



# 18<sup>th</sup> Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference

Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

11-13 November 2019



# 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution: Shaping The Future Digital disruptions for a better tomorrow



IN ASSOCIATION  
WITH



المؤسسة العربية لضمان  
الاستثمار والتأمين الصادرات  
The Arab Investment & Export  
Credit Guarantee Corporation





Under the patronage of His Majesty  
**KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA**  
King of Bahrain



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**Bahrain: Your next business destination,  
your home**

Bahrain, meaning two seas in Arabic, has historically been the commercial crossroad for over 4000 years. Being at a geographically strategic position with easy access to the rest of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries as well as the surrounding Arab nations, Bahrain has long been a focal point for trade in the region. As the first GCC nation to move away from its dependence on oil, Bahrain is today the region's most diversified and sustainable economy and leading financial hub.

Bahrain is a leading example of a business-friendly nation with no free zone restrictions, 100% foreign ownership for a majority of activities and low operating costs.

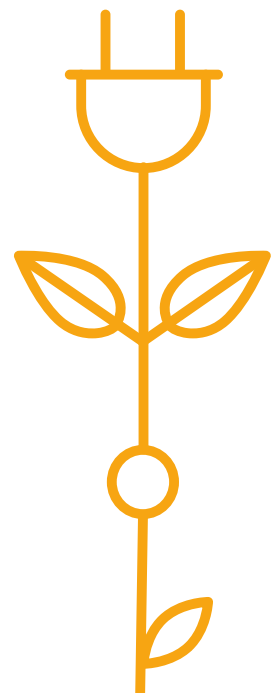
Being bestowed with many international accolades has further validated Bahrain's business conducive environment welcoming people from across borders. "Best country to invest in": Rated 1st, based on capital investments and country rankings in "Doing business", "Global competitiveness" and "Human development" reports (Source: Conway 2017, Competitiveness Advocacy).

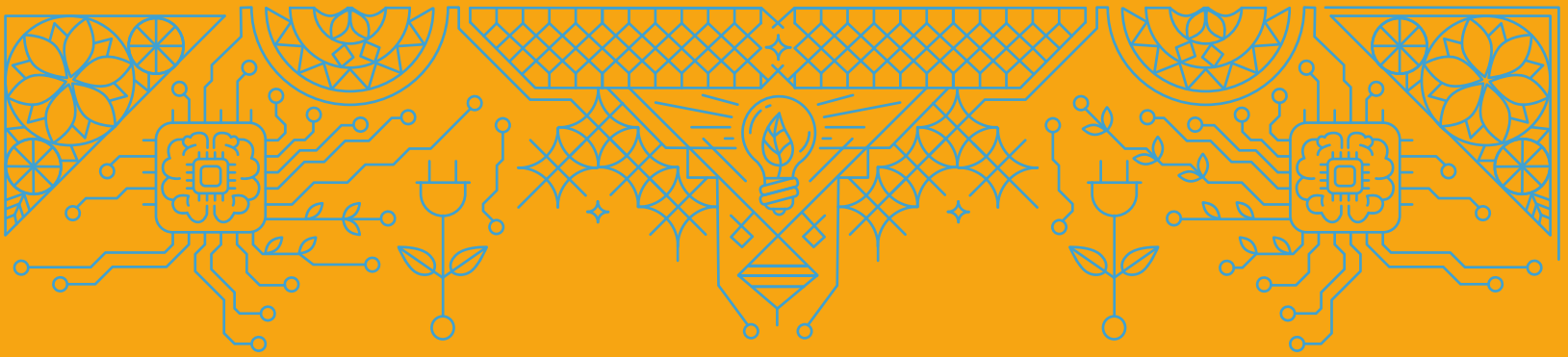
With an extensive experience and a well established institutional framework, Bahrain is a leading financial services hub that can place businesses on the map at the center of a growing concentration of wealth and talent. The regional market is expected to be valued at USD 2 trillion by 2020 (Source: Bahrain Economic Development Board) and financial companies located in Bahrain will be at the focal point of the GCC as well as the wider MENA region.

