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GTR SAUDI ARABIA 2023 RIYADH

#GTRSaudiArabia

Fairmont Hotel, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
May 9, 2023

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GTR is excited to be returning to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in May 2023 to host a special one-day event focused on the many exciting developments within the Saudi trade and export markets.

Having welcomed over 300 to the inaugural event in 2022, the conference will build on this and GTR's wider footprint across the GCC, enjoying the highest level of support from the trade and banking community.

The event provides the opportunity to benefit from critical market insights and idea-sharing through a series of interactive and informative sessions, whilst unrivalled networking – including a full exhibition – offers the chance to connect with the full spectrum of companies involved in Saudi Arabian trade.

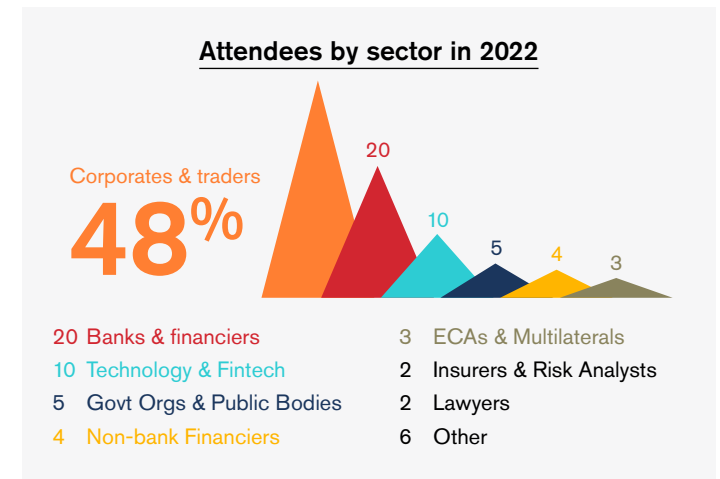
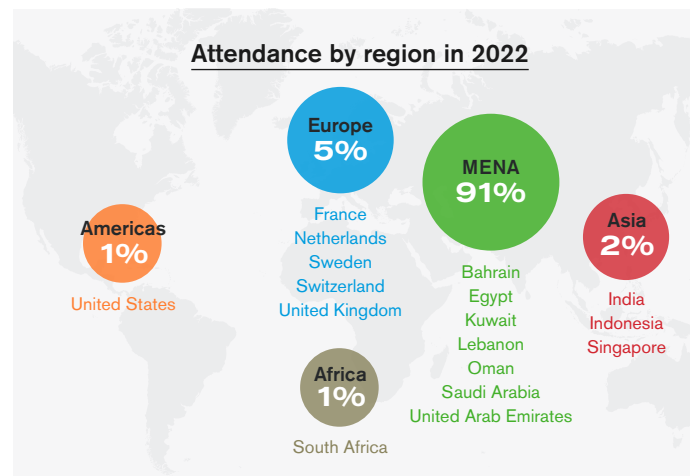
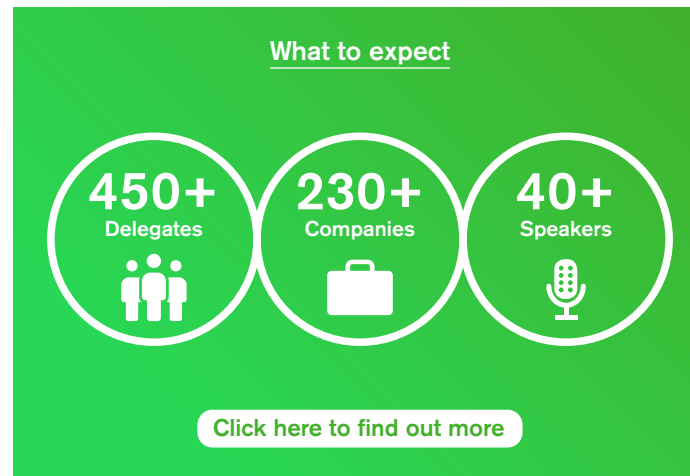
We look forward to returning to Riyadh in May 2023!

“Excellent event – we found it to be useful, informative and well attended, thank you to GTR!”

T Holmes, Miller Insurance Services

**Fairmont Hotel, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Marassem Ballroom**

May 9, 2023



Find out more

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Tuesday 9 May, 2023 Morning

08.00-09.00

Registration and networking

09.00-09.05

Welcome from GTR followed by chair's opening remarks

Farrukh Siddiqui, Founding Partner, Emerging Capital Management Partners

09.05-09.20

Keynote: Creating the right environment for business

Saudi Arabia's impressive economic growth, reflected in its status as the fastest growth market in a region forecasted to grow by 7% over the next year – firmly bucking global trends – has seen the Kingdom become a magnet for international and regional businesses to establish a presence on the ground, with Riyadh aiming to be one of the top 10 city economies globally by 2030, also driven by its youthful demographics, with over two-thirds of its population under the age of 35.

