PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORS

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HAWKAMAH THE INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE

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Hisham Mansour

Hisham Mansour is best known building and growing trusted institutions that empower traders worldwide.

As Co-Founder and Chairman of CFI Financial Group, he plays a central role in shaping the company's strategic vision and guiding its expansion into a leading global brokerage. His leadership is marked by a commitment to innovation, transparency, and client-first solutions—principles that continue to define CFI's success.

Previously, Hisham Mansour was Co-Founder and Group Chief Executive Officer of MIG Bank, a renowned Swiss based bank that was focused on online trading. Hisham led and grew the bank until it was merged with another Swiss bank in 2014.

With a sharp focus on advancing access to global markets, Hisham is dedicated to fostering growth, strengthening industry standards, and ensuring CFI remains at the forefront of financial services.

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Abdulaziz Ziad Galadari

Abdulaziz Ziad Galadari is a UAE-based entrepreneur and investor with active interests across real estate, private ventures, mobility solutions, and strategic asset development. He focuses on long-term value creation, governance-led growth, and disciplined capital allocation across diversified sectors.

Having successfully completed the Director Development Program, Abdulaziz is committed to strengthening board oversight, risk governance, and sustainable strategy execution. He brings an owner-operator perspective to governance, with practical experience in scaling ventures, evaluating investment opportunities, and structuring growth initiatives in emerging markets.

In addition to his commercial activities, Abdulaziz is involved in Arabian horse breeding and bloodline development, applying strategic pairing, genetic evaluation, and international market positioning to premium pedigree assets — reflecting his broader philosophy of legacy building and multi-generational value creation.

Abdulaziz advocates for structured governance frameworks that balance entrepreneurial agility with institutional discipline, ensuring resilience, transparency, and long-term stakeholder alignment.

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Sunil Edwards

Sunil Edwards is the Chief Internal Auditor at Bank of Sharjah. With extensive experience across the UAE and the GCC, he specialises in internal audit, risk management, governance, and financial crime compliance, supporting strong regulatory alignment and effective risk oversight.

Sunil holds globally recognised certifications including Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA), and Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS), along with an MBA in Finance. He has completed executive education programmes in Board Governance (IMD, Switzerland), Fintech (Harvard University), Organisational Design for Digital Transformation (MIT), Business Relations (London School of Economics), and Removing Barriers to Change in Organisations (Wharton).

He serves as Chair of the UAE Banks Federation (UBF) Internal Audit Committee. He actively contributes to the profession as a Mentor to Chief Audit Executives under the Global Internal Audit Association programme, a member of the CAE Majlis of the UAE Internal Auditors Association (UAE IAA), and an Ambassador of the UAE IAA.

He has keen interests in renewables, sustainable solutions, conservation and financial inclusion.

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Ayesha AlDhafri Al Mehiri

Ayesha AlDhafri Al Mehiri is a prominent Emirati HR leader and people strategist with over 17 years of experience across real estate, logistics, and semi-government sectors, she has led transformative HR initiatives that align organizational culture, governance, and capability with business strategy.

Her career includes key leadership roles at DP World and Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority, where she designed and executed performance-based HR models, enabled digital transformation, and built resilient people infrastructures. At Al Bayari, she has spearheaded HR transformation efforts and played a pivotal role in driving the Group's international expansion leading the establishment of operations in Jeddah and other emerging real estate markets across the region.

Ayesha also contributed to her organizations' recognition in prestigious excellence programs, including the Dubai Quality Award (DQA), the Sheikh Khalifa Excellence Award (SKEA), and the Dubai Human Development Award (DHDA) advancing organizational capabilities through structured evaluation and excellence frameworks.

She is known for her strategic partnership with boards and CEOs, translating business vision into practical HR frameworks through initiatives such as succession planning, HR digitization, Emiratization, and inclusive leadership development. Her governance-driven approach is grounded in global standards.

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Ahmad Matar Al Mheiri

Ahmad is the Executive Vice President of Business Services at TECOM Group. He leads efforts in customer service, leasing, commercial services, and venue management, on top of all that. His priority is to digitalize the customer journey by continuously enhancing the AXS smart platform, aiming to provide a seamless one-stop shop for customers, business professionals, entrepreneurs, specialists, and students across TECOM's business districts.

Since joining TECOM Group in 2017 as Executive Director of AXS, Ahmad has driven several digital transformation initiatives and the adoption of advanced technologies, helping evolve the platform into a streamlined, 24-hour service experience.
Before TECOM, Ahmad held senior leadership roles at Twofour54. Between 2016 and 2017, he served as Executive Director of Business Development, Real Estate, and Government Services, overseeing leasing, partner relations, and government relations. Before that, from 2014 to 2016, he was Executive Director of Business Development and Property Management.

With over 15 years of experience working within UAE free zones, Ahmad has built a strong background across business development, operations, and government-facing services. Earlier in his career, he worked with Khalifa Industrial Zone and Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority.

In addition to his executive role, Ahmad has been a Board Member at Al Sagr Insurance Company since 2025.

Ahmad holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management from Dubai University College in the UAE.

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Elie Kawkabani

Elie Kawkabani is a senior media and digital economy executive with over 30 years of experience across the GCC, MENA, and international markets. He has held leadership roles across publicly listed companies and large-scale strategic initiatives, bringing deep expertise in corporate strategy, business development, partnerships, and investment across the full media value chain, including content production, distribution, and digital platforms.

He is the Founder and CEO of Confluence Media Advisory, where he advises corporates, investors, and government entities on growth strategy, market entry, and ecosystem development within the creative industries. His advisory work includes supporting capital allocation decisions, evaluating content and platform investments, structuring strategic partnerships, and aligning commercial models with sustainable, long-term value creation. He has worked extensively at the intersection of public and private sectors, contributing to initiatives that require strong stakeholder alignment and governance discipline.

Previously, Elie served as Senior Vice President of Business Development at OSN, where he was responsible for strategic partnerships and revenue growth initiatives, and as Executive Director of Business Development and Partnerships at NEOM Media Industries. In this role, he contributed to the development of a new media ecosystem and engaged with global studios, investors, and industry stakeholders to position Saudi Arabia as an emerging international production hub aligned with national transformation objectives.

A Certified Professional Director, Elie brings a governance-focused approach to board roles, with strengths in strategy oversight, investment evaluation, risk management, and partnership governance. He is particularly well suited to organizations undergoing transformation, expansion, or digital transition, and to boards requiring expertise in media, technology, and emerging market environments.

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Osamah Al Hamadani

Osamah Al Hamdani is a senior banking executive with over 29 years of experience in the UAE financial sector primarily in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, offering a strong board-facing perspective shaped by sustained exposure to strategy, governance, risk oversight, and institutional performance monitoring across corporate, business, and retail banking environments.

He currently serves as Deputy CEO (UAE) at Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK), where he maintains close and regular engagement with the Board of Directors of the Bank and Board Committees through strategic discussions, management reporting, and performance reviews.

His role includes contributing to the formation of bank-wide strategic priorities, supporting their execution through senior management oversight, and monitoring performance against approved objectives, risk appetite, and capital parameters. Osamah is also involved in the oversight of general banking operations, portfolio quality, and governance matters, ensuring alignment with regulatory requirements and shareholder expectations.

Previously, Osamah held senior leadership roles at Ajman Bank, where he supervised large corporate and mid-market banking activities across the UAE with main focus on Dubai and Abu Dhabi. He contributed to strengthening credit governance, control discipline, and exposure review processes in support of sustainable growth.

Osamah brings a measured, governance-focused perspective, with particular strength in risk-aware growth oversight, strategic judgement, and the ability to bridge board-level intent with disciplined execution monitoring, shaped by extensive experience across Dubai and Abu Dhabi's competitive and fast paced financial and institutional environments

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Rana Sha'sha'a

Rana leads PwC's Forensic practice in the Middle East and serves as the regional Government and Public Sector Forensic Leader. With over 20 years of international experience, she leads complex investigations, crisis management situations and high-value litigation matters across the public and private sectors. Rana advises clients throughout the litigation lifecycle, from pre-action strategies to expert evidence, with a strong focus on value preservation and asset recovery. She has led significant cross-border matters across EMEA and has provided expert testimony before courts and arbitration forums in the US, UK and Southeast Asia. Rana has worked closely with in-house legal teams, external counsel, and senior stakeholders, and has played a key role in shaping the forensic services landscape in the region over the past decade

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Shannon Cole

Shannon Cole is a global finance and technology executive with over 20 years of leadership experience across the Middle East, Asia Pacific, Europe, and the United States. Based in Dubai for significant portions of her career, she brings strong regional expertise combined with global executive oversight in regulated, technology-driven industries.

She currently serves as Vice President, Finance Research and Advisory at Gartner, leading global research on CFO effectiveness, AI and digital governance, enterprise risk, and organizational transformation. She advises boards, sovereign stakeholders, and government leaders on strengthening governance frameworks, enhancing transparency, and aligning capital allocation with long-term strategy.

Shannon previously held executive roles at IBM, including CFO of IBM Watson Health AI products portfolio and CFO for IBM Financing Asia Pacific, overseeing more than US$1 billion in assets. Earlier in her career in Dubai, Shannon led mergers and acquisitions and public-private partnerships across the Middle East and Africa. She brings deep expertise in audit and risk oversight, digital governance, commercial partnerships, and cross-border M&A across the Middle East and Africa.

Shannon holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and London Business School, and a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy from Bentley University.

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Abdulla Bahroozyan

Abdulla Bahroozyan is Executive Vice President – Engineering at TECOM Group with nearly two decades of leadership experience in project development, facilities management, and health, safety, and environmental (HSE) operations. He oversees large-scale projects and manages an extensive asset portfolio, driving operational excellence and sustainability initiatives across diverse sectors.

Abdulla has a proven track record of delivering high-impact projects, implementing energy-efficient solutions, and achieving significant cost optimizations. His leadership has been instrumental in introducing renewable energy projects, consolidating facilities management operations, and adopting advanced technologies. He is recognized for his ability to build high-performing teams, technical leadership, and strategic planning.

Abdulla holds a Master's degree in Project Management from the British University in Dubai and a Bachelor's in Civil Engineering from Higher Colleges of Technology.

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Rita Allan

Rita Allan is the General Counsel - International Projects at Abu Dhabi Ports Group, as of June 2022. She is responsible for the legal aspects of international projects across all business clusters in the Group, in line with the Group's ambitious strategic vision and goals.

Previously, Rita worked in private practice in Dubai, and prior to that had gained extensive projects, construction and energy experience from both private practice and in-house roles in Norway and the UK, having qualified as an English Solicitor in 2005.

She has a wide range of experience in large scale international construction, engineering and infrastructure projects, such as power plants (including renewable energy), oil and gas facilities, petrochemical plants, hospitals, prisons, schools, tunnels and transportation links. Many of these were project financed, whether by international financing consortia or institutions, PPP/PFI or similar. Rita can assist in the negotiation and drafting of all legal or contractual documents both in English and in her native German.

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Anwar Sammour

Dedicated financial director with over two decades of experience in steering the financial success of prominent organizations in the UAE.

As a strategic leader, I have played a pivotal role as both Chief Financial Officer and Board Member at Intermass Engineering & Contracting Co. L.L.C, contributing to the group's expansion and diversification across various industries, including construction, hospitality, and real estate. My passion lies in shaping corporate strategies, fostering growth, and driving financial excellence.

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Bobby Varghese

Bobby Varghese is an accomplished finance leader with over 26 years of experience guiding financial strategy, transformation, and governance across multinational corporations and joint ventures in the maritime, logistics, industrial, real estate, and software sectors throughout the Middle East, Europe, and Asia. As SVP–Group Finance at AD Ports Group, Bobby leads Corporate Financial Accounting, FP&A, and Performance functions, reporting directly to the Group CFO in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Board-Ready Leadership Profile:

- Demonstrated board-level oversight as an Audit Committee member for an AD Ports Group subsidiary, providing strategic direction and robust risk management.
- Directed enterprise-wide transformation initiatives, delivering over $80M in EBITDA growth and $122M in annual cost savings.
- Successfully raised $4B+ in capital through syndicated loans, bonds, and structured financing, supporting long-term organizational growth.
- Led IPO readiness and credit rating programs for major infrastructure companies, ensuring strong financial governance and compliance.
- Advised Boards and CEOs on M&A, corporate restructuring, and strategic growth, fostering high-impact decision-making and sustainable value creation.
- Championed ERP and Oracle Fusion implementations, optimizing financial reporting, operational efficiency, and governance frameworks.

Bobby is recognized for building and inspiring high-performing teams, scaling finance organizations, and unlocking enterprise value across diverse geographies. A recipient of multiple awards for financial excellence and leadership, Bobby was named one of India's "Top 100 CFOs" by CFO 100 magazine in December 2010 and the AD Ports "Mafnood" award winner in the "Executive Director" category in 2024.

Bobby holds a bachelor's degree in commerce from Kerala University, is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA, USA), and a Chartered Accountant (FCA, India). Bobby resides in Dubai, UAE, and enjoys spending time with family and listening to music.

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Syed Aley

Syed Aley is a certified audit, compliance, and governance leader with 25+ years of professional exposure spanning across diverse industries (Energy / Utilities / Defense / Logistics / Agribusiness sectors), multiple regulations (SCA, ADAA, CMA, UK Listing Rules, IIA, SCCE, OECD/UN) and multi-jurisdictional environments (inclusive of UAE, UK/EU, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and North Africa for SWF/SOEs, MNCs, PLCs, JVs).

Aley also serves on various board audit committees in the MENA Region.

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Ram Kumar Sunkari

Dynamic and visionary board leader with over 25 years of international experience guiding business transformation, strategic investment, and corporate governance across the Middle East, USA, and India. Currently serving as Executive Director and CFO at Sharaf DG, Ram Kumar has played a pivotal role in scaling an $800M+ multi-vertical enterprise through disciplined governance, financial innovation, and technology-driven transformation.

A trusted advisor to CEOs and boards, Ram Kumar is known for steering organizations through volatile market cycles and restructuring initiatives while safeguarding stakeholder value. His leadership spans finance, M&A, retail expansion, and digital integration—anchored by a deep commitment to ethical governance, risk oversight, and sustainable growth.

Board & Governance Leadership

- Board Experience:
- Non-Executive Board Member across three Sharaf Group companies in Fashion, Travel, and Logistics, contributing to governance frameworks, performance monitoring, and long-term strategic planning.
- Governance & Oversight:
- Led audit, risk, and investment committees; established internal control systems and compliance frameworks aligned with international standards.
- Strategic Stewardship:
- Partnered to restructure Sharaf DG into distinct business entities and verticals, enhancing transparency, accountability, and investor confidence.
- Sustainability & Innovation:
- Championed renewable energy initiatives and built Sharaf DG's solar business from inception, creating new revenue streams and advancing ESG objectives.

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Dr. Ismaeil Al Zarooni

Dr. Ismaeil Al Zarooni is the Vice President for the International Programme at AD Ports Group. In his current capacity, he is responsible for managing the asset delivery of AD Ports Group's global Infrastructure investment portfolio.

Dr. Al Zarooni is a Civil Engineer by profession and is experienced in managing the planning and delivery of major infrastructure projects. He has successfully managed the planning and delivery of major transportation and infrastructure projects, including seaports, maritime, and airport developments.

Before joining AD Ports Group, Dr. Al Zarooni held various roles including: Programme Director, responsible for the development of a high tech security facility in Abu Dhabi and Vice President, Planning and Development, at Abu Dhabi Airports Company, where he was responsible for management of the $3 Billion Support Facilities Programme at Abu Dhabi Airport in addition to managing the design of the Abu Dhabi Airport Midfield Terminal Complex (Sheikh Zayed Terminal).

Al Zarooni holds a PhD degree from School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds; Master of Science (DIC), Concrete Structures, from Imperial College, University of London; and a Bachelor of Engineering, Second Class Honours (Upper Division), Civil Engineering, from University of Southampton. He also completed numerous leadership programmes and training courses across a variety of asset management related activities

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Ramie Murray

Ramie Murray is a serial entrepreneur with a proven track record of building, scaling, and successfully exiting high-growth businesses focused exclusively in the Middle East. Originally from Scotland and raised in Dubai, his ventures have spanned property marketing ("The Big Picture FZ"), renewable energy ("Mahd Energy" in Oman), and sustainable aquaculture.

In 2016, Ramie established Dibba Bay Oysters in Fujairah, growing it to capture 50% of the UAE market and establishing it as a benchmark for sustainable, home-grown gourmet brands prior to its successful sale in 2024. His regional experience also includes launching F&B ventures (Dibba Bay Restaurants) and pearl farming (Fujairah Pearls LLC).

Recently earning his corporate governance certification from Hawkamah, Ramie now combines this formal governance expertise with his unique blend of deep, practical regional experience. His strengths lie in commercial market strategy, stakeholder management, brand building and sustainability.

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Nadia Bardawil

Nadia Bardawil is an award-winning legal executive and board director with over 15 years of international experience in the energy, utilities, and infrastructure sectors. Currently Chief Legal Counsel at Tabreed, a leading district cooling company listed on the Dubai Financial Market, Nadia oversees legal, regulatory, and compliance functions across the UAE, Saudi Arabia, India, Egypt, and Bahrain. She is a key member of Tabreed's Executive Management team, working closely with the Board and Board Committees to drive strategic growth and operational excellence.

Nadia's career spans senior leadership roles at Masdar—where she served as General Counsel and Executive Committee member during a period of rapid global expansion—and Mubadala Investment Company, where she led legal and governance support for a portfolio of over 200 UAE assets, including landmark M&A and green hydrogen joint ventures. Her earlier experience includes more than a decade at Shearman & Sterling LLP in London and Abu Dhabi, advising on complex project financings and cross-border transactions.

A trusted advisor on major projects worldwide, Nadia has played a pivotal role in the development, financing, and acquisition of some of the world's largest renewable energy and infrastructure projects, including the 900MW DEWA 3 solar PV plant in Dubai, the London Array offshore wind farm, and multiple waste-to-energy and district cooling concessions.

Nadia is a board member of PJA DCP Holding Limited and Dubai Parks Investment Company, and has served on the boards and committees of leading organizations in the UAE, including Masdar and the American Community School in Abu Dhabi. She is a frequent speaker and panelist on topics such as clean energy transition, ESG, and diversity in leadership, and has been recognized as a Chambers "GC Influencer" and one of the top 10 most influential GCs by Business Leader.
Nadia holds an LL.B. (Hons) from Brunel University and is admitted to practice in England & Wales.

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Kevin Chalhoub

Kevin Chalhoub is the Founder and CEO of EV LAB, the Middle East's first multi-brand electric mobility platform. After completing a master's degree in clean energy and working in the solar sector at NEXTracker, his passion for innovation has led him to create EVLAB which aims to drive the transition to sustainable mobility through education and expertise.

Kevin was previously a consultant with Bain & Company. Additionally, he has a Bachelor's Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Imperial College London and a Master's degree in Atmosphere & Clean Energy from Stanford University.

Kevin is interested in board positions in sustainability, sports, and tech, more specifically in renewable energy, electric vehicles, indoor farming, tennis, football, basketball, and tech development.

- Founder & CEO of EVLAB
- Family Board Member of the Chalhoub Group
- Head of Tumi Middle East
- Former Sales engineer at NEXTracker
- Former Consultant at Bain & Company
- Masters in Clean Energy at Stanford University
- Bachelor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Imperial College London

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Moises Blanco

Moises Blanco is a distinguished executive leader and public board director renowned for his strategic acumen in international relations, sustainable development, and multilateral governance, driving transformative outcomes across sectors and regions. He brings a rare blend of vision, operational rigor, and cooperation to board and advisory roles, experience he now channels into pragmatic, risk-aware boardroom judgment.

With two decades of global experience spanning America, China, CIS, Europe, and MENAT, Blanco has excelled in senior roles within blue economy and public-private deals. His executive portfolio encompasses advising top levels and PEPs at multi-level Governments, optimizing operational excellence through data-driven analytics, while launching scalable programs that foster economic transformation and stakeholder alignment – from micro-strategies to 12-figure multiannual budgets.
Blanco's board credentials are marked by his chairing and governance roles in interregional funds, including the transversal Interact program, dedicated to elevating governance standards across 107 multilateral endeavors. This experience has honed his expertise in navigating complex regulatory landscapes, resource mobilization, and cross-border collaboration, making him an invaluable asset for boards seeking resilient growth in mature and emerging markets.

A Certified MSc. Engineer, LL.M. in Maritime Commercial Law, and Qualified UN Auditor, his capabilities development pursuits provide wide-angle geopolitical vision: CAST-China Society of Engineers, AI for Public Servants by Stanford and Apolitical, Executive Scale Up at Harvard and MIT, and the Director Development Program for Corporate Governance by the prestigious Hawkamah Institute.
Living in Dubai, Blanco is deeply engaged in the UAE's vision, embodying a commitment to exemplary board practices. Outside the office, he is a certified classic pianoforte player, backs blue projects and community efforts, focusing on performance, inclusion, and creating value for all.

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Yousef Alriyami

Yousef Alriyami is the Chief Technology and Innovation Officer of the Maritime and Shipping Cluster at AD Ports Group, where he leads large-scale digital transformation across maritime, logistics, and trade ecosystems. With over two decades of experience spanning technology leadership, program management, and digital product development, he has built a distinguished track record of designing and delivering high-impact digital platforms. Yousef has spearheaded flagship initiatives including the Abu Dhabi Trade Single Window (ATLP) and Maritime digital platforms, integrating more than 30 stakeholders and 800+ services into unified smart trade solutions.

Yousef holds a master's degree in information technology with honors from the Higher Colleges of Technology. He is passionate about leveraging AI, data platforms, and digital ecosystems to drive trade facilitation, operational efficiency, and business competitiveness. He is widely recognized for his ability to align technology innovation with business growth, earning accolades such as the 2024 PMI Technology Project Award.

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Rashid Al Hosani

Rashid Al Hosani is a senior technology and strategy executive with a proven record of delivering growth and transformation across trade, logistics, and digitalization. He currently serves as Chief Strategy & Growth Officer – Digital Cluster at Abu Dhabi Ports Group, where he leads the design and execution of global growth strategies, including inorganic expansion through acquisitions and partnerships, and organic growth through commercialization of digital platforms. In this role, he drives international expansion, strategic transformations, and ecosystem partnerships that reinforce Abu Dhabi's position as a global trade and logistics hub.

Before assuming his current role, Rashid was a Director at PwC Middle East, where he advised governments and regulators on national digital agendas, including ICT governance, customer experience, and future-proof strategies for taxation, industry, and trade. His earlier leadership roles at Maqta Gateway (AD Ports Group) and Yahsat reflect over a decade of driving digital marketplaces, single window systems, satellite communications, and cross-border trade facilitation initiatives. He began his career at DP World, contributing to trade facilitation and customs modernization.

Educated in Business Information Systems at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Rashid also holds certifications in business and trade facilitation. He is recognized for his ability to align digital transformation with strategic growth, mobilize global teams, and deliver measurable impact across complex and regulated environments.

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Francesco Pitea

Francesco Pitea is an international maritime executive with over two decades of experience spanning yacht sales, shipbuilding, and fleet management across Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the Americas. Since 2007 he has been based in Dubai, where he founded SF Yachts LLC in 2012, establishing it as a trusted partner for maritime retail and custom-build projects in the GCC and beyond.
His expertise includes:

• Global Maritime Strategy & Governance – Board-level oversight of complex, multi-year maritime projects with disciplined financial and risk management.
• Shipbuilding & Operations – Proven track record working with leading international shipyards, managing custom construction, procurement, and lifecycle support.

• International Business Development – Successful expansion of partnerships and client networks across key maritime hubs worldwide.
As a certified board member, Francesco contributes global perspective, strategic vision, and deep maritime expertise, supporting organizations in navigating growth, innovation, and governance within an increasingly competitive and international industry.

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Siddharth Bafna

Siddharth Bafna is Chief Products Officer at KEZAD Group, where he is responsible for leading growth strategy, product development and international business. He has over 25 years of experience in strategic, operational and leadership roles across diverse industries, including real estate, ports, shipping and logistics.

Siddharth has a rich track record in management of subsidiaries, investor relations, Joint Ventures and Public Private Partnerships across multiple businesses and geographies.

Prior to joining KEZAD Group, Siddharth held senior and leadership roles with Mahindra Group, DP World, Lodha Group and AP Moller Maersk. He has also been a Board member on multiple subsidiary and Joint Venture companies of the Mahindra Group in India.

Sidharth has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (France), and a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce from the University of Mumbai (India). He is also qualified to be a Chartered Ship Broker (UK) and has undertaken advanced management programs at Harvard Business School, INSEAD and Indian Business School.

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Fred van Veldhoven

Fred is a seasoned financial executive with a proven track record in leading transformation initiatives, optimizing operational performance, and driving strategic growth across the maritime and logistics sectors.

Fred currently serves as Chief Financial Officer – Ports Cluster at Abu Dhabi Ports Group, where he oversees FP&A, Financial Accounting, Collection, and Procurement for the Ports Business Unit. Fred is also a Board Member of CMA Terminal Khalifa, CSP Abu Dhabi Terminal, and Abu Dhabi Port's Cruise Co., contributing to strategic direction and governance across key port assets. His leadership resulted in significant improvements in collection efficiency, margin enhancement, and the deployment of modern technologies. Fred's earlier career includes senior finance roles at Hilti Emirates, Automotive Management Services, and AP Moller Maersk, where he managed regional finance teams, led complex restructurings, and executed high-value deals with global stakeholders. His achievements include implementing IFRS-compliant systems, securing export bank funding, and establishing compliance and governance frameworks.

Fred holds a Master of Science in Financial Management from Nyenrode Business Universiteit, a Bachelor of Business Administration from Hogeschool Rotterdam, and is a Chartered Management Accountant (CIMA/CGMA). He has also completed executive programs at INSEAD and George Washington University, and holds certifications in Anti-Money Laundering and Project Management.

Fluent in Dutch and English, Fred is based in Dubai and brings a global perspective shaped by his European roots and extensive experience across the Middle East, Africa, and Central Asia.

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Ali Mohamed

Ali Mohamed is a Director of Strategic Projects in the maritime and shipping unit at Abu Dhabi Ports Group mandated to expand the market share through organic and inorganic growth in addition to bringing new investment opportunities that fit Abu Dhabi Ports Group strategy.

Ali has more than 13 years of experience in investment and business development across diverse industries, including energy (upstream oil & gas), education, and maritime logistics. He has contributed to several major Mubadala Energy transactions, such as the Red Sea offshore exploration block in Egypt and the strategic divestment of assets in Thailand. At AD Ports, Ali has also led unique initiatives, including coordinating with the Red Crescent to dispatch tons of humanitarian aid shipments, which successfully reached Gaza under extremely challenging wartime conditions and supported as well in the conversion of a RoRo vessel into a floating hospital to provide critical medical care to injured Palestinians in Gaza. In addition, He frequently represents his organizations in local and international business delegations, building strategic partnerships and driving new opportunities.

Ali holds a Master Degree in Business Administration from Abu Dhabi University and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Finance from Barry University, Miami Florida, United States. Besides, he has completed a number of leadership, negotiation, and financial modeling courses and programs.

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Mohammad Al Mheiri

Mohammad Al Mheiri is the General Manager of Khalifa Port. With over 20 years of experience across the maritime and logistics sector, he has played a central role in strengthening Abu Dhabi's global competitiveness in trade, supply chain, and port operations.

In his role, Mohammad leads the strategic direction of Khalifa Port, ensuring operational excellence, sustainable growth, and long-term profitability. He advises senior leadership on business development opportunities, represents, and works closely with government entities, strategic partners, and global stakeholders to reinforce Abu Dhabi's position as a leading logistics hub.

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Biju Nair

Biju Nair is the Chief Audit Executive of United Arab Bank, UAE, and the current Chairman of the Banking, Insurance & Finance Subgroup of the UAE Internal Auditors Association. With more than 28 years of financial sector experience spanning Digital Banks, Islamic Banks, Conventional Banks, and Insurance Companies, he has partnered closely with Boards and Audit Committees to drive strong governance and sustainable growth.

He has been directly involved in the successful launch of two startup banks in the region and has played a leadership role in the complete transformation of a conventional bank, equipping him with deep insight into innovation, regulatory compliance, and change management. Biju also brings firsthand experience working with Boards of Banks and Insurance Companies, ensuring sound governance, regulatory compliance and risk oversight in a highly regulated sector.

In addition to traditional audit and risk leadership, Biju has broad digital expertise, including crypto assets, and evolving regulatory frameworks that shape the future of financial services. For the past 15+ years, he has reported at C-Suite and Board levels, advising on governance, risk, internal controls, digitisation, compliance, and cyber resilience.

An award-winning Chief Audit Executive, Biju is also a Board Member in a Non Profit organisation where he champions education, philanthropy, and youth development initiatives. Biju is also an international speaker, and a mentor to future leaders. He holds several leading global certifications, including:

- CIA (Certified Internal Auditor)
- CISA (Certified Information Systems Auditor)
- CISSP (Certified Information Systems Security Professional)
- CRISC (Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control)
- CRMA (Certification in Risk Management Assurance)
- CFE (Certified Fraud Examiner)

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Yaser Hamdan

Experienced executive with a record of developing and leading industrial businesses across the GCC, Turkey, and Europe.

With more than 30 years of leadership experience in the chemicals, petrochemicals, plastics, and advanced manufacturing sectors, Yaser Hamdan has built expertise in operations, commercial strategy, and business transformation across multinational markets.

He has led multicultural teams, driven growth, and established regional operations in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and across the EU, expanding market presence and building strategic partnerships. He also oversaw greenfield manufacturing projects and introduced new business lines such as Thermoplastic Elastomers (TPE).

Known for his practical insight and governance mindset, Yaser contributes strategic direction and long-term value.

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Taghrid Alsaeed

Taghrid Alsaeed is a senior executive and board member recognized for her strategic leadership across Abu Dhabi's tourism, creative economy, and government sectors.

As Executive Director at Miral, Taghrid plays a key role in advancing Abu Dhabi's global positioning as a destination for tourism, business, and cultural innovation. Beyond overseeing marketing, communications, and events, she has led strategic partnerships with the Abu Dhabi Convention & Exhibition Bureau to grow the MICE sector and initiated the Miral Impact Fund, shaping the company's CSR, sustainability, and community engagement framework in alignment with government priorities.

Previously, she held leadership roles at Mubadala, where she headed Digital Communications & Infrastructure and later led Media Intelligence & Innovation. She also served as Director of Media & Marketing for the Abu Dhabi Special Olympics World Games and played a pivotal role in establishing the Abu Dhabi Government Media Office, contributing to the emirate's unified government communications framework.

Her multidisciplinary career began at Aldar Properties, where she supported the company's brand expansion during Abu Dhabi's early real estate growth phase, and at Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank, where she launched the capital's first Islamic online banking platform and developed the marketing strategy for its real estate division.

In addition to her executive role, Taghrid serves on the Board of Miral Destination and Miral Experiences, mentors start-ups through TechStars Hub71, and collaborates with national entities including the Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development, Abu Dhabi Businesswomen Council, and Media Free Zone initiatives to empower the next generation of innovators and creators.

Taghrid holds an MBA in Strategic Management from the University of Strathclyde, a Master's in Visual Information Technology from George Mason University, and a Bachelor's in Computer Information Systems from Marymount University (Virginia, USA). She is a Certified in Professional Board Directorship and a graduate of the Harvard Executive Leadership Program.

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Rob Jackson

Rob is a proven and accomplished executive leader and board director with a wide-ranging portfolio of leadership roles across multiple industry sectors and ownership structures.

With over 30 years of global experience, Rob has held Executive positions and board engagements in diverse industry sectors including built environment (construction, real estate, technology), engineering, sports management and events, digital technology, advisory and professional standards.

His executive and boardroom credentials span publicly listed companies (PLCs), private equity–backed ventures, profit-for-purpose organizations and government bodies, private and family-owned businesses, and has served as a trusted advisor to SME's. Rob brings a deep understanding of governance, strategic transformation, and growth acceleration across mature and emerging markets.

A graduate of the University of Oxford with an MA in Earth Sciences, Rob combines analytical rigor with an ability to simplify complex issues to enable rapid and pragmatic decision-making and strategy implementation.
Outside the boardroom, he is an active sportsman and community leader, having founded, and now running a locally-focused rowing club in Dubai that promotes wellbeing, inclusion, performance and team spirit.

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Abdulsalam Al Hammadi

Abdulsalam Al Hammadi is currently an Asset Manager – Abu Dhabi region in TAQA's Generation business. He possesses a wealth of experience in the power sector, with expertise in power and water purchase agreements, project development, corporate governance and asset management. As a board member in many IWPP across Abu Dhabi, Mr. Al Hammadi brings valuable insights into navigating complex energy industry challenges and driving innovation in the power sector.

Throughout his career, Abdulsalam has been influential in shaping the organizational strategies, overseeing power and water projects and ensuing regulatory compliance in the evolving power sector. His in-depth knowledge and understanding of renewable energy integration positions him to support power and water contractual arrangements and development practices to drive competitiveness in the sector.

Mr. Al Hammadi is a graduate of Khalifa University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

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Khawla Al Nuaimi

Khawla Al Nuaimi is the Human Capital Executive Director at EWEC, a position she has held since April 2023. With over 18 years of experience in Human Capital Management, Khawla has built a reputation for delivering strategic HR initiatives that drive organizational performance and foster a culture of excellence.

Before joining EWEC, Khawla gained extensive experience across multiple industries, including energy, real estate development, finance, healthcare, and HR shared services, which allowed her to manage human capital across diverse sectors simultaneously. She has held senior roles in each of these industries, where she managed complex HR strategies and led teams to enhance organizational effectiveness. As Head of Human Resources at Aldar Projects, Khawla oversaw all aspects of HR management, including talent acquisition, employee relations, organizational development, and HR policy creation, ensuring the company's HR functions were aligned with its strategic goals. Additionally, Khawla held several senior HR roles at Mubadala Investment Company, where she played a critical role in developing HR functions, establishing manpower plans, and driving talent acquisition strategies. Khawla is known for her ability to create and implement governance frameworks, refine performance management processes, and enhance employee engagement, all of which have significantly improved business operations.

She holds a Bachelor of Business in Human Resource Management from Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University, UAE, and a Diploma in Human Resources Practice from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), UK. Khawla is also part of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) program, and her education and professional development are deeply aligned with global HR best practices.