The financial sector is the largest contributor at 17% and the manufacturing sector is the second largest non-oil contributor to real GDP with a contribution of 15%. (Source: Bahrain Economic Development Board).

The government, local businesses and the people of Bahrain have collectively contributed to past successes through a constant drive to accelerate the market. Thus Bahrain is ready to adopt the next challenge as the digital age dawns on the global market. Bahrain is ranked 10th globally in mobile penetration rate (158.4%), 5th globally in mobile broadband penetration rate (147.3%) and 3rd globally for the percentage of internet users (98%) (Source: Global Competitiveness Report published by the World Economic Forum, Oct 2018).

Moving forward, Bahrain is ready to cement its place as a major hub of innovation situated at the vanguard of a new global digital economy as it accommodates emerging developments in the market.





## About Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) plays a vital role in shaping the national economy of Bahrain and creating a rapidly advancing private sector, since its inception in 1939. With a vision to become the leading voice of the business community and an influential partner in economic decision-making, the BCCI strives to contribute significantly to implement Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.

2019 marks BCCI's 80 years in Bahrain, in which it has successfully consolidated its efforts to stimulate the growth and expansion of the private sector as well as empowered its role in the development of the public sector. BCCI is the first chamber of commerce in the region and has been evolving its spectrum of services continuously to meet the needs of the country's fast evolving business environment.

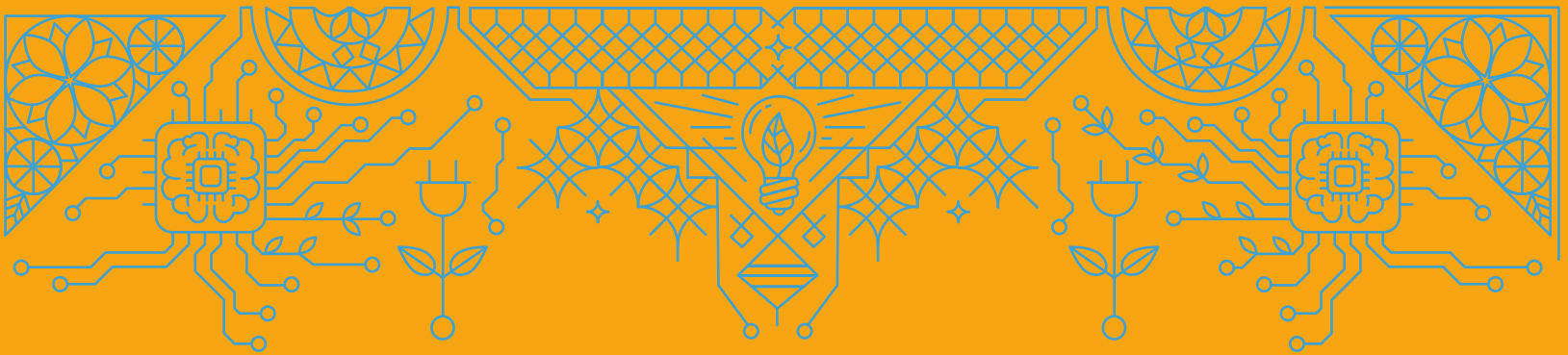
## Optimising on the 4th Industrial Revolution

The 4th Industrial Revolution (IR 4.0) defines the current and developing environment in which disruptive technologies and trends such as the Internet of Things (IoT), robotics, virtual reality (VR) and artificial intelligence (AI) are changing the way we live and work. It is a new chapter in human development, enabled by extraordinary technological advances commensurate with those of the first, second and third industrial revolutions.

The 4th Industrial Revolution has made paradigm changes in the way society and businesses have been functioning and is about more than just technology-driven incremental change; it is an opportunity to help varied stakeholders, including leaders, policy-makers and the general population from all income groups and nations, to harness converging technologies in order to create an inclusive, human-centered future. The real opportunity is to look beyond technology and find ways to enable the greatest number of people to positively impact their families, organizations and communities.