This opening address will focus on the crucial importance of establishing a competitive business ecosystem, bringing out the best ideas to move forward and building cooperation across a range of sectors and organisation to foster a culture of creativity and innovation, from accelerating public-private partnerships to developing the right environment for foreign businesses and international contractors to collaborate and participate in large-scale infrastructure and development projects, particularly those within the thriving green economy.

Gautam Sashittal, Chief Executive Officer, King Abdullah Financial District (KAFFD)

09.20-10.00

Fireside chat: Collaboration for growth

How successfully Saudi Arabia transitions from a primarily oil-based economy to a more diversified economic model is dependent on achieving strong collaboration across a range of sectors and institutions, in line with the ambitious objectives of Saudi Vision 2030, from the importance of creating a thriving entrepreneurial culture, to the need to foster diversity and inclusion within the business landscape, to greater focus on the central role ESG and sustainability will play in the Saudi success story going forward.

This high-level opening session will bring a range of senior leaders and trade experts together to assess the various challenges and opportunities, including:

- The role of digitisation in increasing trade cooperation, from digital platforms to regulatory harmonisation, creating connections hubs between supply and demand
- Establishing and improving performance to consolidate the country's position as a strategic global shipping and logistics hub in line with the objectives of Saudi Vision 2030
- Investing in human capital through the targeting of core industry sectors, offering a comprehensive portfolio of training programmes including specialised professional certificates and qualifications
- Empowering women through increased female participation in business, reshaping the economic, social and cultural landscape for a more inclusive society
- Speeding up the Kingdom's economic diversification plans through increased financial support for SMEs in particular, in line with the socioeconomic goals of Vision 2030

Osama Bukhari, CEO, Al-Faris International Group; Head of the Banking Committee, ICC Saudi Arabia

Dr Abdullah Alabdulkarim, Executive Director, Saudi Logistics Academy

Sulafah Jabarti, CEO & Co-Founder, ClearVision; Board Member, ICC Saudi Arabia

10.00-10.45

Beyond oil – expanding the remit of the Saudi private sector

Saudi Arabia very much leads the way in the region's bucking of global economic growth trends, due to a combination of factors including increased oil and gas revenues and the huge expenditure committed to expanding the growth of non-oil sectors. Whereas previously most longer-term financial activities within the Saudi market have focused on large scale oil and gas, various elements of the Saudi supply chain require extended terms and tenors, from the supply of cabling and other metal products to the transport sector to the various other mega-infrastructure projects.

This session will bring borrowers and financiers together to discuss the significance of this, from mega-projects such as Neom to investment in railway networks to the opportunities provided by the renewables market, amid greater global focus on clean energy and reduced emissions and the opportunity to supply to the likes of solar plans and wind farms, as well as the region's developing role as a hub for hydrogen production. The conversation will also focus on which forms of finance are preferred in the current economic climate, from interest rate hikes and the need to 'fix' to greater demand in the use of ECA financing.

Moderator: Syed Hassan Javed, Head of Trade Finance, Gulf International Bank (GIB)

Muhammad Salman Akbar, Head of Group Capital Management, stc

Arif Choksy, Chief Financial Officer, Bahra Cables

Irfan Khan, CFO, Global Joint Ventures, General Electric International

Ali Najim Alkhamis, Head of Trade & Supply Chain, Banque Saudi Fransi

Michelle Leong, Country Head for Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain & Jordan, UK Export Finance

10.45-11.15 Networking break

“The event provides an excellent opportunity for networking and get a feel of the latest products and solutions. Thank you!”

S Das, Standard Chartered

“It's my pleasure to attend this event and to meet attendees and speakers with huge experience.”

M Abdullah, Yanbu Cement Company

“Great meetings and discussion from different experts.”

O Alzahrani, Yanbu Cement Company

Tuesday 9 May, 2023 Stream A

Select either [Stream A](#) or [Stream B](#)

Stream A

11.15-12.00

Building the necessary framework for trade

This session will provide the opportunity to hear perspectives on the business landscape across Saudi Arabia, as the Kingdom seeks to continue opening up its financial and business sectors in line with the objectives of Vision 2030, with access to financing for SMEs in particular deemed crucial for corporates in light of increased interest rates and growing inflation.

Points for discussion will include increased collaboration between banks and fintechs, advancements across the legal and regulatory regime to achieve guidelines and develop technical standards based on international best practice, how the government is supporting and developing digital solutions from exploring blockchain solutions to establishing registry systems, as well as how receivables financing and the use of factoring in particular has continued to grow as a financing tool.

