



ملتقى الاستثمار السنوي  
ANNUAL INVESTMENT MEETING  
World's Leading Emerging Markets FDI Platform

2 - 4 April 2017  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

## Preliminary Conference Programme

Theme: International Investment, Path to Competitiveness and Development

### Pre-event - Saturday, 1 April 2017

#### 10:00 – 13:00 Workshop I

FDI Capacity Building Workshop for Investment Promotion Professionals  
by: World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies

*Venue: Dubai E*  
*Language: English/French*

#### 14:00 – 17:00 Workshop II

FDI Capacity Building for Investment Promotion Professionals by: WAVTEQ

*Venue: Dubai E*  
*Language: English/French*

### Day One - Sunday, 2 April 2017

#### 09:00 – 10:00 Delegates Proceed to the Master Ceremony Room

*Venue: Sheikh Rashid Hall*  
*Language: English/Arabic/French/Chinese/Russian*

#### 10:00 – 10:05 Welcome Remarks by the Master of Ceremony

*Master of Ceremony: TBA*

#### 10:05 – 10:25 Special Session

*More details will be made available soon.*





**10:25 – 12:10**

**Plenary Session One:  
Global Leaders Debate**

Business leaders, senior public officials, heads of international institutions and academia representing major stakeholders of the international investment community will be invited to take part in this important session. The debate will be focused on International Investment as a path to Competitiveness and Development. This limelight session will discuss and share views on the role of foreign direct investment in fostering competitiveness, growth and development in countries in general and growing markets in particular.

*Venue: Sheikh Rashid Hall E&F*

**12:10 – 13:00**

**Grand Opening Ceremony**

*Venue: Sheikh Rashid Hall E&F*

**13:00 – 14:30**

**Strategic Networking Luncheon (by Invitation Only)**

*Venue: bubble lounge*

**13:00 – 14:30**

**Lunch Break & Networking**

*Venue: TBA*

**14:30 – 15:45**

**Plenary Session Two:  
Global Corporations and Government Drivers: Enablers of FDI and Competitiveness.**

The traditional economic view is that a competitive business environment is important to attract investment to a country or region. This session will look at how policy can be used to increase the contribution of FDI to the competitiveness of a national economy. With a heavy focus on how policies can attract inward FDI flows, we will also discover how initiatives to promote outward FDI flows can also be used to increase competitiveness. The session will also examine why FDI increases competitiveness from both a macro level view, and firm level view, it will highlight how individual investors contribute to competitiveness.

*Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom*

**15:45 – 16:00**

**Coffee Break**

**16:00 – 17:15**

**Plenary Session Three:  
Innovation, Entrepreneurship & the Competitiveness of a National Economy:  
Creating an Ecosystem that Supports**

Entrepreneurship is seen as a way to stimulate productivity, innovation and the competitiveness of a national economy, and while this can be true, only 10% of startups actually succeed. In this session we will examine what makes a successful ecosystem that drives entrepreneurship, supports its growth, and results in the stimulation of a national economy.

Examples of successful ecosystems around the world will be presented and we will take a closer look at how government bodies and private institutions play a key role in creating and nurturing talent and productivity, as well as looking at the role of investors in stimulating the economy.

This session will join members of the public and private sector, venture capitalists and private equity investors, as well as Family Offices to discuss the best methods to strengthen an ecosystem, which supports innovators as they address global challenges, leading to a more competitive and productive economy and improved standard of living.

*Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom*



**09:00 – 10:00**      **Parallel Session One:**  
**Feeding 9 billion by 2025: The Risks & Opportunities for the Agriculture Sector**

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Agriculture development is crucial to economic growth. The sector is responsible for raising incomes among the poorest; two to four times more, as compared to other sectors. As high as 60-70% of the population of Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, are engaged in agriculture as a livelihood. Furthermore, it accounts for one-third of gross domestic product (GDP) and three quarters of employment in Sub-Saharan Africa. With the demand for the agriculture sector to feed 9 billion people by 2025, it is imperative to examine the factors that hinder agriculture development and to work to create optimal conditions for the development of this sector.

This panel will serve to identify the risks and threats that face agriculture development, in developing markets in particular, and will explore the current development strategies underway to tackle the issues, as well as to provide insight into where the agriculture sector could see a considerable amount of investment within the coming years.

*Venue: Break-Out Session Room (Hall5)*

**09:00 – 10:00**      **Parallel Session Two:**  
**Energy to Fuel A Growing Global Economy**

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This session will focus on how national economies benefit from Public-Private Partnerships as it relates to foreign direct investment in physical infrastructure. Case studies will be examined.

