

A photograph of the Doha skyline at sunset, with several skyscrapers illuminated against a warm, orange and yellow sky. The buildings are reflected in the water in the foreground. The image is overlaid with a dark purple geometric shape that frames the text.

Doha
Qatar

14TH WIEF

ECONOMIC SYNERGY : LIFTING BOUNDARIES

20 - 22 OCTOBER 2020

Sheraton Grand Doha Resort & Convention Hotel, Doha, Qatar

Overview

The combined value and collaborative performance of multiple nations or corporations, is far greater than the sum of an isolated entity, and improves economic growth exponentially. Without a doubt, united, we are strong. This factor triggers economic synergy, thus, paving the way towards steady growth which is imperative in building resilience against the backdrop of the current slowdown in the global economy.

Primary players of economic synergy are policy makers, captains of industry, professionals and every productive individual in the workforce. They must discuss the next big step towards sustainability, responsible industrialisation, future-changing innovation, durable financial system and equality. It is time to address the urgent need for new ways to deal with economic challenges and turn them into opportunities.

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE, 20 OCTOBER 2020

8.00am Registration
Arrival of guests and VIPs

9.00am **OPENING SESSION OF THE 14th WIEF**
Venue: Al Dafna Hall

10.00am **PLENARY SESSION 1**
Venue: Al Dafna Hall

5G: Transforming the Future

5G is making headlines around the world. Going wireless with 5G means faster more reliable connection. Countries such as US, Germany and China had launched their 5G services whilst other nations are in similar pursuit.

This Session explores:

- capabilities of this next-generation technology
- strategies to overcome the technological gap between developed and emerging countries
- opportunities and impact of 5G on cities, businesses and communities worldwide

11.30am **PLENARY SESSION 2**
Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Face-to-Face

12.30am **Lunch / Informal Business Networking**
Venue: TBC

2.00pm **PLENARY SESSION 3**
Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Leaders' Dialogue: Mapping a Resilient Economy

Dialogue with world Leaders on challenges of the economic system and ways to improve it to become a resilient economy that can weather recession, disruptions and be effectively sustainable.

3.30pm **PLENARY SESSION 4**
Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Economic Transformation in a Disruptive World

Resuscitation of the global economy depends on its recovery from a decelerated momentum caused by factors such as the impact of Brexit, trade disputes between the largest economies and escalation of climate hazards. It is time to drive growth above the forecasted baseline and overturn challenges into positive outcomes.

This Session explores:

- strategies to promote international trade integration, investment and climate change
- countering the impact of technological revolutions on economic recovery and expansion
- the role of industry collaborations in promoting economic growth

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE, 20 OCTOBER 2020

4.30pm

PLENARY SESSION 5

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Islamic Finance: The Next Big Step

Looked upon as a catalyst for shared prosperity and financial inclusion, the alternative finance system requires strategic approach and response to the changing requirements of the current global economic development.

The session explores:

- strategies to elevate Islamic finance to the next level
- innovative solutions to further develop Islamic banking such as virtual banking

5.30pm

Refreshments / Informal Business Networking

7.00pm

14th WIEF GALA DINNER

Venue: TBC

9.30pm

END OF DAY ONE

PROGRAMME

DAY TWO, 21 OCTOBER 2020

8.30am

BUSINESS NETWORKING BREAKFAST (BNB)

Cluster 1 Capitalising Halal Industry <i>Venue: Meeting Room 4</i>	Cluster 2 Development of Islamic Fintech <i>Venue: Meeting Room 5</i>	Cluster 3 Sukuk: Instrument of Economic Growth <i>Venue: Meeting Room 6</i>
Cluster 4 Medical Technology: Shaping the Future of Healthcare Industry <i>Venue: Meeting Room 7</i>	Cluster 5 SME: Driving the Economy <i>Venue: Meeting Room 8</i>	Cluster 6 Zakat: Socioeconomic Lifeline <i>Venue: Meeting Room 9</i>

10.00am

PANEL SESSION 1

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Industries

AI is a platform that enables unprecedented innovation to take place in every industry. Its impact is immense as it changes an industry's productivity and revenue.