Moderator: [Farrukh Siddiqui](#), Founding Partner, Emerging Capital Management Partners

Arup Roy, Head of Global Transaction Solutions, Banque Saudi Fransi

Rafiq Jaffer, Partner, Al Tamimi & Company

Betül Kurtulus, Regional Director, Central, Eastern & South-Eastern Europe & the Middle East, FCI

Ahmed Madkour, Middle East Claims & Recovery Director, Recovery Advisers

12.00-12.45

Turbocharging the Saudi economy through fintech

As the global fintech market starts to mature following the initial excitement over its potential, and with more focus placed on what is and isn't working, what can be scaled and grown and what can't, Saudi Arabia is 'right on track' to achieve its objectives in digitising the country's economy, with the government having done much to stimulate the financial technology ecosystem, developing relationships with some of the biggest financial and technology players in the region.

This session will consider these developments in both a Saudi and a global context, reflecting on the challenges and opportunities across a range of financial provisions and business models, from achieving scale to funding for early and mid-stage fintech, targeting the right client segment, the regulatory environment and support for the regulatory process, as well as the conversation around sustainability as the market transitions from fintech 1.0 to 2.0.

Moderator: [Sean Bowey](#), Head of Products, Global Trade & Receivables Finance, SABB

Huny Garg, Executive Director & Country Head, KSA & Bahrain, Swift

Raja Debnath, Co-Founder, Veefin Solutions

Carlos Teixeira, Global Industry Principal, Finastra

Viacheslav Oganezov, Co-Founder & CEO, Finverity

12.45-13.30

Adopting a measured approach to sustainability

With economic diversification at the heart of Saudi's future growth plans, the process of energy transition offers the chance to build a safer and more sustainable energy system, reducing exposure to fuel price volatility, with clean energy a key component both on the pathway to honouring net zero commitments and in terms of maintaining energy security.

Set against the backdrop of oil and gas revenues that have fuelled impressive economic growth in the Kingdom, this lively and engaged discussion will consider a range of talking points, from growing the amount of ESG-compliant lending banks are able to undertake to the need for financiers to work with regulators and government to develop the right framework for determining ESG compliance, the role of education and learning best practice from other parts of the world, as well as the importance of financing new technologies to aid in the transition process. The conversation will also focus on the significance of ratings when it comes to measuring ESG in trade.

Moderator: [Hicham El Khaoudy](#), Managing Director & Head of Global Transaction Banking MEA, First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)

Loic Morel, Head of Trade Finance, Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation (APICORP)

Motasim Iqbal, Managing Director, Regional Head Transaction Banking Sales, Africa Middle East, Standard Chartered Bank

13.30 Close of morning sessions

"I enjoyed the event and learned a lot of new things! Great speakers and I got to meet new people from banks and corporates."

I A Zahrani, El Ajou Group

"Thanks for GTR Saudi Arabia 2022 in Riyadh. Great speakers, fruitful networking and interesting scope of topics discussed. Can't wait to assist the 2023 conference!"

L Morel, APICORP

Tuesday 9 May, 2023 Stream B

Select either [Stream A](#) or [Stream B](#)

Stream B

11.15-12.05

Supply chain finance and reinforcing the value chain

Supply chains are placed firmly at the heart of Saudi's ambitious economic diversification and transformation plans, as the Kingdom seeks to develop industrial value chains to help in local production and achieve greater levels of financial inclusion, aligning local Saudi supply chains with regional and global supply chains, with the purpose of integrating SMEs into large strategic industries in line with the objectives of Saudi Vision 2030.

With working capital often the central priority for large companies and smaller suppliers alike, the development of supply chain finance as a proposition has grown significantly across the Saudi market, with benefits highlighted including accelerated cash flow, faster payment times and reduced costs and inefficiencies. This discussion will consider this evolving market, from the significance of increased collaboration between banks and fintechs and benefits to the role of innovative solutions in growing value, to the potential for incorporating ESG principles into SCF, with preferential rates for suppliers who demonstrate strong or improved sustainability performance.

Anjum Noman Mirza, Head of Trade Finance, Saudi National Bank

Syed Khurruam Zaeem, Managing Director, Head of Trade, Working Capital & Transaction Banking, Africa Middle East, Standard Chartered Bank

Ian Armstrong, Senior Vice-President Origination, Benteler Trading International UK

Sumeet Khutale, Founder, Lamaa

12.25-12.45

Boosting food security and protecting supply

Another key pillar of Vision 2030, Saudi Arabia has led the way in global efforts to ensure food supply chains remain uninterrupted following the various challenges brought about by both the pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine, with commitments pledged to ensure the continued flow of food product and agriculture production inputs as a means of tackling excessive food price volatility.