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Khalifa Aljaberi

Khalifa Aljaberi is a Senior Investment Manager at ADQ's Energy and Utilities Cluster. In his capacity, he is responsible for the asset management duties for multiple companies under the Energy and Utilities cluster including, Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA), Emirates Water and Electricity Company (EWEC), and Emirates Nuclear Energy Company (ENEC) by monitoring and reporting financial and operational performance regularly, business planning, providing guidance and direction, and obtaining required ADQ internal approvals. He also supports various initiatives and projects transforming and growing the current portfolio.

Prior to his current role, Khalifa was part of Mubadala Investment Company's Traditional Infrastructure platform. Khalifa also worked at Masdar assessing the renewable energy industry and key industry players and identifying key trends.

Khalifa holds a bachelor's degree in Energy Engineering and a minor in Environmental Engineering from Pennsylvania State University in USA, he also earned his CFA 1 certificate upon graduation.

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Rashed Al Katheeri

Rashed Al Katheeri is an Associate Director, Financial Planning & Analysis, at ADQ. He is responsible for overseeing the financial planning and analysis functions, including budgeting, forecasting, and financial modeling, to support strategic decision-making across the organization. Rashed plays a crucial role in providing financial insights and performance metrics to the executive team.

Rashed serves on various audit committees within the ADQ group, contributing to the oversight of financial and compliance matters.

Before assuming his current role, Rashed held the position of Finance and Business Support Department Manager at ADNOC, where he focused on financial reporting and variance analysis.

Rashed holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from Abu Dhabi University and successfully completed the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certification from New Hampshire state in 2015. Additionally, he has completed Level 1 of the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) program

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Rachel Pope

Rachel Pope is the Executive Director of Financial Planning & Analysis at ADQ. In this capacity, she oversees management reporting, financial planning and forecasting processes for the ADQ Group.

Rachel is a board member and Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee at Silal, as well as a member of the Audit & Risk Committee at Unifrutti Group.

Prior to her current role, Rachel spent 15 years at Mars Incorporated in the UK and Middle East, where she held several Chief Financial Officer roles across the GCC. Rachel holds a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics & Management from the University of Cambridge, UK, and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

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Raghda Shaheen

Raghda is Vice President of Business Excellence and Business Continuity Management at TECOM Group, with 18 years of experience leading high-impact programs in Business Excellence, Strategy, Project Management, Process Re-engineering, and Quality. She has worked across public and private companies, government, and semi-government sectors, collaborating with senior leadership to enhance organizational performance and operational efficiency.

Her career spans diverse industries including Technology, Free zones/Semi-Government, Leisure and Entertainment, Banking, and Commercial Leasing. She began her career at Siemens Canada, managing Process Management Maturity, and later played a key role in establishing departments and systems at the DIFC Authority. At Dubai Parks and Resorts, Raghda defined processes, KPIs, and managed relationships with asset operators to ensure business targets were met. She also advised the Board at Al Masraf Bank before being appointed Head of Strategy and Business Performance Management.

Currently, at TECOM Group, she oversees Quality, Business Performance Management, Customer Experience, DOA Governance, and Business Continuity Management across the Group.

Raghda holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, and is accredited as a Project Management Professional (PMP), Six Sigma, and Financial Modeling and Valuation Analyst (FMVA).

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Khawla Lootah

Khawla Lootah serves as the Director of Information Technology at His Highness the Ruler's Court leading large-scale digital transformation, AI, integration, and IT innovation. With over 25 years of experience, Khawla played a key role in establishing IT functions, developing smart services, and driving enterprise technology strategies that enhance efficiency, innovation and redesigning customer experiences.

Prior to this, she held the position of director of smart services at Dubai Smart Government, overseeing the modernization of government services, implementation, and development of advanced IT systems. She also served as the program lead for the largest health systems implementation at Dubai Health Authority. Her expertise spans digital transformation, cybersecurity, and IT service management, ensuring the seamless integration of emerging technologies in public services.

A certified board member and a graduate of the Executive AI Program from Oxford University in London and holds a Bachelor's degree in computer and electronics systems engineering from Strathclyde University in Scotland. She is at the forefront of leveraging AI and digital transformation to redefine the future of government technology.

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Khuzama Al Seiari

Khuzama Al Seiari is a Lead in Asset Management at Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA), specializing in optimizing the performance of Independent Water and Power Plants (IWPPs) across the UAE. With a strong background in financial analysis and operational efficiency, she plays a key role in implementing asset management strategies, monitoring key performance indicators, and driving value creation.

Prior to her current position, Khuzama gained extensive experience as an External Auditor at Deloitte & Touche, working across multiple industries. She holds an MBA from Abu Dhabi University and a Finance degree from Zayed University, complemented by strong analytical, leadership, and interpersonal skills.

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Eng. Cyril Piaia

Eng. Cyril Piaia - A seasoned senior executive with more than two decades of leadership experience in engineering, strategy, corporate finance, merger & acquisition, real estate development & investment and master-development, Cyril Piaia currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of an international real estate developer, based in Riyadh (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

Cyril Piaia joined EMAAR, The Economic City as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in 2021, leveraging his deep knowledge of the region's hospitality and real estate sectors to steer the successful development of King Abdullah Economic City (KAEC), one of Saudi Arabia's most significant megaprojects (185 million m2, double the size of Paris city). His visionary stewardship has been central to KAEC's ongoing transformation into a leading city focused on high-end tourism and leisure, along with a world-class manufacturing and logistics hub that will help drive the Kingdom's economic diversification in line with the goals of Vision 2030.
Prior to joining Emaar, The Economic City, Mr. Piaia was a Managing Partner & Founder at Stratford & Russell, an independent network of real estate, finance, and hospitality industry professionals with multi-disciplinary expertise across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.

Previously, Mr. Piaia was Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Musstir Group for 7 years in the Sultanate of Oman, a leading international property developer operating in more than 20 countries across Middle East, East Europe and East Africa, and focused on high-end real estate mix-use development and mid-scale to ultra-luxury hospitality assets.

Mr. Piaia has also served as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Orascom Development (Egyptian multi-national real estate and hospitality development group) in Oman, developing the four largest ITC mix-use projects in Oman with residential, commercial, marinas, golf course, hotels, aiming at becoming the top tourism and residential lifestyle destination in the Sultanate.

Prior to that, Mr. Piaia was Senior Manager for leading "Big Five" Arthur Andersen in Paris, specialized in Strategy and Corporate Finance, a role that saw him lead the firm's European practice for hospitality, real estate, travel, and tourism.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Lycée Thiers in Marseille and a Master's degree in Engineering from École Centrale in Lille, both of which were graduated with honors.

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Atef AlBreiki

Atef AlBreiki is a seasoned executive with over 20 years of experience in operational leadership, strategic transformation, and financial stability. As a Senior Vice President of Operations & Maintenance, Atef oversees a multibillion-Dirham asset portfolio, driving operational excellence, capital investment optimization, and sustainable growth. An accomplished board director, Atef has served in multiple directorship roles across the GCC, contributing to strategic planning, regulatory compliance, and financial oversight. He has been instrumental in achieving organizational goals such as driving Emiratization efforts, optimizing capital expenditures, and enhancing shareholder value. Key achievements include securing investments to develop a fully autonomous operations center, spearheading a company-wide safety excellence initiative, and playing a pivotal role in executing a multibillion-dirham M&A deal. His expertise encompasses capital investments, digital transformation, and operational efficiency. Atef's global perspective is strengthened by executive education at leading institutions, including London Business School, Wharton University, and Singularity University, as well as international work experience in Europe and the USA. He holds a Master of Business Administration from London Business School and a Bachelor's Degree in Electronics Engineering Technology. Recognized for his visionary leadership, Atef is a trusted board advisor and strategist, committed to delivering transformative impact, fostering innovation, and ensuring sustainable success for organizations and stakeholders alike.

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Ahmad Al Bastaki

Ahmad Al Bastaki is a distinguished IT leader with more than 23 years of national and international experience in strategic planning, digital transformation, AI adoption, data analytics, and enterprise solutions across financial and telecommunication industries.

Ahmad is the Senior Vice President - IT at Dubai International Financial Centre Authority (DIFC). Ahmad developed the IT strategy in alignment with both DIFC-2030 strategy and Dubai Government's D33 Strategy. The IT strategy mainly focused on digitalizing customer experience, AI infusion to maximize operation efficiency, supporting corporate decisions using data analytics, and improving the agility and scalability of the IT infrastructure by adopting state of art technologies. The successful execution and management of the IT strategy has been instrumental in positioning the DIFC at the forefront of the global innovation and financial landscape. Ahmad is a key decision maker at DIFC, where he contributes to the strategic direction through active participation in committees and board discussions. He also defines the department budget, ensuring operational efficiency and effectiveness.

Before his tenure at DIFC, Ahmad was the Acting Chief Information Officer at Al Etihad Credit Bureau (AECB). At AECB, he spearheaded the revamp of digital channels to empower customers' independent purchase of financial products and managing credit solvency aspects with lending entities. Ahmad also led the Data Management department at AECB and was pivotal in negotiating the real-time, individual and company, data submission with more than 90 entities and financial institutes across the UAE.Ahmad also led the Data Analytics department at AECB who played a crucial role in developing, managing, and improving predictive models in coordination with the Central Bank of the UAE and in alignment with the economic shift of wealth segments in the UAE.

Previously, he held various director roles at du, where he optimized IT output, improved customer experience, and played a key role in the launch of Virgin Mobile in the UAE. His achievements at du include launching new telecom services using DevOps and Agile methodology in alignment with business to maintain competitive market edge. Additionally, Ahmad's early career at Etisalat involved setting up and managing the Network Services department in Sudan and managing a major part of the prepaid solution in the UAE.

Ahmad's professional journey is characterized by his strategic thinking and a strong personal drive to make a difference. His expertise in AI and leadership have consistently contributed to the growth and success of the organizations he has been a part of, making him a valuable asset for any Board of Directors.
Ahmad holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) from California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) and a Master's degree in Finance from American University in Duabi (AUD), both with honorary distinction.

Ahmad has also successfully completed the magnificent Director Development Programme for Corporate Governance (4 modules) provided by the prestigious Hawkamah Institute in 2024..

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Evgeny Rasskazov

Evgeny Rasskazov is a well-rounded business professional with 20 years of experience in leading institutions and organizations across various industries, functions and geographies.

Since 2022, Evgeny has been part of the Asset Management team at Abu Dhabi National Energy Company PJSC (TAQA), overseeing projects and investments in the US, India, Oman, Uzbekistan, and the UAE.

Evgeny started his career in investment banking at Merrill Lynch and Barclays Capital in London, UK. During this time, he specialized in M&A, capital markets, and advisory projects for companies in the energy and power sectors in the EMEA region. He later held senior roles in Strategy and Investments at Inter RAO, one of Russia's largest electricity companies, leading a team that successfully managed a portfolio of utility assets and completed several landmark acquisition, divestment and financing transactions.

Beyond the energy sector, Evgeny also served as CFO in real estate development project by one of the largest Chinese real estate developers, and as Investment Director in a family office leading origination of new opportunities and managing existing portfolio companies.
He has significant experience in developing and implementing corporate governance frameworks, including participation in the Boards and Board Committees of both private and publicly listed companies.

Evgeny holds a Bachelor of Economics degree with distinction and a Master of Economics degree from Lomonosov Moscow State University (Moscow, Russia), as well as an MBA with distinction from INSEAD (Fontainebleau, France and Singapore). Evgeny speaks Russian, English and German languages. He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

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Ryan Freeman

Ryan Freeman is an Associate Director at ADQ. He is responsible for ADQ's Infrastructure and Critical Minerals cluster, which includes asset management and identifying compelling investment opportunities, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and restructuring efforts across the Critical Minerals, Metals and Mining sectors.

Ryan serves as a Member of the Board member and part of the Investment Committee at Orion Abu Dhabi.

With over 20 years experience in the mining, metals and industrial sectors, Ryan was previously Senior Vice President at Mubadala Investment Company, as part of the Metals and Mining division. During his time at Mubadala, he was seconded into Sociedad Minera de Santander (Minesa) as General Manager of Operations. Previously, he also served as a Member of the Technical and Procurement Committees for both Minesa and Mines de Aguas Tenidas S.A. (Matsa).

Earlier in his career, Ryan held various roles in the mining industry at BHP in Australia and SRK Consulting in the United Kingdom and Russia.

Ryan holds a bachelor's degree in both Engineering (Mining Engineering) and Applied Science (Applied Geology) from University of South Australia and holds an Executive MBA from Insead.

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Abdullah Tahlak

Abdullah Tahlak is an experienced investment manager overlooking ADQ's Healthcare & Life Sciences cluster. He is a founding member of ADQ's Life Sciences team where he co-developed asset allocation strategies, drove business transformations and led various business development activities, including sourcing investment opportunities, due diligence and closing processes and government-to-government partnerships across various geographies.

He currently serves as a Board Member of Arcera, Acino, Amoun, Birgi Mefar Group and ADSS. He also serves as Chairman of the Audit & Risk Committee and Member of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee at ADSS.

Prior to joining ADQ, Abdullah served as an investment professional within Mubadala Capital's Private Equity team.

Abdullah holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a major in Finance from the American University of Sharjah

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Soufiane Hamdani

Soufiane Hamdani is an Executive Director at ADQ Group Finance, where he leads the Accounting and Financial Control function. In this role, he ensures robust statutory reporting, drives financial governance, and delivers financial oversight for mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings, and other strategic initiatives.

In addition to his executive role, Soufiane serves as a board member of Q Mobility. He is also the Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee of Contango and a member of the Audit and Risk Committees of ADX and Starzplay.

Prior to joining ADQ in 2020, Soufiane spent over 14 years at PwC, where he held various leadership roles in consulting and external audit within the MENA region. His most recent position was a Director in Capital Markets and Accounting Advisory Services, where he delivered innovative solutions to complex financial challenges.

A Chartered Accountant from Tunisia, Soufiane holds a master's degree in Accounting Sciences from the Institute of Higher Commercial Studies in Carthage (IHEC Carthage).

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Mansoor Mohamed Al Marzooqi

Mansoor Mohamed Al Marzooqi is the Director of Digital Transformation at ADQ, where he is responsible for driving the Digital Transformation, Data and AI agenda across the ADQ portfolio.

Mansoor has over 18 years of experience in Strategic Management and transformation programs with emphasis on Digital Transformation and ICT domains and has worked in the field of Oil and Gas as well as Government.

Prior to joining ADQ, Mansoor was the Executive Director of Strategic Planning Sector at the Abu Dhabi Digital Authority (ADDA) where he played a key role in managing the Abu Dhabi Digital Government strategy which aims to develop a world-class customer experience for users of government services as well as drive government modernization to achieve the vision of leading the digital future. He previously served as the lead of IT Projects Planning at ADNOC Distribution.

Mansoor holds a Master's Degree in Strategy & Human Resources Management from the University of Wollongong, and a Bachelor's Degree of Applied Science in Information Management from the Higher Colleges of Technology in the United Arab Emirates.

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Narmin Rend

Narmin Rend is an Associate Director in Human Capital at ADQ. She is responsible for Total Rewards, Performance and HC Operations, including the management of all strategic projects, GRC initiates and controls, as well as regulatory requirements.

Before assuming her current role, Narmin held the position of Acting HR Director and Head of HR Business Partners in Abu Dhabi Media. Previously, Narmin was a Senior Human Capital Manager at Healthpoint Hospital part of Mubadala Investment Company. Earlier in her career, Narmin held various roles in Human Capital within the Mubadala group of companies including the joint venture with GE Capital based in Abu Dhabi and London.

Narmin holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Sociology from Nipissing University in Canada and is a graduate of UK's University of York's master's program.

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Gary Mowat

Gary Mowat is the Vice President of Health, Safety, Security, Environment (HSSE) and Risk within the Engineering, Technical and Operational Excellence department of TAQA's Generation business. He leads the development and implementation of the business line HSSE strategy and management.

Mr. Mowat has more than 34 years of industry and technical experience within the energy sector, of which over two decades were in HSSE specific roles. Prior to joining TAQA in 2021, Mr. Mowat held senior roles at Schlumberger Oilfield Services, Tullow Oil PLC and CNR International (U.K) Limited, spanning across UK, West and East Africa. His technical experience includes developing and implementing HSSE management systems in a range of onshore and offshore industrial facilities.

Mr. Mowat is a Chartered Member of Institution of Occupational Safety & Health (CMIOSH) and Member of Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE).

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Olivier Tabone

Olivier Tabone is the Vice President of International Asset Management at TAQA's Generation business, a role which he has held since 2021. In his current role, he oversees the implementation of asset management strategies, policies, and initiatives for a portfolio of assets located in Ghana, Morocco, India, and Uzbekistan.

Mr. Tabone is an expert in finance and asset management at both the corporate and asset level in large international corporations and brings with him 25 years of experience. He has held several management positions in Faurecia, Safran, GKN and Mubadala. Prior to his role with TAQA, he was during six years the Chief Financial Officer of SMN Power Holding SAOG, a public listed power and water company in Oman.

He currently sits on the Board of Directors of TAQA related power companies in Ghana, Uzbekistan and Morocco.
He holds a master's degree in management from Toulouse Business School and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants in the UK.

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Ahmed Al Shamsi

Ahmed Al Shamsi is a Senior Associate in the Healthcare & Life Sciences team at ADQ, where he plays a pivotal role in managing and creating value across ADQ's portfolio. With a focus on Healthcare and Animal Health, Ahmed's responsibilities encompass sourcing and evaluating investment opportunities, conducting due diligence for M&A, asset management and driving portfolio development through greenfield projects.

Ahmed currently serves as a board member of Rabdan and as a member of PureHealth's Strategic Investment Committee.

Prior to his current role, Ahmed was part of Mubadala Capital's Private Equity team, where he gained extensive experience in asset management and deal execution, with a particular emphasis on European markets. During this time, he successfully helped close a control deal for one of the leading providers of special educational needs within the UK, as well as raised capital from third-party LPs. Ahmed also has extensive experience in healthcare finance and budget management, having worked in SEHA's group-level finance team earlier in his career.

He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Accounting from the American University of Sharjah, graduating magna cum laude.

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Mariam Hasan Alzaabi

Mariam Hasan Alzaabi is a Asset Management Lead based in Abu Dhabi, UAE, with over five years of experience in the utilities sector. Her expertise spans asset management for coal power plants, gas turbines, desalination plants, and wind farms, coupled with strategic planning, governance, and risk management in projects.

Currently serving as the Lead of Asset Management at Abu Dhabi National Energy Company ("TAQA"), Mariam oversees the technical and commercial operations of the world's largest Reverse Osmosis desalination plant. She also plays a pivotal role in the construction and financial closure of new desalination facilities, while managing Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) assets

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Andreas Collor

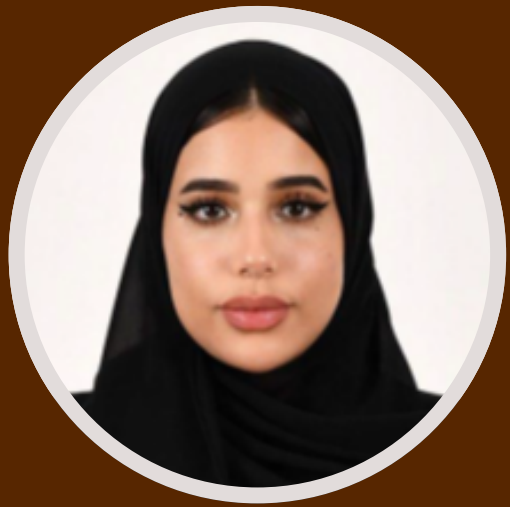
Andreas Collor is the Chief Operations Officer in TAQA's Generation business. In this role, he oversees the strategic direction and operational performance of the company's global power and water assets.

Mr. Collor brings over 20 years of industry experience in the power generation sector. Before joining TAQA, he held several executive management positions in European utilities Fortum, Uniper and E.ON. His experience covers strategic, operational, engineering, asset management, sales, business and project development roles. In this time, he worked across all major conventional and renewable power generation technologies.

He holds an Engineering Masters degree from Flensburg University in Germany and an Executive MBA from Jacobs University in Germany.

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Latifa Alsuwaidi

Latifa Alsuwaidi is currently heading the Project Management Office (PMO) at Tadweer Group, where she oversees key ongoing projects and initiatives, working closely with the leadership team. In this role, she ensures the successful delivery of projects aligned with strategic goals and organizational objectives.

Prior to her current role, Latifa was part of ADQ within the Energy and Utilities Portfolio Management team, managing a diverse range of assets. Her responsibilities included tracking performance, monitoring project progress, identifying business development opportunities, and driving operational efficiencies.

Latifa holds a Bachelor's degree in Finance from Zayed University in Abu Dhabi and has successfully completed CFA Level 1. She also has past experience sitting in various committees working closely with board members and executive teams.

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Amin Rasheed Husseini

As an accomplished Non-Executive Director with over 25 years of experience, Amin has led governance, risk management, and strategic oversight within the banking and financial services sector. His career has been dedicated to driving organisational transformation, enhancing governance frameworks, and improving regulatory compliance for large institutions across the GCC.

Amin has worked with banks, financial institutions, and multi-disciplinary companies, offering board-level guidance to foster financial turnarounds and optimise stakeholder relations. His leadership approach emphasises aligning human capital strategies with corporate objectives to ensure sustainable business performance.

Amin's key strengths include governance and leadership, financial restructuring, audit oversight, and regulatory compliance. He has successfully advised on complex M&A deals, CEO succession planning, digital transformation, and performance optimisation. As a value-driven leader, he builds collaborative, cross-functional relationships and deliver value for all stakeholders.

Besides his accomplishments in corporate strategy, Amin also has valuable auditing, risk assessment, stakeholder management, and regulatory compliance skills.

In addition to his skills and experience, Amin has a bachelor's degree in Physics as well as two master degrees; an MBA which he received in 1993 and a Master's in Business Research from Fox Business School at Temple University in Philadelphia which he received in 2019.

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Fatima Naji

Fatima Naji is a chemical engineer by background and hold a master's degree in business administration. She has 14 years of work experience in the Energy sector and currently is responsible for the downstream business excellence, governance related matters, corporate risks, ISO management systems. Fatima is a graduate of the ADNOC future leadership program and led many projects throughout the value chain.

Fatima is a passionate Emirati with the ability to provide critical insights to transform conceptual plans into actionable strategies. She has a vast experience in the field of performance management, governance in relation to delegation of authority & significant investments, risk & audit management, operations planning, Health, safety & environmental matters, and corporate business planning,

Fatima is looking into expanding her knowledge, serve with the experience she gained throughout her career path and proud to be a Board-ready Emirati women.

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Ali El-Sabbagh

Ali is an Investment Manager within ADQ's portfolio management team focused on Healthcare & Life Sciences investments. Since joining ADQ, he was extensively involved the build out of the Healthcare & Life Sciences platforms, from initial stages of platform strategy development to capital deployment and subsequent portfolio management. He was also involved in the planning and execution of several greenfield projects under the ADQ Life Sciences cluster.

Prior to joining ADQ, Ali was a Vice President at Amanat Holdings focused on Healthcare and Education investments across the MENA region. He was involved in several major acquisitions which included: i) Acquisition of Cambridge Medical and Rehabilitation Centre, a post-acute care operator with over 250 beds across the UAE and KSA; ii) Acquisition of Middlesex University Dubai, a university with 3,000+ students; and iii) Significant minority acquisition of Abu Dhabi University Holding Company, a leading higher education provider in the UAE with 8,500+ students.

He also worked at Deloitte Corporate Finance where he completed a rotational program across several departments including valuation, modeling and transaction advisory services.

Ali graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).

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Larissa Petrova

Larissa Petrova is a highly accomplished and dynamic professional based in Dubai, currently leading the Middle East Consumer and Healthcare Practices and is deeply embedded in the Board Practice at Egon Zehnder.

With her extensive executive experience, Larissa plays a pivotal role in driving strategic growth and transformation for both individuals and organisations. She leverages her expertise to guide senior executives and leadership teams through complex challenges, enhancing individual and organisational effectiveness.

Larissa brings a unique blend of psychological and business prowess, enabling her to understand and navigate the complexities of human behaviour within professional contexts.

Previously Larissa was a member of the management team in FrieslandCampina and was responsible for all commercial operations of the company in Russia and CIS. She started her career in Unilever Russia-Ukraine-Belorussia, where she held several Director positions, including Key Account Director and Customer & Shopper Marketing Director roles.

A Cinical Psychologist with a commitment to advancing the field of psychology, Larissa holds a Diploma in Clinical Psychoanalysis from the Moscow Serbsky Institute, coupled with a Master's Degree with Honors in Clinical Psychology from the Russian State Social University. She has also earned a Master's degree in Psychoanalysis in Business and Executive Coaching from the Moscow Higher School of Economics - INSEAD and holds an MBA from Leti-Lovanium International Business School. Over the years Larissa has obtained various certifications in organisation development, talent assessment and coaching, including Certified Organisational Consultant (CFAR 2021), Practitioner in Systemic Executive Coaching (2021), and Hogan Assessment Certification (2020). In addition to this, she is a Registered Analytic Network Coach (ANC, London, 2018).

Larissa's multifaceted background blends psychology, business leadership and executive coaching, equipping her with the tools to aid her in her passion to transform senior leaders and their organisations.

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Mouza Saeed Khalfan AlRomaithi

Mouza Saeed Khalfan AlRomaithi serves as the Director of Information and Cybersecurity at ADQ. In her role she has been instrumental in shaping and implementing strategic initiatives that enhance the security posture of ADQ. Mouza serves as a board member at TAQA, Pure Health and Q Market Makers (QMM).

With a robust background in cybersecurity of over 16 years, her leadership and expertise have been pivotal in navigating the complex landscape of information security, ensuring that the organization remains resilient against evolving cyber threats.
Mouza holds a master's degree in Cybersecurity from Zayed University and a bachelor's degree in Network Systems from Zayed University.

Professional Directors 2024

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Evgeny Glushkov

Evgeny is an Associate Director at ADQ responsible for Airlines and Mobility sector, including companies like Etihad Airways, Air Arabia Abu Dhabi, Wizz Air Abu Dhabi, Darb, and Mawaqif. For Wizz Air Abu Dhabi, Evgeny also serves a board member.

With around 20 years of professional experience, Evgeny has worked across the transport and logistics value chain, including airlines, airports, railways, policy-makers, multi-modal logistics operators, and GCC mega-projects.

For over a decade prior to joining ADQ in 2021, Evgeny has been a management consultant at Kearney. During that time, he has delivered over 30 high-impact projects, ranging from national industry strategies to transformational changes on the ground and in the air.

Evgeny holds a master's degree in Systems Analysis from Moscow Institute of Physics & Technology and a specialist degree in Business Administration and Management from Higher School of Economics, Russia.

Professional Directors 2024

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Asif Siddiqui

Asif Siddiqui is a senior executive with over 25 years of experience in FMCG, CPG, F & B and Retail, specializing in driving profitable business growth, strategic planning and its implementation, and operational excellence across developed and emerging markets. He has a proven track record of delivering results across B2C, B2B, and e-Com channels. A data-driven decision maker, Asif is known for his ability to lead transformation initiatives, drive innovation, and elevate customer experience, while fostering team-development and building high-performance cultures.

Asif began his career at Coca-Cola in Australia, where he held various strategic and functional roles for a decade. In 2010, he relocated to Dubai, where he led Almarai's route-to-market transformation across all categories and launched the Lusine and 7days brands across GCC. He then moved on to lead the Commercial Business Unit at National Food Products Company (NFPC), overseeing major brands such as Lacnor, Milco, and Laban-Up, before becoming General Manager at Al Ghurair Foods, where he successfully transformed the business, and drove growth in new categories.

Passionate about corporate governance, financial stewardship, and purpose-driven leadership, Asif has a strong commitment towards creating sustainable, high-performance organizations that achieve both short-term and long-term business success.

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Arturo Patiño Riveira

Arturo Patiño Riveira is the Vice President of Operations and Maintenance in TAQA's Generation business, a position which he has held since 2021. In his current role, he is responsible for technically leading local and international asset management of the fleet in commercial operation.

Mr. Patiño Riveira is an expert in the power and water business on an international and multilevel scale and brings with him 25 years of experience. He has held several management and operation positions at power and desalination plants. Most recently, he served as the Managing Director of AGPS Asia Gulf Power Service and Al Taweelah A2 O&M General Manager.

Mr. Patiño Riveira serves on several Boards offering extensive leadership on CCGT power and desalination plants across the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan and Ghana.

He completed the first stage of PhD studies and holds a master's degree in Mining Engineering, with a specialization in Power & Combustibles, from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid and in Nuclear Technology & Safety from CIEMAT.

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Omar Abdulla Al Hashmi

Omar Al Hashmi serves as the Chief Executive Officer of TAQA's Transmission & Distribution business, a position he has held since January 2024. In this role, he oversees the company's diverse portfolio of transmission and distribution assets.

Prior to this, Omar was Executive Director for Transmission & Distribution at TAQA, contributing nearly four years of strategic leadership to the organization.

Before his tenure at TAQA, he was Executive Director of Asset Management at Abu Dhabi Power Corporation (AD Power), where he played a key role in shaping the company's transformation plan, structure, and governance. Omar previously served as the head of strategy development at Etihad Airways and Vice President of the Industry platform at Mubadala Investment Company (Mubadala).

Al Hashmi holds a Master of Business Administration from the London Business School and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from George Washington University.

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Martin Asenov

Martin Asenov is an Associate Director at ADQ, responsible for Airports and Services within the Transport cluster. He joined the company in May 2022.

Martin is an aviation finance professional, with 15 years of experience in the fields of asset management, airport transactions, aircraft leasing, airline advisory and banking.

Prior to joining ADQ, Martin spent 10 years with GE Capital in London and Singapore. Most recently, he was part of GE's aircraft leasing business (GECAS), responsible for aircraft marketing and airline advisory across Asia Pacific.

Between 2012 and 2017 Martin was part of AviaSolutions, GE Capital's aviation transaction advisory business, working on Airport M&A deals in Europe. He was responsible for generating consulting business and delivering advisory engagements related to airport commercial due diligence, business planning and refinancing support. During that period, Martin developed his expertise in aviation finance, financial modelling, airport operations and privatization processes. Martin was involved in transactions for some of the largest airports in Europe including projects in the UK, Italy and Belgium among others.

Martin started his career with Barclays Capital in 2010, working as an Equity Research analyst covering the Automotive sector in Europe out of London. He was responsible for providing coverage of the major car manufacturers in Europe and was instrumental in the initiation of coverage of Trucks and Parts makers. Martin completed Barclays' graduate training programme focused on investment banking & markets.

Martin holds a Masters Degree in Finance from the University of York and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the American College of Greece. Hs is a Chartered Financial Analyst since 2015.

Originally from Bulgaria, Martin is a passionate runner, squash player and enjoys reading history books and travelling.

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Mohamed Al Hashemi

Mohamed Al Hashemi is an Emirati business executive known for his contributions to the retail, entertainment, and cooperative sectors. He currently serves as the CEO of Union Coop since December 2023, overseeing strategic direction and operational management.

Al Hashemi started his career at Emirates Islamic Bank as an Assistant Relationship Officer from 2006 to 2010. He later joined Majid Al Futtaim (MAF), where he held several positions.

During his tenure at MAF Retail (Carrefour) from 2010 to 2014, Al Hashemi served as the Head of Treasury, overseeing cash management and financial operations across the GCC. From 2014 to 2016, he served as the Manager of Management Reporting & Analysis at MAF Ventures LLC, focusing on financial management and analytics. From 2016 to 2017, Al Hashemi served as Director of Business Development & Marketing at MAF Ventures LLC & Healthcare, focusing on strategies for growth and expansion within the healthcare sector.

As Country Head for Saudi Arabia at MAF Leisure, Entertainment, Cinemas & Lifestyle from 2018 to March 2023, Al Hashemi contributed to the company's growth in the Kingdom, overseeing the introduction of Cinemas into the kingdom and VOX Cinemas to Saudi, along with other brands including Lulu Lemon, Crate & Barrel, Magic Planet and others. From March to November 2023, Al Hashemi served as Country Head of Leisure, Entertainment & Cinemas (UAE & Oman).

Education:
Al Hashemi completed a Higher Diploma in Financial Services and Banking in 2006 from the Higher Colleges of Technology, followed by a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2008 from the same institution. He obtained an Executive MBA from the Higher Colleges of Technology in 2011. In 2022, he completed an Executive Education and Leadership program at the Cambridge Judge Business School.

Non-Executive Roles:
Al Hashemi holds various non-executive, board, and advisory roles, including being recognized as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in March 2021.
He served as an Advisory Board Member for the General Commission of Audio-visual & Media (GCAM) in Saudi Arabia and as a mentor in Endeavour KSA.

Professional Directors 2024

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Waleed Mubarak

Waleed Mubarak experienced energy sector professional with over a decade of expertise in business development, asset management, and strategic project leadership at Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA). In his current role, he oversees large-scale green and brown fields projects with multimillion-dollar investments and manage TAQA's generation portfolio in Uzbekistan, driving financial and operational success through comprehensive project planning, in-depth market analysis, and strategic partnership development.

Key achievements include securing critical agreements with government entities, achieving financial close on high-capacity power projects, and leading complex, cross-functional implementation plans. He adept at navigating regulatory landscapes, ensuring compliance, and fostering strategic partnerships that advance project milestones and create long-term value. Additionally, his asset management expertise includes developing robust performance metrics, streamlining operational processes, and driving cost efficiencies through meticulous budgeting, performance management, and risk assessment. Hold a bachelor's degree in business administration, finance & banking from UAE University.

Passionate about sustainable energy development and committed to driving innovative solutions and thrive in dynamic environments. He is continuously inspired by the opportunity to contribute to industry-leading outcomes, promote sustainable practices, and support initiatives that address global energy challenges. With a focus on collaboration and resilience, he strives to lead impactful projects that align with TAQA's mission of providing reliable and sustainable energy solutions."

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Marcus Freeman

Marcus Freeman has over thirty years of experience in Finance specialising in Luxury and FMCG Retail. He began his career with PwC before moving to LVMH in France. Marcus joined the Chalhoub Group in 2001 as Group CFO and later rose to Deputy Group CEO, as well as President of Operations. Chalhoub Group is the leading luxury retail group in the Middle East with approximately 800 retail outlets for brands such as Louis Vuitton, Sephora, Level Shoes, Christian Dior, Fendi etc. Outside finance, Marcus' professional experience includes leading strategy, e-commerce, data, tech, supply chain, legal as well as corporate governance. Marcus studied economics in France, is an ICAEW Chartered Accountant and completed Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program in 2012.

