

Inter- Businesswomen councils Forum

منتدى مجلس سيدات أعمال الإمارات

HOW TO THRIVE IN A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

FIRST EDITION • 13 November 2023

FIRST EDITION OF THE ANNUAL UAE INTER-BUSINESSWOMEN COUNCILS FORUM



FIRST EDITION
FIRST EDITION
FIRST EDITION
FIRST EDITION

For the 1st time, the main businesswomen councils in the UAE are coming together connecting their business communities under a joint forum this fall 2023.

Under the CCI France UAE Women Empowerment Committee Initiative, Abu Dhabi Businesswomen Council, Dubai Businesswomen Council and Sharjah Businesswomen Council will meet for the first edition of the inter-businesswomen councils' forum, hosted by Abu Dhabi Chamber and sponsored by EDB.

THIS FORUM THEMED **HOW TO THRIVE IN A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY**

Will address 3 main hot topics, and how companies, entrepreneurs, employers, employees and individuals are navigating through them:

- PANEL DISCUSSION 01
Financial Literacy
- PANEL DISCUSSION 02
Tech and AI in Business
- PANEL DISCUSSION 03
Upcoming Trends & New Business Opportunities

Each panel will be moderated with 3 different inspirational speakers.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



- **H.E. ASMA AL FAHIM**
Chairwoman ADBWC
- **H.E. SHEIKHA HIND BINT MAJID AL QASIMI**
Chairperson, SBWC
- **MRS. FRANCOISE NIEMTCHINOW**
Honorary President CCI France UAE Women Empowerment Committee
- **NADINE HALABI**
Dubai Business Women Council, Business Development Manager
- **Ahmed Mohamed Al Naqbi**
CEO, Emirates Development Bank

FORUM AGENDA

9:00 - 9:45 AM	REGISTRATION Networking
10:00 - 10:05 AM	WELCOME NOTE H.E. Asma Al Fahim Chairwoman ADBWC
10:05 - 10:10 AM	WELCOME NOTE H.E. Sheikha Hind bint Majid Al Qasimi Chairperson - SBWC
10:10 - 10:15 AM	WELCOME NOTE Mrs. Francoise Niemtchinow Honorary President CCI France UAE Women Empowerment Committee
10:15 - 10:20 AM	WELCOME NOTE Nadine Halabi DBWC - Business Development Manager
10:20- 10:30 AM	Keynote speech Ahmed Mohamed Al Naqbi CEO of Emirates Development Bank
10:30- 11:10 AM	PANEL 1 - Financial Literacy
11:10 - 11:30 AM	COFFEE BREAK 20 MINS
11:35 - 12:15 PM	PANEL 2 - Tech & AI In Business
12:15 - 12:55 PM	PANEL 3 - Upcoming Trends and New Business Opportunities
12:55- 01:00 PM	CLOSING REMARKS MC
1:00 PM	LUNCH & NETWORKING

SPEAKERS



ALYAZIA SAEED BIN OMEIR AL MUHAIRI
Business Development Director
Al Barakah Holding



HALEEMA AL OWAIS
CEO
Sultan bin Ali Al Owais Real Estate



CLAIRE MICHELETTI
Founder & Joint Managing Director
Cosmopole Consultancy



YASMIN AL ENAZI
Cofounder, CEO and Official Ambassador Women
AI (WAI) UAE Community



DR. MAJIDA ALAZAZI
Founder & Chairwoman
M Glory Holding



GERGANA ABDULRAHMAN
Co-Founder & CEO
WILD FABRIK



SHAKER ZAINAL
Chief Business Officer
Emirates Development Bank



VALERIE HAWLEY
Director of Corporate Partnerships the Sorbonne Centre
Artificial Intelligence (SCAI)



NAIMA AL FALASI
SVP Portfolio Strategy
Mubadala



STEPHANIE BRETONNIERE
Founder & CEO
WEIMPACT

SPEAKERS

PANEL 01

Financial Literacy

- Family funds
- VC/Angel investors
- How to invest your money
- Banking facilities for entrepreneurs

THE SUSTAINABLE MUST BE THE NEW PROFITABLE



ALYAZIA AL MUHAIRI
Business Development
Director
Al Barakah Holding

Alyazia is a seasoned Professional with a proven track record in the realm of staff accommodation and hospitality. With over 10 years of experience, she has demonstrated a deep understanding of the unique needs and challenges faced by businesses in staff accommodation sector. Through her career in this industry, where she quickly rose through the ranks due to her exceptional leadership, vision, and keen market insights, Alyazia became the Business Development Director of Mayar Facilities Management and played a vital role in improving the overall quality of life for human beings across the emirates. Her extensive industry knowledge and network to drive growth and innovation has led to remarkable business expansion of the establishment that is a market leader in staff accommodation facilities. Her passion to create customized, cost-effective and employee friendly accommodation solutions, tailored to meet the unique requirements of each client enabled her to forge meaningful partnerships and providing exceptional value to the businesses and their workforce.