Aptly therefore, the focus of the 18th Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference is on the impact of the 4th Industrial Revolution on the Arab world and the BCCI is delighted to invite representatives from all over the region and the world to explore the possibilities, challenges and most efficient ways of adapting this revolution to obtain a dramatically improved future.





## 18th Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference

Under the auspices of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain, Bahrain has been chosen as the destination for the esteemed 18th Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference (ABIC) and the 3rd edition of the World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum 2019 (WEIF 2019). With the slogan: "4th Industrial Revolution: Shaping the future - Digital disruptions for a better tomorrow", the events will be held in parallel and run concurrently in the Kingdom of Bahrain from November 11 to 13th 2019.

Organized and supported by the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Union of Arab Chambers, Arab League, The Arab Investment and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO ITPO Bahrain), this edition of the Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference will represent an Arab economic and investment gathering to lead the investment in the 4th Industrial Revolution and digital innovation in Arab countries in this field.

### THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE 18TH ARAB BUSINESSMEN AND INVESTORS CONFERENCE (ABIC) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- ✦ Drive investment in entrepreneurship and innovation in the digital revolution in the Arab world, and to enhance the regulatory cooperation between the Arab countries in this field.
- ✦ Highlight opportunities and challenges of the 4th Industrial Revolution to key stakeholders from the private and public sectors.
- ✦ Understand the need to move ahead and align with global developments and disruptive innovations which are driving major breakthroughs across many industries and sectors.
- ✦ Empower the audience with the knowhow needed to effectively be part of the transformation that Industry 4.0 is bringing and emphasize on the need to embrace technological innovation as a means of fostering entrepreneurship and productivity.

# Leading Influential Experts

The conference is a platform for influential voices including heads of nations, technology leaders, political statesmen, financial experts, economic decision makers and celebrities that are shaping industries globally. The expertise at the ABIC will not only enrich those attending with their experiences and knowledge on IR 4.0 but also bring to the table a global perspective on the future of manufacturing, business, environment, people and nations.



**PRESIDENT TOOMAS ILVES**  
PRESIDENT OF ESTONIA (2006-2016)



**PETER DIAMANDIS**  
ENGINEER, PHYSICIAN, AND ENTREPRENEUR  
BEST KNOWN FOR BEING THE FOUNDER  
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE XPRIZE FOUNDATION



**JEFF HOFFMAN**  
AWARD WINNING ENTREPRENEUR  
AND CEO, CO-AUTHOR OF SCALE -  
PROVEN PRINCIPLES TO GROW  
YOUR BUSINESS



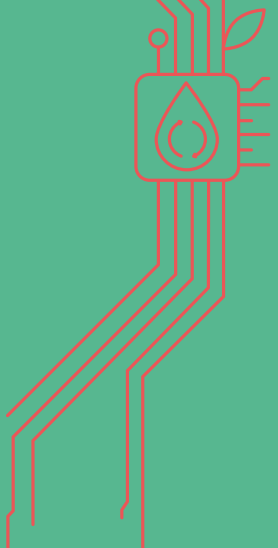
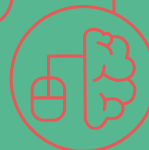
**SALIM ISMAIL**  
FOUNDING EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR OF SINGULARITY  
UNIVERSITY AND CO-FOUNDER  
AND CHAIRMAN OF OPENEXO



**AARON HESLEHURST**  
AWARD WINNING BBC WORLD  
NEWS TV PRESENTER



**RICHARD QUEST**  
RENOWNED CNN  
BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT





# Leading Influential Experts

## BADR AL OLAMA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE  
AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE AT  
MUBADALA INVESTMENT COMPANY



## ABDULLA MOHAMMED AL ZAMIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND  
A BOARD MEMBER OF ZAMIL INDUSTRIAL  
(PUBLIC JOINT STOCK CO.)