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Abdulaziz Alfureih

With 25 years of extensive experience in Financial Analysis, Financial Affairs, Human Resources, Administration Affairs, and Corporate Governance. With The Arab Investment Company (TAIC) from 2007 and till Oct. 2024, he was responsible for directing all activities related to Human Resources and administration affairs function. Prior to Human Resources, Mr. Alfureih was CFO for TAIC where he led financial operations and Financial Planning and Financial Analysis.

Since 2024, Mr. Alfureih serves as an independent Chairman of Audit Committee, AND an independent NRC member in Ejada System Company in KSA.

Mr. Alfureih served as a board member for Sudatel Telecom Group in Sudan, where he also contributes as a member of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee. In addition, he held a board membership at the Arab Company for Antibiotic Industries (ACAI) in Iraq, AND Jordan Paper&Cardboard Factory Company in Jordan, AND Saudi Hotel Company (SHSC).

Prior to his tenure at TAIC, Mr. Alfureih was instrumental in leading financial programs at the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) as a Financial Programs Trainer and Faculty Member.

Mr. Al-Fureih holds a Master's degree in Accounting from the Missouri State University, MBA from the Missouri State University USA. Professionally, he is Chartered institute of personnel and development (CIPD), and Certified Board - HAWKAMAH institute for Corporate Governance | UAE.

Professional Directors 2024

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Yousuf Ramjoo

Yousuf Ramjoo has served on boards for FMCG manufacturing and distribution companies whilst leading their operations. He is an accomplished General Manager with 3 decades of experience in multinational FMCG companies. He has worked with Unilever and Savola and successfully led and grown business units/ companies with turnovers ranging from $100-$800 million, across several countries/regions with full P&L responsibility. He is also well versed with areas of corporate governance and has handled numerous challenges including Environment (making tough decisions to stop certain profitable lines due to pollution), PR(competition using country politics – FDI to disenfranchise customers) , Crisis management (keeping operations running smoothly during Covid and exit plans for expats) and Labour relations (negotiating with labour unions to end various strikes/demands).

Yousuf's strong general management credentials are complemented by a strong background in marketing & sales. He is a commercially astute business leader with an impeccable track record of success in leading full operations (including supply chain) in complex and competitive environments. He is also known to be a stellar team leader with a strong record in identifying and coaching talent, building effective teams and improving employee engagement levels.

Yousuf has lived and worked in KSA, UAE, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan. He has successfully managed regions including GCC, Levant and Yemen as well as Iran with full P&L responsibility. He also holds extensive experience in exports as he led the international markets division covering over 60 countries and involving B2C, B2B and private label businesses.

Yousuf holds a MBA in Finance & Marketing from Case Western Reserve University as well as BA in Economics from Gettysburg college, both in the US. He has completed several executive education courses including Strategy, General Management, Leadership, Negotiation and Innovation from Insead, Stanford & CCL. Yousuf is also a Certified Director and holds the Professional Directors Certificate from Hawakamah Institute.

Served on the following
Boards as Executive Director:

•2017-2019

Behshahr Industrial Company Majority owned by Savola.
Public joint stock company listed on the Tehran Stock Exchange. Turnover approx. $ 800 Million

2017-2020
Tolu Paksh Aftab
Majority owned by Savola.
Private joint stock company.
Turnover approx. $ 900 million

Professional Directors 2024

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Reem Shaban

Reem Shaban is a seasoned marketing leader with over two decades of experience shaping transformative brand narratives and customer engagement strategies. As an expert in integrated marcomms, she seamlessly combines data-driven insights, compelling storytelling, and strategic partnerships to propel businesses and brands to impactful market leadership, fostering meaningful connections with diverse audiences.

As Executive Director of Marketing and Communications at Dubai Holding Asset Management, Reem spearheads integrated marketing, branding, and communication strategies for one of the UAE's largest residential and retail portfolios. She drives brand equity and revenue growth, aligning efforts with Dubai's economic vision. Her comprehensive expertise spans critical marcom disciplines, including brand strategy development, creative branding, public relations, and multi-channel customer engagement. Reem also cultivates strategic B2B and B2G partnerships to deliver transformative events and exceptional brand experiences.

During Reem's tenure, Dubai Holding Asset Management underwent several strategic integrations with Meraas, Dubai Retail, Dubai Asset Management, Nakheel, and Meydan cementing its market leadership. Over the course of these integrations, her expertise in marcomms has been pivotal in unifying and strengthening the brand identity across a diverse portfolio of over 70 residential and retail destinations, including iconic destinations like Bluewaters, Nakheel Mall, and Souk Madinat Jumeirah. Reem also brings over a decade of experience driving marketing efforts for TECOM Group PJSC's 10 global business destinations, including Dubai Internet City and Dubai Media City, until its successful public listing in 2022.

Reem is a member of the Dubai Lynx Global CMO Growth Council and the Interactive Advertising Bureau (IAB). She holds a Bachelor of Science in Management from the Lebanese American University and is a certified Director from the Mudara Institute of Directors, reflecting her dedication to professional growth and leadership in the ever-evolving marketing landscape.

Professional Directors 2024

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Reem Ali Khamis Beljafleh

Reem Ali Khamis Beljafleh is the Director of Human Capital at ADQ, where she is responsible for a wide range of services, including employee performance management and evaluation, strategic planning, policies and procedures, project and programme management, talent management, and training and development.

With around 15 years of human resource experience, Ms.Beljafleh has held leadership positions in prominent organizations across the Middle East.

Prior to joining ADQ, Ms. Beljafleh worked in senior HR positions at Arabtec Holding and Emirates Global Aluminium. In these roles, she focused on Emiratisation as well as talent and performance management, contributing to company growth by facilitating talent retention and maximizing employee performance.

Ms Beljafleh completed the Chief People Officer Programme from Cambridge Judge Business School, a Master's degree in Strategic Human Resources Management from the University of Wollongong in Dubai and a Bachelor's degree in International / Global Studies from Zayed University. Additionally, she has obtained numerous certifications in relevant fields.

Professional Directors 2024

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Saeed Al Emad

Saeed Al Emad is a security professional with over 25 years of experience in Dubai Customs and in Security Industry. Commenced his journey in the security operation field in Emaar from 2011 as Emaar Malls Director of Security. Later Dubai Holding in 2015 and steadily moved up through the organization's hierarchy, at the current position of Executive Director – Security with Dubai Holding Asset Management and managing security operations of TECOM Group overseeing Dubai Holding Risk, BCM, Resilience, HSE and Organizational Security Support & Services. He has also been appointed as a Chairperson of Integrity Committee at Dubai Holding Asset Management and he also active member of management steering committee.

Prior joining Emaar Malls and Dubai Holding, he served as Senior Director in Dubai Customs from at all Dubai Airports, during his tenure in customs, he was Chairing the Learning and Development Committee in Dubai International Airport, which included government authorities such as Dubai Police, Dubai Aviation, and prominent companies like DNATA, IATA etc. Additionally, he served as a member in Dubai Customs Director General Team of Development and Modernization. Represented Dubai Customs at Federal Authority of UAE and played a pivotal role in establishing a road map and shaping up policies and procedures. He also represented Dubai Customs at the World Customs Organization summit in Belgium.

Saeed brings a deep understanding of governance to his role. He excels in leading high-performing teams, fostering innovation, and staying ahead of emerging marketing trends. He is currently focused on digital transformation, sustainability, customer experience, and collaboration with government initiatives.

Saeed earned degree in Managers Development Program in Business Administration from Zayed University. He also completed IT (Computer Processing Information) from Higher Colleges of Technology - Dubai. He also holds several professional certifications, including International Protocol Manager from Dubai Protocol Department, Reid Technique of Interviewing and Advanced Interrogation, he also holds a membership as Certified Security Consultant in Policing & Security Science Academy – USA.

Professional Directors 2024

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Esam Al Murawwi

Esam Al Murawwi is an accomplished Chief Projects Officer at TAQA Transmission, overseeing a diverse portfolio of Power, Water and non system projects valued at over $15 billion. With over 15 years of experience in the energy and utilities sector, Esam has successfully led mega and strategic projects that focus on operational efficiency, growth, sustainability, and safety performance.

As a certified director and an active board member for the Abu Dhabi Offshore Power Transmission Company (ADOPT) and Mirfa Seawater Treatment and Supply (MSTS), Esam brings a deep understanding of board governance, compliance, and ESG alignment. His expertise in risk mitigation, innovation, and strategic project oversight makes him a valuable contributor to organizational performance and decision-making at the board level.

Esam is known for his ability to foster collaboration, build high-performing teams, and leverage digital tools for data-driven decision-making. As the energy industry transitions toward clean energy and digital transformation, he provides insights to navigate these challenges while aligning operations with sustainability goals and addressing environmental and regulatory requirements.

He holds a B.Sc. in Electrical & Electronics Engineering from the American University of Sharjah and an M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from Khalifa University. Esam is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and a Certified Director accredited by Hawkamah Institute.

Professional Directors 2024

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Akshay Bhat

Akshay Bhat is a seasoned internal audit and risk management professional with over 18 years of experience across the energy, utilities, and industrial sectors.

As Head of Internal Audit at NMDC Energy, Akshay leads the function with a mandate to provide independent and objective assurance to the Audit Committee and Board, while also contributing to business performance through insights and advisory support. He serves as Audit Committee Secretary, engaging with external auditors and other assurance providers to drive alignment and governance excellence.

Prior to this role, Akshay held key audit leadership positions at National Central Cooling Company (Tabreed), ADNOC Refining, and KPMG. At Tabreed, he led internal audit planning and execution across the group, supporting the Audit Committee's oversight of internal controls, compliance, and risk. At ADNOC Refining, he managed complex operational audits and co-sourced engagements, and was instrumental in deploying eGovernance tools. His early career includes internal audit consulting at KPMG UAE and engineering project management at Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited in India.

Akshay's leadership is defined by a deep understanding of enterprise risk, process controls, and governance frameworks, as well as a collaborative approach to audit delivery. He is currently leading a team of senior auditors and auditors and driving transformation initiatives in audit analytics, follow-up automation, and audit committee reporting.

Akshay holds a Bachelor's degree in Electronics Engineering from Mumbai University, is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) with Honors award, a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a Certified Board Director from the Hawkamah Institute of Corporate Governance, having completed the Director Development Program for Corporate Governance (4 modules).

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Fatima Al-Shaygi

Fatima Al-Shaygi serves as TAQA's Vice President of UAE Asset Management, overseeing the strategies, policies and programs assigned for the company's UAE power and water generation portfolio.

Fatima has been appointed as the chair for 5 Independent Water and Power Producers (IWPPs) and as a board member at 6 other IWPPs in the UAE and GCC. Additionally, Fatima serves as the Chair of TAQA's Woman Council.

Prior to joining TAQA, she served in several senior level roles across the Abu Dhabi energy sector, including Asset Manager, Clean Energy Unit at Masdar, Chief Financial Officer at Al-Reyadah CCS Co and Finance Manager at Shams Power Company.

Mrs. Al-Shaygi holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Banking from UAE University, has completed Harvard Business Executive Training Program and TAQA Executive Development Program with London Business School.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Sonia Lekhal

Sonia Lekhal has more than 20 years' marketing experience gained in technology start-ups, pre-IPO companies as well as large corporations. She has in-depth expertise in e-commerce, digital marketing and digital transformation, as well as in building marketing teams and developing digital talent. She is currently the Chief Customer Officer at almentor, the leading edtech player in MENA.

Most recently, Sonia was Chief Marketing Officer at talabat. Her achievements include securing a dominant top of mind brand awareness across all 8 MENA markets, launching a flagship regional campaign featuring brand ambassador Cristiano Ronaldo, accelerating new user acquisition, and growing the adoption of the quick commerce vertical.

Before joining talabat, she was Chief Marketing Officer at OSN where she successfully drove a major rebranding exercise and the launch of a new streaming application. Prior to this, as the VP Digital Marketing, Sonia led the digital transformation in performance marketing and media buying at Emirates Airlines. In her first experience in the region, she served as Marketing Director at Souq.com (now an Amazon.com company) where she was instrumental in driving a sustained double digit revenue growth across UAE, KSA, Egypt and Kuwait.

Sonia is a graduate from French school of management ESSEC and holds an MBA from NYU Stern School of Business. She is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Asma Said

Asma Said is a seasoned professional with a robust background in the financial services industry. With over 18 years of experience in the UAE, she has honed her expertise in consultancy, management, corporate governance, and business development, acquiring extensive knowledge of the UAE market.

Currently, Asma is the Director of Business Development and Operations at GWS Trust. In this role, she mentors and oversees the business development and operations team, playing a strategic part in the company's growth. Leveraging her comprehensive expertise in business management, Asma has initiated and directed various successful projects and business opportunities.

Prior to joining GWS Trust, Asma served as Senior Business Development Manager at RAKICC (Ras Al Khaimah International Corporate Centre), an international registry for offshore companies. There, she managed Tier 1 clients (B2B) portfolios with great success.

In addition to her professional roles, Asma is a board member for over 30 companies across various free zones in the UAE, demonstrating her leadership and governance capabilities.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Mark Elliott

Mark Elliott is Division President, Sub Saharan Africa (SSA) at Mastercard, accountable for the overall performance, strategic direction, and brand development across the region. In his role Mark has full P&L responsibility.
Mark has 30 years of business leadership experience in multinational environments, having lived and held executive positions across 3 continents. He is a seasoned business builder with experience of launching new businesses (e.g. Barclays Bank in UAE) and entering new markets with Barclaycard (e.g. US, Nordics and South Africa) and Mastercard (>5 countries across Africa), and establishing executive teams to achieve ambitious goals.

Leveraging his background in investment banking he has acquired, integrated and divested businesses as part of executing business strategies and ensures he has a strong understanding of the latest technologies and trends that prevail across financial services (e.g. blockchain, AI, open banking, digitization). Mark now has a track record, of more than a decade long, of working at CEO level across Middle East & Africa , with fintech, government, telcos, retailers and financial institutions and places a significant premium on relationships.

Mark currently serves as a Board Director of an NGO, Junior Achievement, based in South Africa, that delivers hands on, immersive learning, financial health and entrepreneurship training. He is an ICAEW qualified Chartered Accountant and serves on the Audit Committee. As a recently certified Professional Director, of Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance, he is now seeking a further Non-Executive Director role.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Dr. Omar Younis Asad

Dr. Omar Younis Asad received his PhD degree in Interdisciplinary Engineering with an emphasis on water and power sector strategic planning from Khalifa University's Masdar Institute of Science & Technology in 2018. He also holds a Master in Engineering Management in Strategic Planning from Al Hosn University in Abu Dhabi that was acquired in 2012, as well as a B.Sc. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the American University of Sharjah that was awarded in 2009.

Prior to pursuing his PhD, Dr. Omar started his career as a planning water engineer in the Asset Directorate of TRANSCO, Abu Dhabi, where he held numerous responsibilities in project and asset management, as well as strategic planning. Later promoted to the Senior Water Integrated Planning Engineer as part of TRANSCO's water planning department, he was tasked with overseeing network risk analysis/capacity planning analysis, projections of the cash flows of planned proposed projects, and in supporting in the evaluation of consultancy services projects within the department. Dr Asad is also a member of TRANSCO's Innovation Team to hunt relevant ideas for implementation.

During his time in Masdar Institute, his research interest included developments in technology strategy, desalination technology, markets regulation, and the politics of water and sanitation planning. Moreover, Dr. Asad was nominated as the water expert to represent the UAE in the Dutch Visiting Program in 2016, which focused on key concepts related to water and wastewater knowledge transfer.

After acquiring his PhD, Dr Asad worked at Abu Dhabi Power Corporate (ADPower), focusing on streamlining capital effectiveness through reconciliation of short-term business plan, budget and financial targets.

With almost 15 years of experience in the Water and Power Sector of the UAE's capital, Dr. Asad is currently serving in TAQA as the Asset manager of the notable projects located in the western region of Abu Dhabi as part of the generation business line.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Hashem Al Attas

Hashem graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Finance and Banking from the United Arab Emirates University in 2011. Joined Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA) in December 2012, currently serving as the Assets Manager in Power and Water Asset Management.

Hashem chairs and participates in key committees, including HR, Business Review, and Audit. And serves as board member in eight companies.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Tania Kabbani

Tania Kabbani is a McGill University graduate, she completed a Bachelor of Commerce, as well as an MBA (with a focus in Finance). Additionally, she attended HEC Paris as an exchange student.

Tania has also obtained the Professional Director Certification from Hawkamah.
Tania has more than 10 years of academic experience. She had created the “Private Banking” course for a prominent American university in the region, and taught it, part-time, for many years. She trained start-ups in the past as well as guest lectured at ESCP in Paris on the topic of ESG.

Tania has extensive experience in Private Banking, in both relationship management and investment advisory, with well reputed regional and international banks. In the roles she previously held, she managed the wealth of Ultra High Net Worth individuals and Family offices, on an advisory basis, while growing the relationship with those clients. Moreover, she has been a key team member in starting and growing private banking setups for international banks in the region.

Her role at the DIFC enhanced her experience in terms of family governance and succession planning. Moreover, she helped build the DIFC Family Wealth Centre's ecosystem.

Tania also has an entrepreneurial flair; she started two companies, and in parallel, mentors entrepreneurs.

She also mentored with the HEC Paris UK alumni, with the BRINC incubator, with Microsoft for Start-ups, as well as with the Dubai Business Women Council, in addition to volunteering for the McGill alumni.

Tania lived in three continents, is multicultural, and speaks three languages fluently; she has a good understanding of two other languages.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Arnaud Verchère

Arnaud Verchère, a seasoned Chief Marketing Officer, has a remarkable track record of driving growth and success for global brands over three decades.

His expertise lies in crafting marketing strategies that align with overall business objectives, showcasing a collaborative approach with board members.

With a rich international background, including 12 years of global work before settling in Dubai in 2001, he has honed a global outlook crucial for navigating diverse markets.

Certified by HAWKAMAH, the Institute of Governance, he brings a deep understanding of governance to his board role. Arnaud excels in leading high-performing teams, fostering innovation, and staying ahead of emerging marketing trends. His current focus on digital transformation, global expansion, sustainability, e-commerce, customer experience, data privacy, and collaboration with government initiatives positions him as an invaluable asset for companies navigating dynamic markets.

In summary, Arnaud Verchère's extensive experience and strategic vision make him an exceptional Chief Marketing Officer, poised to deliver outstanding results for any company.

Professional Directors 2023

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Behnaz Ansari Labaf

Behnaz is a dynamic and energetic business transformation leader with extensive strategy and business transformation experience; shaping and driving business turnaround in challenging business environments across a range of industries. A trusted advisor specialised in bridging the gap between strategic intent and organizational execution, delivering accelerated business development and impact at pace. Consulting experience with public and private sector clients globally focusing on strategy, business transformation, organisational restructuring and performance improvement.

Work Experience

Behnaz joined Dubai Holding in 2017 and currently holds the position of Senior Vice President, Strategy and Value Creation. Dubai Holding has operations in 13 countries, across a diverse range of sectors including Real Estate, Hospitality, Media, Retail, Leisure and Entertainment. On a consolidated level, the company reports approximately USD 30 billion in assets, approximately 20 million ft2 in net leasable commercial space, about 9 million people in footfall across the leisure and entertainment portfolio, 10,000+ hotel keys, 16,000+ employees and over USD 8 billion in projects under development.

In Dubai Holding Behnaz is responsible for establishing and leading Dubai Holding's Strategy and Value Creation Office with the key mandate to manage the end-to-end strategic management process by developing and executing strategies to meet the Group's ambitious growth targets. Key to the role is to ensure robust and future proof business strategies, ambitious growth and financial targets and executable roadmaps to effectively deliver on the strategic intent.

During her tenure in Dubai Holding she has defined the Dubai Holding 2030 Strategy with the objective of achieving enhanced profitability and exponential growth and led several successful transformational initiatives, most recently playing an integral part in the integration of Meraas into Dubai Holding. Key strategic initiatives including: (i) Group-wide operating model restructuring, establishing a functional organization structure with focus on core business capability, performance transparency and economies of scale; (ii) operational excellence program with focus on G&A cost optimization delivering 20% bottom line savings and (iii) Strategic Engagement Program, with the aim of embracing disruption to future proof the business whilst unlocking commercial value through intra-collaboration across the Group.

Behnaz's prior experience includes 10 years of Management Consulting in Scandinavia, where she worked at Accenture within the Financial Services practice with focus on transformation and change management. In Accenture, Behnaz was involved in and led the successful delivery of several transformation programs such as (i) the structural reform of the public sector of Denmark (ii) SAP implementation for a national bank; (iii) commercial product and pricing restructuring for a global insurance company and (iv) operational excellence program for a global toy manufacturer. Prior to joining Accenture, Behnaz worked as a financial analyst at the Swedish National Pension Fund.

Personal

Behnaz is a Swedish national, born in Iran and raised and schooled in Sweden. She holds a Master of Business Administration degree in International Economics with honors from the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. She is passionate about travelling and exploring the world, a yoga and flite boarding enthusiast and mother of twins.

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Abdulrahman Maddi

Abdulrahman Maddi currently works at Abu Dhabi National Energy Company PJSC (TAQA) in the Renewables Asset Management – Generation Business Unit, where he manages TAQA's renewable assets.

Equipped with over a decade of experience in the energy sector, Abdulrahman started his career at the Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC), where he worked in the Nuclear Fuel Management, managing several special projects instrumental to the commercial operation of the Barakah power project's units 1 & 2. His time at ENEC also included a two-year secondment at KEPCO Nuclear Fuel Company in South Korea as a Nuclear Fuel Design Engineer, performing core design analyses for the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant.

His journey in the energy sector further extended to Nawah Energy Company in the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, executing strategies to resolve complex regulatory issues, and managing key activities to ensure the successful acquisition of operating licenses for the Barakah Nuclear Power Units. Additionally, he served as the Media Cell Advisor for the Emergency Response Organization.

Abdulrahman holds several professional certifications, including Project Management Professional (PMP) from the Project Management Institute, Business Energy Professional (BEP) from the Association of Energy Engineers, and Lean Six Sigma Green Belt from Nawah Energy Company.

Abdulrahman earned a B.Sc. degree in Energy Engineering complemented by a minor in Environmental Engineering and a Graduate Certificate in Sustainability Management and Policy from The Pennsylvania State University, USA. He is also an alumnus of McKinsey & Company's Qiyada Emerging Leaders Program and Masdar's 'Pioneers of Success' Leadership Development Program from Harvard Business.

Abdulrahman is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD and holds board positions in several subsidiaries of TAQA.

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Ali Al Shimmari

Ali Alshimmari is an ambitious leader in the energy and economy sector with exceptional technical skills, commercia knowledge, and asset-management expertise. Visionary, pragmatic, and patriotic, he has played a critical role in developing the UAE's hydrogen strategy and maximizing energy investments across the Gulf region.

As International Assets Manager for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) at the Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA), Alshimmari oversees the asset management strategies, policies, and programs for utility and power-generation investments in Saudi Arabia and Oman. In addition, he is a Year of Sustainability Expert, a sustainability ambassador for the UAE's Year of Sustainability team and Member of the Global Council for the Sustainable Development Goal #7. He also serves as Chairman of TAQA's Youth Council, where he empowers youth (ages 18-35) to gain knowledge and build capabilities as future leaders of the UAE's energy sector. Previously, he held roles in engineering, project management, and asset management at the Nation al Petroleum Construction Company in Abu Dhabi.

Alshimmari envisions the UAE as a top global producer of hydrogen energy and recognizes the importance of clean fuel in achieving the country's net zero target for 2050. In support of this goal, he serves on the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure's Hydrogen Technical Committee, which developed the National Hydrogen Strategy and a roadmap for future hydrogen production and distribution. Through the National Experts Program, Alshimmari also conducted a study, "Hydrogen as a Futuristic Energy Source," to capture the viewpoints of industrial players and regulatory authorities and develop a synchronized approach for the energy transition.

At a high level, Alshimmari is passionate about aligning sustainability efforts across sectors in the UAE—not only to enable sustainable growth and increase the country's competitive position, but to speed up global progress in the race against climate change. Driven to serve his country and contribute to society, he aspires to be a part of the team leading this transformation.

Alshimmari holds a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the United Arab Emirates University, and he earned his Master of Business Administration with honors at Abu Dhabi University. He has completed several professional certifications in disciplines such as design thinking, negotiations, communications, politics, and finance. Experienced in leading agile teams, he is a Certified Scrum Master.

Professional Directors 2023

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Alex Knigge

Alex is an experienced senior executive with a proven track record in successfully driving digital transformation and with a passion for CX and UX excellence.

Alex currently serves as Chief Digital & Technology Officer at Modon in Abu Dhabi. He is responsible for digital transformation and technology strategy and for driving business growth together with the Executive Leadership teams of all affiliated companies in the UAE, the UK, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Morocco, which have over 6,000 employees. Before joining Modon, Alex was part of the Executive Leadership team at Education Perfect, an EdTech scale-up that was acquired by KKR for USD 250m.

From 2015 till 2020, Alex served as SVP Digital at Emirates Airlines, being responsible for all customer facing digital channels, for Product Management, Web & Mobile Development, Digital Analytics & Data and Digital Marketing. Key achievements include designing and developing the award-winning Emirates App, modernizing key technologies, and developing a comprehensive customer data platform for marketing.

Alex's leadership journey began at Qantas Airlines, where he served as Vice President of eCommerce and Commercial Systems for the low-cost carrier, Jetstar.
Alex holds a master's in business administration (MBA) from the University of Iowa and a master's in finance and accounting from the University of Frankfurt.

Professional Directors 2023

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Dr. Fady Kayyal

Dr. Fady Kayyal is a senior executive with over 12 years of specialized experience in Commercial Law and Corporate Governance. He currently serves as the Group Company Secretary at Dubai Investments PJSC, a leading UAE-based investment firm listed on the Dubai Financial Market, recognized for its strategic investments across diverse sectors, including real estate, industrial, finance, healthcare, and education, both locally and internationally.

Before joining Dubai Investments, Dr. Kayyal held the position of Board Secretary at Salik PJSC, Dubai's exclusive road toll system, which is also listed on the Dubai Financial Market and regulated by the UAE Securities and Commodities Authority. Additionally, he was the Head of Legal Department and Board Secretary at Al Ramz Corporation PJSC, a premier financial institution offering a comprehensive range of services, including asset management, corporate finance, brokerage, security margins, market making, liquidity provision, public offering management, and financial research.

Dr. Kayyal's academic credentials are equally impressive. He holds a Doctorate in Business Administration from the European University in Geneva, Switzerland, graduating with distinction. He also earned a Master's degree in Banking and Financial Science from Bordeaux University, France, and a Bachelor's degree in Law from Damascus University, Syria. Furthermore, he is a Certified Board Secretary by the Dubai Financial Market, a Certified Professional Director from Hawkamah / Mudara IOD, and an Arbitrator at the Chamber of Commerce in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Proficient in Arabic, French, and English, Dr. Kayyal's linguistic versatility complements his extensive expertise.

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Binnur Tunbul

Binnur Tunbul is a former IBM executive with over three decades of experience driving strategic transformation, sustainable growth, and sales excellence across emerging and mature markets. She has held key leadership roles across the Middle East, Africa, and Central Eastern Europe, bringing deep expertise in P&L oversight, organizational restructuring, and governance of complex, multinational operations.

Throughout her distinguished career at IBM, Binnur held several senior roles, including:

- Vice President, Enterprise Sales – Middle East & Africa
- Vice President, Transformation Leader – Middle East & Africa
- General Manager, Technology Support Services – Middle East & Africa

She has managed business portfolios exceeding $1 billion and led cross-functional teams of 500+ professionals across 67 countries. Her leadership has consistently delivered profitable business growth, operational efficiency, market expansion, and value creation.

As a board director, Binnur is committed to strong governance, ethical leadership, and long-term stakeholder value. With a global outlook and a proven track record of navigating complexity, she brings strategic clarity, transformation leadership, and a results-driven mindset to the boardroom. She currently serves on the Advisory Board of RIT Dubai and holds a Professional Director Certification from Hawkamah.

In addition to her board work, Binnur is passionate about mentoring and education. She holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Business and Management Education from Surrey Business School, and dedicates herself to empowering professionals and inspiring future generations.

Her mission is clear:

To serve as a trusted board advisor, mentor high-performing professionals, and champion the next wave of ethical, transformational leadership.

Professional Directors 2023

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Abdulla AlHammadi

Abdulla Alhammadi is the Manager of Development, Engineering, and Transition at TAQA (Abu Dhabi National Energy Company PJSC) and serves on the boards of directors for seven Independent Water and Power Plants (IWPPs) in the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

Holding a Master's degree in Engineering Management with honors from Abu Dhabi University, Abdulla combines a solid technical background with over 15 years of expertise in the operation and maintenance of power plants and desalination facilities.

With extensive experience in the energy sector, Abdulla has worked with leading companies specializing in electricity and water production. Throughout his career, he has consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership, delivering successful outcomes in complex projects. He has a proven track record of managing large-scale engineering projects from inception to completion, ensuring strict adherence to quality standards, timelines, and budgets, while prioritizing sustainability and decarbonization.

Abdulla is passionate about sports, particularly in the areas of event organization and football. He is also recognized for his strategic thinking, analytical skills, and ability to navigate complex challenges. Abdulla holds a certification as a Professional Director from Hawkamah/Mudara IOD.

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Maroot Dilip Sachdeva

Maroot Sachdeva currently works as 'Internal Audit & Compliance' Officer at Salik Company PJSC. He has more than 17 years of experience in internal audit, finance, compliance and ethics and risk areas, amongst other areas. He holds a Master's Degree in Finance from a reputable university.

In his current role, he leads the Internal Audit (Financial, Operational etc.) and Compliance Function and responsible for overseeing audit and compliance with internal processes and procedures and reporting to Board/Audit Committee on how to mitigate the potential risks.

As Compliance Officer, he covers critical areas such as the Code of Conduct and underlying policies including but not limited to the Whistleblowing Policy, Anti-Bribery/Anti[1]Corruption Policy, Related-Party Transactions Policy in line with SCA's mandate regarding the roles and responsibilities of compliance officers.

He is a certified CISA, PMP, ITIL and SAS (Data Analytics tool) professional. Out of 17 years of professional experience, he has :

• 8 years of international experience through multiple audit engagements in Middle East, Europe, Africa and South East Asia, led and executed in 31 countries.

• 5 years of experience in Big4 (KPMG) spanning internal audits, compliance audits, risk assessments across various sectors.

He has sound working knowledge of:

a) IIA standards, COSO framework, IFRS standards, ISO 31000 & ISO 27001 risk management.

b) GCC/UAE regulatory framework, working relationship with various govt. entities e.g. SCA, DFSA, TDRA, Municipalities, MoF, CB-UAE etc.

He has extensive experience in working in similar roles in other UAE-listed companies and consulting companies. He is a Certified Director of Mudara IOD.

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Jonas Nilsson

Jonas is a diligent strategist and collaborative leader, passionate about emerging technologies in eco-logistic practices, an intriguer focused on deliverables in a demand driven organization to both B2B and B2C markets.

His 3-decade career span in executive management roles including UPS (Middle East & Africa), Kuehne + Nagel (Middle East) and DB Schenker (West Africa) has evolved through quality management systems, mentoring high potential people and digital transformation.

An avid learner and strong advocate for corporate governance, Jonas is an alumnus of the Lagos Business School in Nigeria, Hawkamah – The Institute for Corporate Governance in the United Arab Emirates, holds active membership with the Institute of Directors (Nigeria) and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport, whilst participating in business forums across the globe.

Today, Jonas is a driving force for green logistics following environmentally friendly best practices to reduce carbon footprint. He is Partner of Hulul Mustadama and currently engaged consultancy roles implementing corporate restructuring and supporting start-ups in the MEA region.

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Ravi Gill

Ravi Gill is a UK qualified lawyer and holds a Bachelor of Law (Hons) and a Legal Practice Course qualification from Nottingham Trent University. She haspracticed for the past 25 years and specializes in all aspects of real estate and construction, holding both significant private practice and in-house industry experience. She has practiced in Dubai since 2004 starting out with Emaar Properties and moving onto high profile developments concerning Government to Government joint ventures. Ravi joined the DIFC Authority (being a world class financial centre with a system based on English common law and international best practice) in January 2015. She is currently a Vice President Legal with the centre.

Ravi is a certified company secretary by the Hawkamah Corporate Service Institute and DFM and has 10+ years of experience holding Board Secretarial positions with different employers throughout the years, currently being the secretary of the Supervisory Board of the DIFC Employee Workplace Savings (DEWS) Plan. Assisting Boards achieve their aims and objectives and guiding them through legal and compliance considerations has awakened a desire in her to serve on Boards and put these skills to use at a more strategic level. This led her to pursue the Board Certification Certificate with Institute of Directors (Mudara)/Hawkamah and she is now a certified Professional Director.

Ravi believes her extensive experience and no-nonsense practical approach towards her work and life in general would make her an asset to the right Boards where at times difficult questions need to be asked and complex and sensitive subjects broached.

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IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Dr. Grace El Tayar, PhD

Dr. Grace G. El Tayar, PhD., is a perfectly trilingual (Arabic, English, and French) Attorney at Law and the General Counsel of Al Nasr Group of Companies including Al Nasr Contracting, a multi-national contracting company established in the U.A.E. since 1971. She is a Certified Board Director by the Institute of Directors MUDARA ("IOD") and HAWKAMAH, where she got certified and fully equipped with the core and fundamental knowledge and competencies needed to fulfill the Board duties effectively.

Grace moved to the United Arab Emirates in 2000 and embarked on her professional career in the GCC with the Abu Dhabi Office of the International Law Firm Afridi & Angell. In 2006, as legal advisor to the Board of Directors of ADCB, Grace provided advice regarding commercial transactions relating to ADCB's activities, securities markets requirements, and shareholders'/stakeholders' relation. Drafted policies pertaining to matters including but not limited to best practice procedures of Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assemblies, capital increase and decrease procedures, board meetings procedures, board secretariat procedures, disclosure procedures, and most importantly, submitted to the Board of Directors a corporate restructuring "Corporate Governance Report" which included policies combating related party transactions and insider trading, and a Code of Ethics Statement. Grace then filled the office of Director of Legal Affairs and Corporate Governance at Rotana Hotel Management Corporation PJSC, where she steered the transformation of the company from LLC to a PJSC. She also was the Legal Director of Sorouh Real Estate Company PJSC handling the legal transactions of local and international projects, local and international subsidiaries, and Company Board Secretaryship.

