

**Under the Patronage of  
His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi  
Member of the Supreme Council - Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah**



**7<sup>th</sup> Arab Conference and Exhibition for Investment in Food Security  
"Investing in Technology and in Ending Waste for Sustainable  
Food Security in the Arab World"**

**Brochure**

11 - 12 December 2019

**Ras Al Khaimah - United Arab Emirates**

**Organizers**



الأمن الغذائي  
FOOD SECURITY



**In Corporation With**



Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council - Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, the Union of Arab Chambers and the Ras Al Khaimah Chamber of Commerce and Industry are organizing “**The 7th Arab Conference and Exhibition for Investment in Food Security**” in the United Arab Emirates in Ras Al Khaimah on 11-12 December 2019. The Conference will be convened in cooperation with the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the UAE, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and the Ministry of State for Future Food Security of the United Arab Emirates, League of Arab States, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and other Arab regional related organizations. It will be attended by the Arab Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Arab and international companies and food security related leading international organizations.

The Conference will be held under the theme "**Investing in Technology and in Ending Waste for Sustainable Food Security in the Arab World**". It comes after the success of the previous six conferences held by the Union of Arab Chambers in continuous efforts to enhance the investment role of the Arab private sector in achieving food security. Progress needs to embrace modern concepts and technologies, and to rely on the dynamism of the private sector and its ability to keep abreast of advances in sustainability and technology to enhance production and food safety.

The Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah of the United Arab Emirates was chosen to host this event in view of the economic development achieved and the progress realized in industry, agriculture, trade and cultural accomplishments in various levels. The Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah is endowed with potentials for agriculture, animal wealth, fisheries and food manufacturing, thanks to its fertile soil, advanced industrial base and communications network and strategic location at the entrance of the Arabian Gulf. Ras Al Khaimah is well placed to play a vital role in agricultural production diversification and marketing for the United Arab Emirates, in addition to its importance as a major logistic hub for manufacturing and marketing in the Arab region.

In a record period, Ras Al Khaimah has made noteworthy strides that placed the Emirate among the top 30 economies on the ease of doing business in the categories for subnational economies according to World Bank report of 2019. The Emirate has also stepped up as the best regulatory performer globally in efficiency in the process to resolve commercial disputes in courts. It has also shown significant improvement in the ease of issuing business licenses, work and residence permits, in addition to its advanced infrastructure and strategic location that attracted global brands, multinational corporations, investors and entrepreneurs from around the world.

The conference will elaborate on the current state of food security in the Arab world and review the modern technological alternatives available to approach this pivotal issue in

major partnership with the Arab private sector. It will address the increasing challenges, the innovative strategies, projects, programs and policies that are necessary for the sustainable management of natural resources and for reducing waste of resources in the Arab countries.

The Conference seeks to discuss the national strategies of the Arab countries in this field, and to explore new opportunities for mobilizing the capacities of the Arab private sector to achieve a qualitative leap in investments in order to respond to the needs and priorities of the Arab world. This will require to approach food security in the context of the sustainable development goals 2030. The approach needs to be solidly based on science, technology and innovation, whether for the national projects or for regional schemes.

The Arab world is facing many challenges because of the scarcity and deterioration in natural resources, in conjunction with the growing demand and the escalation of waste practices, while there are several Arab countries suffering from conflicts and economic and social crises, which are becoming frequent and exacerbated by climate change. Some positive indicators reflect progress in per capita food production, decrease in malnutrition in non-conflict-affected countries, and the success of some countries in putting agriculture on the path of sustainable structural transformation. However, there are other indicators of concern, as the number of people suffering from acute hunger in the Arab world is up by 12.3% from 33 million in 2017 to more than 37 million in 2018, as compared with a decline in the world figure by 8.9%, according to the estimates of the United Nations. The new level represents more than 9% of the total population in the Arab countries, and there are 11 Arab countries suffering from this human tragedy, mainly in Yemen, Syria and Sudan accounting for 77.2% of the total.

These figures are unprecedented for the region, while droughts and extreme climatic fluctuations are increasing due to climate change. The Arab world is located in geographic desert belt that is one of the driest areas in the world. No region in the world is more vulnerable to climate change than the Arab world. There is also no other region where the impact of potential threats to rapid climate change on security and stability has been so clear.

There is no longer a choice between traditional methods and modernity. The only option today for the Arab world is to adopt sustainable farming techniques and to benefit from modern technologies and smart farming techniques made available by agricultural technology and the fourth industrial revolution in order to deal with climate challenges, limited resources, and to improve production and efficiency and reverse the mounting waste trends.

### **Objectives of the Conference**

- Opening up more horizons for projects to use technology and modern discoveries and their economic applications in order to modernize the agricultural sectors in the Arab countries.
- Explore UAE's experience and achievements, and introduce promising investment opportunities in food security.
- Exchange knowledge and experiences between Arab and foreign businessmen and experts and Arab and international institutions, and to learn about the latest and future food technologies and waste management, and activate Arab and international cooperation in these areas.
- Introduce promising investment opportunities, and promote encouraging agricultural and food projects, in addition to identifying legislation reform requirements and for eliminating investment obstacles.

### **Organizers**

- Union of Arab Chambers.
- Ras Al Khaimah Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce and Industry.
- Ministry of Climate Change and Environment in the United Arab Emirates.
- Food Security Office of the United Arab Emirates.

### **In cooperation with**

- Secretariat General of the League of Arab States.
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development.
- Arab Organization for Agricultural Development.
- Arab Federation for Food Industries.

### **Conference Sessions & Topics**

The Opening Session will be held on the evening of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Conference and the Working Sessions will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day to cover the following topics:

- **1<sup>st</sup> Session: «Technology, Investment and finance: Opportunities and Challenges».**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Session: «Mutual Prospects for Sustainable Arab Food Security - Role of Arab and International Organizations».**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Session: «Ending Waste for a Hunger-free Arab World».**
- **4<sup>th</sup> Session: «Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Sustainable Agricultural and Food Production –Arab & International Experiences».**

**Conference participants**

- Ministries and related official bodies in the host country.
- Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture in the Arab World.
- Arab – Foreign Joint Chambers of Commerce.
- Arab and foreign business owners and investors.
- Arab, regional and international organizations concerned with food security.
- Arab-Foreign Joint Chambers.
- Companies involved in agricultural, food, industrial, commercial and investment business activities.
- Banks and financing institutions.

**Participation Coordinated by:**

- **Union of Arab Chambers**

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