In her spare time, she enjoys travelling, visiting the world, and getting in touch with international brands that offer similar solutions that may be used as a benchmark. She is a well-rounded and dedicated professional who is equally committed to personal growth and development.

PANEL 01

Financial Literacy

THE SUSTAINABLE MUST BE THE NEW PROFITABLE



HALEEMA AL OWAIS
CEO
Sultan bin Ali Al Owais Real
Estate

A result oriented visionary would be the apt words to define Haleema Humaid Al Owais. This CEO of Sultan bin Ali Al Owais Real Estate, holds three full time positions in addition to managing one the country's largest privately owned real estate portfolios. Haleema joined Bin Owais Commercial as the Director of Growth and Acquisition in 2007 and was appointed as Vice Chair & Head of Corporate Governance of Moderna Contracting in 2015. At the helm of these large establishments that cover the entire scale of the construction, real estate development and real estate management businesses, this Emirati intrapreneur has proven time and again that sometimes it takes a woman to do a man's job. When Haleema entered the 'Then' male-dominated industry of real estate and construction, she was just 22 years old. Undaunted by the task ahead of her, she applied her transferable skills and pursued an education in Urban Planning to support her vision for the company that stands as one of the most sustainable industry leaders today.

Haleema alongside her team has posted an 180% growth during her term as CEO, and enabled Sultan bin Ali Al Owais to become the first private asset management company that offered a COVID Relief plan to its tenants and clients. Furthermore, under her leadership Sultan bin Ali al Owais formed an association with Sharjah Government's Ruwaad initiative to offer rent subsidies to young entrepreneurs. Today, Haleema serves as a Board Member with The Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry and is associated with InvestBank and CCI France in the same capacity.

PANEL 01
Financial Literacy

**THE SUSTAINABLE MUST
BE THE NEW PROFITABLE**



CLAIRE MICHELETTI
Founder & Joint
Managing Director
Cosmopole Consultancy

Claire is a seasoned international marketing and communications professional with 30 years' experience. Her career has seen her work all over the globe, from Australia, Indonesia, Shanghai, Manila, and all the way to Idaho USA, with Brussels and Madrid along the way.

Based in Abu Dhabi for the last 16 years, Claire has led the marketing communications functions for Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture, Sharjah Tourism & Commerce Development, Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi for Mubadala Healthcare, and been a key player in prestigious regional projects such as the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Formula One, Manchester City Football Club, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Sharjah Light Festival, and 4 country pavilions during Expo 2020 Dubai.

Claire started Cosmopole Consultancy in 2018 with a keen desire to contribute to the socioeconomic development of her beloved UAE, while also being a worthy leader to achieve the best for her team and clients alike.

Claire is passionate about Abu Dhabi, forging and sharing connections, and encouraging startups and small businesses to thrive.

PANEL 01
Financial Literacy

**THE SUSTAINABLE MUST
BE THE NEW PROFITABLE**



SHAKER ZAINAL
Chief Business Officer
Emirates Development Bank

Shaker Zainal the Chief Business Officer of Emirates Development Bank. He is responsible for aligning EDB's products and services with its vision of becoming UAE's key financial engine for economic development and industrial advancement. Shaker oversees EDB's offering to entrepreneurs and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, such as tailored financing and digital banking products, as well as non-financial support including education and advisory services around advancing innovation, generating in-country value, financial literacy, and creditworthiness.

Shaker brings with him over 25 years of banking experience in the areas of operations, retail banking, SME and commercial banking and previously held positions at CBI, Mashreq Bank, and HSBC. He also serves as a banking and accounting expert to the UAE Ministry of Justice and the courts in UAE.