Grace obtained the honorable associateship from the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA), the Chartered Secretaries Qualifying Scheme (CSQS), and became a Chartered Corporate Secretary in 2014. She also joined the "Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners" ("STEP") and was certified in International Trust Management (with distinction) in 2016. She successfully completed the Harvard Business School Executive Education "Women on Board Program: Succeeding as Corporate Director."

Grace has been a member of the Beirut Bar Association since 1997. She received her Master of Laws LL.M. in Commercial and Corporate Law, Banking and Finance, and Intellectual Property from the University of London, Queen Mary (graduated with Merit in 2008). She did various internships worldwide, including but not limited to the Legal Department of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. ("MPAA"), the London Office of Willoughby and Partners, and the World Intellectual Property Organization ("WIPO").

Grace joined AmCham in 2001, participated in AmCham's Legal Affairs Committee, and served on the Board of the Lebanese Business Council. Grace is an Accredited Mediator ("RICS"), a Board-Certified Master Trainer of Leadership and Emotional Intelligence, and a corporate and personal transformation activist. She is passionate about creating Shareholder and Stakeholder Value through enhancing Corporate Governance, CSR and ESG cross contextually, starting from the Boardroom, and through gaining Strategic Advantage by means of Mergers & Acquisitions, from strategy and valuation to execution and Post-Merger Management.

Grace is the CEO & Founder of GTRANCE through which she envisions to inspire and empower individuals and corporations into sustainable results. Her approach is to look at underlying layers and infrastructures, grasp the whole picture, and then try to build the corporation by strengthening the core and the internal capacities whilst addressing the different layers and the multi-dimensional aspects of the business through Directing and Managing. She aspires to switch the community from the language of mediocrity to the language of excellence, the notion of loss to that of sustainable results, and the culture of chaos and mere speculation to that of strategy.

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Khalil Issa

Khalil Issa has been steering organizations for the past 22 years as Executive Director, Managing Director CEO and other directorships for a variety of organizations in the GCC.

He has established 2 companies from the grounds up and have led reputable regional organizations in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE. With particular focus on energy, climate control and services sectors, he has developed a regional branch for an international non-profit standards, certification and compliance Organization (till 2023), created a new building technology company (till 2020), ran a specialized and recognized contracting company (till 2016), led the formation and running of a private utility in water and thermal energy (till 2010), and last but not least directed the business development and planning for a leading regional manufacturing company (till 2004). He has also reported to boards as CEO and has had executive directorships and secretarial roles for project companies in the utility sector.

He is keen to assist companies grow and prosper with a focus on developing distinct business models to stand the test of time, and all the while leveraging personal competences in strategy, communication, organizational structuring, general management, business development, customer relationship management, and supported by expertise in technical, commercial, contractual, and financial matters.

Khalil is a Civil Engineer with a master's in civil and environmental Engineering from the University of Colorado in Boulder, USA, and is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah/Mudara IOD. With a strong belief and practice in communication, conflict resolution, integrity and commitment, Khalil is committed to adding value to SMEs and larger organizations in MENA as an independent Non-executive Director.

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Haif Zamzam

Haif is the Senior Vice President of Strategy and Marketing at TECOM group. Haif is responsible for leading the Strategy and Marketing team, which plans, manages and advances short- and long-term strategy development, product development, pricing, market intelligence, feasibility analysis, valuation, marketing and communications.

Haif joined TECOM Group in July 2020 as Executive Director of Business and Corporate Strategy. Between 2016 and 2020, Haif held various leadership positions in Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), including as Vice President Transformation & Business Support, Vice President Group Strategy and Manager of the Transformation's Project Management Office. Haif previously served on the board of ADNOC's Al Dhafra Petroleum during her time at ADNOC. Prior to 2016, Haif was responsible for overseeing and managing the energy assets within Mubadala Development Company's portfolio. Between 2013 and 2014, she was with the Boston Consulting Group and worked on a range of projects covering the GCC region in both the public and private sectors. Haif commenced her career in 2008 at Masdar Group and was there until 2012, where she was an active private equity investor and asset manager.

Haif holds an MBA from INSEAD (France) and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with concentration in Finance and Economics from the American University of Sharjah (United Arab Emirates). She is passionate about the socioeconomic development of women in the world with an emphasis on women in the GCC.

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Khadija Al Bastaki

Khadija Al Bastaki is the Senior Vice President of Dubai Design District (d3), a global business hub for design, art and creativity which is part of TECOM Group PJSC. She joined d3's leadership team in 2019, launching a series of strategic cultural and commercial initiatives to amplify local, regional and international creative talent and brands, attract direct foreign investment in the creative sector and contribute to Dubai's, the UAE's and region's creative economy. The d3 ecosystem provides state-of-the-art infrastructure to meet the needs of 1,000+ customers and 19,000+ creative professionals.

Under Khadija's leadership, d3 played a leading role in co-founding Dubai Fashion Week, the region's definitive fashion showcase. d3 is also a key strategic partner for Dubai Design Week, the region's largest creative festival, and for Sole DXB, a lifestyle and youth culture showcase. In 2023, she secured strategic partnerships with the Milano Durini Design Association (MDD) and the Associazione Italiana Professionisti Interior Designers to further elevate the profile of Dubai's creative ecosystem in key international markets.
In 2024, Milan-based Isola Design Group, renowned for providing visibility and opportunities to global independent designers, design studios, and brands, opened its first-ever regional headquarters in d3 and under Khadija's leadership d3 co-launched with them the innovative Design Next, a first-of-its-kind exhibition on the circular economy.

Khadija's achievements at d3 have earned her numerous notable awards and listings. She was selected among Arabian Business' 50 Inspiring Women Leaders 2024, Forbes Middle East's Fashion Innovators 2024, Forbes Middle East's Top 100 Most Powerful Businesswoman 2024. She also won Entrepreneur Middle East's Outstanding Contribution to Business Award 2024 and the Editor's Choice Award at the Emirates Woman Awards 2024. In 2023, Khadija earned a spot alongside global fashion industry mavens and luminaries in the prestigious Business of Fashion (BoF) 500 Class of 2023. The BoF 500 is the definitive index of people shaping today's global fashion industry. She was also Gulf Business's Businesswoman of the Year in 2021 and included in its Top Business Influencers for 2024.

In 2024, Khadija was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Dubai Women Establishment (DWE), formed by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to empower Emirati women to become key contributors to the nation's progress. Khadija is also a member of Media Diplomacy and Communication for the Government of Dubai Media Office. In addition, she is a certified Director by the Mudara Institute of Directors and has completed the Women on International Boards Programme with the Institute of Directors in London, Europe's largest membership organisation for directors and other business leaders.

Prior to her position at d3, Khadija undertook roles in the wider TECOM Group with Dubai Media City, Dubai Studio City and Dubai Production City.Before that, she worked with Economic Zones World, Jebel Ali Free Zone and DP World. Khadija holds a Master's in Business Administration and Strategic Management from the Higher

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Al Anood Al Hashemi

As Vice President of Organisational Culture and Impact at Dubai Holding Entertainment, I spearheaded comprehensive social impact initiatives, with a primary focus on culture, impact, and sustainability initiatives. I have two decades of experience in Human Resources and have been practicing 16 years at Dubai Holding. I also act as the Strategic Advisor to the CEO of Dubai Holding Entertainment and am a member of Executive Management Team. I have been involved with HR strategy in various capacities for Dubai Holding. In these HR capacities, I have prioritized organizational effectiveness, employee relations, performance management, and talent management. I have provided strategic leadership in shaping key HR policies including: compensation, cultivating a positive workplace culture, and ensuring compliance with employment regulations. Notably, I was one of 17 Emirati women to receive the prestigious Accredited Directors Certificate by the Director Development Program. This program provides premium Corporate Board training for senior executives in the UAE. I maintain a generalist, holistic, and strategic approach in all endeavours

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Hanan Huwair

Hanan Huwair, Executive Director of Business Technology at DHAM
With more than 15 years of experience at the helm of IT strategy and digital transformation, Hanan Huwair leads the Information Technology function as Executive Director of Business Technology at Dubai Holding Asset Management. She oversees the development and execution of digital solutions and strategic IT initiatives that underpin the Group's short and long-term vision and spearheads operational innovation by evaluating emerging technologies and insights.

Hanan has been instrumental in optimizing the customer experience, leveraging cloud-based platforms and data intelligence across several key entities and projects, creating integrated and globally competitive digital networks across the commercial, retail and residential market ecosystems. She played a pivotal role ensuring digital compliance and data governance in line with regulatory standards during TECOM Group's IPO journey and has served in various senior leadership roles during her career, including as part of Dubai Design District's Smart City program and IT Management at TECOM Group. A forward-thinking strategist, Hanan is passionate about investing in and upskilling future talent and empowering women to pursue careers in tech.

Hanan has a master's in Business Administration from the American University of Dubai (UAE) and a Master of Science in Computer Sciences from the American University of Sharjah (UAE).

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Ellen Dubois du Bellay

Ellen Dubois du Bellay is the Chief Human Resources Officer of Jumeirah Group, the global luxury hospitality company and a member of Dubai Holding. Ellen's goal is to create an employee-driven culture and an environment that encourages empowering leadership and strong customer-focused outcomes. She believes in partnering with all aspects of the organization to create innovative ways to source, hire, develop, lead and inspire people to be their best selves; deliver industry-leading business results; and ensure the highest standards are achieved.

Ellen brings more than 25 years' experience as a senior HR leader to the company. Prior to this Ellen was a founding partner of Inside Out International and Senior Vice President of Global Talent Management at Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts.

Ellen grew up in Australia and has lived and worked in Thailand, the UK, the US, France and Canada. She has a Master's degree (with distinction) in Coaching and Consulting for Change from INSEAD in France, where her research focused on the psychology of the modern workplace.

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Khalid Nasser Humaid AlShamsi

Khalid N AlShamsi is the Chief Investment Officer of Dubai Group (a member of Dubai Holding), a multi-billion diversified and multi-strategy global investment firm with a focus on direct and indirect investments in financial services and insurance sectors. In this capacity, he oversees and manages investments across multiple asset classes from public and private equity to real estate and alternative investments. He drives the asset and risk allocation process on a firm-wide level, as well as engages with stakeholders on strategic directions. Khalid started his investment professional career with a stint in GIC, the sovereign wealth fund of Singapore, followed by HSBC Asset Management in London

He serves on the Boards of Bank Muscat PJSC, Borse Dubai, Tunis Telecom, Oasis Capital, Nouvelair Airline, Innovate Fintech Venture Capital, among others. He is a member of the board of trustees of the American University in the Emirates.

His previous board memberships includes Lafarge Holcim Cement UAE, Acacia Real Estate, Asian Entrepreneur Partners, Asian Capital Reinsurance (Malaysia), Emirates Islamic Insurance, Global Investment House (Kamco Investment Company), Dubai Banking Group PJSC, Canar Telecom Sundan, Sphinx Glass Industries, United Food Company PJSC, Emirates Refreshment Company PJSC, Dubai First (a Consumer finance company), Qalaa Holdings PJSC, Essdar Capital, Energy Management Services Inc, eHostingDataFort (Data Centre, Cloud Infrastructure, Managed Hosting and Security Services Provider), SomoccerCermaic Industries, among others.

Khalid is an executive graduate from Harvard Business School, UC Berkeley Haas School of Business and INSEAD Business School. He holds a Bachelor degree (magna cum laude) in Accounting, Economics and International Business. Khalid is certified “IDP-C”, an internationally renowned directorship program in corporate governance from INSEAD Business School in France. He is also certified in board governance by Harvard University and Hawkamah Institute of Directors.

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Mohamed Mehdi Felfoul

Mohamed Mehdi is a visionary Chief Financial Officer, with more than seventeen years of international experience in North America and GCC.

Mehdi is a Computer Engineer, holds an MBA and a CPA degree from the University of Quebec-Montreal (Canada). As a leading executive, Mehdi is an expert in financial accounting, management accounting, cost accounting, tax accounting... Mehdi built and retained high performance teams by developing and motivating skilled professionals.

Mehdi worked in very prestigious companies as senior positions as National Bank of Canada and Silver Coast Construction. Also, he taught Statistics and finance courses at UQAM university. Currently Mehdi is the CFO of Sergas Group.

Mehdi has proven strategic and operational analytical skills associated with customer centred approach and highly effective communication, strengths sustaining his negotiation expertise and know-how. Mehdi gained through high-level professional experiences in big corporations and SMEs and in various sectors mainly in construction, oil and gas, banking, and higher education.

Out of the office, Mehdi likes to play football, golf and tennis table.

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Sophie Khalid Ali Al Bustani

Sophie is a UAE national with 13 years of international experience in investments, asset management and strategy formation. She currently heads new investments for Mubadala's Digital Infrastructure investment team.

Since joining Mubadala Investment Company in 2011, her primary focus has been on international technology investments across a broad range of sub-sectors. Examples include semiconductors, enterprise software, and, most recently, digital infrastructure (data centres, fibre, telecoms towers, etc.).
Sophie's investment role involves building partnerships, sourcing new opportunities, identifying areas of growth, and overseeing deal teams to assess risks and financial returns. Sophie's key skills are strategy formation, business plan diligence, commercial growth, and financial acumen.

She has also previously held asset management roles, including working on Mubadala's semiconductor investment (GLOBALFOUNDRIES), where she drove strategic projects focused on financial and operational optimisation in Abu Dhabi, Singapore, Germany, and the USA.

Prior to joining Mubadala, she worked at the Boston Consulting Group as a management consultant, advising on both public and private sector projects in the GCC and Turkey. One of her major projects involved the restructuring of banking operations and IT systems following the execution of a merger between two banks in Turkey.

Sophie is currently serving as a board member for MDC Business Management Services (MDC BMS), a multifunctional shared services company. She also sits on the MDC BMS Investment Committee and Audit Committee.

Sophie holds a BA (Honours) in Business and Management and an MSc from the University of Exeter, UK.
She is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

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Mazen Dalati

Mazen Dalati is the General Manager for Middle East and Asia of Alcon Services A.G. Based in Dubai/UAE serving 25 countries and around 1.3 Billion population.

Prior to Alcon Services A.G., he was the General Manager for Baxter A.G. for Middle East and Africa running seven legal entities and a board member of the Saudi manufacturing JV.

Promoted to Chief Operating Officer for GE Saudi Arabia and Bahrain based in Riyadh/KSA. In this position, he was responsible for setting policy strategy, drive the company government affairs and advise on the full range of governmental policy and regulatory issues as well as leading the engagement strategy with government and assisting the business in their government transactions.

Joined GE Healthcare as General Manager for Middle East and Africa in September 2006 expanding his role to include Turkey CA in 2009 and Russia CIS in 2010. He was the recipient of multiple global GE president awards for best performance and for compliance and governance of multitude of complexities in the region.

Appointed as the President and CEO, GE Healthcare Saudi Arabia, where he was leading one of the most important regions in EAGM working closely with the corporate GGO organization to develop healthcare in coordination with the MOH and other customers in the different countries.

He served on multiple boards for the GE Healthcare JVs in Saudi Arabia.

Mazen is a Board Director at Mecomed (the medical devices trade association)

Mazen attended multiple executive programs in Harvard, Columbia, Michigan, and GE.

Attended the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles and graduated with a Double Bachelor of Science Degree in Biomedical and Electrical Engineering in 1989, Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering in 1992, Master of Health Administration in 1994, Master of Public Administration in 1995, and passed the Ph.D. Qualifications Examination for the program in Public Administration with Healthcare emphasis in 1995.

Professional Directors 2022

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Tanuja Paramasivam

Tanuja is an Australian qualified lawyer with over 20 years' experience in corporate & commercial law and a chartered company secretary with 9 years of corporate governance and board secretary experience. She also has regulatory compliance, strategic policy and industry development expertise, which includes time spent with Tecom Investments (part of Dubai Holdings) in the Healthcare & Science practice and the Australian Government in Biotech & Health Sciences. Tanuja holds Bachelor of Laws (Hon) and Bachelor of Science (Pharmacology) degrees from the University of Sydney, Australia. Tanuja is admitted to practice in the High Court and Federal Court of Australia, as well as the Supreme Courts of New South Wales and Queensland.

Tanuja joined DIFC Authority in March 2012 and as Senior Vice President - Legal, she was responsible for corporate & commercial legal and regulatory matters and providing strategic and practical in-house legal advice to numerous departments within the DIFC. She has extensive corporate & commercial law and corporate structuring expertise. In addition, she also fulfilled the function of Board Secretary to the DIFC Authority, DIFC Investments Ltd and Art Dubai Fair FZ LLC, and provided corporate governance advice to the Chairman, Board and Senior Management. She has extensive legislative expertise having developed and maintained the DIFC's Common Law legal framework in line with international best practice and drafted numerous DIFC laws.

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Najat Ahmed Abdulla

Najat currently serves as the Executive Director of Corporate Services including Sustainability at Dubai Community Management (DCM). In this capacity, she oversees several critical departments, including IT, Human Capital, Procurement & Contracts, Marketing & Communication, Business Excellence, Customer Service, and General Administration.

Najat is a C-Suite Director with a remarkable track record, boasting over two decades of expertise in Procurement & Contracts transformation. Throughout her career, she has achieved significant executive leadership milestones in supply chain management, business administration, and corporate strategy across diverse industries such as manufacturing, retail, leisure & entertainment, hospitality, food & beverage, and healthcare operations.

Najat has demonstrated exceptional skills in implementing large-scale programs and crafting strategic designs for end-to-end, data-driven procurement functions. Beyond her technical prowess, she possesses a remarkable aptitude for diplomacy, allowing her to cultivate meaningful relationships and build consensus among diverse stakeholders.

Professional Directors 2021

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Mohammad Ahmad Bin AlShaikh

Mohammad Ahmad Bin Al Shaikh is an Emirati entrepreneur and the founder of Bin AlShaikh Investments, a private investment firm dedicated to overseeing a broad portfolio of personal and family-related investments. With a strategic vision and a passion for business, Mohammad began his entrepreneurial journey in 2013, setting the foundation for a series of impactful ventures.

In 2016, he established his first Food and Beverage business, which rapidly gained momentum and expanded its operations to Qatar in 2017. Building on this success, Mohammad launched a second Food and Beverage business in 2019, further solidifying his presence in the sector. This trajectory continued into 2020, when he co-founded Unicepts Investments, a Food and Beverage investment firm which acquired his established group of chains, where he also chaired the Board of Directors. In the same year, he founded B A S Real Estate, a subsidiary of Bin Al Shaikh Investments, dedicated to managing and expanding the firm's real estate business. By 2021, both of the chains had embraced franchising, growing to a total of 11 outlets across two countries. Starting 2023, Mohammad began strategically prioritizing the expansion of his firm's real estate business, achieving significant success. As of 2025, Mohammad serves as a Board Member at Emarati Industries Cooperative and a member of its Executive Committee.

Mohammad holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration - Management from the University of Sharjah. Complementing his academic credentials, he is a Certified Professional Director accredited by Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

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Abdulla Ahmad Bin AlShaikh

Abdulla Ahmad Bin AlShaikh is an entrepreneur and the Deputy Managing Director at Modern Printing Press, the oldest printing press in Dubai established in 1966 under Hassan Bin AlShaikh Group of Industries. Currently, he is involved in many on-going projects and businesses within Hassan Bin AlShaikh Group of Industries, related to paper and food manufacturing.

Abdulla is a Bachelor of Science degree graduate in Business Administration, excellence with honors, from the American University of Sharjah, with a major in management and a minor in economics.

Professional Directors 2021

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Dr. Tarak M Brigh

Dr. Tarak Mohamed Brigh(Deputy Chairman of the Board- Sahara Bank) is a Libyan-based accounting and banking consultant. He has almost three decades of experience in auditing, accounting, banking, and business related sector

Tarak has a Bachelor's in Accounting 1992 from the University of Garyounis, a Masters in accounting from the Post Graduate Studies and Economical Research Academy, Libya, and a PHd degree in international business from UNITAR), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

A former Consultant for the ministry of finance, Board Member of Alwaha Bank, General Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs at Applied Research and Development Organization, Head of Banking Operation Dept at Development Bank, and other former jobs in business sector.

He was awarded an Official Editor Certificate, General Syndicate of Accountants and Editors, Libya which helped him to improve his accounting and business knowledge and to work as certified auditor.

He has participated in many international scientific conferences to share his finding in business through multiple research papers

He is Certified as Financial Consultant, 2014 from Arab Academy for Training Solutions and Consulting Piratical (ATSCP)
He headed or was part of the core teams that introduced the strategic planning, internal control committee, corporate governance, budgeting, risk assessments, business solutions, etc

His current interests beside banking sector, the linkage and integration between monetary and financial policy in Libya

He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD

Professional Directors 2021

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Amer Al Harbi

Amer Al Harbi is currently leading Partnership and Collaboration at Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange - ADX, in his role he is responsible for managing all formal communication with government/private stakeholders and collaborating with different bodies to ensure sustainable business operations in ADX.

Prior to joining ADX Amer spent 8 years in the Public Relations and Media in the Department of Economic Development -Abu Dhabi, where he managed various streams like international events and high-level delegations management, internal and external collaboration, communication, branding and Sponsorships.

Amer holds a Master degree in Business Administration and a Bachelors of Mass Communication. He is also a graduate of “The leader program” Abu Dhabi School of Government .

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Khalaf Abdullah Khalaf

Khalaf Abdullah has more than two decades of experience in the fields of Internal Audit, Risk Management, Internal Control, Regulatory Compliance and Corporate Governance.

He is currently - Executive Vice President - Group Chief Internal Auditor of a leading Islamic Bank in UAE with three subsidiaries (Hotels, Real Estates, Brokerage Firm) and Secretary of the Group Audit Committee.

He led the internal audit function to achieve 'Full Conformance' to the IIA's International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing in the external quality assessment carried out by the Institute of Internal Auditors, USA, the feet achieved by one of a select few globally.
His key accomplishments include winning 'Best Practices Award' two consecutive years from the Institute of Internal Auditors (UAE) for demonstrating leading practices in the domain of Governance, Risk and Control.

He was a member of UAE Banks Federation (UBF) Audit Committee. He regularly delivers speeches on the topics of Corporate Governance and Leadership.

Khalaf holds BS Degree in Accounting from UAE University. In addition to 'Certified Professional Director' by Hawkamah/Mudara IOD (Dubai, UAE).

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Hamad Al Tamimi

Hamad Mahmood is a distinguished executive with extensive experience in corporate governance, public relations, and strategic leadership. Currently serving as the Executive Office Manager, Head of Corporate Communications, and Chairman of the Social Committee at Osool Asset Management, he oversees public relations strategies, corporate communications functions, and stakeholder relations for Osool and its sister companies, Amlak Real estate Company and Bahrain Marina Development Company. Hamad excels in managing board communications, government relations, and corporate governance frameworks, ensuring operational excellence.

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In addition to his executive role, Hamad serves as a board member of the Bahrain Strategic Fund, board member of Osool Pension Fund, board member of the official Liverpool club Bahrain affiliated with Liverpool Football Club in the United Kingdom, and board member of the Liverpool Club Supporters Association licensed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs in Bahrain. Previously, he held the position of Board Secretary at Osool Asset Management company and Bahrain Marina Development company, where he managed board secretarial and governance functions at the highest levels.

Prior to joining Osool in 2013, Hamad was managing the CEO office of the Social Insurance Organization (SIO) as well as managing the external relations of the Organization. During his time in the SIO, he was in charge ofa number of administrative and strategic projects. In addition, he was appointed as a member of the International Social Security Association (ISSA) to ensure international standards are implemented by SIO and act as a point of contact between ISSA and SIO.

Hamad holds advanced certifications in corporate governance and public relations, including a Certified Board Member certificate and a Certified Public Relations certificate (CIPR). With a career spanning over two decades, Hamad has established a solid reputation for excellence, credibility, and building influential relationships across both the public and private sectors.

Professional Directors 2021

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Faisal Naif Alakshan

Mr. Faisal is perceived as one of the elite leaders in the digital transformation era. Currently holding the position of a CEO in Sehati; a company that executes a sophisticated mandate to transform the health sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Prior to his current role, Mr. Faisal maintained a consistent growth in his twenty years of experience, where he mastered a variety of technical skills, at the same time he was going up in the leadership ladder until he established himself as a steering capability in multiple organizations and sectors, one of which was Elm, where he became a vice president overseeing the digital transformation and outsourcing sector. Throughout his tenure, he represented Elm in the success of delivering some of the most unique and complicated business engagements, such as Municipalities Privatization Partnership, and Makkah Route “Hajj Preclearance”.

Mr. Faisal is also an entrepreneur himself; his sharp leadership skills and innovative value creation mindset drive his passion for establishing startups with like-minded investors. Mr. Faisal also has a footprint in the charity and nonprofit organization world.
The opportunities to become active board member are starting to arise for Mr. Faisal in the near future.

Professional Directors 2021

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Salem M Jebriel Alsewi

Salem M Jebriel Alsewi: hold MSc degrees in Computer Science (2003) from University Science Malaysia, Malaysia and a PhD (2014) from Glasgow University, UK.

Currently, he is a Director of Information Security Department, Central Bank of Libya and he is a member of several committees at the central bank of Libya such as the Electronic Payment Companies Evaluation Committee, the Financial Inclusion Committee, and the high strategic committee of IT projects.

2017-2021 Dr Alsewi appointed as a Director of a special program for social grants from foreign exchange to 1,5 million and a half Libyan families for 4 years, at an estimated cost of $3.5 three and a half billion dollars annually, implemented by 19 banks.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Sahara Bank and head of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee. also, a member of the Board Risk Committee and a contributing to the bank strategy and oversees the bank digital transformation.

Previously, he was an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at faculty of Information Technology, Misurata University, Libya. Additionally, hold some academic positions such as Director of Quality Assurance Office at faculty of Information Technology, Misurata and Acting Dean of faculty of Information Technology

His current research interests and a Part-time member of teaching staff, Libyan Academy for Postgraduate Studies, Misurata Libya. He has published a book Chapter and serval research papers in international academic journals.

Professional Directors 2021

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Institute of Directors



Ghassan Kebbe

Ghassan P.Kebbe has close to 35 years of experience in Business Growth and Development, Sustainability, Governance, Strategy, Finance, Internal Corporate Restructuring and Transformation , Change Management as well as Stakeholder Engagement and Alignment, in multiple countries within the GCC and MENA regions, across a variety of industries and business sectors, including :

Private Banking and Private Equity Investment,

Business Franchising, Retail Distribution, Hospitality and Healthcare Services,

Infrastructure Contracting, General Construction, and Real Estate Development.

He is currently acting as Non-Executive Board Member (NED), or Board Advisor , in a number of privately (or family owned) and well-established companies, as well as start-ups

In particular , he is a:

Non-Executive Board Member (NED) in a leading specialized bank, operating in Dubai (DIFC) and Lebanon, and focused on Wealth Management , Capital Markets , Online Trading as well as Corporate and Investment Banking.

NED in a leading Infrastructure Contracting Company, based in Kuwait but operating in multiple countries in the GCC and Africa.

NED in a leading - multi store- retailer of consumer Electronics, White goods, Household products and appliances, with 625 brands and operations in Lebanon and Jordan.

Ex-Advisor to the Board of a leading University Hospital in Lebanon, with established centers of excellence in several specialties, equipped with cutting-edge technology, including Oncology, Cochlear Implant, Bone Marrow transplantation, Kidney Transplant, Obesity, Epilepsy & Neurosciences programs.

· Governance, Strategy & Business development Advisor to a number of Start-Ups.

Fluent in English , French and Arabic, he holds a BS Degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's Degree in Engineering Administration from George Washington University (USA).

He is also an alumni of :

Harvard Business School (USA), where he participated in its Senior Executive Leadership Program, as well as an Alumni of

INSEAD (France), where he obtained his certification in the school's International Director Program (Corporate Governance).

In addition, he holds a professional "Certificate in Company Direction", in the key areas of Governance, Finance, Strategy and Leadership, from the Institute of Directors (London,UK) ,and

He is also a "Certified Professional Director" by Hawkamah / Mudara IOD (Dubai,UAE)

Professional Directors 2021

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Husam S Abulhul

Husam S Abulhul, A visionary executive with over 20 years of experience in driving business growth, managing large-scale operations, and leading strategic development across the technology, telecom, and investment sectors. Known for transforming organizations, delivering measurable results, and guiding businesses through periods of growth and stability, I leverage expertise in business development, digital transformation, and financial strategy to create sustainable value. A dynamic leader with a proven ability to build strong teams, foster innovation, and expand market presence regionally and internationally, I bring strategic insights that drive long-term success.

Professional Experience:

As Chairman of Ouia Company for Real Estate Investment in Egypt, I lead the company's strategy and operations, positioning it as one of the most respected real estate firms in the region. In this role, I have also driven a significant collaboration with The ARK Development Company on major projects in New Cairo, helping to shape the future of real estate development in the area.

As a Member of Libya Foreign Investment Company (LAFICO), I contribute to the oversight of the company's international portfolio, focusing on investment opportunities across various industries and countries. My strategic input ensures that the company's investments generate long-term value and foster global growth.

In my role as Chairman, CEO, and Co-Founder of AFAQ ICT Company, I lead operations, business growth, and strategic development to position the company as a leader in the technology and telecom sectors. My leadership has been pivotal in driving innovation and maintaining the company's competitive edge in the industry.

From 2020 to 2023, I served as a Board Member and Head of the Risk Committee at Sahara Bank, where I oversaw the bank's strategic direction, risk management, and digital transformation initiatives. I played a key role in improving the bank's operational efficiency, ensuring it aligned with modern financial technologies, and positioning it for future success in an evolving marketplace.

As President of Pyramid Network Services for North Africa and the Middle East from 2013 to 2015, I led the company's international expansion, establishing a strong presence in key markets. I developed and executed strategies that supported sustainable growth and helped the company achieve increased market penetration across the region.

In 2013, I became the Chief Executive Officer of Libya Telecom and Technology (LTT), Libya's largest internet service provider, where I managed a workforce of over 500 employees. I led a company-wide turnaround that stabilized operations and grew revenue to 180 million LYD. My leadership extended across all facets of the company, including financial planning, business development, marketing, HR, and administration, ensuring a comprehensive and successful restructuring.

Husam has earned multiple certifications from globally recognized universities and possesses extensive experience in telecommunications and infrastructure. He holds a Master's degree in Information Technology Engineering from the National University of Ireland. Additionally, Husam is a certified Professional Board Director through Hawkamah / Mudara IOD, further demonstrating his expertise and leadership in the field.

Professional Directors 2021

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Dr. OMAR MUFTAH ELSAADI

Omar is currently a consultant in the long-term investment portfolio (Libyan Investment Corporation). He has worked as associate professor in faculty of economics in University of Sirte in Libya. He also was a director general of administration and services in the long-term investment portfolio and a consultant to the National Council for Economic and Social Development. Omar was also considering as financing advisor at the National Program for Small and Medium Enterprises 2010.

Omar is also an active member of the board of directors of the Sahara Bank and also a member of the credit policy committee of the Bank.

Omar holds a PhD and a master's in financial and banking sciences (finance and banking) from The Arab Academy for Management, Banking and Financial Sciences in Jordan. His current research interests include the banking sector, sustainable development, economic development, Islamic finance, Investments, Crisis Management, Corporate governance for banks. He has participated in many international scientific conferences as a member of scientific committees, and he published more than 20 research papers in international academic journals.

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Dr. Shaun Vorster

Dr. Shaun Vorster (D.Phil., MBA cum laude) is a Middle East-based strategist, adviser and certified board director with a track record of 30 years in the private sector, government and academia. He serves as Vice President at the Saudi Tourism Authority (since 2021).

He originally cut his teeth as strategy practitioner navigating government during South Africa's first 20 years of democracy (post-1994), including as Special Adviser to the national tourism and environment ministers for 11 years (2004–2015). Here he focused on strategy development, regulatory reform and multilateral negotiations.
He has previously served as Vice President and Special Adviser at Expo 2020 Dubai (2015–2020), Secretary General of the South African Business Council (SABCO) in the UAE, on the advisory boards of the World Tourism Forum Lucerne (WTFL) and the World Tourism Association for Culture & Heritage (WTACH), and as Extraordinary Professor at University of Stellenbosch Business School.

Shaun has published widely on sustainable tourism, corporate governance, integrated sustainability reporting, scenario studies, and climate change.

Shaun holds a Doctorate in International Political Economy (1998) and an MBA cum laude (2012). As systems thinker, I regularly lean on scenario-building to develop foresight, design plausible futures and plan for risk mitigation.

Having completed 300+ missions to 80+ countries, he brings an independent and global perspective to the table.

Professional Directors 2021

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Anoud Al Marzouqi

Anoud Al Marzouqileads the Business Planning, Economics and Performance function for ADNOC Global Trading, working closely with the Chief Financial Officer and other senior leaders.

Anoud has 16 years of extensive experience in the oil and gas industry, working closely with top international oil companies via the shareholders, boards and the various committees reporting to the board (e.g. Corporate Strategy and Performance and FINCO). She has contributed and presented in all ADNOC LNG Board meetings since 2013, including content preparations for the main Board and its committees (Technical and Financial) for management oversight in strategic technical, investment and financial areas.

Through her innovative work in business planning redesign, she directly contributed to rapidly shifting the company's performance from bottom quartile to 3rd place amongst 15 ADNOC group companies with a significant shift in KPIs/scorecards.

Anoud began her career in ADNOC LNG as an engineer in IT then moved to corporate strategy as a performance analyst. Her passion for achieving excellence & results aided her to progress soon to lead the Strategic Planning & Corporate Performance function for ADNOC LNG, collaborating across a multinational team including 6 Japanese secondees from a key shareholder.

Through these corporate responsibilities and success, as well as a personal passion for real estate investing, she has built-up broad business knowledge that touches on technical, P&L and cash flow reporting, governance, audit, corporate management frameworks and systems.

Anoud has a Bachelor's Degree in Science of Computer Engineering from the American University of Sharjah (AUS), which she augmented with a CFA L1. She is certified as Professional Director of Hawkamah/ Mudara Institute of Directors in the UAE.

Anoud was selected in 2018 as one of the few ADNOC High-Potential Emiratis to attend the Harvard program designed for Mitsui senior executives to make a greater impact on their organizations by broadening business perspective, management expertise, leadership skills, building cross-functional cooperation, and driving innovation and change.