This Session explores:

- impact of AI today and in the future
- industries AI impact the most and how they cope
- setting ethics, transparency and regulations in AI

MASTERCLASS 1

Venue: Salwa 1 & 2

Agrotech for Food Security

The world population is estimated to be over nine billion by 2050. Securing enough food for this number of people is a prime concern. Technological advancement gives hope as it tackles agricultural challenges to maximise food production.

This Session explores:

- the new agricultural mechanisation from technological revolution
- collaboration between tech and agricultural companies and how to build trust to create new agricultural innovations

11.00am

PANEL SESSION 2

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Sustainable Energy: Balancing Supply and Demand

The growth of renewables plays an important part in tackling climate change by contributing to lower carbon emissions. As fossil fuel loses popularity, the global population move towards sustainable energy such as solar, hydro and wind. While the world is excited with this development, planning and balancing its supply with demand could be a challenge.

This Session explores:

- strategies to encourage industries and communities to embrace sustainable energy
- opportunities for collaboration between industries
- innovation and tech development in terms of renewal energy production
- how can emerging countries leapfrog the energy transition

MASTERCLASS 2

Venue: Salwa 1 & 2

Cybersecurity and Emerging Threats: Taking Control

The unprecedented spread of technologies has created new opportunities for cybercriminals. There have been increasing reports worldwide of extensive data breaches or other elaborate cybercrimes. Hence, understanding new technologies to be undertaken by business entities would help prepare for any threats and eventualities.

The Session explores:

- the emerging cybersecurity threats and their implications
- strategies to enable businesses to be secure, vigilant, and resilient when faced with constantly evolving cyberthreats
- collaborative efforts between corporations and governments to address cybersecurity

PROGRAMME

DAY TWO, 21 OCTOBER 2020

12.00am

PANEL SESSION 3

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Revolutionising Education: Bridging the Gap

Educators face a common concern in readying students for employment. The gap between what industries need and what educational institutions provide in this age of 4IR is very wide. It is important for education systems to match industry requirements to avoid future unemployment crisis.

This session explores:

- role of education to accelerate entrepreneurial talent
- educational development to meet job market requirement
- impact of EdTech on education
- impact of gig economy

MASTERCLASS 3

Venue: Salwa 1 & 2

Business Continuity and Organisational Resilience

To ensure continuity and a more resilient business system, enterprises should be ready and well prepared to deal with spontaneous downtime. A proactive and reactive business continuity plan is vital to prevent business interruptions when facing unpredictable circumstances.

This session explores:

- business strategy on prevention of, and recovery from, a challenging period
- staying in business, protecting investments and being ready for an economic slowdown
- business succession

1.00pm

LUNCH / INFORMAL NETWORKING

Venue: TBC

2.00pm

PANEL SESSION 4

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Contemporary Changemakers: Making a Difference

Startups have come a long way. Today, startups evolve into unicorns at almost breakneck speed. Understanding the secret to their success may well be the key to elevating youth entrepreneurship that can help address unemployment amongst them.

This Session explores:

- ways to further develop the potential of young entrepreneurs
- development of entrepreneurial mindset
- identify new ventures and understand market gap

MASTERCLASS 4

Venue: Salwa 1 & 2

Business Opportunities of E-Sports

E-sports has evolved to become a multibillion-dollar industry and is challenging the big traditional sports leagues in terms of business prospects.

This Session explores:

- what business leaders should know about E-sports and future business opportunities of the industry
- why it is more beneficial to invest and advertise in E-sports

PROGRAMME

DAY TWO, 21 OCTOBER 2020

3.00pm

PANEL SESSION 5

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Mobility Beyond Transportation

Automakers are shifting from car company to mobility company. Toyota had already announced its brand shift from vehicles to overall mobility, whilst few other brands are following in its wake.

