mrs. Rim Siam, President of Economic Business Women Council, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce; Board Member International Chamber of Commerce
- Mrs. Nesreen Barakat, Chairwoman Amman Chamber of Commerce Businesswomen Committee; CEO Jordan Strategy Forum
- Ms. Tatiana GVILAVA, Chairman of the RABC, President of All-Russian Public Organization «Women in Business»
- Ms. Antonia Caramba -Coker, President, Business Professional Women, Sierra Leone

**15:10 – 17:00**

**Entrepreneurs Bilateral Meetings**

**17:00 – 20:00**

**Cultural Tour and Site Seeing**



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## **WEIF Major Side Events**

1. Insights into the ESG Landscape organized Supreme Council for Environment (May 14<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 – 13:00)
2. High-level Arab event under the title: “Entrepreneurship: Towards Empowering Persons with Disabilities and Productive Families”, (May 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 – 13:00)
3. Second International Forum for Social Entrepreneurship 2024 / Tajseer (May 16 from 10:00 to 13:00)
4. Women Development Organization led roundtable themed “Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in Conflict & War Zones through Financial & Digital Inclusion Roundtable” (May 16 from 11:30 – 12:30)

## **Certificate ceremony**

1. Enterprise Development and Investment Program for
  - a. Innovators from Itay
  - b. Entrepreneurs Jordan
  - c. Women Entrepreneurs Growth Program from Egypt
2. Capacity Building programs on Enterprise Creation and Business Counselors
  - a. Micro, Small and Medium Size Enterprises Development - MSMEDA, Egypt
  - b. Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation – JEDCO, Jordan
  - c. Arweqa, Saudi Arabia
  - d. Regional program Arab Organization for Agricultural Development
  - e. ITPO Italy Iraq Project
3. Appreciation certificates to WEIF Volunteers