With this constant passion for learning, she brings a genuine commitment to improve her teams' work through thoughtful and mature leadership. Today, with her absolute focus on results, Anoud Al Marzouqi has built strong reputation within a most competitive industry as a capable and innovative leader.

Professional Directors 2020

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Manal Almazrouei

Manal Al Mazrouei, is a distinguished professional with over 18 years of progressive experience in the oilfield services industry, she has a remarkable track record of driving growth and success for international market expansion and driving the excellence in company performance.

Her expertise lies in crafting expansion strategies that align with overall business objectives.

With a rich international background international work before settling in Abu Dhabi in 2009 Serving in ADNOC group, she has honed a global outlook crucial for navigating operational diversification of oil field services in Qatar and Yemen for serving Ras-gas/OXY/Qatar Petroleum..etc and business development growth.

Certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD and was serving as a board member for AL Dhafra Petroleum; from ADNOC Group within March 2021 up to June 2023, she brings a deep understanding of governance to her board role. Manal excels in leading high-performing teams, fostering innovation, and staying ahead of digital transformation, global expansion, sustainability, operational excellence and company profitability enhancement.

In summary, Manal's career is marked by a relentless pursuit of growth, a focus on delivering impactful results, and a deep commitment to advancing the energy sector with integrity and innovation.

She holds a Master degree in Petroleum engineering from the United Arab Emirates University, IMD and London Business School as well as Level 3 Leadership Certificate, and a Bachelor's in Chemical engineering from the United Arab Emirates University.

Professional Directors 2020

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Ahmad Almulla

Ahmad Almulla is one of few who have combined experience in Information Technology and Supply Chain Management. This combination has enabled Ahmad to play a crucial role in the success of Dubai Aluminium (DUBAL) and Emirates Global Aluminium (EGA) as he served as a member of the executive committee for over 15 years.

Ahmad is credited as one of the driving forces behind the IT revolution at DUBAL/EGA, and a visionary leader who has ushered in an era of technological change in the company. During his over 30 years of service at DUBAL/EGA, Ahmad has been at the helm of various strategic initiatives envisaged to position DUBAL/EGA as a leader in technology and information-based infrastructure; and supply chain management. His experience and knowledge in Cyber Security domain has shielded DUBAL/EGA domain and information assets. Ahmad has also led DUBAL/EGA Information Technology division to win many international and regional awards.

During his career, Ahmad has been a frequent keynote speaker at many IT conclaves and symposiums; and has led many initiatives that have resulted in DUBAL/EGA receiving several prestigious awards. He has been a pivotal member of the Executive Management Team at DUBAL/EGA for several years, at which level he has contributed strategic expertise in global information systems, information system architecture, supply chain strategy and automation procedures.

Drawing on his insight into technology management and ability to create highly effective IT frameworks, Ahmad has effectively leveraged IT as a key catalyst for DUBAL/EGA's exponential growth over the past two decades. This has been achieved through optimizing operational proficiency via innovative use of technology. For instance, by innovating the supply chain process, DUBAL/EGA has saved millions of dollars in outlay while simultaneously creating a framework for procurement on its major expansion projects.

Having an MBA combined with business experienced enabled Ahmad to play the leading role in securing raw materials at competitive prices and was a key figure in concluding long term contracts for major raw materials with favourable pricing and payment arrangements. He also managed to optimize raw materials specs and inventory and helped lower the working capital of EGA.

Ahmad also has led the vision for a transformation program through the implementation of SAP in DUBAL/EGA and later the integration of multiple SAP system. The latter system not only revolutionized the way DUBAL/EGA business departments' function by using world class best practices, but also positioned them for future growth.

As part of community support, Ahmad has founded the CIOMajlis (A platform for CIOs to network and discuss IT related topics) and was the founding chairman. He also served as the vice chairman of Dubai Quality Group (DQG), In addition, He is a board member of the Association of Change Management Professionals (ACME) Middle East Chapter.

He holds an MBA from the University of New England and a bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering from the University of Arizona. He has also been a frequent nominee for international training sessions at prestigious institutes such as the IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland.
Currently, he advises board of Directors on IT strategy, cyber security, and IT governance. He is also a board member of CIOMajlis, which is a platform where CIOs network and discuss issues of common concern

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Faizal Shah

Faizal Shah Kuttiyilis a Qualified Chartered Accountant, Certified Professional Director, Certified Non-Executive Director, Technical Specialist Member IRM, Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Fraud Examiner and Certified in Risk & Information Systems Control with experience of over two decades in Risk Management, Internal Controls, Internal Audit, Operations, Business Continuity Management, Process Development, Collections and Credit Control. He is also a Six Sigma Black Belt, Lean Management, Mergers & Acquisition and Strategic Management Certified personnel.

Faizal has been associated as an integral member supporting Visionary LEADERSHIP Teams in Varied Industrial Sectors - FMCG, Hospitality, Audit & Consulting, Outsourcing, Brokerage & Financial Services in scaling new heights. He has extensive experience in setting up, nurturing and developing Risk Management, Internal Audit & Controls, Operations, Process Development, Business Continuity, Collection & Credit Control teams. He is a seasoned professional with proven ability to transform operations. He is also a risk Profiler adept at identifying, analysing & resolving issues enabling objective attainment.

Faizal is a Man, of Principle's & a Good Listener. He believes in enabling Controls Differently. Faizal's professional affiliation includes Hawkamah Dubai, NEDA UK, IRM UK, ICAI India, IIA UAE, ISACA UAE and ACFE USA.

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PC 't Hart

PC 't Hart (Peeter Chris) is a Senior Executive with a Master's Degree in Corporate Law (LLM) and 25+ years of international banking experience. The main part of his career he worked for ABN AMRO Bank in various senior managerial and commercial positions in the Netherlands, Dutch Antilles, Singapore, France and UAE. Founder of Dubai based HartConsultancy and delivers services in line with the UAE economic substance rules as General Manager, Independent Personal Director, and local representative for mainland and offshore companies. Serves as strategic business partner, aligns with international legal frameworks; possesses ability to interpret financial regulations and assess operational compliance.

PC 't Hart (Peeter Chris) is a Senior Executive with a Master's Degree in Corporate Law (LLM) and 25+ years of international banking experience. The main part of his career he worked for ABN AMRO Bank in various senior managerial and commercial positions in the Netherlands, Dutch Antilles, Singapore, France and UAE. Founder of Dubai based HartConsultancy and delivers services in line with the UAE economic substance rules as General Manager, Independent Personal Director, and local representative for mainland and offshore companies. Serves as strategic business partner, aligns with international legal frameworks; possesses ability to interpret financial regulations and assess operational compliance.

PC is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD

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Mostafa Ibrahim Abdeltawab

PMostafa Ibrahim Abdeltawabis a Certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD He is also a Certified Financial Consultant and holds a degree of BA in Accountancy. He has GCC VAT Compliance Diploma from ATT. in UK and Professional license in Tax from Federal Tax Authority in UAE.

He has over 13 years of work experience in a high-level management where He continues to work with the elite community with the best board members and professional executives in UAE and MENA . Mostafa is also a Secretary of Dubai International Holy Quran Award who's responsible for International relations with regard to the participation of countries in the international Holy Quran competitions.
He worked as General Accountant in Sodexo, the leading for food catering and Beijing Emirates Construction International Company who's responsible for Current Assets & Liabilities Accounts. He provides Tax & Consultancy services to companies in different sectors and currently a Tax Agent of Skylines Tax Consultancy.

Professional Directors 2020

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Rocco Paduano

Rocco Paduanois currently a Non-Executive Director for Kenzi Wealth Fondsmæglerselskab A/S, a wealth management advisory company based in Denmark. Prior, from 2015 to 2019, he was Head (Global) of Market Risk Management for Saxo Bank A/S based in Denmark. Saxo Bank A/S is a Danish-based financial institution providing institutional and retail trading, banking, and wealth management solutions, having banking licenses in Denmark, France and Switzerland. Rocco and his team worked to build and implement the bank's 1st line of defence globally, part of an integral 3-line of defense strategy coordinated with Markets, Audit, Compliance and Legal, Operations, and Finance. Rocco was part of the Senior Management Team, and a member of the Management Risk Committee reporting directly into the bank's Executive Team. Rocco also served as an Executive Director on a joint venture between Banca Generali S.p.A. and Saxo Bank A/S operating in the Italian financial services sector, regulated by CONSOB (Italy), and providing Italian-based private banking clients with advanced trading technology solutions.

Prior, from 2012 to 2015, Rocco was a partner at Asia Asset Partners, a Hong Kong-based venture capital vehicle backed by Korea Technology Bank. Rocco and his co-partners sought, analysed, and proposed investment opportunities through the deployment of strategic capital at the management company level of alternative asset management companies in APAC. Prior to Asia Asset Partners, Rocco was COO of Credit Suisse APAC Prime Services unit, and a co-founder of HindSight Investment Management (HK) Limited, a Hong Kong-based hedge fund for which he served as CRO and Executive Director. HindSight was the largest Asia-based hedge fund launch for 2005 with secured seed capital of USD100mm+, and reaching a peak AUM of USD500mm, whilst providing clients with an Asia-focused multi-strategy investment vehicle. Rocco started his career in finance in London, working for Morgan Stanley & Co. (2000-2004) and Goldman Sachs & Co. (2004-2005) in their respective Prime Services units running and managing the risk management function.

Prior to moving into financial services, Rocco worked in the aerospace engineering field, working as a design engineer for Raytheon Co. in the USA on large scale engineering projects for both the domestic and international aerospace market.

Rocco holds a BS and MS in Mechanical Engineering from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute and an MS in Management and Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (System Design and Management Fellow). Rocco has lived and worked in the USA, Europe, Asia. Rocco holds and Italian citizenship and is currently a resident of the UAE.

Professional Directors 2020

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David Haglund

David Haglund is a seasoned investment professional and non-executive director with over two decades of expertise in asset management, investment banking, and private equity, specializing in Emerging Markets.

David Haglund has extensive expertise in finance, accounting, and strategy, complemented by a deep background in corporate governance and sustainability. His experience spans conducting in-depth analysis, valuation, and corporate strategy across a wide range of industries and geographies.

David currently serves as a non-executive director at Aramex, one of the largest publicly traded logistics companies in the MENA region, where he focuses on strategy, risk management, sustainability, and corporate governance. He is an active member of the Audit, Investment and Growth, and Nomination & Remuneration Committees.

David is also a founding member and steering committee member of Chapter Zero UAE, an initiative affiliated to the World Economic Forum. Chapter Zero UAE focuses on equipping board members with the knowledge and tools needed to address the risks and opportunities presented by climate change and sustainability within corporate governance.

Previously, David held the position of senior executive director and fund manager at Franklin Templeton Investments for nearly two decades, one of the world's largest institutional investors, managing numerous institutional mandates for regional and international Sovereign Wealth Funds and building a reputation as a trusted leader in global asset management.

Passionate about corporate governance and sustainability, David has earned prestigious certifications, including the Certificate in Corporate Governance from INSEAD, Director Certification from the Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance, CFA Institute Certificate in Climate Risk, Valuation, and Investing, CFA Institute Certificate in ESG Investing, and Diploma in Audit Committees in a New Era of Governance from Harvard University.

Professional Directors 2020

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Rafia Abdulla Mohd Saeed AlMulla

Rafia Abdulla Mohd Saeed AlMulla is a powerful branding force. She's a pioneer for developing business intelligence in a multitude of ultra-competitive industries. Her entrepreneurial spirit is the result of a deep family legacy.

Rafia currently holds the position of Director at Al Mulla Capital Investments . There, she seeks to diversify the Emirate's economy in various sectors. Working for Al Mulla Capital, she helps to acquire and establish small to medium-size enterprises. Rafia also supports several ecommerce and application development projects.

She is part of Qiyadat UAE government leaders and is a managing board member at the Dubai Chambers Youth Council.

She is the UAE Ambassador of the Middle East and North Africa Franchise Association and member of the Dubai Businesswomen Council.

Rafia holds a bachelor's degree (with honors) in Business Administration in Real Estate Management and is a graduate of the Hospitality Management at Cornell University also holds a higher diploma (with honors) in Marketing and a Microeconomics professional certification from MIT.

Rafia is a Winner of the 2017 Feigenbaum Leadership Excellence Awards in the "Rising Stars" category. In 2009, she won the Abu Dhabi Industry Award in Excellence in the field of Business Management. Further completing a project that achieved an RLI Global Leisure Operator award winner in 2017.

Professional Directors 2020

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Patricia 't Hart-van Rooijen

Patricia ‘t Hart-van Rooijenstarted her career as a civil law notary before joining ABN Amro Trust as a legal officer. She has had a long and varied career with Intertrust, first joining the company’s predecessor MeesPierson as a Commercial director and stayed with Intertrust until 2010. During this time she held various commercial as well as managerial positions. Patricia acted as a Private Director for numerous clients and has experience in the field of Securitisation, Escrow and Agency, establishment and maintenance of a variety of cross-border structures both for corporate as well as estate planning purposes.
Patricia re-joined Intertrust in January 2018 as Managing Director Dubai and has overseen a rapid expansion in the region as the company opened a new office in Abu Dhabi. The UAE business now provides a full suite of services in the Dubai International Financial Centre, Abu Dhabi Global Market and most recently RAK ICC and has overseen the team growing substantially. Prior to re-joining the firm she worked in a business development role for a trust office based in Dubai.

Patricia is a full member of STEP as well as a founding member of IFA, UAE Chapter, has successfully passed the Hawkamah Director Development Program and is a CIMA registered Director. She has worked in Dubai, Singapore and Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Curacao and Belgium. And she learned French whilst taking a career-break in France.

Patricia has a LLM, Law (notarial) from Leiden University, Netherlands. She is fluent in Dutch, Papiamento and English.

Professional Directors 2020

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Rowdha Ali Mohammad AlSakit Alfalasi

Rowdha Ali experience and strategic initiative help to align foundations for the next generation. Rowdha's strength is to forecast future trends. She's achieved great success collaborating across verticals in every industry, from hospitality and engineering to real estate and innovation. Her experience encompasses a variety of industries, currently serving as a Director in an investment company.

Rowdha graduated with a bachelor's degree from Zayed University & Domus Academy in Milan, Italy. Her studies were aptly focused in business, architecture, design (Human Centric Experiences) and entrepreneurship. She holds professional Directorship Certificate from Hawkamah institute of corporate governance.

As well as,
- Investing in the UAE & Gulf Merger & Acquisition, PE and JV training by King & Spalding
- Professional entrepreneurship diploma from The Dubai Entrepreneurship Academy,
- Professional certificate in Emerging Economies from Harvard University.

Coming from a long line of mentors, she's been greatly influenced by the work of her grandfathers, Hassan Rashed AlAbbar founded the AlAbbar Group. It's one of the pioneer groups that plays a big role in regional investments, real estate & global industrial manufacturing. They are responsible for installing many of Dubai's Landmark buildings. Her other grandfather, Mohammad AlSakit AlFalasi, has performed critical work setting up educational systems in the UAE.

Professional Directors 2020

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Omar Karanouh

Omar Karanouh graduated from the University of Lille (France) with a Masters in Law of Transnational Activities (specialty Maritime Law), he joined the Reinsurance broking firm Nasco France in Paris, as a Marine & Aviation Claims Officer in 2008.

Nasco Group is a leading Reinsurance broker in the MENA region with over 40 years of industry experience and amongst the top three largest reinsurance brokers in France.

Afterwards moved within the company to a Broking role and in 2012 he became the Head of the Marine & Aviation Department. His Role as a Marine & Aviation Executive Broker included participating to the monthly Executive Committee meetings.

He came to Dubai end of 2013 as an Executive Director for Aon Benfield Middle East limited based in the Dubai International Financial Center.

Aon Benfield is the Reinsurance Arm of the Aon Group. it is a large global professional services firm that sells a range of financial risk-mitigation products.

His role continued to be the negotiation and placement of facultative Reinsurance policies, on behalf of Middle East and North African Insurance companies, with Regional and International Reinsurers.

End of 2014 Omar moved to Guy Carpenter Middle East Limited in the DIFC. Guy Carpenter & Company was founded in 1922 and is a leading global risk and reinsurance specialist. The Company has 3,100 employees in over 60 locations worldwide and generates $1.6B of revenue. It is a subsidiary of Marsh & McLennan Companies.

In Guy Carpenter Omar expanded his knowledge of the type of risks that he negotiate and place which included Marine Hull and Machinery, Marine Cargo, Property and Business Interruption , Construction/Erection, Casualty, Political Violence, Oil & Gas Risks, Power Risks, Cyber and Financial lines.

In January 2018 Omar became the Senior Executive Officer / Head of Guy Carpenter's office in the DIFC. Next to his Reinsurance broking activities, he is managing role included Financial and Accounting tasks and Claims, Legal and Compliance functions. The role naturally also required an active participation in the Company's Quarterly Board Meetings.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Adel Salem Al Wahedi

Mr. Adel Salem Al Wahediis the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Abu Dhabi Ports, the master developer of ports and Khalifa Industrial Zone in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. In his role, he leads all the financial and accounting operations of Abu Dhabi Ports.

Mr. Al Wahedi has more than 21 years of experience in designing and implementing financial frameworks and boasts extensive expertise innumerous finance areas, from financial control, strategy and business process to treasury, planning and corporate performance.

Mr. Al Wahedi started his career in the Finance Department ofEtisalat (Emirates Telecommunications Corporation) where his responsibility quickly grew so he took up various leading positions in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Sudan.

Mr. Al Wahedi's next station was Dry Docks World (DDW), a company specialised in shipbuilding, ship repair and offshore services. At DDW, he took up the role of CFO and supervised all financial matters of the company's branch in Dubai, as well as its subsidiaries in Singapore and Indonesia.

Before joining Abu Dhabi Ports in Feb 2014, Mr. Al Wahedi worked as CFO for Petrofac Emirates, where he was responsible for all finance functions and in charge of enterprise risk management and corporate governance.

His past experience hold position of CFO at Petrofac Emirates, Mubadala Petroleum; Dry Docks World; Etisalat Misr – Emirates Telecommunications Corporation.He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Dr. Afif Saif Nasser Harhara

Afif Harharais the Senior Vice President of Regional Asset Management at National Central Cooling Co in Abu Dhabi, UAE (TABREED).

He has been with Tabreed for more than Four years. Afif joined Tabreed as the Vice President of Operation, where he led the transformation of the O&M department introducing Operations excellence, maintenance management and Energy optimization.

Afif started his career in the oil and gas industry and spent thirteen years with Abu Dhabi Gas Industries as a Technical Manager, operations manager and process engineer.

Afif obtained his BSc. in Chemical Engineering from UAE University in 2002, MSc. in Materials Science & Engineering from UAE University in 2008.

Afif also completed his Doctorate of Business Administration from Abu Dhabi University with distinction in 2017.

He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Ahmed Mohamed Al-Awadi

Ahmed Mohamed Al-Awadi, is Group Chief Procurement Officer – Etisalat Group (since 2017).

Developing and managing the Group procurement strategy of Etisalat in line with the shareholders' ambitions to make Etisalat the leading telecommunications provider in UAE that focuses in enabling customers to make use of the latest technologies available in the industry. Oversee and manage the entire procurement including admin functions for Etisalat UAE to sustain the competitive advantage in a oversaturated market where procurement synergies play a pivotal role to improve our margins.

Finance professional with over 20 years of experience at senior management & board level primarily in the telecommunication industry and related companies. Presently working at Etisalat; a leading Telecom Company in the Middle East with a market cap of USD 40B, having 15 subsidiaries across Middle East, Africa, and Asia, in addition to many other companies in the UAE. Currently holding Group Chief Procurement Officer position at Etisalat Group and previously held the position of the CFO for Etisalat UAE. Prior to it, was the Head of Mergers & Acquisitions for the Group. Additionally, holding a number of board seats at some of UAE based subsidiaries of Etisalat.

CORPORATE BOARD SEATS - •Chairman of Ubiquitous Telecommunications Technology (UTT); a subsidiary of Etisalat with majority stake based in the UAE providing network solutions;•Board Member in Smartworld, and the Chairman of its Audit Committee. Smartworld is a JV between Etisalat and Dubai Government to provide smart solutions to corporates in the UAE; •Chairman of Digital Finance Services; a joint venture company between Etisalat and Noor Bank to provide Mobile Banking services to Customers in the UAE. Holds MBA (International Finance) at the American University, Dubai – 2001; •BA (Finance & Management) at Georgia State University, USA – 1998.

He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Balqees Al Jaberi

Balqees Aljaberi is an influential finance and treasury executive with 15+ years of experience defining corporate profitability through business transformation, company restructuring, and board influence. Her expertise spans corporate governance, Treasury, corporate banking, risk management, client relationships, and compliance.

Leaders and peers refer to her as the "guardian and defender of corporate interests" due to her experience with establishing solid corporate governance programs. She is well-known for establishing checks and balances, enhancing policies and procedures, and guiding continuous improvement projects.

Currently Head of Treasury Operations and Cash Management for ADQ (Abu Dhabi Development Holding Company), she sits on two boards under the ADQ umbrella (Daman Insurance and AD Power) and guides the Treasury, back office, and corporate financial teams. Her wide span of corporate leadership expertise has helped her transform the business into a risk-averse, profitable, and ready organization.

Before ADQ, Aljaberi was the Vice President of Corporate Finance & Treasury for SENAAT, a top-ranking Emirati industrial investment holding company. While there, she collaborated with the CFO to significantly improve the financial and Treasury business processes to improve business profitability. When ADQ acquired SENAAT in 2019, she was instrumental in integrating the two companies.

Before joining the private equity world, Aljaberi was an influential leader inside three banks for 15+ years, leading treasury product development and sales teams, guiding deal structures, and steering teams to exceed sales and production metrics.

Due to her expertise in Middle Eastern and North African banking and finance, she is often engaged through GLG, the world's leading freelance expert network. She helps companies navigate corporate governance and financial policy structures as they clarify their positions and improve transparency in preparation for sales, exits, and M&As.

Aljaberi earned her Master in banking and finance from Paris Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi and bachelor of business and quality management from Hamdan Bi Mohamed University in Dubai, UAE. She is also a Certified Professional Board Director through the Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance and holds certifications in International ACI through the Financial Market Association.

Al Jaberi completed ADQ Senior leadership program by INSEAD university in 2024. Balqees has also been awarded by ACT "corporate treasurer" as future leader in Treasury for 2024

A champion for diversity and inclusion in the workplace, Aljaberi often mentors women in their rise to leadership and treasury career. Outside her corporate role, she runs a boutique perfumery & candle focused on bringing a sustainable fragrance option to the UAE.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Amna Sultan Al Owais

Amna Al Owais is the Chief Registrar of the DIFC Courts and provides high level support to operations, the administration of the Registries, as well as the delivery of a comprehensive suite of ancillary court public services. Amna spearheads special projects across DIFC Courts operations, particularly in the field of technology and innovation, harnessing digital transformation for core courts services, including major partnerships under the Courts of the Future initiative with the Dubai Future Foundation, such as Court Tech Lab and the Courts of Space, in addition to Court of the Blockchain with Dubai Digital Authority and the creation of the Digital Economy Court specialised Division.

In addition to her role as Chief Registrar of the DIFC Courts, Amna is also Chairperson of the DIFC Courts' Users' Committee, Chairperson of the DIFC Courts' In-House Counsel Committee, and a member of the Consulting Council for the University of Sharjah College of Law. In 2014, Amna was appointed to the Advisory Board of the International Bar Association's Access to Justice and Legal Aid Committee. In September 2019, Amna was also appointed to the College of Law Advisory Board of the University of Dubai.

In 2014, Amna was selected to join the Mohammed Bin Rashid Centre for Leadership Development (MBRCLD) – the Young Leaders category, and furthermore in 2018 after the relaunch of the MBRCLD, under the Dubai Executive Office and after an extensive selection process, Amna was selected to join the first batch of the MBRCLD Impactful Leaders Programme. Amna successfully graduated in December 2018.

Amna has played a key part in the establishment and development of the DIFC Courts and creation of the Dispute Resolution Authority in 2014. She also spearheaded the establishment of the DIFC Courts' Pro Bono Programme, launched in 2009, which is the first scheme of its kind in the Middle East. In 2011 Amna was recognised by the International Bar Association as one of the Top 3 young lawyers in the world and was listed in the Top 50 Most Influential Women in the Arab World and in the Top 100 Influential People Helping to Shape the Emirate of Dubai by Arabian Business in 2018.

Amna was also awarded Legal Services CEO of the Year at the Arabian Business CEO magazine Awards in 2018 and listed among the Top 30 Most Influential Women in the Arab World in 2019 by Arabian Business, The Middle East's 100 Power Businesswomen by Forbes Middle East in 2020, and the CEO Women of Influence in 2021, and 50 Inspiring Female Business Leaders in 2022 by Arabian Business. Amna was also featured in Arabian Business' 50 Inspiring Women Leaders 2023. Lexis Nexis also recognised Amna in 2022 as Legal Services Innovator of the Year at the Women in Law Awards and received honourable mention for the Professional Achievement Award. Amna was also included in the 100 Most Powerful Businesswomen 2023 by Forbes Middle East and in the 50 Women Leaders 2024 by Arabian Business.

In 2019, Amna was invited to join the Dubai Future Councils, a new initiative launched by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashed Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Dubai Future Foundation. Consisting of 13 councils, its main mandate is to envisage the future agenda of Dubai in strategic sectors and launch initiatives with both private and public sector partners to create the foundation for that future. Amna specifically plays an active role in the membership of the Dubai Future Council on Entrepreneurship & Innovation Ecosystems.

Launched in 2019 by His Highness Sheikh Nahayan Al Nahayan, Minister of Tolerance, Amna was also selected by the University Leadership Council and Patheon Assas-Université Paris II to be in the first cohort of the International Business Law LLM and graduated summa cum laude in 2020, making it her second Master's degree. In January 2023, Amna was also appointed as a member of the Advisory Board of the University of Patheon Assas-Université Paris II, Dubai Campus.

Amna has also successfully completed the Director Development Programme for Corporate Governance (4 modules) provided by the prestigious Hawkamah Institute in 2019 and in 2020 Amna was selected to join the inaugural members of Pathway2020, a regional board career accelerator dedicated solely to building the pipeline of highly competent female board directors and connecting them to boards of listed and large-scale private companies.

In 2021, Amna was accepted to join the selective Strategic Leadership and Public Governance course provided by the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP). The Programme is provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Singapore in collaboration with the international embassies, who then coordinated with the Singaporean consulate in each country to nominate qualified personnel.

In 2023, Amna was selected to join the Dubai Future Fellowship, an initiative launched by H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Dubai Future Foundation (DFF). The programme aims to engage current and future economic leaders to contribute towards shaping Dubai's policies, regulations, and business practices and further enhancing the city's leading regional and global role as an incubator for the most promising innovators of the future.

Previous to her employment at the DIFC Courts, Amna practiced as a lawyer in the litigation department with Hadef & Partners, formerly Hadef Al Dhahiri & Associates. Amna holds a Bachelor's Degree of Law from the University of Sharjah and obtained a Master's Degree (LLM) with Commendation in International Commercial Law from Kingston University, London.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Bilal El Hoss

Bilal El Hoss is originally from Lebanon where I went a French school and thereafter graduated from the BUC (currently known as the Lebanese American University – LAU) with a BS Business administration with emphasis on finance and marketing – a joint program with New York University. After graduation, I moved to France and joined Nasco France (NF) in 1990. NF is a specialized reinsurance broker ranked as third in France and Number one in the MENA Region. I have managed to during the years to take more challenges and responsibilities until I became in 2008 the head of the Marine, Energy and Aviation departments.

Following my exposure in the MENA region, I have been head hunted in mid 2012 by Guy Carpenter (GC) – which is part of the Marsh & McLennan group. I left Nasco France end of 2012 and moved to Dubai as Senior Executive Office of GC Middle East. My duties were to assist in the establishment of the company in the Dubai International Financial Center (DIFC), put in place the working process, run the office and develop the book in the region. The 3 years that I spent at GC were extremely enriching in knowledge and exposure to the US Companies "way of doing" things.
In first quarter of 2016, Nasco France re-approach me (again) in order to be part of their plan to open an office in the DIFC so that they can be closer to their clients. Hence, I left GC and joined Nasco Re in March 2016, as a Senior Executive Office, also to assist in the establishment of the office and running it.

Since November 2018, I have been appointed as Head of Territories for Nasco Re – in charge of all the offices related to the strategic and development requirements – in addition to my SEO functions. It is worth mentioning that I sit on the board of Nasco Re for its entity in the DIFC and I am also an independent Board Member in MEARCO Insurance (which is an insurance Company in Lebanon).

He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Dr. Ulf-D. Zimmermann

Dr. Ulf-D. Zimmermann, a German state resident holds an PhD in economics and machinery from Technische University, Berlin, Germany.

His career started in financials followed by a CFO position. He holds a long industrial career as CEO in different industries like energy, construction (FLICK Industries), engines (DEUTZ Engines), food technology (GEA AG Group) and advanced materials (CERAMTEC Group). As an expert in sales and marketingspecial markets in Europe, Americas and Asia he is deeply familiar with Mid size family owned companies as well as big corporations-also public listed ones - he had to manage in Europe, USA and Japan.

He is offering Private Equity financial experience for 14 years. During this time he executed take overs, IPO at New York Stock Exchange and various M&A`s for PE firms as KKR, New York and CINVEN, London, UK.

Beside his experience as executive board member he is now engaged as non executive board member in US and European boards.

Since 2012 Zimmermann has been elected as Commercial Judge at District Court in Stuttgart, Germany, and is member of the German Industrial Board, (Wirtschaftsrat) Berlin, Germany.

He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Maitha Al Falasi

Maitha is one of the few people in the Middle East who has art management and business skills and qualifications with a career spanning art, culture, business and finance. This places her in a unique position to advise and provide guidance on the artistic and commercial merits of art acquisitions and to make prudent decisions based on artistic as well as business criteria. As a result of her counsel, organizations investing in art consistently realize impressive returns.

As an Art Investment and Collections Advisor for diverse organisations and individuals since 2014, Maitha has extensive experience and unparalleled expertise in formulating and executing highly effective art selection strategies, evaluating collections, creating and managing art investment portfolios, allocating and managing substantial budgets, developing and executing marketing strategies, creating Art Estate Plans, selecting curators, and preparing business plans. The value of Iranian, Middle Eastern and Indian Art appreciated due to the support and exposure created by the art business strategy and the financial projections associated to each art sector and region.

Maitha was Director of Asset Management at the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) from 2011 to 2014 and was the Centre's Director of Art and Culture for the preceding seven years (2007-20111). During this period she built the foundation and infrastructure for art and culture and significantly elevated the profile of Dubai's burgeoning art and culture scene. Based on a rigorous investment strategy, the ability to make sound projections and a well-developed insight into the aesthetic and financial value of art, Under her guidance, the value of organisation's art collection increased by 140% within three years.

Under her direction, the DIFC hosted several exhibitions featuring exclusive private art collections alongside high-profile corporate collections, including those of HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid al Maktoum, JP Morgan Chase, and Deutsche Bank. As a result of Maitha's vision and highly developed strategy execution skills, Dubai and UAE became a hub for art, culture and art investments. At DIFC Investments, Maitha was a member of six boards with responsibility for strategic planning and overseeing the Investment funds and the company accounts. She enabled the organisation to pay its debts within three years and to become profitable by negotiating new investment objectives with the boards, reallocating funds into more profitable areas within the investment portfolios, conducting rigorous monthly financial analysis of the performance of investments and restructuring the organization following the Global Financial Crisis.

During her time at the DIFC, Maitha was concurrently directing Art Dubai, the largest and most established contemporary art fair in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia. She was instrumental in shifting the content of Art Dubai galleries from 100% international to 40% of the works exhibited created by artists from the region, Middle East and North Africa.

Previously Maitha was Marketing Manager with Emirates Bank International, where she restructured and repositioned an under-performing institution to become successful within two years. She also changed the banking channel model from a small number of large conventional branches to open numerous smaller full service branches throughout the county with longer opening hours to improve customer access. Earlier roles included Account Manager at J Walter Thompson advertising agency in Dubai, where she developed award winning advertising campaigns for Procter and Gamble and the marketing strategy for De Beers diamonds, which included several events and product launches.

Maitha's keen interest in arts, jewelry and antiques and her experience in buying fine art, gems and antiques has involved visits to numerous galleries, museums and international antique markets throughout Europe. She has also studied the history of cultures of all Islamic dynasties.

Maitha has a reputation for her authenticity as a leader, creativity and for being a game changer. She has extensive experience in working with people from a diverse range of cultures and is known for her utmost integrity and unquestionable ethics.

Maitha has an Executive MBA from the London Business School, and has completed the Corporate Directorship program at the Institute for Corporate Governance in Dubai. She also has a double BA in Business Administration and Marketing & Advertising from the American University in Dubai. In addition, she has a Diploma from the IAA in New York and an Achievement Award from the IAA in New York, where she achieved second place globally and first place in the Middle East. She also has an award recognizing her contribution to the community from the American University in Dubai. She is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Hannah Al Bustani

Hannah Al Bustani has nearly two decades of experience in commercial roles particularly within the utility and financial sectors.

Hannah is currently Vice President, Asset Management at Tabreed where she leads the commercial department, responsible for managing key stakeholder relationships as well as driving organic growth across the UAE. At Tabreed, Hannah has led significant negotiations of contractual arrangements, built a robust team as well as established the regulatory affairs function.

Hannah has nearly 10 years' experience as a Board Director and currently holds Chairperson and board member roles for several subsidiaries within the UAE and Oman.

Hannah was previously at Mubadala GE Capital PJSC, underwriting debt for corporate and acquisition financing. Hannah started her career within Investment Banking at HSBC Bank Middle East, where she advised on project financing, mergers acquisitions and restructuring across a range of sectors including financial institutions and petrochemicals within the MENA region.

Hannah holds a BSc in Management from Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK and is a she is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah/ Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Namaa Al-Nsour

Naama Al NsourAs a seasoned governance and internal audit professional, Naama Al Nsour brings over 15 years of diverse experience in risk management, internal audit assurance, corporate governance, and compliance across leading organizations in the UAE. She has held executive roles, including Vice President of Risk and Internal Audit, Board Secretary, and Group Head of Internal Control and Compliance, working closely with boards of directors and committees to enhance governance structures and align corporate strategies with regulatory standards.
Naama excels in internal audit assurance by designing and executing comprehensive audit frameworks, performing risk-based audits, and providing actionable recommendations to strengthen internal controls and improve operational efficiency. Her experience includes reporting to audit committees and senior leadership, delivering strategic insights to support informed decision-making.