*Venue: Break-Out Session Room 2 (Hall 6)*

**10:00 – 10:40**      **Special Session:**  
**EXPO 2020 (TBC)**

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**10:40 – 11:20**      **World Bank Report**

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The World Bank will present a Report about the Framework and Tools used for Investment Competitiveness Diagnostics, as well as the Tools required by private Sector to invest and retain investment in countries. The Session format will be in the Plenary Sessions Room, and will remain 35-45 minutes including 10 minutes for Q&A.

**11:30 – 12:30**      **Plenary Session Four:**  
**GCC: An Era of Economic Reform**

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This session will explore the ambitious plans of GCC nations to achieve their respective 2030 goals and what it means for foreign investors. Private sector development will play a key role in the transformation of GCC economies in the coming future. As policymakers adopt significant policy initiatives to reduce dependence on oil, what sectors can we expect to see a growth in, in terms of foreign investment across the Gulf region and what countries are likely to invest heavily in the future GCC?

*Venue: Al Mullaqa Ballroom*

**12:30 – 14:00**      **Lunch Break & Networking**

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- 14:00 – 14:20** **Speaker Presentation:**  
**Innovation in a Global Economy, Do our Technological Advancements Require a New Economic Model?**
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- Through a combination of intelligent computing, -3D- Manufacturing, big data crunching and advanced bio-technology, the world's technological advancements could jeopardize jobs worldwide in the next coming decades. This session will explore if our current economic model can support our technological advancement and what alternatives are currently being developed and explored by scientists and academia across the world.
- Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom*
- 14:20 – 15:20** **Plenary Session Five:**  
**New Technologies and Innovation:**  
**An opportunity or threat for economic development?**
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- Representing both perspectives, this session will join private and public sector representatives, futurists along with academia to debate the question: are developing countries at higher risk of losing jobs and investment due to the adoption of technological applications such as automation and robotics, or through offshoring to lower cost locations with large talent pools.
- Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom*
- 15:35 – 16:35** **Plenary Session Six:**  
**Achieving competitiveness through foreign investment:**  
**Success stories and underlying investment promotion strategies**
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- This panel will focus on specific examples of countries that have successfully used FDI as a means to strengthen their economies and enhance their competitiveness, thus also reducing their dependency on FDI. The panel will identify and highlight effective investment promotion strategies that bring the right kind of investment to unleash entrepreneurship and stimulate productivity, innovation and competitiveness.
- Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom*
- 16:35 – 17:35** **Plenary Session Seven:**  
**Investment Incentives**
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- This session will examine whether or not current incentives policies around the world are levers for competitiveness or whether they are more simply a tool to attract inward investors and compete with other locations. The session will explore how incentives policies can be optimised to not only secure inward investment but also to develop sustained competitiveness. The session is particular relevant for participants from emerging markets, where free zone incentives and other financial incentives have been considered the key tool to attract FDI in many countries. Have these incentives delivered competitiveness? How can governments address issues of competitiveness when designing and incentives policy and awarding incentives to specific investors?
- Venue: Al Multaqa Ballroom*
- 17:35 – 17:45** **Closing Ceremony & Keynote Closing Speech.**
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- Venue: Hall 6*  
*Language: English/Arabic/French/Russian/Chinese*



09:00 – 10:00

**Parallel Session Three:**

**The Role of FDI in Building Physical Infrastructure and Competitiveness**

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As the demand for energy to fuel a growing global economy increases, the onus is on energy companies to respond to the threats and challenges that they are faced with and to implement necessary changes through the coming years if they wish to take advantage of the opportunities that lie in the decades ahead.

This session will explore three Industries within the Energy Sector, the Oil & Gas Industry, the Electrical Power Industry and Renewable Energies Industry. It will serve to highlight the current and upcoming challenges and risks as well as the concerns of major energy companies as they navigate through uncertain times. Furthermore, it will highlight the opportunities for advancement within the respective industries.

*Venue: Break-Out Session Rooms (Hall 5)*

09:00 – 10:00

**Parallel Session Four:**

**Finance & Innovation: The Way Forward**

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Emerging innovations are transforming the world at an unprecedented rate. Many sectors are being transformed by new technologies and the financial services sector is no exception. We are currently witnessing new entrants addressing multiple functions of the financial services industry across platforms such as payments, insurance, investment management, deposits and lending, market provisioning and even capital raising. In this session we will explore the disruptions that are making the largest impact on the various functions of financial services and what it means for financial institutions, customers and the entire financial ecosystem.

*Venue: Break-Out Session Rooms (Hall 5)*

