



agenda

2024 meira annual conference & awards

**Bridging Opportunities: Accelerating IR
in the Middle Eastern Capital Markets**

11 December - Day 1

8:15 - 9:15	Registration and Networking
9:25 - 9:30	Welcome Remarks by H.E Ghannam Butti Al Mazrouei , Chairman, Abu Dhabi Securities Exchanges (ADX)
9:30 - 9:35	Special Message by H.E Dr. Maryam Butti Al Suwaidi , CEO, Securities & Commodities Authority of the UAE
9:35 - 9:45	Opening Keynote Speech by Klaus Froehlich , Group CIO at ADNOC Group
9:45 - 9:50	Remarks by Andrew Tarbuck , Chair, MEIRA
9:50 - 10:25	PANEL 1 GCC CEO Exchanges: The Rise of the GCC: Unlocking Growth and Value Creation in the Regional Capital Markets <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engine Room of Growth: Unveiling the key drivers propelling the GCC's capital markets to new heights.• Crafting a Compelling Narrative: Strategies for crafting a captivating equity story that resonates with investors in the GCC.• Value Proposition 101: Effectively communicating value creation strategies and ensuring investor alignment.• The Regulatory Advantage: Exploring the role of evolving regulatory frameworks in fostering market growth and stability.• Benchmarking Success: Delving into real-world case studies of successful value creation within the GCC.• Economic Winds of Change: Analyzing the impact of broader economic trends on the trajectory of GCC capital markets. <p>Moderator: Peter Gotke, Board Director, MEIRA</p>

Panelists:

Sh. Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa, CEO, Bahrain Bourse

Mr. Haitham Salim Al Salmi, CEO, Muscat Stock Exchange

Mr. Mohammed Sulaiman Al-Rumaih, CEO, Saudi Exchange

Mr. Abdulla Salem Al Nuaimi, Group CEO, Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange

Mr. Hamed Ali, CEO, DFM & Nasdaq

10:25 - 10:40

CASE STUDY– Delivering IR Excellence: ADNOC Drilling

Presented by:

Abdulrahman AlSeiri, Chief Executive Officer, ADNOC Drilling

Youssef Salem, Chief Financial Officer, ADNOC Drilling

10:40 - 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 - 11:05

Ceremony – Announcing new TABADUL member

11:05 - 11:35

PANEL 2

Bridging the Divide – Fungibility and the Future of Cross-Exchange Trading

- **Dual Listing Dilemmas:** Demystifying the complexities of dual listings and navigating the challenges posed by regulatory disparities across exchanges.
- **Connecting the Dots:** Exploring cutting-edge innovations that enhance connectivity and interoperability among global stock exchanges.
- **Fungibility: Friend or Foe?** Analyzing the impact of trading fungibility on market liquidity, arbitrage strategies, and overall market efficiency.
- **Building a Regulatory Bridge:** Discussing the need for collaborative regulatory frameworks to streamline trading environments and facilitate cross-exchange activity.
- **Benefits for All:** Identifying the advantages of cross-exchange trading for both institutional and retail investors.
- **The Future is Now:** Unveiling emerging trends and technologies that are revolutionizing cross exchange trading and shaping the future of market access.

Moderator:

Matthew O'Keefe, Managing Director, FTI Consulting

Panelists:

Saker Asllan, Chief Exchange Operations Officer, Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX)

Tony Tooma, Senior Vice President, Middle East & Africa Sales, BNY Mellon

Zahi Bsaibes, Head of Primary Markets, Middle East, London Stock Exchange

Redwan Ahmed, Group Senior Vice President - Investor Relations, DP World

11:35 - 12:05

PANEL 3

The C-Suite Viewpoint: Why Investor Relations Matters

- **From Trust to Value:** Building a foundation of trust and transparency through effective investor relations.
- **The IR Advantage:** Unlocking the power of strategic investor relations to boost market valuation and shareholder confidence.
- **Communication is Key:** Developing clear and consistent investor communication strategies for long-term success.
- **Beyond Compliance:** Exploring the role of investor relations in fostering strong corporate governance practices.
- **Navigating Rough Waters:** Proactive engagement during market volatility and building investor resilience.
- **The Long Game:** Attracting and retaining long-term investment through a robust investor relations program.