## HAZEM BEN-GACEM

CO-CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT INVESTCORP



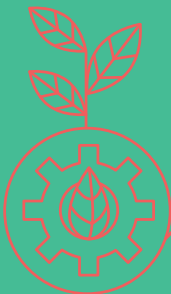
## JONATHAN ORTMANS

PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
NETWORK, CHAIRMAN OF GLOBAL  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONGRESS



## ABDALLAH OBEIKAN

CEO OF OBEIKAN INVESTMENT GROUP



## Participants

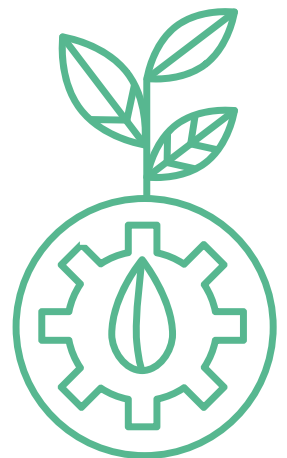
The conference is set to attract 1500 participants from across the globe, including key policy decision makers and influential government officials, regulators, potential business investors and entrepreneurs, Arab chambers of commerce and joint chambers, global influencers such as celebrities and public figures, youth and organisations.



## Agenda (Topics/Sessions)

Leading speakers from around the globe have been carefully selected based on their expertise, to throw light on topics to be discussed in the following agenda:

- ✦ AN INTELLIGENT FUTURE FOR ALL; INNOVATION, ETHICS AND DIVERSIFICATION
- ✦ PERSPECTIVES OF THE GLOBAL ECOSYSTEM AND FUNDING CHALLENGES
- ✦ INNOVATION DRIVES BUSINESS: INTEGRATING DISRUPTIVE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES ACROSS BUSINESS PORTFOLIOS
- ✦ INNOVATION AND DISRUPTION OF TECHNOLOGY
- ✦ EMBEDDING INDUSTRY 4.0 IN CORPORATE CULTURE AND OPERATIONS
- ✦ IDENTIFYING RETURNS THROUGH ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS AND PRIVATE ASSET CLASSES
- ✦ ARAB ENTREPRENEURSHIP RALLY 2019
- ✦ DISRUPT OR BE DISRUPTED - THE ROAD TO A DIGITECH TRANSFORMATION: A DIALOGUE WITH POLICYMAKERS