In addition, Naama's expertise spans designing corporate governance frameworks, conducting risk assessments, streamlining policies, and implementing internal control frameworks based on global best practices such as COSO. She has successfully led key initiatives like anti-fraud, anti-corruption, and AML policy development, ensuring regulatory compliance and fostering a culture of transparency.

A certified board member and company secretary through Hawkamah, Naama also holds an LLM in International Business Law from the University of Paris II, an MBA in Finance, and a Bachelor's in Accounting. She is committed to advancing governance excellence, strengthening assurance functions, and leveraging her expertise to drive strategic decision-making and organizational resilience.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Ray Everett

Ray Everett is an accomplished Human Capital and Rewards expert, adept in financial services and global markets. He currently leads the Asia-Pacific and Middle East & Africa Business for Human Capital and Reward Solutions at Aon.

Ray has completed two successful decades with Aon demonstrating the group's commitment towards raising human capital value, starting from within. His diverse career with the firm includes experience in Asia-Pacific, North America and the Middle East - he established the McLagan business (an Aon company) in the Middle East ten years ago and the McLagan business in Asia Pacific twenty years ago.

In addition to being an authority in executive compensation, Ray counsels Boards, Remuneration Committees, CEOs, government leaders and senior executives worldwide.
His clients include leading Sovereign Wealth Funds and Private Equity firms, as well as Banks and Asset Management firms. Ray's experience as a global executive earned him a nomination to the Forbes Top 50 Executives in the Middle East. The majority of Ray's career has been spent working in Emerging Markets in Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

Ray joined the firm in 1997 and since then has held a number of leadership positions in the United States, Asia-Pacific, and the Middle East as well as serving as Global President of McLagan. Before joining Aon, Ray was a senior consultant at Watson Wyatt and Ernst & Young and worked in Asia and Canada.

Ray holds an MA from Carleton University, Canada, and a BA from the University of Victoria, Canada.

He is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Sulafa Al Sayyah

Sulafa started with my professional endeavor immediately after graduating from high school by getting recruited at Standard Chartered Bank, which has helped me develop skills required for process reengineering.

She has been able to successfully identify synergies after critically evaluating a process and using the same to find practical and feasible solutions to the problem at hand.

She is currently involved in the management of core and ancillary operations of my family business like recruitment of employees, supervising routine tasks to ensure smooth running of the business, intimately involved in strategic decision making, developing training opportunities for employees, liaison with external auditor to ensure compliance with company policy and procedures, and analyze company profitability.

She have been able to develop my entrepreneurial skills from an early stage, which has helped me gain invaluable insight in the business world. It has also helped me gain considerable knowledge developing my skills in investment portfolio management in the domestic market.

Studying Bachelor Of Commerce Management at University of Wollongong in Dubai developed my management and entrepreneurial skills..

She is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Zareen Anwar

Zareen is a qualified Chartered Accountant and a Certified Internal Controls Auditor. Since last six years she is associated with the Coca-Cola Beverages Africa ("CCBA") Group. CCBA is one of the biggest bottler in Africa.

She is on the board of two of the entities of the CCBA group, which are incorporated in Dubai International Financial Centre.

She completed her articles from PwC, Pakistan and thereafter held various positions at PwC. She left PwC in March 2011 to join MetLife Alico as Head of Compliance. During her tenure with MetLife Alico, she successfully developed and implemented comprehensive compliance risk management program within a short span of time.

In October 2012, Zareen took up the role of Vice President, Group Internal Audit at Standard Chartered Bank Pakistan. She mainly worked with the functional team based in Singapore.

She accepted the role Tax & Legal Advisor in March 2013 with Coca-Cola Sabco at the Group office located in Dubai overseeing the tax and finance affairs of the entities operating in 9 territories across Africa and Asia.

She has over 12 years of diversified post-qualification experience in the areas of external & internal audit, compliance & internal controls, international taxation, accounting & reporting.

She is a certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2019

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Hisham Dimashki

Hisham Dimashki _ CEO at BAP LLC _ UAE _ Russia.

Hisham Dimashki is a distinguished business leader with over 25 years of experience in the consumer-packaged goods and durable goods sectors across the Middle East and Africa. His leadership roles span multinational corporations such as Nestlé S.A. and BBDO, as well as regional family-owned conglomerates including Al Nowais Investment, Federal Foods/BRF Global, and Badami Group. Currently, as CEO of BAP LLC, associated with GM Trading Companies in Washington D.C., Hisham has honed his expertise in strategy, operations, finance, and management, successfully steering complex businesses in diverse and challenging markets.

Hisham's comprehensive skill set encompasses business transformation, global brand management, consumer engagement, product innovation, risk management, strategic alliances, joint ventures, and corporate governance. He also has substantial experience in mergers and acquisitions, including post-acquisition integration. His proficiency extends across various business models such as manufacturing, distribution, import/export trading, retail, B2B2C eCommerce, automotive, and consultancy. Recognized as a turnaround strategist, Hisham focuses on optimizing both short and long-term returns.

Known for his ability to bridge multiple disciplines and promote business excellence programs, Hisham holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from the American University of Beirut and has pursued a Master's program in Marketing at the University of Leicester, UK. He is also a Certified Professional Director of Hawkamah / Mudara IOD.

Hisham Dimashki is well-prepared to contribute as a non-executive independent director, offering valuable insights and strategic guidance to corporations aiming for sustainable growth and excellence.

Professional Directors 2018

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Fatma Hussain

Fatma Hussain is the Chief Human Capital Officer at TECOM Group. Fatma brings with her a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the Human Resources field with over 16 years of experience. In her role she is responsible for planning, leading and managing the execution of the Human Capital strategy to support the implementation of TECOM business plans and overall strategy.

Prior to joining TECOM, Fatma has worked with several reputed Private and Government organisations in the region and has in-depth experience in the areas of Performance Management, Total Rewards, Talent Development, Recruitment, Emiratisation, Talent Redeployment etc. She has also managed Quality Management and Business Process Improvement related projects in her previous organisations.

Fatma is a Senior Assessor with the Department of Economic Development in Dubai for Human Development Awards. She also has many achievements and awards to her credit in the Human Resources field. She recently been recognized by the World HRD Congress with two prestigious awards; Business Leader of the Year - HR Leadership Award and Femina Women Super Achiever Award for Excellence in HR. Fatma holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from a reputed university.

She is a board member of the UD Alumni Association since 2013 and has completed a leadership programme from the Wharton Business School in USA. She is currently undertaking an MBA programme with University of Dubai and due to graduate in December 2018.

Professional Directors 2018

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Dr. Celeste Cecilia Lo Turco

Dr. Celeste Cecilia Lo Turco is well-recognized expert in SWFs, ESG framework and Board Governance with an extensive knowledge and proven track-record in the field. She has extensive practical experience in the space having served as an SWF advisor to the Italian government in Rome. She has more recently cemented her position as one of the world's leading authorities on SWFs as a director at NEOM and the NEOM Investment Fund in Saudi, overseeing board relations and the investment strategy in innovative and sustainable tech solutions. She has spent time advising various other public sector organizations, including sovereign wealth funds and the United Nations. Dr Celeste also has extensive experience in strategic planning in the private sector across multiple regions, cultures and managerial roles. As VP of Strategy at Future Holding in the UAE, she played a pivotal role in the development of the long-term strategy of the group. She has also advised multiple executive boards and to various family offices in the space of sustainable strategies. She is a hands-on, goal and impact oriented professional with over 13 years of consistent achievements in increasing sustainability, profitability, and enhancing governance and human capital development both in Europe and the GCC. She has proven capabilities in providing organizations with strategic risk analysis, most notably on integrating country risk assessment into investments decisions. Dr Celeste holds a PhD in Political Theory and a Master Degree in International Relations, Markets and Institutions of the global system. She is a Fulbright Visitor Researcher at Georgetown University and a Professional Director certified by Institute of Directors from Hawkamah and she has been assistant Professor at the American University in the UAE. Dr Celeste speaks English, French, Italian and she is learning Arabic.

Professional Directors 2018

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Lara Malaeb

Lara Malaeb is a Senior Professional with over 17 years of experience in the UAE in Business Development, Marketing, Legal, Management Consultancy, Private Clients, and Corporate Governance. Lara has extensive knowledge of the UAE market and is currently a Senior Director and Head of Business Development and Marketing at RAK International Corporate Centre ("RAK ICC") where she mentors and oversees the business development and marketing team and plays a strategic role in the centre's development. Combining her legal knowledge and expertise in business management, Lara has initiated and directed various projects and business opportunities for the centre.

Before joining RAK ICC, Lara gained significant legal experience at a leading international law firm based in the DIFC, where she developed strategic initiatives to enhance the firm's service offerings. Following this, she led the Corporate Services team for an international publicly listed corporate service provider based in the DIFC. There, she managed client portfolios, provided fiduciary services, and oversaw regional business development efforts.

Lara holds a Master's Degree in business administration (MBA) from Heriot-Watt University, Master's Degree in International Business Law (LLM) from Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas and is a Professional Director certified by the Institute of Directors from Hawkamah, the Institute for Corporate Governance.

Lara was a board member from 2016 to 2018 for more than 70 Special Purpose Companies for large corporate clients such as L'Oreal, Deliveroo, Propertyfinder, Etisalat, KBW, etc. in the DIFC. Lara is also a member at the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the International Business Structuring Association (IBSA) and Taxlinked.

Lara speaks English and Arabic and has a good understanding of French.

Professional Directors 2018

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Fatima Mahfouz

Fatima Mahfouz is a Marketing & Business Development Director at CSST. A Management Professional with over 20 years of leadership experience in Business Development, Management Consultancy, and Marketing.

Highly motivated with a wealth of expertise in Strategic Marketing, Business Transformation, and Revenue Creation.

She has the operational expertise to find business solutions to increase profitability, and implement processes & procedures that drive customer service excellence.

A motivational speaker who is passionate about empowerment with an established local network, strong partnership-building and relationship-management skills..

Professional Directors 2018

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Elham Mohammed Al Harmoodi

Mrs. Elham Mohammed Al Harmoodicurrently holds the responsibility of the Internal Audit & Risk Management at the Sheik Zayed Housing Program and is responsible for managing, planning and supervising the annual SZHP Audit, overall risk assessment, and internal control structure and corporate governance evaluation.

Throughout her function she provides an independent assurance service to the board, audit committee and management, focusing on reviewing the effectiveness of the governance, risk management and control processes that management has put into place.
She has held various executive roles during her fourteen years of professional experience in the field of Auditing, Architectural, Design, Construction Management and Operation.

Mrs. Elham is an Architect by profession from the UAE University in Al Ain city holding Bachelor Degree in Architecture as well as being certified from Hawkamah, an Institute for Corporate Governance.

She started her career joining a young governmental organization tasked to offer suitable housing finance and construction support for the people of the UAE. This fast growing entity shaped her career and provided an opportunity to translate theoretical studies and best practices into her day to day achievements. Through her effort, she promoted the development of sustainable housing methodology, built in house intellectual expertise and contributed to creating an environment making SZHP a key accelerator in line with the national agenda of the UAE vision 2021.

She gained her practical experience from the field being a site engineer. Then developing to handle the design and project management of diverse high profile residential and nonresidential projects where she oversaw the development portfolio, and the execution of large-scale, multi-million Dirham real estate housing projects.

She has received different recognitions like the Best Technical Engineer from the Chairman of the SZHP and been nominated for the badge of Honor from the prime minister's office . She has also received a Zayed Future Leaders certificate from Mohamad Bin Rashid school of government.

Mrs. Al Harmoodi is a member of the Governance Committee at SZHP, which is mandated to develop the organization's governance framework. Also she is a member of the executive committee that oversees policies and guidelines development aligned with SZHP objectives.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Thuraya Afeef Al Maskari

Thuraya Al Maskariis the Group Corporate Governance Manager at Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

Graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in ecology and geosciences from Monash University in Australia, Thuraya commenced her career as a reservoir 12 years working with the ADNOC Group since then she has been called upon to contribute to the organization in a diverse range of roles and disciplines, and has proven her ability to play an integral role in the development of the organization throughout the value chain. She carries a wealth of knowledge and experience, particularly in the oil and gas industry and GCC region.

Thuraya's value as a highly agile employee with a demonstrated ability to adapt, learn and deliver to a high standard led to her appointment to her current position within the Legal, Governance and Compliance Unit of ADNOC.

In 2016 Thuraya took on the challenging role of building and managing the newly-formed Group Corporate Governance Department at ADNOC, which involved defining the mandate of the department, developing the ADNOC Group Corporate Governance Policy and anchoring the department's position as a key player in the governance of ADNOC and each of its Group Companies, including their boards.

Most recently her mandate has been further expanded to include being the lead manager accountable for delivery of the ISO:9001 Quality Management System certification for ADNOC. Additionally, Thuraya is an active member of a number of key committees throughout the ADNOC Group.

Having graduated from the Directorship Program at Hawkamah Institute, Thuraya is proud to be in a position to contribute her experience and expertise as a Board-ready Emirati woman.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Adai Masoud Alzarraee

Adai Masoud Alzarraeeis a Holder of bachelors' degree in computer engineering from the US, and a holder of masters' degree in Engineering Systems Management (ESM) from the American University of Sharjah as well as industry acclaimed certifications in IT and management.

He has worked with distinguished organizations such as Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai Electronic Government, and Abu Dhabi Company for Onshore oil operations.

He has held the position of Vice President of IT in National Central Cooling Company (Tabreed) for seven years, and currently holding the position of Advisor automation & Control in Tabreed.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Gaurav Bhandari

Gaurav Bhandari is an Asset Management professional, having experience and knowledge across multiple sectors.

He holds degrees in Chartered Accountancy and MBA (Finance) with 10+ years of professional experience within the fields of private equity and business valuations.

He believes that learning is a continuous process and always looks for ways to enhance value – both at work and personal front. To complement his academic and professional achievements, he has attended various value enhancement programs such as Improving Corporate Performance and Profitability Program (Harvard Business School), General Management Program (IIM-Ahmedabad), Certified Private Equity Specialist Program (IABFM) and of course the Director Development Program (Mudara Institute of Directors).

He is multilingual with knowledge of English (Professional), Hindi (Professional), Bengali (Intermediate) and Arabic (Basic).

Currently, he works as an Asset Manager in a Private Equity Company (JV of Sovereign Wealth Fund) in the Sultanate of Oman. Prior to this role, he had the privilege to work at KPMG (Transactions & Restructuring) in the UAE and Citigroup Global Services Limited (Asset Based Finance) in India.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Eng. Fawaz Moeid Alotaibi

Eng. Fawaz is the Partner & CEO of Awab Holdings, He graduated in 2009 from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He holds a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and is a member of the Saudi Council of Engineers, as an Associate Electrical Engineer.

In 2009, he started his career at Jubail Motors Company as the General Manager where he focused on restructuring the company and professionalizing it. In 2011, He was chosen as a board member in the Takwa Group Board of Directors and in 2012, he established Awab Holdings as a centralized management platform for his family's investments.

oday, He operates the holdings' company as well as another subsidiary "codeit.", an Edtech company that serves over 200k students and 600 schools in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He is active in the field of family business governance, and is a Board Member and guest speaker at the Family Owned Business Forum in Jeddah.

Fawaz is also a certified director, by the Institute of Directors (Mudara IOD) and has completed several executive programs such as Harvard University's Program on Negotiations.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Dr Murya Habbash

Dr Murya Habbash is the CEO of the Governance center at King Khalid University in Saudi Arabia. He is the chairman of the governance and Risk Committee and a member of Governance committee in two of the Saudi listed companies

Previously he was an Associate Professor of Accounting at .Business School, King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia. He hold Master and Ph.D. degrees in Accounting from top UK Universities, he also finished a Diploma in Entrepreneurship, Michigan University, USA.

He previously hold some academic positions such as the chairman of Accounting department, Deputy Dean of Business school and Students Affairs Dean at King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia. Now he works as a consultant for the Corporate Governance Center at King Khalid University.

His current research interests include corporate governance, audit quality, Financial Accounting Reporting and Disclosure, corporate social responsibility, sustainability and earnings quality. He has published a book and 24 research papers in international academic journals.

He also hold CPA and CME qualifications. A board member and Audit committee chairman in a Saudi listed company. In addition, he is a registered arbitrator in Saudi Ministry of Justice and a registered real estate appraisal.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Alastair Mulligan

Alastair is the Vice President Asset Management for National Central Cooling Company PJSC (Tabreed) and located in the UAE. Holding a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Science in Business Finance and Financial and Numerical Mathematics respectively, Alastair has been involved in consulting, investment and asset management roles for infrastructure and utility companies throughout the Middle East and Asia.

Tabreed is an industrial company which finances, develops owns and operates district energy plants and piping networks to provide cooling across the Arabian Gulf. Tabreed is listed on the Dubai Financial Markets with the majority shareholders being Mubadala Investment Company and international utility leader Engie.

Alastair joined Tabreed from Babcock & Brown, a leading investment bank focused on global infrastructure investments, bringing with him a diverse knowledge and experience in infrastructure assets in areas including originisation, raising financing, investment acquisition, project planning and advising on internal and external funds.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Lennard Sigrist

Lennard currently working with a multinational utility provider in the UAE, Lennard Sigrist has established and manages a billing and collections subsidiary business in the district cooling sector with customers across the middle east. Lennard's initiates have improved collections to some of the highest recovery rates in the region.

Lennard holds a Masters degree in Business Administration (2014) from the University of Southern Queensland in Australia and has 15+ years of professional experience within the utility industry spanning Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East and Europe.

In addition to Lennard's broad knowledge of the electricity, water and district cooling industry, his passion and expertise is in the design and delivery of advanced meter-to-cash services, billing and collections processes and customer service solutions.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Dr. Nadia Qassim Bastaki

Dr. Nadia Bastaki currently serves as the Chief People and Corporate Affairs Officer at Etihad Airways, having been appointed in 2021 as the first female chief in the airline's history. In this role, she is responsible for Etihad's people strategy, which includes managing employee engagement, enhancing employee experience, promoting diversity and inclusion, and leading all core HR functions. Dr. Bastaki also oversees the group's corporate affairs functions, including government and international affairs, as well as corporate communications, ensuring that all communication strategies align with the company's vision and values, managing public relations, and maintaining the company's image and reputation. Dr. Bastaki brings nearly 20 years of experience as a medical practitioner and other senior executive roles. Dr. Nadia serves on several Boards and Board Committees; Air Arabia, Air Serbia, Airline People Directors' Council (APDC).She holds a master's degree in Occupational Medicine from Manchester University and a diploma in Aviation Medicine from King's College London. She is the first female UAE national to specialise in aviation medicine.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Naila Al Moosawi

Naila takes a vision and makes it a reality through sound strategic development and human Capital leadership. She naturally drives performance for quality and speed; with proven ability to transform organizations and develop strong high-potential teams across the region. She is recognized for her inspirational H & S leadership; driving change in culture and mindset and achieved multiple awards in building unique H & S leadership platforms and best practices.

A credible Exco member and commercially focused decision maker championing differentiation through commercial transformation and always seeking to be ACE- Agile, Collaborative and Empower to take the business to the next level. She has an upper hand in leading business cycles- 3 start ups, 3 right sizing, 2 mergers, 1 divestment. As the current Director of Human Resources- GCC she is responsible for organization and human capital development, offering over 15 years of progressive experience. As a versatile and sharp leader she has been instrumental in reducing company's risk through growth and restructuring stratagems and acts as a lead panelist in C Suite resourcing campaigns.

Humbly Naila is a highly-accomplished woman of many firsts. She held the position of being the first youngest Emirati Female Air Traffic Controller at Dubai Aviation followed on by being the first Retail Site Manager at Emirates National Oil Company in the Gulf Region. Naila is the Diversity and Inclusion Champion leading the Group's D & I ambitious plans in GCC and Executive Committee member of the global Professional Women's Network, setting up the Dubai chapter. She believes to promote women and men collaboration to leverage on each other's talent and capabilities.She holds a MSc in Psychology from Middle Sex University UK and CIPD Associate. As a Directorship Program Graduate from Hawkamah-Institute of Directors, Naila Al Moosawi represents the new breed of female Emirati Board-ready women.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Nada Ishaq Abdulkarim

Nada Ishaq Abdulkarim earned her BSc degree in Economics and Finance/Business Administration from University of Bahrain. She started her career in the banking sector with HSBC Bank Middle East in 1998, and then joined Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) in 2012. In 2016, Nada was the first Bahraini Woman to be appointed as Corporate Secretary of the Board of Directors of a listed company not only at BisB, but also in Bahrain.

As part of her professional development plan, Nada enrolled in the Director Development Program (DDP) through the "Institute of Directors IOD Mudara" in Dubai and was the only candidate to successfully pass the rigorous four-part program earning her, as a result, a "Certified Professional Director" certificate. The program covered four parts: Corporate Governance, the Board, Strategic Leadership, and Financial Stewardship and Accountability, and she have passed the exams and became a Certified Director.

Nada's appointment as BisB's Corporate Secretary of the Board comes at a time where it is becoming increasingly critical for institutions in the region to step up and improve corporate governance and diversity and inclusions at the board and management levels.

"Just as I feel proud of this achievement, it is only a beginning of a long journey and I also feel that it brings a huge sense of responsibility. I hope that I will be able to set an example for other young Bahraini professionals to follow, whether they are men or women. I take this opportunity to express my thanks to the BisB management for believing in me and investing in my abilities."

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Ahmed A. Marafi

Ahmed A Marafi has worked in various sectors - government and private in Kuwait. He is currently serving as a consultant in the Kuwait Capital Markets Authority (CMA) a regulatory authority, which works on developing and supervising the activities of capital markets in the Kuwait.

Mr. Marafi had an extensive experience in the investment sectors - in Islamic investment and retail banking , Islamic equity funds, and Shariah-compliant structuring. He has 9 years of experience in the investment sector working with investment companies in Kuwait Al Madar Investment and The International Investor, wherein he developed investment instruments and products contributing to the establishment and management of unique set of Sharia compliant financial indicators for Kuwaiti and GCC markets. He also managed and marketed local and global investment funds and portfolios with combined net asset values $300 million.

Prior, Mr. Marafi worked for 4 years in the banking sector and has built expertise in corporate finance through working in the financial sector at Kuwait Finance House. In 2009, he established and chaired Wudhouh for Financial & Economic Consultations Co., a joint-stock company with delivering financial and economic consultation services. He was a former Board Member at Rasameel for Financial Structuring Co and Al-Thuraya Real Estate and 6 years board member of Kuwait Economic Society. Mr. Marafi earned an M.B.A. degree in Business Administration from from Maastricht School of Management in Kuwait and his BBA- Marketing from Kuwait University and Computer Diploma from Epping Forest College –Britai.

Professional Directors 2017

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Amir Arab

Amir has over 11 years of private equity experience in the region working with Havenvest Private Equity (formerly HSBC Private Equity Middle East). He is responsible for sourcing, execution and eventual exit of deals and acts as a director on the board of a number of the portfolio companies.

Previously he was an investment analyst with Rasmala Investment Bank, a regional investment banking group based in the UAE.

Amir is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter holder. He holds a BSc in Mathematics and Computer Sciences from University College London and an MSC in Operational Research from the London School of Economics.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Raja Al Mazrouei

Raja Al Mazrouei, a multi-award-winning digital transformation leader with over 20 years of experience driving the next generation of digital innovation across various industries. As a renowned technical visionary and empathetic leader, Raja has a proven track record of cross-functional leadership and successfully turning around and enabling businesses that contribute to the UAE's thriving economy.

As the CEO of Etihad Credit Insurance, Raja plays an instrumental role in actualizing ECI's vision and mission. Driven by her inspiring vision to revolutionize the way businesses secure their future growth, she leads the organization into its next transformational phase with a focus on supporting UAE exporters, especially SMEs, promoting national economic growth, and further positioning the UAE as a global trading powerhouse.

Raja began her career in financial technology with an MBA in Global Leadership and Management from the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) in 2005. Since then, she joined several reputable organizations in executive positions, including Higher Colleges of Technology, Dubai Holding, National Bonds Corporation, and Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC).

During her tenure in DIFC as the Executive Vice President, Raja played a pivotal role in advancing the UAE's national innovation agenda by establishing The Fintech Hive, one of the region's most successful tech financial hubs and ecosystems. Raja's proactive collaboration with diverse stakeholders has contributed to the UAE's thriving digital economy, fostering the growth of 500+ FinTech, RegTech, and InsurTech startups and earning FinTech Hive recognition as one of the world's top financial innovation labs by Global Finance Magazine.

Throughout the years, Raja has further expanded her credentials by completing programs at the London Business School, Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance, Harvard Business School, and the University of California at Berkeley. Recently she graduated from the Singularity Executive Program, a leadership transformation program focused on the potential of exponential technologies for building a better world.

Beyond her core responsibilities, Raja serves on various boards, including the Harvard Business School MENA Advisory Board, Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government, and Digital Bank, Al Masraf Arab Bank, Al Ansari Financial Services, and Ittihad International Investment.

Raja ‘s leadership is defined by her unwavering dedication to leveraging technology and innovation for a positive impact across industries. She is driven by a deep commitment to shaping the future of trade and the economy, constantly seeking opportunities to improve the lives of diverse communities. With a focus on cultivating winning mindsets and implementing scalable strategies, Raja strives to contribute to the UAE's position as a global hub for innovation and trade. Her efforts as a digital change agent and economic futurist have garnered recognition, reflecting her genuine passion for making a difference

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Fahima Al Bastaki

Mrs. Al Bastakiis the Chief Business and Market Development Officer at Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX). Fahima was considered one of the senior executives at DFM, reporting to the Chairman and board as a member of the Executive Committee. She played a key role in the development of DFM as a publicly listed company, as well as the exchange, engaging with critical and highly regulated operations and corporate communications. Fahima's legacy in closely working with over 150 leading companies in UAE looking for opportunities to transform business, strategy, corporate identity and growth has led to in-depth understanding various business models for a diversified business sectors, including Industrial, Health, Education, Tourism, Trading, and Logistics. She has spearheaded 85% of DFM's IPOs & listings to date, with a total of AED 65+ billion primary and secondary issuance and capital raise. She has direct access to global and regional Law Firms, Investment Banks, and Financial Advisors, as well as Private Equity firms, Venture Capital firms, and International Institutional Investors, with over USD 4 trillion in assets under management in total.

With experience of several global market conditions, Fahima was part of major strategic plans and reviews undertaken with global consulting firms as well as being involved in risk assessment matrix evaluations. She managed major changes with her adaptive leadership skills, including regulatory framework, revenue streams, innovation, and sustainability, and led various initiatives to position the company as a regional leader among its peers. In addition to the DFM conversion project to a public listed company, Fahima has been part of the NASDAQ Dubai acquisition project and led the "Two Markets, One Exchange" initiative to align both exchanges' Business Development and Communications.

Mrs. Al Bastaki champions best practices in Investor Relations. She is a Certified Investor Relations Officer and was appointed as a Chairperson of the Middle East Investor Relations Association, Dubai Chapter. She has successfully contributed to attracting international & institutional investors, resulting in their trading reaching 50% of the market – one of the highest percentages regionally. She played a great role in supporting UAE capital markets upgrade from frontier to emerging market status, in addition to joining other global indices specially related to ESG. She represents DFM with the Chairman in one-to-one meetings and quarterly earning calls with international investors outside the UAE, and leads the majority of such meetings within the UAE. Additionally, Fahima is active in Corporate Governance practices within listed companies' boards and engages the CEOs and management teams to support this further. She is an Accredited Director with the Hawkamah Institute of Corporate Governance and a graduate of the Women on Board Program, appointed in 2018 as a board member for Dubai Women Establishment by Ruler's decree.

Mrs. Al Bastaki has engaged with higher authorities and government bodies to implement major regulatory reforms and capital market development. She was a committee member of the Officials & Directors of GCC Stock Markets and Authorities under the GCC Secretariat General, and currently serves as a member of the Regulatory Enhancement Committee in the UAE's Ministry of Economy.
Prior to DFM, Fahima spent six and a half years in HSBC leading the HNWI department and later as part of Financial Services Management team. She is a certified Financial Advisor (CIFA) from the Chartered Institute of Bankers UK, a CFA Claritas certification holder for capital market, and a Bachelor's Degree holder in Applied Science of Business Administration.

Fahima had the privilege of being a Senior Quality Assessor in Dubai Quality Award and is a regular speaker in industry events; an active supporter and promoter for UAE businesses and the economy as a whole.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Nizar A. Bashaireh

Mr. Bashairehserves on number of boards and audit committees and he is a certified professional director at Mudara IoD.

Mr. Nizar Bashaireh is the Founder and Managing Director of Global Business Bureau; a boutique advisory and management consulting firm specialized in assurance advisory, corporate governance internal auditing, standardization & management systems and risk management services.

Mr. Bashaireh is the project owner for several engagements providing advisory services to wide portfolio of clients in the fields of strategic planning, corporate governance, performance management, corporate excellence, quality management, assurance and risk management and organizational development.
Mr. Nizar Bashaireh served as Senior Vice President – Excellence, Audit & Risk Management at Dubai International Financial Center (DIFC).

During his long term service at DIFC, Mr. Bashaireh has led number of initiatives focusing on internal organization development and improvements including reengineering and transformation, organization restructuring and alignment, corporate governance, performance management framework and enterprise risk management. In addition, Mr. Bashaireh served as Director – Audit, risk and compliance at Dubai healthcare city.

Prior to that, Mr. Bashaireh established with number of Kuwaiti investors the Posta Plus Group, an investments fund that has a target to establish and acquire regional postal and courier operators within the Middle East region. Mr. Bashaireh occupied the role of Regional Director ME & North Africa.

Prior to that, Mr. Bashaireh was managing Jordan Post as Deputy Director General & Executive Director Operations & Strategic Planning.

His role at Jordan Post extended from normal day to day operations to managing the Privatization project of Jordan Post including setting up company's strategic plan that has managed to improve company's financial position and operational competitiveness. Part of the privatization project, Mr. Bashaireh was responsible for managing human capital related matters including resources planning, people development and training, and special exiting schemes for long term civil works.

Aforementioned, Mr. Bashaireh has been serving as an Area Manager for systems and services certification at SGS Group – SGS Gulf. He was responsible for developing SGS Gulf strategy & business development as well. His role focused on auditing and analyzing clients' processes and procedures and providing value added advisory in with regards to improving operations, corporate planning and policies and procedures.

Before assuming his position at SGS Group, Nizar was working with Lloyd's Register – UK at Amman Business Center as Resource Manager for Middle East & Africa and as Acting Operations Manager.

Moreover, Mr. Bashaireh has served with MMIS Management Consultants in association with A. T. Kearney – Chicago in a capacity of management consultant.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Andrew Smith

Andrew P Smith, with over 20 years of leadership in the insurance and Takaful sectors, I bring extensive experience in driving transformative change and delivering sustainable growth. My career has spanned CEO and advisory roles across the GCC, where I have consistently implemented strategies to improve shareholder value, enhance profitability, and foster long-term organisational resilience.

I specialise in embedding robust governance frameworks, aligning businesses with international standards, and introducing innovative, customer-centric distribution models that expand market reach. My ability to optimise operational efficiency and implement technology-driven initiatives has consistently resulted in improved margins, greater shareholder returns, and enhanced organisational performance.

As a Board Advisor to Aafiya TPA, I contribute strategic insights that streamline healthcare insurance operations and improve value delivery. I have also collaborated with leading insurance and Takaful companies on initiatives such as digital transformation, data-driven decision-making, and sustainable risk management frameworks. These efforts have resulted in higher market share and improved operational effectiveness.

An MSc graduate with advanced qualifications in Islamic banking and insurance, I am a certified board director with deep expertise in regulatory navigation, corporate governance, and financial stewardship. I am committed to supporting organisations in achieving growth by driving strategic transformations, enhancing stakeholder engagement, and ensuring alignment with evolving market demands.

I am actively seeking non-executive board appointments to leverage my expertise in improving shareholder value through innovative strategies, operational efficiency, and sustainable growth initiatives in the insurance domain.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Ali Saleh Abdelgader Alawami

Ali Saleh Abdelgader Alawami, is a Founder and Managing Director of Libyan Mudeer for Training and Consultancy in Libya. He was also a board member and head of governance committee at Enmaa Holding Company in Libya, chairman and CEO for Alhadena National Company for Building Materials Manufacturing . 23 years of work experience and in the past, he held various positions at high level in holding and construction industries.

He hasworked in different business sectors and has handled different projects related to construction and management field. As his profession in engineering, he has worked in different fields such as water supply sector, construction of water pump station, agricultural water distribution networks, cement industry and building material, maintenance.

He has contributed to the revelation in Libya and helped to establish the first government 'executive office' and was appointed as a deputy minister of constitutional build departments. He was involved in establishing of Almukhtar Center for Democracy and Human Rights Studies, which related to Omar Almukhtar University and was acting as board director and was a trainer for leadership qualification for politicians and governmental managers.

He was involved in training programs for many company in the field of corporate governance and directors qualification programs. He has attended the Train of trainers workshop with Hawkamah/Mudara and is a certified trainer on corporate governance. He also hold a Mechanical and Production Engineering, and an MBA from Libyan Academy Benghazi, Libya

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Michael Mascarenhas

Michael Mascarenhasis the CEO of Desert Group which is one of the world's largest concentrically diversified group of horticultural and lifestyle companies –centered around green, water and people – truly biophilic. At Desert Group he has articulated a clear vision, goals and expectations, decentralised decision making and focused on a performance minded organisation.

An FCA, MBA, CIA, an alumnus of the Saïd Business School and a Certified Member at Hawkamah, he has tremendous experience in business resuscitation and transformation and thrives in expansive business operations that have lost their direction. With more than 30 years hands-on experience of cross national, multi-sectoral businesses in an international environment, Michael's career and reputation is based on his achievements in accomplishing successful turnarounds of damaged or underperforming assets and transforming them into dynamic centres of creative energy where the employees are empowered and value is created for all stakeholders alike.

His cross sectoral experience include Aerospace, Education, Financial Services & Investments, Construction & Real Estate, Horticulture, Manufacturing, Distribution and Retail. A strong ambassador of CSR, Desert Group has one of the most vibrant CSR programs focused on Special Needs and Cognitive Disabilities, recently winning the regions Taa'theer CSR MENA award.