This Session explores:

- impact of mobility to the automotive industry
- the development of sustainable and green mobility to align the industry with climate and urban development
- role of governments in promoting sustainable mobility on sea, land and air

MASTERCLASS 5

Venue: Salwa 1 & 2

Globalising Business Opportunities

Globalization and technology have transformed business and economic landscape as well as melted national boundaries. To thrive in a challenging business environment, entrepreneurs must be agile and adopt strategies to enhance their competitive advantage.

This Session explores:

- entrepreneurial abilities, skills, competencies and perspectives that are essential for success
- strategies to address challenges and take advantage of new business opportunities
- synergistic partnership and linkages necessary to conduct business both locally and internationally

4.00pm

PANEL SESSION 6

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

The Rise of Neo Banks: The New Norm

The global banking industry is undergoing massive changes. New technologies and millennial generation consumers are influencing the traditional banking models. Digital banking is a key product of this change, which would ultimately heighten rivalry in an already competitive industry.

This Session explores:

- roles of big techs, fintechs and other players in shaping the industry
- framework and governance issues of digital banking
- impact on consumers, businesses and traditional financial institutions

MASTERCLASS 6

Venue: Salwa 1 & 2

Startups: Recognising Business Opportunities

Startups play a significant role in economic growth by creating more jobs and battling unemployment. They also contribute to economic dynamism by stirring innovation and generate competition.

This Session explores:

- the top killer business ideas of the future
- the kind of supports required for startups to succeed in growing their businesses
- the role of Governments in developing startup ecosystems for new markets creation
- best practices to nurture collaborations between corporates and startups

5.00pm

REFRESHMENTS / INFORMAL NETWORKING

8.00pm

MOCAFest Soundscape Concert

Venue: Al Majlis Auditorium

10.00pm

END OF DAY TWO

PROGRAMME

DAY THREE, 22 OCTOBER 2020

9.00am

THINKTALK on 'Are You Future Ready?'

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Companies must be future ready or prepare to fail. They should be agile in terms of mapping out business strategies and take advantage of disruptions. Listen to the ThinkTalk speaker's views as well as experiences in successfully harnessing the potential of emerging opportunities and new approaches that has set them apart from the rest.

9.30am

PLENARY SESSION 6

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Leveraging Islamic Social Finance for Aid and Development

Islamic Social Financing is a CSR initiative by Islamic Financial Institutions and corporations. Islamic social finance tools such as Zakat, Sadaqah and Waqf have the potential to help deliver much-needed financing for the humanitarian challenges and development.

This Session explores:

- how Islamic social finance can be mobilized to address humanitarian challenges and development
- how technology can be employed to ensure a more targeted and effective programmes to address various socio-economic development challenges
- examples of successful innovative and sustainable socioeconomic programmes that uses Islamic social finance to help effectively support UN SDGs

11.00am

PLENARY SESSION 7

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

Spotlight: Qatar

A global business and financial hub due to its central geographic location and robust economy, Qatar is one of the leading business and financial centres. Several initiatives have been identified to further develop Qatar's growth potential.

This session explores:

- the opportunities for entrepreneurs to partake in Qatar's economic growth
- the areas of interest for foreign investments as well as the framework and incentives for investors

12.30pm

CLOSING SESSION OF 14th WIEF

Venue: Al Dafna Hall

1.00pm

END OF 14th WIEF

Lunch / Informal Networking

Venue: TBC

PROGRAMME

20 - 22 OCTOBER 2020

WIEF EXHIBITION

Venue: TBC
20-22 October 2020

MOCAFest

Venue: Al Majlis Auditorium
20-22 October 2020

MOCAFest Soundscape, Film Screening, Visual Arts, Souq, Workshops and Dialogues

Complementary Programme 1 and 2

Venue: Dukhan and Salwa 3
21st October 2020

DISCLAIMER / NOTES:

- The Organisers reserve the right to alter the content and timing of the programme without prior notice, in the best interest of the Conference and is not responsible for cancellations due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Programme as of 12 February 2020