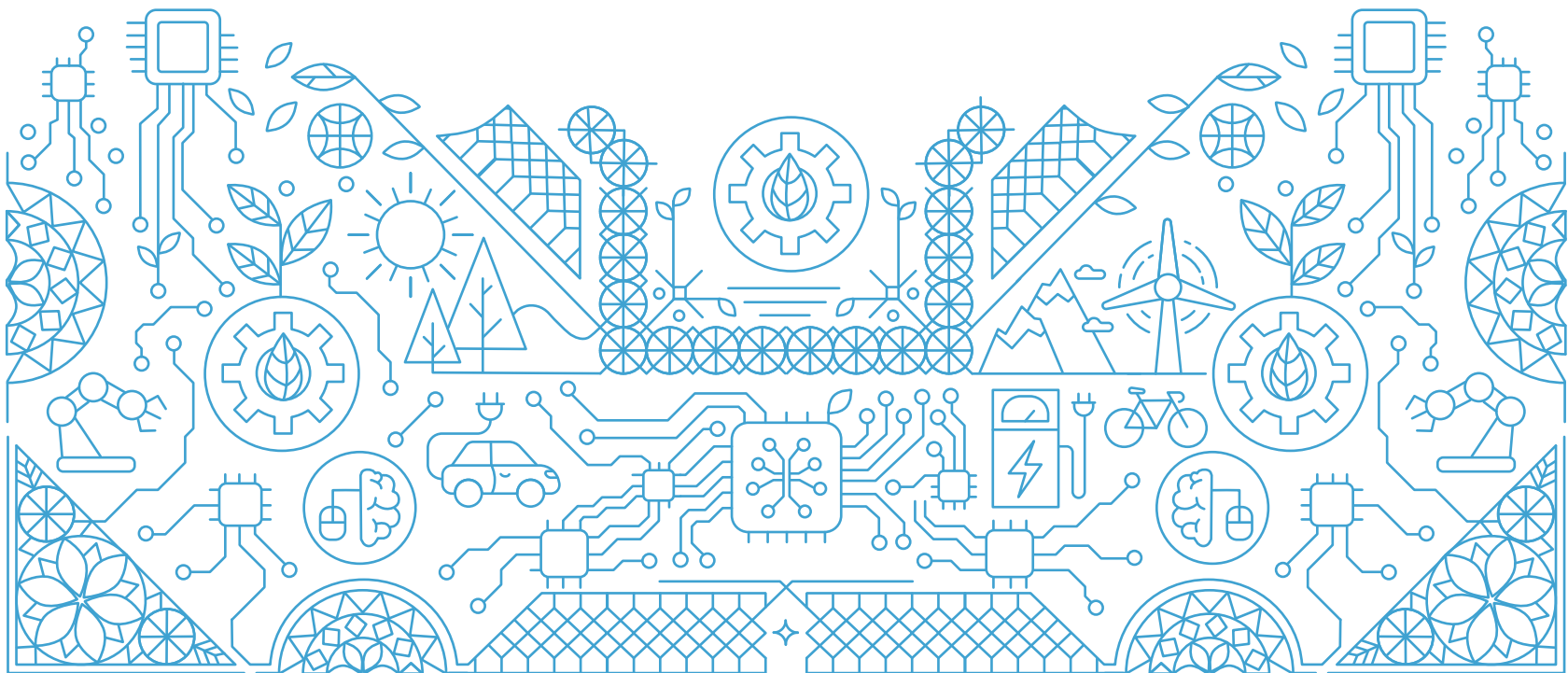


# World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum 2019

The 3rd edition of the World Entrepreneurs Investment Forum 2019 (WEIF 2019) will be held in the Kingdom of Bahrain concurrently with the 18th Arab Businessmen and Investors Conference between November 12 to 13, 2019. The event is organized by UNIDO ITPO Bahrain, in partnership with the Union of Arab Chambers and the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

In line with the success achieved during the previous versions of WEIF; this year's main theme is "Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through Entrepreneurship & Innovation" but with special focus on "Investing in the 4th Industrial Revolution in a Digital Economy".

WEIF 2019 will highlight and promote the role of impactful investment and innovation towards economic development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Discussions will also focus on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead of developing countries, particularly in the Middle East, North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa, in attaining these goals.





world  
**Entrepreneurs  
Investment  
forum**

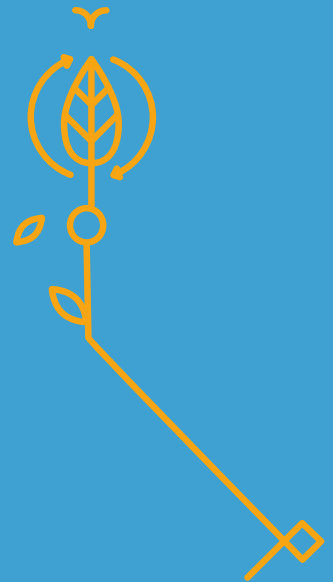
With an impressive group of speakers, experts, entrepreneurs, investors, academics, financial institutions and high leveled senior officials some of the following sub themes will be open for discussion:

#### WEIF 2019 SUB-THEMES

1. The Role of Entrepreneurship Towards Addressing Challenges in the Arab Region & Africa
2. Financial Inclusion 4.0 for Entrepreneurs
3. Institutionalizing Innovation
4. Industry 4.0
5. Education 4.0

#### WEIF PARALLEL SIDE EVENTS

- ✦ **2nd International Conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Investment:**  
Role of Education and Universities
- ✦ **Sustainable Investments for Agenda 2030:**  
Investing in Green Technologies  
**Young Business Hub Start-up Investment Summit**





**We look forward to seeing you  
in the Kingdom of Bahrain soon!**

 @abic2019

 @abic2019

 Bahrain Chamber of Commerce & Industry

[www.abic2019.bh](http://www.abic2019.bh)

Register here