Michael believes that his experiences are something to share at a global level and that there are lessons to be learned through re-energizing businesses and transforming them to be both customer focused and innovative. Ultimately the purpose of a successful business is to havepositive impact on society by enhancing people's lives and he recognizes that his customers and employees are at the center of this.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Bindu Ann Joseph

Bindu is a Chief Operating Officer of 3W Networks.

A Resourceful, focused and entrepreneurial Director, specializing in managing highly successful projects and operations in complex and competitive sectors for over 15 years. Holding an impressive record of progression in the workplace, undertaking leadership roles across core business functions and with vast expertise in business start-ups and transformations.

An active member of the Executive Management team since 2008, with valuable experience in evolving, diversifying and expanding businesses in the Middle East and African markets.

Along with an MBA from Hult University, she also holds a degree in Accounting and a Masters in Management Information Systems, both from Texas A&M University, USA

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Mireille Babti

Mireille Babtiholds an MBA from Strathclyde University, Glasgow, 2014, (courses were taken in 6 different countries as part of an objective to experience multi-cultural edutainment). She is a Masters in Project Management from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), 2003, and a Bachelor of Architectural Engineering from Beirut. Her early education was in Beverly Hills Girls high school, Sydney, Australia.

Currently employed by a private Investment Company at Executive Director level heading the development department of its real estate development subsidiary AlRetaj, leading a $120 million retail/leisure development, on behalf of a joint venture, and also holding the position of Board Secretary for the same JV.

With a total of 16 years' experience in the real estate development industry, her role as development management in 2008 as part of Al-Retaj Holding team, prior to which she held a project management role with Mace International and architect roles with Australand Developers and OPRA architects. Applying for a Doctorate in Business Administration, hoping to take further my MBA project "Governance of GCC Family Businesses; Why Rock the Boat?"

She is certified professional director of Mudara IOD & Hawkamah.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Hind Al Tamimi

Hind Al Tamimi is a Managing Partner at Impact Legal Consultancy. She has over twenty-six years of experience in both private practice and in-house within large corporations in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Jordan, in various positions ranging from Legal Counsel to Chief Legal Officer managing small to mid-sized legal departments. Extensive experience in acquisitions, joint ventures, real estate projects, and across the corporate and financial aspects of large project work. Solid working knowledge in cross-jurisdictional transactions, exceptional expertise in drafting contracts and development of corporate policies, strong client relationship skills, effective negotiation skills, and ability to work in fast-moving and rapidly growing environment.

Hind started her career as a lawyer in a reputable law office in Amman where she gained experience in general corporate commercial matters and litigation mainly construction disputes and civil and commercial claims, and later on joined a diversified family business as an in-house counsel. She moved to Dubai in January 2000 where she worked for five years in both the banking and special projects departments at Al Tamimi & Company Advocates & Legal Consultants. In 2005, she joined Dubai Holding where she provided legal services to its subsidiaries including Sama Dubai and later on TECOM Investments where she established and managed the legal department of around eleven legal counsels and paralegals. Hind worked in Abu Dhabi and Qatar where she headed and managed the legal affairs of two groups involved in real estate development, construction, hotels, retail, and a diversity of other industries. As in-house counsel in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar, she was involved extensively in restructuring processes and implementation of governance, whilst acting as company secretary.

Certified professional board director since 2016.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Huda Buhumaid

Huda Buhumaid is the Chief Impact Officer at Dubai Holding, spearheading its branding, marketing and corporate communications functions. She plays an important role in shaping the global presence and reputation of the Group, while also leading the implementation of Dubai Holding's sustainability strategy by integrating sustainable business practices across its operations.

Since joining Dubai Holding in 2006, Huda has successfully launched several strategic and award-winning projects across Dubai Holding and its companies that operate within different key sectors, including real estate, hospitality, investments and entertainment.

Previously, Huda worked with Citibank UAE as Assistant Vice President – Marketing and Business Development. At Citibank, Huda launched many first-of-their-kind initiatives, including widely acclaimed projects such as online and mobile banking services as well as co-branded cards with reputable companies.

Huda is a board member at a number of leading organisations, including the Higher Colleges of Technology, Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University – School of Business and Quality Management, Endowments and Minors' Trust Foundation, Dubai Women's Establishment, Certares Holdings, Malta Properties Company, Centre of Excellence for Applied Research & Training (CERT), Warsan Waste Management Company as well as a member of the Advisory Board of Meta Middle East. She is also the Vice Chair of the Private Sector Advisory Council, a fellow of the Middle East Public Relations Association (MEPRA) and a member of Dubai International Communications Committee, which operates under the umbrella of the Government of Dubai Media Office. Previously, Huda was Vice Chair of consumer finance company Dubai First and MEPRA as well as a board member at Khaleej Times, TECOM Group and Hala China.

Huda is a graduate of the Executive Leadership Programme, INSEAD UAE, and holds a Master of Science in Organisational Excellence with Honours from Bradford University, United Kingdom, and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the Higher Colleges of Technology, Dubai.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Nehal Badri

Nehal Badri is Director of Strategy Management & Governance at the Government of Dubai Media Office.

She leads in creating synergy between departments through comprehensive strategic planning, and overseeing excellence programs throughout the organization. Her involvement extends towards strategizing the media landscape in Dubai, to be congruent with the vision of the emirate's leadership. Nehal had previously worked at The Executive Office, as part of the Brand Dubai team which launched different strategies as soft marketing for Dubai.

Nehal has an MPA (Masters in Public Administration) from the Dubai School of Government. She previously achieved her Higher Diploma in Media & Communications from the Higher Colleges of Technology at the Dubai Women's college, and also a BFA (Bachelor's in Fine Arts) from Boston, USA.She is a certified professional director of Mudara IOD

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Ijjat Kanani

Ijjat Kanani is Director at Dukes Group FZE-UAE.

Versatile and solution-driven business person, over 7 years of working experience in a trading, healthcare & mining firms through, startup, turnaround, revitalization and accelerated growth with annual turnover reaching over $ 50m.

Her key role at Dukes Group is to direct all facets of business operations which include client cultivation and solicitation, sales and marketing, risk management, staff management and recruitment, cost and budget management, investment management, contract negotiations and infrastructure development etc.

She has been involved in community service in various ways since young age including organizing medical camp as part of health portfolio, planting trees and creating awareness about environment and eco-friendly living as member in HSM-India (an Environmental NGO), rendering services for women empowerment, involved in organizing charity fund raising events under the umbrella of Red Crescent UAE for various local and international NGOs. And currently, looking after SMEs mandate as part of Economic Planning Board. Past experience - NHS- UK & Hospitals in India, Physiotherapist: 2002-2006

She is a certified professional director of Mudara IOD

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Nathalie Sfeir Bsaibes

Nathalie Sfeir Bsaibesholds a master's Degree in Law from the Saint-Joseph University (Beirut) and an L.L.M in Business Law from Paris West University Nanterre La Defense. She was admitted to the Beirut Bar Association in 2001, and has been the Managing Partner of her family-owned law firm since 2005.

She currently practices in Lebanon and Dubai serving clients in Business Law, Real Estate Law, Intellectual Property rights and taxation Law. She provides legal consultancy and litigation services mainly for family businesses, individuals, and non-profitable organizations.In doing so, Mrs. Bsaibes assists her clients in investment decisions and in governance issues related to their assets so as to ensure sustainability and compliance with local and foreign rules and regulations. As the general counsel of numerous privately owned companies, she is the appointed secretary of several Boards of Directors assisting them in their duties. Given this experience, Mrs. Bsaibes is passionate about supporting SMEs and startups in establishing their corporate governance structures and boards.

She completed the requirements for Hawkamah's Directorship Development Program (DDP) in 2016.Mrs. Bsaibes is a dual French-Lebanese citizen and currently resides in Dubai (UAE).

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Jehad A. Kazim

Jehad heads the Legal Services Department at Dubai Chamber of Commerce & Industry. She oversees the commercial mediation & legal services of the Chamber and reinvents their processes by adding new features and applying best practices.

Jehad has over 15 years of experience in the legal field & alternate dispute resolution and strives to implement legal capacity building programs to support the development of businesses in Dubai. In 2009, Dubai International Arbitration Centre appointed Jehad as Deputy Director of the Centre. With this position she became the first Emirati woman to hold a senior position in arbitration in the Middle East.

Jehad holds an LL.M in Business Law from University of Hertfordshire, UK and LL.B in Shari'a & Law from the U.A.E. University. Her main areas of specialization are business law, contracts & alternate dispute resolution. She has served as an Assessor for Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award and Judge for the Oath Middle East Legal Awards 2015.

Jehad has completed the Mohammed Bin Rashid Programme for Leadership Development and Cranfield School of Management's Leadership Development Programme. In 2013, Jehad was nominated for the Distinguished Government Employee in Dubai Government Excellence Program

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Noora Al Shehhi

Noora Al Shehhi currently works as a Manager at the Internal Audit Department for Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA). She is a Certified public Accountant (CPA), Certified Managerial Accountant (CMA) and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). She completed her Bachelor Degree in Business Administration majoring accounting and has a work experience of more than five years.

She has worked in the fields of external auditing, internal auditing and corporate governance. Her external auditing experience was gained through her work with PwC by working on clients in the Energy and Aviation Sectors.

At DEWA she works on operational and financial audits. She is also a member of the Corporate Governance Committee, which has been established to meet the government corporate excellence requirements of governance. By being part of the committee she was involved in analyzing DEWA's capabilities in governance, conducting benchmarking visits, reviewing the organization's current corporate governance system and having a solid understanding of international standards such as the OECD corporate governance principles and the BS13500:2013 code.

Her experience in various fields has given her an exposure to a diverse set of areas such as internal auditing, external auditing and corporate governance where she has consistently displayed a strong willingness to learn and adapt to those fields as well as relating them to her skills and knowledge.

She is a certified professional director of Mudara IOD/Hawkamah.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Sumaya Al Shaer

Sumaya Al Shaer is an Emirati woman who has demonstrated continuous personal and professional growth over the last 12 years.

She is recognized for her commitment and eager to learn. She has been reaching her educational goals and has progressed to the level of Doctorate with her great determination to succeed. She graduated from the 'UAE women leadership program' organized by 'The Mohammed Bin Rashid Program for Leadership Development'.

Sumaya is a high performing individual who believes in outstanding performance. She is passionate about her work and has great positive attitude and adds a real value.

Her expertise lies in organizational development, excellence & quality management, strategy & performance management, and corporate governance. Her experience spans the different sectors (i.e. Government, Semi-government, and private). Sumaya strongly believes and strives for innovation and excellence!

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Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Ekram Al Yacoub

Ikram Al Yacoub is a Director in Brunswick's Dubai office. Having split her career between Saudi and UAE she advises local and international corporations on strategic planning, investor relation, corporate governance, and financial communications on merger and acquisition deals and IPO. Her experience span on a broad range of sectors, with focus on energy, banks, and telecommunications.

Prior to joining Brunswick, Ikram worked as Deputy Managing Editor and led the business editorial team of Al Arabiya News Channel. Al Yacoub has previously worked closely with Saudi Aramco's Sr. VP office of planning and development on various projects. She was also a visiting associate professor at Dubai School of Government in cooperation with Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Ikram holds an MBA from Cass Business School, City University, London. Prior to her MBA degree, Ikram has earned a master's degree of International Political Economy of Resources from Colorado School of Mines, USA, where she focused on energy sustainability and economic valuation of natural resources. She also hold an executive diploma from University of Cambridge, Judge Business School. She has published extensive business reportage and written many columns on the Middle East's business environment.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Omar Al Shunnar

Omar Al Shunnar is the Founder and CEO of Jsoor. Established in 2018, Jsoor is a Social Enterprise that is on a mission to help grow the Creative Industries in the MENA region, and ultimately to use the Creative Industry as a tool for sustainable economic growth.

A UAE National who is a Certified Professional Board Director with 19 years board experience. Omar is currently serving on the board of Aluminium & Light Industries Co. (ALICO) Group of Companies since 2019 and is also the Chairman of Aquagas Group of Companies since 2002. Previously Omar had also served on the board of Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for young Business Leaders (2003 – 2006).

A graduate of the University of Denver and a first cohort graduate of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Programme For Leadership Development, Professionally, Omar has more than 15 years of successful C-Level roles, over 10 years of which are at CEO level, delivering results across a broad range of sectors including Healthcare, Education, Banking & Finance, and has worked in Private, Government, Multinational and Publicly Listed Organizations both Locally and Internationally.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Majid Al Mail

Majid Al Mail is the Senior Manager at the Abu Dhabi Technology Development Committee (TDC), heading the INNOVATOR Program.

Majid holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Arizona State University. He also has a Diploma in Leadership from Cambridge University and is a Mubadala Graduate Program alumnus.Majid's belief in supporting the development of science, technology and innovation in Abu Dhabi has been translated into practice though his set up and management of the INNOVATOR Program, with the aim of supporting high growth technology related startups.

Majid also is the driving force behind a growing awareness for innovation and the innovators within in the community. Prior to his role at the Abu Dhabi Technology Development Committee (TDC), Majid worked for Mubadala Capital and Mubadala GE Capital, based in Abu Dhabi & Chicago over the course of his five years with the company.

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Jasem Al Awadhi

Jasem Al Awadhiis a strategy professional, with dual Bachelor degrees in Economics and International studies from the American University of Sharjah.

Jasem brings over 5 years of experience in strategy development, execution and assessment. During his tenure with Mubadala, a wholly owned investment vehicle of the Abu Dhabi government with AED 240bn in assets in 2015, Jasem focused on the Healthcare, Utilities, and Industrial sector. In addition, he was part of an expert team to work with the Abu Dhabi government in developing Abu Dhabi's 5 year economic plan. Further on, his work involved a multitude of functions ranging from developing an economic view of industries or countries, corporate strategy development and assessment, to portfolio simulation.

Jasem now works as a Manager in the Central Transformation Office with the Commercial Bank of Dubai, a publicly listed company in the Dubai Stock Market with a net income of +AED 1bn in 2015. At CBD, Jasem is part of the core team managing the execution and delivery of the transformation across four cross functional initiatives which are Digital, Risk, IT & Analytics, End to End processes, as well as several other business unit initiatives

Professional Directors 2016

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Johan H. Brand

Johan H. Brand is Owner of Johan Brand Leadership Advisory DWC-LLC.

He is a well-experienced and independent leadership professional. He is sought after by his clients for his top-level business expertise and Board/Executive advisory competence. His focus is on making Boards and C-level leadership more effective. He advises Chairmen and Family Heads as well as guides CxOs to success. Operating within the highest levels of confidentiality and trust, Johan's leadership advisory services specifically focuses on: Boardroom Consulting (Corporate Governance, Board Reviews and Nominations) ; CEO / CxO Search and Succession (Needs, Competencies, Search, Selection and Integration); Leadership Guidance (Assessment, Development/Alignment, Career Guidance and NextGen Coaching).

The initial part of Johan's career was with Procter & Gamble and PepsiCo in Europe, where he enjoyed a fast-track path in Brand Marketing and Commercial Leadership positions. After 9 years, in 1995, he moved to a privately held executive search firm Egon Zehnder, initially operating from Amsterdam and since 2008 from Dubai, where he became the Senior Partner. Within Egon Zehnder, Johan's international practice concentrated on clients in FMCG, Retail, Media, Entertainment, Fashion, Telecoms and Digital. He has developed valuable expertise on enhancing leadership at the level of Boards, CEOs and CxOs. End- 2016, Johan established his own leadership and corporate governance advisory firm in Dubai, which operates as a fully independent Boardroom advisory to its clients in the GCC.

Johan Brand Leadership Advisory (JBLA) has been specifically founded to add value to the GCC Region's further development through enhancing leadership and corporate governance. The firm works with selected, highly qualified professionals who enhance JBLA's value proposition wherever important for its clients.

He is a Member of Saudi Telecom Company (STC) Nominations and Remunerations Committee; a member of The Savola Group Board's Remuneration and Nomination Committee; a Member of the Board and Member of the CGNR Committee at Nesma Airlines; and a Member of the Board and Chairman of the CNCG Committee at Rabya Trading & Agriculture Company.

Johan holds an MSc in Business Economics, an MA in Business Law and an MA in Private Law, all from Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands. He has been granted the Professional Director Certification from the Mudara Institute of Directors in the MENA region and is a certified Leadership Circle Practitioner.

Johan is a Dutch national, with UAE residency. He is married, with 3 children.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Obaid Khalifa Al Shamsi

Obaid Khalifa Al Shamsi is the Chief Operating Officer of Dubai Islamic bank (DIB) who held various senior executive roles over the past 23 years of his banking career. With proven ability of taking ideas from inception to reality and drive complex initiatives to success with cost management responsibilities, Obaid drives the vision, strategy and initiatives in all major support and control function in the local and international presence of the Bank.

Being a C-level professional and in charge of building and implementing strategy for creating shareholder wealth, Obaid is pivotal in innovative business processes, leadership development, performance & corporate culture management, transforming people and teams to perform and inspire them to deliver their best. Obaid also provides specialized contribution through his participation on the board memberships at non-executive capacity in various strategic and non-strategic investments of DIB in wide variety of sectors ranging from Banking & Finance, Digital Banking, Sharia Consultancy, hospitality, Education sector, brokerage, Real Estate firms, Facility management etc.

As an astute leader in providing expertise in delivering sustained organizational growth to the organization, Obaid extends his leadership for Bank's global aspiration namely in Kenya, Pakistan, Sudan, Turkey etc and had lead all HR initiatives pertaining to restructuring and establishing full fleged HR in start-ups / acquisitions. During his tenure in DIB, the Bank won numerous accolades and recognitions. Obaid is also pivotal in the re-branding of Bank and recently the Bank is also honored with Ministry of Human Resources & Emiratization award.

In addition to a certified director of Mudara IOD, Obaid also holds master's degree in Business Administration from Middlesex Business School – UK, Professional certification in HRM from American University of Sharjah and certificate in Personnel Practice from CIPD, UK.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Abdalla AlMheiri

Abdalla AlMheiriis a Senior Vice President of a multibillion dollar company leading a cultural transformation to focus on people development, gender balance, youth empowerment, to realize large capital programs from inception to closeout and handover.

He is a result oriented and thrive in a dynamic business environment and enjoy setting up and building new businesses, projects, or work processes. My personality profile scores high on innovation and emotional connection.

He is a certified professional director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Kumar Subramanian

Kumar Subramanian is Vice President- Finance of Future Group Holdings SA SPF (FGH). He is responsible for managing the financial affairs of the group holding company and the engineering business of the group.

He joined the FGH Group in 2009. Since joining the Group, he has overseen the implementation of financial systems, controls and risk management policies across the Group, has spearheaded the implementation of Group consolidation process and procedures, and was actively involved in the setting up of the Family Office.

Prior to joining FGH, Kumar held various leadership positions with Publicis Group, Zubair Enterprises and MIRC Electronics Ltd.

Kumar completed his undergraduate education in Commerce at Calicut University. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) from the American Institute of Certified Publics Accountants, Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) from USA, Chartered Accountant (ACA) from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and Company Secretary from the Institute of Company Secretaries of India. Kumar also holds an active CPA license from Colorado State Board of Accountancy. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Kumar is serving as a visiting faculty member for Becker CPA Review course in Dubai

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Philip J. Weights

Philip Weights is the founder of Enhanced Banking Governance (EBG), which provides governance services.

Philip was previously the Chief Audit Executive for EFG Bank, a stock exchange listed private banking group in Zurich. He has worked closely with the Audit Committee, as well as attending Risk and Executive Committee meetings. Prior to working with EFG he held audit executive positions with HSBC Private Bank and Republic National Bank in Switzerland. During the 1980's Philip provided banking, audit and security consulting services in Latin America. In the 1970's Philip was Vice President and Auditor with Security Pacific Bank in London and Los Angeles, and Citibank in Latin America, New York and London. He started his banking career in 1961 with Martins Bank Liverpool.

Philip Weights is an Advisory Board member of the Virtus Global Center for Corporate Governance. He is also a Certified Professional Director through the Mudara Institute of Directors. He is seeking Independent Non-Executive Director positions with Audit Committee responsibility.

Philip is an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Bankers, a Certified Internal Auditor, a Certified Information Systems Auditor, and holds a Certification in Risk Management Assurance. He is a member of the Association Certified Fraud Examiners, the Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance, the European Corporate Governance Institute, and the Audit Committee Institute. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Nabil El Jisr

Nabil is a Senior Associate in Mubadala's Aerospace & Defense Services Unit with current asset management responsibility of Mubadala's interests in Piaggio Aerospace and Strata Manufacturing.

Prior to joining Mubadala, Nabil started his career in Investment Banking at The National Investor (TNI) in Abu Dhabi, UAE, following which he moved to Mubadala in October 2008 to work on various assets and projects in the military and civil maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) sectors and subsequently in composite and business aircraft manufacturing. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from the American University of Beirut with a double emphasis in finance and accounting.

Board Positions: Board member of the Turbine Services & Solutions (TS&S) and Liburdi Engineering joint venture.

He is a certified professional director of Mudara IOD.

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Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Richard Coates

Richard is an exceptional business consultant, using his deep knowledge of people management to help organisations achieve sustainable competitive advantage. He typically works with Boards and Family Owners, developing business models and governance structures, as well as mentoring leaders to optimise personal and business performance. He holds the Certificate of Directorship from Mudara Institute of Directors.

With extensive experience in the Middle East and Europe, Richard has lead large cross-functional projects to transform management practice in major organisations. These have included organisation development, improving recruitment and retention systems and creating performance-based executive reward structures. Over the last 20 years, he has worked across all GCC countries in sectors such as Oil and Gas, Automotive, Financial Services, Logistics and Retail, the Public Sector and Conglomerate Organisations.

Richard previously held management positions in British Airways and Hewlett Packard where he was part of a start-up management team, building and populating a manufacturing facility and a world-class research laboratory. He created and directed a consulting firm in London and Bahrain, and lead Mercer's M&A consulting practice in Europe. Richard was the pioneer of Mercer's business in the Middle East region before returning to what excites him most – working directly with clients to help make their businesses more successful. He holds the Certificate of Directorship from Mudara IOD, a Chartered Fellow of UK Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development (CIPD) and is qualified in MA Politics, Philosophy and Economics & B.Litt Industrial Relations from University of Oxford.

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Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Khalid Mohamed Al Zarouni

Khalid Mohamed Al Zarouni
Senior Vice President and DIFC Registrar of Companies
Dubai International Financial Centre

Two decades of experience in navigating two complex legal systems has made him to have strong knowledge in economic and commercial legislation and Corporate Governance, and the ability to analyze various challenges that lie ahead on the business environment and understanding how the impact of these challenges on the entrepreneurs and companies with a special focus on digital transformation, problem-solve and make decisions. Also, has diverse experience in regulating financial, non-financial, and FinTech firms through dealing with multi-international companies establishing in the DIFC.

Being a Senior Vice President has improved his strategic thinking to focus primarily on boosting the economic productivity level, promoting new policies of development-oriented which can support technological upgrading, innovation, and entrepreneurship, and working to inspire governance amongst the businesses for sustainability and growth. His experience and passion have taught him to how to be goal-focused while combining individual skills, a team mindset, a structured approach, a positive attitude, and an eagerness to explore and push forward his limits to achieve the best performance.

In the current capacity as Senior Vice President and Registrar of Companies at DIFC (since 2010), Khalid Al Zarouni primarily leads the affairs of the ROC Office, manages the economic affairs of all DIFC companies, regulates the businesses environment in the Centre, fosters the entrepreneurship with a view to supporting the DIFC 2024 Strategy, and strengthens the Corporate Governance framework and requirements of all DIFC companies.

As Chairman of the Licensing Committee at Dubai Free Zone Council, Mr. Al Zarouni plays a key role in transforming the emirate's free zones into international investment destinations and supports the free zone strategies with respect to the ease of doing business to implement best practices for boosting free zone's global competitiveness. Also, Mr. Al Zarouni serves as the Advisory Board of BUNYAN and as the Co-Chair of the BUNYAN Initiative for the Capacity-Building of the Emirati Youth to provide an extensive cobweb of role-models for the young Emirati graduates across leading universities in the UAE.

He holds a Master's degree in Commercial Law from Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia in 2007, and an Executive Master's degree of Public Administration from Mohamed Bin Rashid School Government in 2018. He is also graduate of the London Business School's Leadership Program and Executive Directors Program from Mohamed Bin Rashid School Government.

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Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Marcus Huebel

Marcus Huebel was an Executive Director of Corporate Strategy & Communications at Muntajat, where he orchestrated corporate transformation by launching and elevating Strategic Marketing, Change and Performance Management, Business Development and Qatar Investment Projects, Corporate Strategy; Catalysed improvement of Corporate Governance. Prior to his role at Muntajat, Huebel was a Director at SABIC, where he served as trusted advisor to the regional Vice-President and transformed African marketing & sales, and supply chain enabling growth ambitions.

Huebel holds a PHD Degree in Chemistry from Philipps-Universität, Marburg / Germany and holds a Director certificate from Mudara Institute of Directors.

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Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Omar Al Hammadi

Omar Mohammed Al Hammadi is the Head of the DIFC Governor's Office and has been with the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) since 2005. In addition, he represents His Highness the DIFC President's Office.

He specialises in stakeholder management, general corporate affairs, and handling relationship with Federal and Local government entities which is a key role that serves the DIFC in realising its objectives. Omar help in showcasing the DIFC and its achievements to high profile local, regional and international delegations and dignitaries.

He has a proven track record in enhancing policies, procedures and systems to ensure that the highest level of service is provided to dignitaries and their delegation as well as executives from the corporate sector. He leads the planning and coordination efforts with all relevant DIFC entities to ensure smooth and successful management of strategic DIFC projects.

A graduate in Computer Networking, Omar is committed to promoting the highest standards in business and service excellence across the DIFC. He applies advanced project management techniques, logical and structured thinking, technological innovation and creativity in resolving issues as well as implementing solutions. He believes in continuously developing himself, and has attended several programmes from internationally reputed institutions to advance his skills-set and expertise.

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Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Ahmad Hamza

Ahmad Hamza is a top-performing management executive experienced in leading large-scale business operations, and recognized for his ability to develop strategic and tactical solutions that deliver transformational business improvements. As a collaborative leader with multinational and multifunctional business experience, he brings strong analytical problem solving skills that generate change and deliver results. In his current role, as Director of Operations for the Dubai Multi Commodities Center Authority (DMCC), Ahmad serves as an integral leader and strategic driver of growth and transformation, helping the DMCC in becoming one of the largest and fastest growing free trade zones in the UAE.

Ahmad began his career in 2003 as a Senior Business Analyst for HSBC Bank in Dubai, where he conducted in-depth analysis and developed innovative solutions in support of emerging corporate business initiatives. Shortly after joining HSBC, he became Regional HUB Manager for IT Operations, establishing new banking systems and controls to improve business and banking requirements, and within two years was selected as Regional Project Manager, where he successfully directed the planning in strategic improvement projects, helping HSBC to create a smarter banking system, while reducing costs and improving the customer experience. Following his tenure at HSBC, Ahmad joined the Dubai Chamber of Commerce & Industry as their Senior Executive of Excellence.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Regina Doumit

Regina Doumit is a Certified Professional Board Director and an award-winning Legal and Compliance Leader with over 15 years of transformative impact in corporate governance, regulatory compliance, and risk management within the UAE's insurance and financial sectors. Recognized for her strategic foresight and unmatched expertise, Regina currently leads the Legal and Compliance Department at YOA Risk Services (DIFC), where she has built a reputation for navigating complex regulatory landscapes, safeguarding corporate integrity, and driving sustainable growth through innovative compliance frameworks and governance reforms. Her dynamic leadership style, paired with exceptional legal acumen, has enabled her to streamline operations, fortify risk management structures, and inspire teams to embrace a culture of accountability and excellence. Fluent in Arabic, English, and French, Regina's global mindset and cross-cultural expertise make her a powerful advocate for ethical leadership and strategic transformation in today's highly regulated environments. With advanced certifications in risk management, AML compliance, and international arbitration, Regina is the trusted voice boards rely on to shape strategies, protect reputations, and unlock growth opportunities with confidence and precision.

Professional Directors 2015

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Institute of Directors



Manal Mohammad Basaeed

Manal is an experienced Corporate Governance Advisor who holds a Master's degree in Public Administration majoring in Governance from the University of La Verne, US. She currently works as a Corporate Governance Specialist at ADNOC , which is recognized as the #1 Most Valuable Brand in the Middle East. Before that, she has held the role of Head of Corporate Governance Section at the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA) in Dubai.

Today, Manal is recognized as one of the youngest Emiratis in the field of Corporate Governance. She has diverse exposure within corporate governance practices regionally and internationally, specifically from UAE, London, Paris and New York. Moreover, she is well-versed with the UK Corporate Governance Code and the King IV Corporate Governance Report & Code in South Africa.

She is a Certified Professional Director (Women on Board) and a Certified Internal Auditor. She is currently part of various Management Committees including Gender Balance and General Services committees. Manal was a member of the Corporate Governance Committee in the GDRFA, where the committee's work led to the GDFRA being declared as one of the top 3 government organizations in Dubai in the area of Corporate Governance. Moreover, she has previously served as the President of the Alumni Association Board at Zayed University.

In 2018, Manal represented UAE in at the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) MENA Corporate Governance Conference in Portugal, where she was part of the panel discussion on "Policies to boost the Corporate Governance for State-Owned Enterprise". Besides that, she was also a speaker at the 16th Annual Regional Audit Conference in Abu Dhabi.

A highlight of her career was being the recipient of the "New-Distinguished Employee" award under the Dubai Government Excellence Program in 2015 from H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Alice Read

Alice Read is Director – Corporate Services, Jersey Intertrust's Fund and Company Administration business in Jersey.

Prior to reocating to Jersy, she working as Managing Director at Intertrust Dubai since 2012, having joined Intertrust's predecessor (Walkers Management Services) in 2010 as Vice President.

Alice holds a degree in law and a Masters in Commercial Law; she is also a qualified Chartered Company Secretary. In additional to management responsibilities, Alice provides fiduciary services to regulated Cayman and BVI funds, and a number of UAE subsidiaries of multinational organisations.

She is a member of Mudara, the Institute of Directors for the Middle East region and a certified professional director.

Professional Directors 2015

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Hanan Ahmad

Hanan Ahmad, a Company Secretary at du is an Emirati national with extensive professional experience across a number of sectors.

Hanan began her career at Dubai Group in 2006 as Assistant Manager and remained in the organization for the next four years. Having undertaken a role in the Marketing team, Hanan was promoted to Compliance Manager for the group responsible for ensuring the organization met with each regulatory and industry requirement.

In 2010, Hanan moved to du to take the role of Corporate Governance & Board Relations Manager, a role which included responsibility for reviewing all governance matters relating to the firm's activities, managing the Audit and Investment Committee of the Board and implementing a range of activities that have since established du as a market-leader in terms of best practice, accountability and transparency. Due to these achievements, in April 2012, Hanan was appointed du Company Secretary by the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Hanan's efforts in improving du's corporate governance enabled the Company to be placed the first in renowned the Standard & Poor (S&P)'s 2012 Hawkamah Pan Arab ESG Index. In 2014 and 2015 du has won for Best Corporate Governance in MENA, Telecoms Industry in the MENA region for Best Corporate Governance by Ethical Boardroom.

Hanan is on the Editorial Board of the Hawkamah Journal and is an Independent Director at Zayed University's Audit Committee in 2014. Hanan holds a BA in Business Administration from the UK.

Professional Directors 2014

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Roland Sfeir

Roland Sfeir is a CFO- Global Submarine telecom operator – Qatar-UAE. He has high-energy and financially skilled professional with operational experience in multiple industries (real estate, telecom, internet, media, construction, retail, manufacturing, and logistics). Operated in diverse corporate settings, and geographical deployments (US, Europe, Africa, Middle East). Whether stabilizing start-ups, salvaging a distressed business, or leading restructuring for mature companies, he excels at solving complex problems for privately owned, government, publicly listed, and joint venture firms. Over 20 years' experience in global financial and business management, advising CEOs and Boards of Directors on growth strategy, financial health and corporate governance. Founded two start-ups in France (E-commerce, financial advisory). Advised on the European launch of many US dotcoms and led the acquisition of several companies. Widespread knowledge of corporate turnarounds and restructuring in both emerging and structured markets. Served on Boards of family owned businesses and corporate entities in Algeria, France, UAE.

Post-acquisition experience of integration and consolidation of accounts, goodwill assessment, purchase price allocation, impairment. Establishment of Enterprise Risk Management framework, supervised by the Audit committee. Creation of a framework for compliance, covering Financial, Legal, and Governance – reported on a quarterly basis to the audit committee. Establishment of policies and processes. Designed a performance assessment matrix, enabling the committee to track decision making, follow-up issues, plan actions, and prepare agendas and topics of next meetings

Executive Director on subsidiary Boards. Involvement in Strategy creation and review, Long-term financial planning and budgeting, Authority matrix and table of Financial authority, Governance framework and corporate structure, Policies and Processes, control environment and systems. Experience included Construction, Manufacturing, Telecom, Retailing, and Real Estate.

GOVERNANCE ACTIVITIES - Designed, developed, and guest lectured a session for the Loedstar Family Business Forum in Dubai, in conjunction with INSEAD's professor Ludo Van Der Hayden – "Roles and responsibilities in multiple ownerships" - Nov-2015.
Design and lecture the "Financial Stewardship" course for Hawkamah in Dubai, focusing on the role of the CFO in corporate governance. It is part of the accreditation curriculum of the Institute of Directors Financial Module (2015, 2016, 2017).
Panelist at the KPMG seminar "the risk agenda for Boards and Audit committees", Dubai 2015.
Published an

CREDENTIALS - IOD MUDARA DUBAI (IFC-ACCREDITED) - Certified Board Director ; INSEAD - International Directors Program – Certified Board Director; UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN - Leading in a Global Environment

EDUCATION - ROTTERDAM SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (Master of Business Administration) & (Master of Business Informatics)
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (Master in Engineering Management) & (BS in Electrical Engineering)

AFFILIATIONS - Chartered Institute of Management Accountant ; Chartered Global Management Accountant ; Dubai French Business Council ; DFCG (French Financial Professional Body) ; Rotary Club International

Professional Directors 2014

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Graeme Sims

Graeme Sims is the Executive Director of Dubai's Electricity and Water Regulator, the RSB.