Shaker holds an executive MBA from HULT International Business School in Boston, USA, and a bachelor's degree in Accounting from the UAE University.

PANEL 02
Tech and AI in Business

**SHIFTING THE WAY
WE DO BUSINESS**



VALERIE HAWLEY
Director of Corporate
Partnerships the Sorbonne
Centre Artificial Intelligence
(SCAI)

Valerie is passionate about new technologies and especially Web 3 technologies and generative AI. She is an active investor in this space. She is a General Partner with True Global Ventures (TGV). TGV is a global Venture Capital firm built by a group of serial entrepreneurs with a solid track record of investing their own money together with Limited Partners into ventures run by serial entrepreneurs.

Portfolio companies leverage web3 technologies, incorporating blockchain and generative AI as competitive advantages to drive change with proven products. She is also a member of the AI Investment committee for Helion Ventures, VC fund and a member of the FAST Company Middle East – AI subcommittee and Council member.

PANEL 02
Tech and AI in Business

**SHIFTING THE WAY
WE DO BUSINESS**



NAIMA AL FALASI
SVP Portfolio Strategy
Mubadala

Naima is Senior Vice President Portfolio Strategy at Mubadala. She holds Master Degrees in both Computer Science and Finance & Investments.

Throughout her career, Naima has built a multi-industry expertise working for International Banks, Fintech Giants and Public Sector more recently. She has held several positions in strategy and transformation contributing to the economic diversification of the Emirates of Abu Dhabi. Naima is actively engaged in building AI Strategies for Business.

She is also a member of the Women in AI (UAE) and a member of the Women Empowerment Core Committee of CCI France. Naima will soon be completing an Executive Program in Artificial Intelligence at MIT Sloan School of Management.

PANEL 02

Tech and AI in Business

SHIFTING THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS



YASMIN AL ENAZI
Cofounder, CEO and Official
Ambassador Women
AI (WAI) UAE Community

With more than 10 years of experience in Engineering Business, and leading projects in the field of technology and innovation. Eng. Al Enazi helps organizations to find the best solutions for their business.

Eng. Al Enazi joined Women in Ai global in 2019 and establish with 3 ladies the Women in Ai UAE chapter with the mission to empower women of UAE community in Ai felid.

Eng. Al Enazi joined 01 Government origination in Jan 2021 and recently focused on new field related to GOV-Tech and innovation related to digital transformation happening in MENA region and global south Governments.

Prior to that, she worked with two tech companies (KUKA Robotic system partner called DGWorld Robotics and Siemens system partner called Raban Al Safine). Her experience with multinational companies like Siemens and KUKA Robotics has added to her knowledge and expertise in digital economy and transformation. In 2018, she was chosen for "The best 100 faces representing Emirati women" by the Emirates Women's Union and Al Bayan newspaper. She is also a member of "I am an Engineer" organization the first Arabic regional platform offering help for new engineers and training.

PANEL 03

Upcoming Trends & New Business Opportunities

SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS AND POST COP28 BUSINESSES IN THE UAE



DR. MAJIDA ALAZAZI
Founder & Chairwoman
M Glory Holding

She is the first Emirati in the Middle East with a Doctorate of Business (DBA) in Supply Chain Management and Manufacturing from UAE University. On the faith of the importance of this sector to support the economic diversity in the UAE and seeking her passion to be a pioneer of this sector, she opened a car factory to be the first woman in the world to own such factory.

She succeed to be a famous businesswoman in the UAE. She is the founder and Chief Executive Officer/ Chairman of various companies i.e., Sandstorm Motor Vehicles Manufacturing LLC, Office Touch Furniture Factory, SANDWAVES, M Glory Holding and other medium-sized companies. In her quest of the challenges, she sought to conquer new fields through applied studies, her experiences in the private sector and through searching for new and distinctive fields, inspired by leaders of the State; H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Over the last 23 years, Alazazi has held numerous positions in various sectors, both Governmental and Semi-Governmental companies, in an attempt to repay the country's generosity. She has a membership of the Abu-Dhabi Businesswomen Council, the Emirates Volunteer Society...etc. and she has several researches in the Fourth Industrial Revolution and its impact on the UAE industry.

PANEL 03

Upcoming Trends & New Business Opportunities

SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS AND POST COP28 BUSINESSES IN THE UAE



GERGANA ABDULRAHMAN
Co-Founder & CEO
WILD FABRIK

With over 15 years experience in startups, Gergana is a highly ambitious entrepreneur with a good eye for building strong brands.