Moderator:

Marwa AlMaskati, Senior Director - Partnership Development, Sustainability and Communication, Bahrain Bourse

Panelists:

Peter Van Driel, Chief Financial Officer, ADNOC Gas

Sh. Ghassan Al Hashar, Chief Financial Officer, Omantel

Hubert Lafeuille, Chief Financial Officer, Arabian Drilling

Chris Wilson, Chief Financial Officer, Aldar Investment

12:05 - 12:25

FIRESIDE CHAT – Investor Engagement Best Practices.

A view from Blackrock

Presented by:

Manuel Isaza, Director, BlackRock Investment Stewardship,
Blackrock

Paolo Casamassima, Chief Executive Officer, MEIRA

12:25 - 12:55

PANEL 4

The Future Is Now: AI and Digital Transformation in Investor Relations

- **Digital Revolution in IR:** Most impactful digital tools applicable for IR and what it means for the scope of IR role. Recommended methods to enhance efficiency of financial reporting and analysis through AI.
- **Rising Influence of AI:** How AI is transforming IR workflows and processes. Emerging channels and methods of communication. Best practices for integrating AI-driven tools.
- **Data Demystified:** Leveraging data analytics to gain deeper insights into investor behaviour and preferences, peers and market sentiment. Leading practices for ensuring data integrity and accuracy.
- **The Power of Personalization:** Utilizing digital insights to develop targeted and personalized IR strategies, including around communication and investor targeting.
- **Regulatory considerations:** Measures to ensure transparency and accountability when utilization digital tools and AI Digital compliance.

Moderator:

Roger Brian Tejwani, Senior Director - Investor Relations,
Presight

Panelists:

David Grunfeld, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Aiiro AI
Malshini Silva, Chief Operating Officer, Smart Media, The
Annual Report Company

Abdulwahab Zarah, Investor Relations Director, First Mills
Company

Alicia Gallego Martinez, Founder & Chief Executive Officer,
Audere Strategies

12:55 - 14:00

LUNCH

12:55 - 14:00

CORPORATE ACCESS 1

14:00 - 14:45

CORPORATE ACCESS 2

15:00 - 15:45

CORPORATE ACCESS 3

16:00 - 16:45

CORPORATE ACCESS 4

17:00 - 17:45

CORPORATE ACCESS 5

18:00 - 18:45

CORPORATE ACCESS 6 (OPTIONAL)

19:00

END

14:00 - 15:00

12th GCC CEO Exchanges Meeting

(Closed-Door, by invitation only)

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

Workshops run in couples simultaneously and last for 25 mins

14:00 - 14:25

WORKSHOP 1: Empowering The Region's Retail Investors - by Edelman Smithfield

Presented by:

Issam Kassabieh, Account Director, Investor Relations, Edelman Smithfield

Ali Abdin, IR and Financial Communications Account Manager, Edelman Smithfield

WORKSHOP 2: Navigating Regulatory Compliance and Emerging Considerations - by Instictif Partners

Presented by:

Pablo Alday, Managing Partner, Instictif Partners

14:30 - 14:55

WORKSHOP 3: The Integrated Reporting (and Thinking) Journey: A Case Study - by Smart Media

Presented by:

Malshini Silva, Chief Operating Officer, Smart Media The Annual Report Company

WORKSHOP 4: Mastering Earnings Calls – Best Practices for Engaging and Informative Earnings Events - by Lumi Global

Presented by:

Sylvie Harton, Chief Business Strategy Officer, Lumi Global

14:55 - 15:15

COFFEE BREAK

15:15 - 15:40

AFTERNOON PANEL – Integrating Governance and Investor Relations, by MEIRA and GCC BDI

Introduction and Remarks:

Andrew Tarbuck, Partner-Head of Capital Markets, Al Tamimi & Company Chairman, MEIRA

Moderator:

John Gollifer, Chief Executive Officer, GCC Board Directors Institute

Panelists:

Amani Korayeim, Director, Corporate Product & Strategic Partnerships Europe & Emerging EMEA, Extel

Eline Hilal, Director Investor Relations & Board Secretary, Aluminum Bahrain

Marc Hammoud, VP - Head of Investor Relations, Abu Dhabi Ports Group

15:45 - 16:10

WORKSHOP 5: Engaging North American Investors: Strategic Outreach for GCC Issuers - by InspIR Connect

Presented by:

Jeff Tewlow, Managing Director, InspIR Connect

WORKSHOP 6: Tabadul Session: Increase your global investor base via Tabadul Exchange Hub - by Tabadul

Presented by:

Saker Asllan, Chief Exchange Operations Officer, ADX

16:15 - 16:40

WORKSHOP 7: Mastering Reports: Guiding Newcomers and Overcoming Key Challenges for Experienced Professionals - by Fanda

Presented by:

Guy Lane, Head of Content, Fanda

Mikhail Seleznev, Senior Reporting Consultant and Sustainability Expert, Fanda

WORKSHOP 8: Leveraging AI to improve engagement with stakeholders - by Nasdaq

Presented by:

James Tickner, AVP – Head of Product, IR Intelligence, Nasdaq

Abishek Singh, Senior Director Investor Relations, Nasdaq

16:45 - 17:10

WORKSHOP 9: Speaker Coaching and Story Telling for C-Suite and IROs - by Mediatree

Presented by:

Laurence Borde, Founder, Mediatree

17:10

END

12 December - Day 2

8:30 - 9:30

Registration and Networking

9:30 - 9:45

Key Insights and highlights from day 1

Paolo Casamassima, Chief Executive Officer, MEIRA

09:45 - 10:20

PANEL 5

Decoding Global Capital Markets: Reviewing the year, Navigating the future

- **2024: A Year of Surprises?** Dissecting the forces shaping global equity markets in 2024 and analyzing if they matched pre-year expectations.
- **Divergence and Dominance:** Examining the performance gap between developed and emerging markets, and whether it will persist in 2025.
- **Sectorial Shifts:** Analyzing divergences in sector performance across global and regional markets, with insights for 2025.
- **The GCC Laggard:** Unveiling the reasons behind the GCC's underperformance within emerging markets.
- **GCC Spotlight:** Understanding investor sentiment and portfolio performance in the region in 2024 and potential catalysts for a turnaround.
- **GCC Fundamentals for Growth:** Identifying the GCC markets with the strongest fundamentals for success in 2025.
- **Regulatory Reform in the GCC:** Discussing key regulatory changes needed to enhance the competitiveness of regional markets.
- **Beyond Equities:** The outlook for global debt capital markets and anticipated trends for the coming year.
- **Investor Relations Blueprint:** Extracting actionable insights for IR teams to help their companies thrive regardless of market conditions.

Moderator:

Tatiana Volochkovich, Senior Manager, Investor Relations, ADNOC

Panelists:

Edward Bell, Acting Group Head of Research and Chief Economist, Emirates NBD

Simon Williams, Chief Economist CEEMEA, HSBC Bank Middle East

Faisal AlAzmeH, Executive Director, Head of CEEMEA Research, Goldman Sachs

Shakir Iqbal, Executive Director Head of CEEMEA Equity Sales, JPMorgan Chase Bank

10:20 - 10:35

Fireside Chat – Managing IR during time of crisis. Retaining existing and attracting new investors

Moderator:

Paolo Casamassima, Chief Executive Officer, MEIRA

Presented by:

Kamel Hussein, Chief Strategic Relations & Engagement Officer, Bank of Palestine

10:35 - 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 - 11:15

CASE STUDY – “IR Survey Presentation – What the Buy Side Value Most”, by Instinctif Partners

Presented by:

Matthew Smallwood, Managing Partner & Head of Capital Markets, Instinctif Partners

PANEL 6

Navigating the Investor Maze: Asset Management Strategies for a Multifaceted Audience

- **Catering to the Crowd:** Unpacking the diverse needs of shareholders – from sovereign wealth funds with long-term goals to retail investors seeking immediate returns.
- **Quants on the Rise:** Tailoring investment strategies to meet the data-driven requirements of quantitative investors.
- **Sovereign Wealth - A Different Breed:** Demystifying the unique investment style and expectations of sovereign wealth funds.
- **Bridging the Gap with Retail Investors:** Building trust through transparency and clear communication.
- **Tech-Powered Solutions:** Leveraging technology and data analytics to manage diverse shareholder demands effectively.
- **Market Dynamics at Play:** How changing market trends are influencing shareholder expectations and subsequently, asset management strategies.
- **Asia institutional investor view of Middle East markets**
- **China and Hong Kong policy outlook:** trends toward increased Middle East cooperation
- **Sell-side perspective on Middle East equity markets:** structural trends this decade

Moderator:

Sam Ryan Siahpolo, Strategic Investor Relations Lead,
Instinctif Partners

Panelists:

Nick Mason, Senior Analyst, Mayar Capital

David Rothon, Chief Executive Officer, AD Global Investors Limited

Scott Darling, Managing Director – Equity Research, Haitong International

Manuel Isaza, Director, BlackRock Investment Stewardship, BlackRock

PANEL 7

Strategies for Building Trust and Lasting Engagement with Retail Investors

- **Winning Over the Crowd:** Exploring effective strategies for building stronger engagement and fostering trust with individual investors.
- **Empowering Through Education:** Highlighting the importance of educational initiatives that empower retail investors to make informed investment decisions.
- **Digital Dialogue:** Discussing the power of digital tools and platforms in direct personalized communication and relationship building with retail investors.
- **Learning from Leaders:** Analyzing case studies of successful retail investor engagement campaigns implemented by leading companies.
- **Navigating the Regulatory Landscape:** Exploring the regulatory implications of engaging with retail investors and best practices for maintaining trust.

Moderator:

Sylvie Harton, Chief Business Strategy Officer, Lumi Global

Panelists:

Walid Kotaich, VP Group Head of Marketing, Al Ramz Capital

Dhanya Isaac, Head of Dubai, Communications & Capital Markets, Edelman Smithfield

Anna Vasilenko, Chief Executive Officer, EM

Dr. Sabah Al-Binali, Chief Capital Markets Officer, Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX)

12:15 - 12:45

PANEL 8

The Intersection of ESG and Islamic Finance

- **Shared Values, United Goals:** Exploring the inherent alignment and potential synergies between ESG criteria and the core principles of Islamic finance.
- **Success Stories:** Highlighting real-world case studies of successful integration of ESG considerations within Islamic finance frameworks.
- **Challenges and Opportunities:** Examining the key challenges and exciting opportunities at the intersection of ESG and Islamic finance.
- **Regulatory Push for Sustainability:** Analyzing the role of regulatory frameworks in promoting the development and adoption of ESG-compliant Islamic finance products.
- **Ethical Investing on the Rise:** Considering the impact of ethical investing trends on market dynamics and investor preferences within the Islamic finance landscape.

Moderator:

Imad Al Fadel, Managing Partner – Sustainability & Climate Change Practice Lead, Renoir Consulting

Panelists:

Jasmine Mehta, Executive Director, Head of Sustainability & Climate Corporate Sales, MSCI

Fadi Al-Qutub, Chief Investment Officer, Saudi Reinsurance Co

Lamia Hariz, Head of ESG, Investor Relations, Corporate Communications & Marketing, Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank (ADIB)

Asjad Yahya, VP of Investor Relations, TAQA

12:45 - 14:00

LUNCH

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19:00	END

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

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14:00 - 14:25 **WORKSHOP 10: AI in IR - by Euroland IR**

Presented by:
Akshay Coppa, Vice President of Products and Partner,
 Euroland IR

WORKSHOP 11: Designing and managing the best capital markets event - by BRR Media

Presented by:
Julian Smith, Managing Director, BRR Media

14:30 - 14:55 **WORKSHOP 12: ISSB reporting, Ratings and Regulations. Integrating ESG Principles for Financial Success - by Sustainable Square**

Presented by:
Monaem Ben Lellahom, Group Chief Executive Officer,
 Sustainable Square Consultancy
Rach ElGolli, Senior Responsible Finance and Sustainability
 Advisor, Sustainable Square Consultancy

WORKSHOP 13: Digital Transformation: Tools to Support Your Investor Engagement Programme - by London Stock Exchange

Presented by:

James Devon, Business Development Director, London Stock Exchange (LSE)

Zahi Bsaibes, Head of Primary Markets, Middle East, London Stock Exchange (LSE)

14:55 - 15:15

COFFEE BREAK

15:15 - 15:40

WORKSHOP 14: Secondary Listings and DR Programs - by BNY Mellon

Presented by:

Tony Tooma, Senior Vice President, Middle East & Africa Sales, BNY Mellon

WORKSHOP 15: Regulations on the rise: mastering the future of sustainability reporting - by Emperor

Presented by:

Danielle Bistacchi, Senior Sustainability Consultant, Emperor

15:45 - 16:10

WORKSHOP 16: Successful strategies for International Investor Targeting - by CMI2I

Presented by:

Mark Simms, Chief Executive Officer, CMI2I

WORKSHOP 17: Best Practice in Perception Studies - by FTI Consulting

Presented by:

Matthew O'Keeffe, Managing Director, FTI Consulting

16:10

END

**Awards Gala Dinner at Emirates Palace –
BY INVITATION ONLY**