An economist by background, he has over twenty years' experience of the electricity and water industries gained in the UK and UAE, working in both the public and private sectors, operating at board level for most of that period and involved in a period of rapid change for utilities exposed to privatization, regulation and market liberalisation.Through his career he has developed a deep understanding of utility markets, outstanding analytical capability, strategic insight and well-honed communication skills.

Graeme was Deputy Director General at the UK's Office of Electricity Regulation where he was responsible for the electricity industry in Scotland. From there he moved to Abu Dhabi to establish the emirate's water and electricity regulatory body, acting as its first Director General, overseeing the start of Abu Dhabi's successful IWPP programme.On his return to the UK he joined United Utilities, a FTSE100 utility company, serving as its Regulation Director and sitting on the board of United Utilities' water business.

Graeme is a graduate of Oxford University and began his career with the Boston Consulting Group. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2014

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Nabeel Waheed

Nabeel Waheed is Executive Vice President - Head of Treasury and Capital Markets Division at Mashreq Bank.

He joined the Bank in May 1996. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from Syracuse University, New York. Prior to joining the Bank, he was employed by Bank of America for 15 years; he was vice president and manager of investment banking and treasury between 1991 and 1996 with Bank of America, Pakistan.

He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2014

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Farah Foustok

Farah Foustok is a Managing Director and Senior Executive Officer of Lazard Gulf Ltd. (Dubai). She began working in the investment field in 1994. Prior to joining Lazard in 2014, she was Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of ING Investment Management Middle East from 2008.

Previously, she was the Head of Asset Management at NBD Investment Bank. Farah was a senior fund manager at EFG-Hermes prior to NBD IB, responsible for managing GCC and MENA funds and portfolios. Farah spent five years at Deutsche Bank in London, in Equity Strategy. She has also worked at Morgan Stanley within Equity Sales, followed by three years in commercial real estate advisory in Europe.

Farah also has Private Equity exposure through a private venture in Argentina and an internet start-up in the UK. In 2010, Farah was selected to participate on an advisory panel for the Dubai Financial Services Authority. In 2012 Farah was elected as the chairperson of the board for the UAE Financial Services Association. In December 2013, Farah was one of four founding members of the first non-profit female mentoring program in the DIFC, Reach. April 2014 Farah completed her accreditation with Mudara, Institute of Directors, to become the 4th female certified board director in the Gulf region. Farah holds an MBA from Imperial College London and a BSc Hons in Mathematics from King's College, London.

Professional Directors 2014

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Sayed Jamil Ahmed

Sayed Jamil Ahmed Executive with 25 years experience in various roles within IT across different market sectors in the UK and Middle East. Sectors include Investment Banking, IT Solutions, Consultancy, Entertainment and Semi Government. He has established a technology company researching and developing in blockchain technologies and its practical applications. Based on his career experience he explores how to apply blockchain technologies such as Hyperledger and cryptocurrencies in the corporate world. His current project is to build a mobile application that works with the Ripple XRP Ledger providing a smart wallet with contract and payment functionality.

During his career he has specialized in Enterprise IT solutions and Information Security, experience includes

- Implementing strong IT governance practices and achieving ISO 27001 certification
- Delivering solutions to increase productivity through digital transformation and automation, efficiency and provide business intelligence to assist in future planning and strategy.
- Participation in strategy workshops to formulate the future direction and on smart city initiatives.
- Working with internal, external and government auditors, presenting plans and status updates to audit committees.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Walid Gamali

Walid Gamali founded 3W in 2000 with the vision of bringing customized telecommunication solutions to the oil and gas market.

Walid is responsible for the overall management of the company's worldwide operations across all markets and countries. He plays a key role in defining and executing strategic initiatives focused on growth and differentiation of the organization. Under his leadership, 3W has diversified its solutions offerings to include newer technologies, sectors and regions while maintaining the "local support" philosophy which the company promises to it's customers.

Prior to 3W, Walid held various roles in sales, marketing, product management and engineering with leading organisations such as Siemens, NEC, Belden and Olex Cables in both Australia and the Middle East.

Walid has an exceptional business and technological acumen that has played a fundamental part in 3W growth from a small project management company in Australia to the leading global systems integrator. He holds a Degree in Computer Systems Engineering from Swinburne University of Technology, Australia. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Murat Aydemir

Murat Aydemir is the – Managing Director Europe and Middle East at PX Limited Stockton, UK.

He is a highly experienced C – level Director and M.Sc. Mechanical Engineer with a deep network across the EMEA energy sector. Proven expertise in decarbonization, hydrogen, and energy infrastructure. Murat has over 20 years of strategy, international business development and execution leadership. He has demonstrated techno-commercial acumen and a hands-on management approach. He has a strong track record of success across European and Middle Eastern markets, leveraging a multi-cultural background.

His experience also inlcudes Managing Director role at GETEC Energy Basel, Switzerland and a Group CEO role at Bin Jabr Group, Abu Dhabi, UAE.

17 years of experience in HVAC and renewable energy, with exposure to international clients and projects. Successfully managed corporations with the headcount up to 120 and turnover of 80 million USD. Having a strong network in MEP and civil contracting industry in MENA region including Turkey. He graduated from Technical University of Istanbul. M. Sc. Mechanical Engineering. He is specialized in design of Solar Thermal, high efficient condensing boilers and steam boilers. He is a member of ASHRAE and Emirates Green Building Council. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Roberta Calarese

Roberta Calarese, Board Member, UAE Tennis Federation, Founder & Owner, Kanzi Jewels. An Emirati-Italian entrepreneur, was the Chief Legal Officer of Majid Al Futtaim Holding. In this role, she was responsible for setting up the long-term plan and overall functioning of the Legal Affairs department.

Prior to joining Majid Al Futtaim Holding, Roberta was Chief Legal Officer and Executive Committee Member of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Authority and was instrumental in the development of the DIFC legal and regulatory framework. During her twelve-year tenure in DIFC, Roberta held a number of other positions such as Secretary General of the Board of Directors of DIFC Authority and DIFC Investments and Chairwoman of the Legislative Committee, Data Protection Commissioner, and Director Policy and Legal Services of the Dubai Financial Services Authority.

Roberta's legal and compliance experience also includes time spent with Prudential Bache, ABN AMRO and Goldman Sachs, in both London and Dubai.

Roberta currently sits on the board of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in the UAE as Vice President and is also a board member of the UAE Tennis Federation. Roberta graduated with honors with an LLB from the University of Warwick, and received her LLM in International Legal Finance from University College London.She is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Rami Bazzi

Rami Bazzi is a Chief Investment Officer at Sedco Holding.

Rami is responsible for managing the Group's investment activities across the various asset classes. He has more than 20 years of experience in investments and strategy accrued at several international and regional reputable organizations.

He started his career with the Royal Bank of Canada, followed by stints at Deloitte Consulting, Litat Group, Injazat Capital, and Zubair Corporation, where he assumed senior executive roles.

His extensive investment experience covers sectors such as healthcare, education, petrochemicals, ICT, retail, financial services, real estate, and hospitality. He brings strategic insight spanning post-acquisition portfolio management, investment and exit leadership, strategic planning, business valuation, corporate governance, as well as organization restructuring.

He holds an MBA and MSc in Finance from Concordia University in Canada. He has also earned a BSc in Computer Science from the Lebanese American University in Lebanon. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst, and a Certified Professional Director by the Mudara Institute of Directors. He served for over 15 years on the boards of publicly and privately-held companies.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Michel Ghosn

Michel Ghosn is an Investment Director at SEDCO Holding.

He is a key leader in the Group's investment process, with high degree of responsibility over portfolio management. Michel has extensive experience in structuring investment acquisitions and managing a diversified portfolio of companies in F&B, pharmacy, IT systems integration, shopping center, real estate development services and financial institution sectors as well as continuous involvement and tangible initiatives in corporate governance, strategic planning, turnarounds, management and operations' related matters. Michel has held directorship roles in numerous companies: Board member at AECL (a casual and fast casual dining restaurant chain in MENA serving Applebee's, Ocean Basket and China Gate brands with over 1 000 employees), Board member in Intimaa Real Estate Services, Board member in Bonnon Co. (a specialty coffee café chain) as well as board observer and audit committee, executive committee and CNC committee member in other public and private companies operating in MENA and Southeast Asia.

Prior to joining Sedco, Michel worked for SaudiMed Investment Company (Beirut and Riyadh offices), with responsibility for deal sourcing, investment structuring, financial engineering and generation of opportunities in M&A advisory and private placement assignments. Before joining SaudiMed, Michel was a financial advisor managing clients' portfolios and performing asset allocation at Bemo Bank (Lebanon).

Michel holds a Masters in Finance from the University of Sorbonne Paris I (France) and a BA in Economics from Saint Joseph University (Lebanon). He is a Certified Valuation Analyst and a Certified Professional Director by Mudara Institute of Directors.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Khaled Dannaoui

Khaled Dannaoui is a senior executive with verifiable year-after-year success achieving business growth objectives within start-up, turnaround, and rapid-change environments. Extensive experience with highly engineered systems, which require deep understanding of critical business drivers in multiple markets and industries; highly successful in building relationships with upper-level decision makers, seizing control of critical problem areas, and delivering on business commitments. Versatile, innovative, professional able to see the "big picture" while staying on top of all the details. As a senior corporate executive with substantial experience in strategy, execution, turnaround, corporate governance with added experience in M&A transactions from management perspective.

Currently holding, Boards Director, Executive Committee, Audit Committee role in a variety of industry including retail, education, construction, real estate and investment. Strategic thinker, who can plan and implement business initiatives to support overall corporate objectives. Particularly strong relationship management, team building, and general business acumen. Ambitious, aggressive and intensely focused on bottom-line results, adding value to the business and earning prominent role in mainstream corporate strategy. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



A.Hakim Alshafei

A.Hakim AbdulRahman Alshafei is currently the Advisor to the Managing Director and General Manager with Aseer Company. Aseer is a saudi investment holding company listed in the Saudi capital market managing an investment portfolio of more than 3.5 billion Saudi riyals .His involvement in this capacity covers all aspects of business matters related to Strategy, Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Corporate Governance and Compliance issues, Board of Directors matters.

A.Hakim started his career as an entrepreneur and has over 30 years of experience in private sector which made him enjoys multi skills advantage supported by his long experience in different business fields and industries.

A.Hakim is Bahraini national holds a bachelor degree in statistics, Diploma in corporate governance, certificates in sales management practice and Marketing management practice, in addition to special and various training programs among of which strategic planning ,leadership, finance, marketing, and crisis management.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Amjid Javiad Sheikh

Amjid Javiad Sheikh is working with Dubai HealthCare City (DHCC)as Group Director Audit, Risk and Compliance and is responsible for performing within the Domains of Audit, Risk and Compliance.

In addition provide the same role for other entities incl. Al Jalila Foundation. Dubai HealthCare City Authority, Dubai School of Dental Medicine.

He worked with the Engineers Office (Dubai) as Director GRC - Governance, Risk & Compliance (Head of department) and enhanced the Governance Framework and design of a Compliance Mandate for the office and handled the scope of work, involved in conducting operational pre audits, compliance investigations, Compliance testing, reviews & assessments for all entities / projects within the group.

He is the Member of the Board of Directors for Dubai HealthCare City, DHCC FZ LLC appointed by HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein. He is the Chairman of Audit Risk & Compliance Committee and also the Governance & Regulatory Compliance Advisor for Board of Al Jalila Foundation appointed by HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2013

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Mohammed Nawaf Babgi

Mohammed is the Managing Director of MTA Holdings. He has spent his career developing and executing business strategies and restructuring significant core operations for different companies across a variety of industries in numerous geographies. Currently, he is Board Member and Managing Director of MTA Holdings, an investment platform that seeks to build and acquire businesses that add value to the Saudi economy by addressing critical development challenges and meeting the needs of the market.

Previously, Mohammed was a member of Dar Al Riyadh (DAR) Group, one of the largest Saudi Engineering, Procurement and Contracting platforms in the region. As a member of DAR's senior management, he retained oversight of the construction management services arm of the Group, a division with a backlog of multi-billion riyals worth of government contracts to supervise numerous projects, among which was the construction of King Abdullah Financial District, Saudi Arabia's mega housing initiative, and Riyadh's Municipality cleaning and recycling services. He was also a member of DAR's steering committee, where he was leading the development of strategy and new business opportunities. Along with his current responsibilities, Mohammed sits on the board of select GCC-based companies that are active in the real estate, finance, retail and manufacturing sectors and serves as an advisor to a select group of Saudi-based family businesses.From Al Khabeer Capital, Royal Vision Group to the Family Council of an established and reputable Saudi Family, his board level memberships range from Executive and Audit to Remuneration and Steering.

Mohammed began his career at Bahamdan Group, which he joined as Chief of Staff to the Chairman and CEO. In addition to his role in supporting the Group's principals, Mohammed was in charge of developing and incubating special projects, which included the establishment of the Group's education investment platform, Tadrees. Mohammed would later be appointed Deputy Managing Director for Strategy and Execution where he was instrumental in the Group's acquisition of key assets including a construction management company and a real estate brokerage that served as the base for the Group's RE Development platform.

In addition to his involvement with the various groups he's been associated with, Mohammed has also been active in incubating and launching various private platforms in financial services, management and strategy, advisory, and travel management services.

Mohammed's business acumen is aided by a strong educational background in engineering. He holds a BSc in Civil Engineering and an MSc in Infrastructure and Security Engineering from George Mason University. He is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors. Mohammed has focused his philanthropic activities towards his family's education and entrepreneur support activities.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Majid Jafar

Majid Jafar is the CEO of Crescent Petroleum, the Middle East's oldest private oil & gas company, and Vice-Chairman of the Crescent Group of companies which includes interests in port management, logistics, contracting, private equity and real estate.

He is also Managing Director of the Board of Dana Gas (PJSC), the leading publicly-listed natural gas company in the Middle East, in which Crescent is the largest shareholder. His previous experience was with Shell International's Exploration & Production and Gas & Power Divisions.

In addition to his professional commitments, Majid Jafar currently serves as Chairman of the Middle East-North Africa Business Council and Chairman of the Oil & Gas Independents Community at the World Economic Forum, Co-Chairman of the Business Backs Education campaign launched with the GEMS Foundation, and Vice-Chairman of the Global Energy Initiative (GEI).

He is also a Board Member of: the Carnegie Middle East Advisory Council, the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED), the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) Industry Advisory Council, and the Iraq Energy Institute, as well as an active member of: the GCC Board Directors Institute, the Royal Institute for International Affairs (Chatham House), the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), the Young Presidents Organization (YPO), the Young Arab Leaders organization (YAL), and a certified Director of the Institute of Directors (IoD Mudara).

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Mario A. Camara

Mr. Mario A. Camara is a highly experienced regulatory law and compliance expert with over 20 years of relevant experience as a senior manager in the UAE's financial industry, having been a founding member of the DIFC Authority's legal department, where he led the incorporation and accession process of the UAE to MENAFATF and having served as the regional CEO of both Swissquote and SaxoBank.

Mario has successfully managed large legal and compliance teams in international law firms and financial entities in North America as well as frontier markets in both common and civil jurisdictions with field experience in the Middle East, India and Latin America.

Mario is currently the General Counsel and Head of Risk for Gig-Execs which he joined in October of 2024. Prior to joining Gig-Execs, Mario led the Licensing and Government Relations department of Equiti Group, which he joined in the summer of 2018 and where he served as their founding Global Head of Legal and Compliance and remained with them for over six years.

Prior to being recruited by Equiti Group, Mario was the managing director of Saxo Bank's Middle East and North Africa operations where he consolidated the Bank's MENA operations in early 2016 and managed to make the Dubai office the most profitable Saxo operation by January 2018.

Mario's experience in the Middle East, however, started in 2004 when he joined the largest law firm in the Middle East - Al Tamimi & Company. Mario was then recruited by the DIFC in 2005 to become the Dubai International Financial Centre Authority's Assistant General Counsel and Deputy Registrar of Companies.

Whilst at the DIFCA Mario was recruited as the head of Legal and Compliance for the Middle East of ACM Advanced Currency Markets in their first move outside of Switzerland in 2007. Upon the merger of ACM with Swissquote Bank, Mario was appointed Managing Director of the first international Swissquote subsidiary and became the Senior Executive Officer of their DIFC subsidiary where he served for seven years as the Bank's regional CEO.

After Swissquote Mario joined CCL Compliance (now merged with Waystone Compliance Solutions Ltd.) as Director of its Consultancy division where he advised various banks and brokerage companies in licensing and financial compliance program drafting and implementation. Whilst at CCL Mario developed and delivered AML / ATF / ABC course for UAE law firms in the DIFC, Dubai and Abu Dhabi leading to CPQ Credits and accreditation under the UAE Ministry of Justice guidelines.

Mario holds a Master's in business administration from London Business School in addition to two Master's degrees in Law from the UP and ITAM universities as well as the prestigious International Compliance Association compliance officer diploma (with merit) and the ACAM's Advanced Anti-Money Laundering certification, as well as numerous financial compliance professional certificates from the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investments and from Henley Business School.

Mr. Camara has served in the executive boards of both Swissquote Bank and Saxo Bank and served as a board member of various banks and financial institutions in the Middle East since 2007 and has been a member of the board of trustees of Lyman Ward Military Academy.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Eng. Mahmoud AlBurai

Mahmoud AlBurai is currently serving as senior advisor at Real estate Regulatory Agency of Dubai manadated to work on a plan to make Dubai more competitive. Before this role Mahmoud has served as the CEO of Dubai Real estate Institute for 10 years in which the institute graduated 80,000 real estate professionals from the region. He is the Vice President of International real estate federation, FIABCI Arabic Countries since 2016 and sits on the board of International Real estate Society (IRES).

Mahmoud sits on the board of National Association of Realtors(NAR), 1.3 million member real estate network based in Chicago. He has been selected to be FIABCI representative at the United Nations Economic Commission for West Asia (UNESCWA) and UNECE (Geneva). He is also the Chairman of UN Global Compact UAE since 2015 and represent MENA region in UN Global Compact advisory board since two years. In his role as UN Global Compact MENA representative led many SDG's driven initiatives. He started youth ambassadors programs in seven UAE universities recruiting over 150 youth, train them to help businesses become more sustainable.

He also led establishing Women empowerment principles platform in the UAE with 60 companies signing on WEPs commitment. To promote SDGs among business, Mahmoud launched SDGs pioneers UAE celebrating SDGs success stories of private and government organizations. Recently Mahmoud established his Think Tank in Geneva under the name of Middle East Sustainable Development Institute to lobby governments, businesses and communities to action on SDGs in the Middle East. His mail role is to lobby private sector in the region to be actively involved in SDGs, during his presidency, UAE local network became the fastest growing network internationally. Moreover, Mahmoud leads the affordable Housing working-group at World Economic Forum.

Mahmoud has been selected recently to be on the Board of National Association of Realtors, largest real estate network in the world. Mahmoud also serves as an advisor-MENA region at Happy City Lab, headquartered in Canada which works on integrating happiness into urban design.

Prior to his position in Dubai Real estate Institute, Mahmoud worked as Senior Director of Real estate Sector development at Real estate Regulatory Authority of Dubai and few years as a Development Associate Manager at Dubai holding. Mahmoud completed his bachelor's degree in engineering at the American University before continuing on to earn his Master's in Real Estate from National University of Singapore .Mahmoud completed his MBA in Finance from his alma mater, American University of Dubai in 2010. He is a certified professional director of Mudara IOD.

He is now pursuing his Master of Cities at London School of Economics and Political Science(LSE) and DBA at Grenoble ecole de management in France.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Rita Khaled

Rita Khaled is an International Lawyer fluent in English, French and Arabic. Educated in law in both France and Lebanon, she is the Client Relationship Partner for one of the leading most experienced law firms and legal consultancies in the UAE at Baker & McKenzie Habib Al Mulla.

Her primary responsibility is to ensure consistent quality in the delivery of legal services to our clients. She manages the firm's Client Relationship Strategy, acts as the principle point of contact for clients and works closely with multiple business areas within the firm to drive a strategy that supports our transition from a traditional law firm into a highly client focused organisation.

She oversees and manages complex client relationships with large multinational corporations, family conglomerates, governmental authorities, banks and high net worth individuals. She is known for being highly perceptive and has a deep understanding of cultural sensitivities at both a local and international level. She is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA Institute of Directors



Roula C Zahar

Roula C Zahar is a Head of Legal and Board Affairs, Dubai Real Estate Corporation (DREC), Wasl Asset Management Group, Dubai an entity entrusted with owning and developing real estate assets owned by the Government of Dubai and the key business areas that wasl is focused on are property management, project management, hospitality, investment, leisure and entertainment.

She acts as managing director for a major real estate company managed by wasl. She also acts as Company Secretary for the Company and schedules all Board and Audit Committee meetings, preparing the agenda, attend and draft the minutes of meeting and follow up implementation of action plans. She has worked on several acquisitions including a 1.3 billion hotel development in Dubai. Negotiated and finalized the renewal of hotel management agreements with one major hotel operator in relation to four hotels owned by the Company in Dubai.

She is the member of the Executive Committee and Procurement and Tendering Committee of the Company. She is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Mazen H. Boustany

Mazen H. Boustany is a Partner at Baker & McKenzie Habib Al Mulla.. He has over 18 years' experience in banking and finance law in the Middle East and has practised in the UAE for more than seven years.

Mazen advises on all aspects of banking and finance law including Islamic finance, structured finance, securitisation, private equity, financial structuring and restructuring, cross-border transactions and investment funds. He is also experienced in domestic and international arbitration and is a qualified banker. Having spent many years as a senior in-house lawyer, Mazen's advice is commercial and practical in nature. He frequently conducts training for corporate in-house teams on banking and finance law and regulation in the UAE.He is a certified Professional Director from the Mudara-Institute of Directors and is a member of the UK Securities Industry Management Association (SIMA). He has also been awarded the CISI Level 3 Certificate in Investments – Securities, endorsed by the UK FSA and the Financial Services Skills Council (FSSC), and is a certified Basel III professional (2011) and DIAC qualified arbitrator as well as a registered practitioner before the DIFC courts. In 2012 Mazen was appointed by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) as a short term consultant to advise on UAE legislative matters in relation to security laws. Mazen holds an Masters in Private Law from Paris II University (France) and LLB in Lebanese Law, Saint Joseph University in Lebanon.He is admitted to the Beirut Bar Association. He is fluent Arabic, English and French.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Rushdi Sammakieh

Rushdi Sammakieh is Vice President at Genero Capital.

He has 7 years of experience in Corporate Finance, Private Equity, and Corporate Governance and has led the execution of M&A deals and managed the closing of multiple transactions/investments. Prior to joining Genero, he spent 5 years with Injazat Capital, where he covered several industries in the SME space, conducting financial and business analysis, valuations, post acquisition work, and fund raising.

Rushi holds a Bachelor in Business Administration from Lebanese American University and an MSc in Finance and Economics from the University of Southampton in England. He is also a certified Professional Director and a CFA Level 2 Candidate and has acquired the SCA & CISI Financial Analyst Qualification License. He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

Professional Directors 2012

IOD MUDARA
Institute of Directors



Maryam Al Suwaidi

Maryam Abdulla Alsuwaidi works as a Director of strategy and development department for Mohammed Bin Rashid Housing Establishment, where she is currently responsible for four sections: Strategy & Corporate Performance Corporate Excellence & Pioneering, Housing policies and social studies. With more than twenty-six years of experience in government entities, she played a leading role in the organization transformation process to ensure the implementation of the new strategic plan and organization structure design while maintaining the high perfomace cultue to achieve organization vision "Pioneering and sustainable housing services".

She attended the board meeting several times to present and discuss important topics related to global benchmarking and best practices in housing sector, in addition to important projects such as housing fund and partnership between the government and private sector such as banks and developers in orger to provide better customer services.

She gained extensive experience and enhance her leadership competices in differnet fields by working as Senior Director of Human Resources & Administration Department in Dubai Media Incorporated. Prior to that she worked in Al-Bayan newspaper as Circulation and Subscriptions' Accountant.
She is graduated from the American University of Sharjah "AUS" with Master degree in
Business Administration. (GPA 3.5), In addition to the Bachelor degree in Education as Mathematics Teacher. (GPA 3.2)

She was announced as the first graduate of Dubai women establishment's special "Women on Boards" management accreditation Program for Emarati women. Throught the career jurney She focused on developing her knowledge and competencies by attended some professional courses such as Professional Diploma of Human Resources from Australian Human Resources Institute and Media leadership Development program from Dubai School of Government.

Playing the role of Happiness champion she was engaged in two important training programs: Designing Cities course from Innovation Lab in Copenhagen and Quality Service from Disney Institute in Orlando. Moreover, she joined many leadership programs and conferences such as Arab Women Leadership Forum, Leaders In Dubai Conference, Capturing the Power of Negotioation, Leadership for the 21st Century and Innovations in Governance. During Maryam's experience as HR professsional she is passionate and interested in cauching and sharing knowledge to the employees and leaders in the organization by in topics like Leadership, Time Management. The Power of thinking & Emotions, Self worth and Awarness in raltionships.In addition to workshops " How to start my own Business " For Dubai Womens Association.

She was awarded as Distinguished Government Employee By His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum. Furthermore, the 3rd Best HR director in Dubai Government By The Executive Council.

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Rola Hamdan

Rola is a Co-founder of Gulf Merchant Group of Companies, a Board Member and Managing Director at Gulf Merchant Bank Limited in Dubai and a Partner at Gulf Merchant Group LLP in London.

Prior to joining the Group, she was Vice-President, Business Development of Zawya-Thomson Reuters in Dubai, UAE where she was in charge of the sales and operations in the MENA region. Ms. Hamdan held various positions in the field of investment banking at various financial institutions in the Gulf region. She was in charge of sales and client services at Shurooq Investment Services Co in Oman mainly dealing with corporations, Family Offices & UHNWIs.

Ms. Hamdan has studied at the Money & Banking Master's program at the American University of Beirut and holds a B.A. from the same university. Ms. Hamdan is an "International Directors Program" trained at INSEAD, Fontainebleau and an Certified Director of Mudara-Institute of Directors ("IOD").

Also, she is a founding member of the Bankers Business Group (UAE).

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Jan Bladen

Jan is the Managing Partner of Governance Creed, a dedicated governance firm specialising in strengthening boardroom and corporate governance across the Middle East. The firm works with shareholders, boards and senior executives of family businesses, state owned enterprises, publicly listed entities and private equity firms to improve board performance and organisational governance to drive shareholder value.

Previously, Jan played an instrumental role in the founding of the UAE's two financial hubs: He spearheaded the launch of Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) as the Executive Lead and Senior Advisor to the Board of Directors and co-led the establishment of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) as the founding Chief Operating Officer of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). Prior to the DFSA, Jan worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in both Geneva and Dubai. He carries a wealth of experience in Corporate Leadership across the MENA Region and has worked extensively in Egypt, Morocco, Syria, Pakistan, Lebanon, Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and the UAE.

Jan has extensive international experience including Corporate Leadership, Strategy, Operational Management, and Corporate Governance. Practiced in building high performing teams, his divisional reports have included business planning, corporate strategy, human resources, information technology, corporate communications, finance, corporate administration, risk management and both internal and external audit.
Jan qualified as the 1st accredited Non-Executive Board Member with the Mudara Institute of Directors (IoD) in Dubai, attended Harvard Business School's "Making Corporate Boards More Effective" and is an accredited "Trainer of Trainers" in the Corporate Governance Board Leadership Program of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and World Bank. He is a Board Member of several organisations, including serving as the Chairman of a Fintech Company, a Non-Executive Board Member of an Independent Swiss Asset Management Firm, an NRC Committee Member of a Private Equity Firm, and a prior Board Member and Governor of his former leading private UK Boarding School.

Raised across the Far-East, Middle-East, Europe and Africa, he was educated in French Embassy and British Private Schools. Fluent in English, French and Spanish, he has spent over 25 years living and working in the Middle-East. Jan's spouse is an Arab and his children speak Arabic, French and English at home. He obtained an MBA (Summa Cum Laude) from Lausanne in 1993 and holds both British and Swiss nationalities. Jan is a passionate Polo player.

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Bruno Bertucci

Bruno is the Co-Founder/Owner and Managing Partner of B&F Partners Limited (2013 to present). He currently serves in the Boards of B&F Partners Limited and UIB (DIFC) Limited.

Before setting up B&F Partners, he was the GM & SEO of the Middle East Regional Office (DIFC) and the COO MENA Region of Assicurazioni Generali, one of the largest international insurance groups (2007-2012). Prior to this (1999-2007) he was Divisional Director of the Generali UK Branch in London and held various positions at the Generali Head Quarter in Italy (1987-1999).

Bruno has a strong managerial & legal background with more than 30 years of experience in International Insurance and Reinsurance with a special focus on Aviation and Space Insurance and in the Financial Sector as a whole. During his years at Generali he developed an extensive experience in corporate strategic planning, budgeting, risk management and business development. He was a speaker in many aviation and space conferences, published various articles in the field of Aviation and Space Law, he was a Faculty and Lecturer in the Aviation and Space Master programme at the Universities of Modena and Udine (1995-2000).

He was a member of the Emirates Insurance Association High Technical Committee (2010-2011) and the Chairman of the EIA Life & Medical Technical Sub-Committee (20102012). Chaired the Legal & Claims SG of (2005-2006) of the IUAI - International Union of Aviation Insurers, was a Member of the Air Law Committee and Commission on Transports of the ICC, in Paris (1992-2007) and an International Associate of the American Bar Association since 1993.

Bruno holds a Law Degree with Honors and a Specialization Degree in Business Administration. He is a Certified Director of Mudara IOD.

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Suresh Vaidhyanathan

Suresh Vaidhyanathan is one of the region's accomplished C-suite leaders with an experience of 25+ years with multi-business organizations including large family groups and public private partnerships.

Over the years, Suresh has extensively worked across diversified industry verticals including: Food | Automotive | Hospitality | Agri-business| Logistics | Retail | Healthcare | Aviation | Real Estate | Agri-business | Manufacturing | Technology| Services.

Suresh has an excellent professional standing in the region and was listed amongst Forbes 2024 and 2023 Top 100 CEOs in the Middle East. He was included in the Arabian Business Dubai 100 Power List, Entrepreneur Power 100, 2024 Indian Aces in the Middle East.

Earlier as CFO, he was amongst the Forbes List of Top 10 Indian CFOs in the Middle East in 2019 and the Top 20 CFOs in the GCC 2021 (Khaleej Times NAFA List).

He is an alumnus of the Leading Digital Business Transformation program at IMD Business School and is certified in Blockchain Technologies and Artificial Intelligence at MIT Sloan School of Management. He completed the M&A program at University of Chicago Booth School of Business and in addition to programs in governance and investing at Harvard, INSEAD and Wharton.

Suresh is also an alumnus of the Oxford Leading Sustainable Corporations Program.

On the governance front, Suresh is a Member of GCC Board Directors Institute, Certified Board Director with IOD Hawkamah, UAE, Fellow Member of IOD, India and was recognized as a 2012 Board Leadership Fellow NACD, USA. He is also a charter member of the Harvard Business Club of the GCC.

He has been a resident of the GCC for more than 25 years and is a prominent speaker at regional conferences.

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Colin MacDonald

Colin has 30+ years of wide-ranging financial services experience from Retail through to Private banking, Insurance, Corporate and Investment Banking with transformation and restructuring a theme throughout his career.

He has in-depth Middle East knowledge, including being permanently based in the region for the last 16 years; with executive roles in a number of GCC countries including UAE and KSA.

Prior to setting up his own successful advisory business he has held a number of leadership roles as Deputy CEO of a large GCC bank , Group CEO of a leading Investment Bank and MD, Regional Head of a large full service international bank. All of these leadership roles entailed significant restructuring, change and transformation.

He has held several Board positions during his various roles and holds the Professional Directors diploma from IOD Mudara.
Prior to this Colin held a number of leadership positions primarily in commercial and investment banking across advisory, origination, structuring and operating functions; including covering the Middle East.

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Chandra Sekaran T.S.

Chandra is a Director at the Magna ConServ Ltd, U.K.

Prior, he worked as Director of Training and Consultancy with Finsight Media Pvt. Ltd., India and was the publisher of its flagship monthly Journal “Compliance, Risk and Opportunity”. He is also a founder partner of “Finsight Intelligence”, which is in the business of providing custom publishing services, market research reports, rendering consultancy services, organizing training programmes, seminars, exhibitions, conferences and business events.

He has over 36 years of industry experience in Banking, across a wide spectrum of functions such as Audit, Operational/ IT Risk Assessment, Compliance/ AML/ KYC, Project Management, Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Planning.

He has also managed a variety of banking application projects in varying capacities across different locations in Europe, Middle East and Africa. His last banking assignment was at Bank Sohar S.A.O.G., Muscat, Oman as its Head of Compliance.

He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

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Robert Baker

Robert has over 20 years of experience in finance, accounting and M&A across numerous asset classes, industries, geographies and cultures. He has worked in senior finance leadership roles in Australia, USA, UAE and UK for KPMG, LVMH Moët Hennessey Louis Vuitton and Al-Futtaim.

Currently he provides management consulting and advisory services to a number of CIS, Middle East and Asian clients who operate across a wide range of industries including agriculture, hospitality, manufacturing, real estate and financial services. He also has considerable family office experience in managing the financial affairs of ultra-high net wealth individuals.

He is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

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Caroline Fattal Fakhoury

Caroline has joined her family's business, Khalil Fattal & Fils, first as Assistant General Manager of the Food & Beverage division, later as Chief Operating Officer of the entire group, and serves today as Senior Vice-President Corporate Functions and Board Member. Her executive responsibilities cover Human Resources, Audit, Finance, IT and Supply Chain across multiple geographies.

Throughout her career in the fast moving consumer goods industry, Caroline has held management roles in Europe, Latin America & the Middle East— learning best practices from Unilever, Kraft, Johnson & Johnson and Gillette.

Caroline combines 14 years corporate business experience with the skills of a certified professional business coach. Her experience as a Board Member of both Unilever & the family business make her aware of challenges facing shareholders, board chairs, board members and non-execs. Based on her own experience and her work with many businesses, Caroline can appreciate the complex and powerful relationship dynamics of a top management team at Executive and Boardroom level. She is a sought-after speaker and workshop facilitator on the topic of family business, and women's leadership at the board level — how to get there and how best to contribute. She is fluent in English and French and has a working knowledge of Arabic and Spanish as well.

She is a certified director of Mudara IOD.

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