Naturally analytical yet creative, with a passion to drive others towards achieving their best potential. Her hands-on mentality gives her the ability to set up efficient business processes, build brands, products, and manage P&Ls.

Apart from various independent consulting roles she takes on, she is currently the Co-founder and CEO for WILD FABRIK, a sustainable e-commerce marketplace changing the world of online retail with our planet in mind. Her goal is to find truth and build the narrative as she continues her journey towards making the region more sustainable.

PANEL 03

Upcoming Trends & New Business Opportunities

SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS AND POST COP28 BUSINESSES IN THE UAE



STEPHANIE BRETONNIERE
Founder & CEO
WEIMPACT

Stéphanie is a Futurist Advisor and Impact Technology Catalyst, Founder & CEO of WE IMPACT.WORLD, a Community-Led Impact-as-a-Service Ecosystem leapfrogging organizations through a holistic and Divergent Thinking Transformation fused with Digital Technologies, ESG, and purpose.

Stéphanie is a member of the World Economic Forum Expert Network, sits on various Boards, and was recently awarded 2023 FORBES 40 WOMEN, 2023 TOP 100 INNOVATOR, and 2022 TOP 100 WOMEN OF THE FUTURE. Lately, Stéphanie became B Corp Leader and also joined the 100 DAVOS WOMEN. In 2021, during her TEDx talk, she introduced the Impact Hacking Framework™ Model.

MODERATORS



SALMA SAKHNINI
Chief Executive Officer
 EDB
ICON Investment
Consultants

Thought Leader & Business Advisor to CEOs and Board of Directors. Salma Sakhnini graduated with an MBA from Yale University and a BA from the American University of Beirut (AUB). Salma is the Founder and CEO of ICON, a boutique advisory firm focused on growth.

She previously held a number of senior leadership positions including, working as Vice President with Citibank and as Chief Operating Officer with Rasmala Investments.

Renowned for being “The Strategist for Success”, Salma has advises and mentors seasoned leaders in Strategy, Success and Business Transformation and Leap Growth. Salma’s passion for making a difference in people’s lives has led her since the age of seventeen to always play an active role in the community through working on issues closest to her heart, education, empowerment, women, and youth.

She is a strong believer in nurturing the partnership between the community and the private and public sectors and in the role business must play in giving back to the community. She is a keynote speaker and in various regional and international conferences and summits.

Winner of:

- Named as Emirates Women of The Year 2016
- Winner of Executive Women Award 2016
- GCC Women Leadership Award 2017
- Middle East Company of The Year 2019
- Middle East Business Leaders of The Year 2019

MODERATORS



ANN BOOTHELLO
Co-founder
 Exponential Individuals (ExI)

Ann Boothello is an impact-for-good entrepreneur, speaker, coach, poet, dancer and philanthropist. She focuses on building initiatives that serve in upgrading society’s concept of wealth & well-being. These include: Her personal business transformation & leadership coaching brand - Ann Boothello, Web3 token economy decentralized app -Unit Network & A well-being movement that embraces technology - Exponential Individuals. She has 14+ years of experience holding senior leadership roles in the online marketplace arena, real estate industry, and the advertising industry and +4 years as an entrepreneur. She is a Singularity University, Flow Genome Project & MIT Sloan Artificial Intelligence & Business Strategy alumna. Her passion lies at the intersection of consciousness, art & technology. She has invested significantly both time & capital into her own inner journey as she believes that only when we truly “know thyself,” can we be leaders who serve others well and leave a legacy.



DANIELA ROSSI
Founder
 @Unlimited Podcast
 Platform

A strategic, creative and dynamic professional and startups enthusiast with 19 years international experience in: Buying, Merchandising, Category Management, Brand and Product Development across Beauty, Fashion and Home in Omnichannel, E-commerce and Traditional Retail.

Proven track record of developing successful assortment strategies, ultimately driving revenue and improving bottom line profitability. A persuasive and articulated communicator with a strong passion for deep brand relationships.

ORGANIZERS



SUPPORTED BY



EMPOWER
CONNECT
GROW

Inter- Businesswomen councils Forum

منتدى مجلس سيدات أعمال الإمارات

HOW TO THRIVE IN A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

FIRST EDITION • 13 November 2023