This special 'fireside chat' will focus on the Kingdom's efforts to boost food and agriculture outputs, from efforts by the Saudi Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) in pledging funds and setting up programmes to boost security and production to strengthening trade lines and promoting opportunities for local producers in the sourcing of meat and dairy products to ensure a steady stream of fresh produce and reduce dependence on exports.

Bruno Massera, Chief Financial Officer, Middle East, BRF & **Costantino Scozzafava**, Chief Commercial Director, MMEA, *Allianz Trade in conversation with Chandranath Bhattacharya*, Head of Transaction Banking, KSA, Corporate & Institutional Banking, Emirates NBD

12.45-13.30

'Treasury 101' – key fundamentals for the corporate treasurer

The Association of Corporate Treasurers' 'Treasury Network Middle East' – made up of over 4,500 treasury and finance professionals from a range of corporate and financial institutions from across the GCC including Aldar Properties, Rothschild, Saudi Aramco, DP World, EGA, Chalhoub Group, NBAD, Zahid Tractor and Heavy Machinery Company, Omantel, Kingdom Hotel Investments, OCTAL Petrochemicals and many more – is committed to the development and sharing of treasury knowledge and expertise in the region, providing extensive networking opportunities and continuous professional development through training and professional qualifications.

This instructive session, with a focus on ACT corporate treasury members, will look to provide insights into best practices for treasurers, within both a Saudi and a wider regional context. We will hear what experienced treasurers are focusing on in the region, as well as listen to the bigger picture, from an experienced advisor. The session will cover off the key competencies needed to be a strong corporate treasurer, and how to achieve them, and look at what the blockers are and how to overcome them.

Moderator: Caroline Stockmann, Chief Executive, Association of Corporate Treasurers (ACT)

Daniel Tromans, Vice-President, Treasury, Riyadh Air

James Adams, Group Treasurer, Chalhoub Group

Moussa Soukal, Managing Partner, Treasury Advisory Partners

13.30 Close of morning sessions

“The 2022 GTR KSA event was well timed and successfully brought together all trade finance stakeholders under one roof. Both the quality of the speakers and the agenda were outstanding, highlighting and the important role trade finance plays in complementing KSA 2030 vision.”

H A Maskati, Cash Management Matters

“I enjoyed the event and learned a lot of new things! Great speakers and I got to meet new people from banks and corporates.”

I A Zahrani, El Ajou Group

Tuesday 9 May, 2023 Afternoon

13.30-14.00

GTR Saudi Arabia Leaders in Trade Awards Ceremony

The GTR Saudi Arabia Leaders in Trade 2023 will be held for the first time as part of GTR Saudi Arabia 2023. These awards highlight excellence in the Saudi trade market across a range of sectors, with the winning submission for each category decided by the GTR team, drawing on the extensive knowledge and experience of its editorial board. A shortlist will be announced for each category and communicated to the market beforehand.

Categories include:

- Best local Saudi bank
- Best international bank
- Supply chain excellence
- Sustainability in trade
- Award for digital innovation
- Islamic finance in trade
- Achieving export growth
- Best alternative provider

14.00-15.30

Corporate treasury roundtable

This special 'invitation-only' roundtable will be taking place under the auspices of the Association of Corporate Treasurers, addressing the top themes and challenges faced by treasurers and the broader corporate sector within both the Saudi and wider global markets today. The roundtable will follow Chatham House rules, i.e. nothing will be related outside the meeting with reference to a particular individual, allowing for open and frank discussion among peers. We will check in again with treasurers to understand the particular challenges they are facing, and also what opportunities they see, as fast change is happening all over the country. We will also continue the discussion as to how GTR and the ACT can support Saudi treasurers better, and hopefully start to fix some dates in the calendar!

Seminar:

Fundamentals of factoring and open account receivables finance in KSA – A roadmap to development

15.00-16.00

Understanding of factoring and reverse factoring

- What is factoring and why are open accounts receivables finance solutions becoming more important?
- Factoring and invoice finance variations, factoring versus loans, reverse factoring and FCI-reverse solutions
- Factoring as an alternative financing solution for SMEs, advantages and comparisons with other forms of short-term financing for trade
- Benefits of factoring to buyers and sellers (MSMEs, large corporates and financial institutions)

Spyros Tsolis, Deputy Education Director, FCI

16.00-16.15

The roadmap to development of a factoring market in an emerging country

- Global factoring industry trends
- Regulatory and digital infrastructure

Betül Kurtulus, Regional Director, Central, Eastern & South-Eastern Europe & the Middle East, FCI

16.15-16.30

Q&A followed by concluding remarks

14.00-15.00 Networking lunch

16.30 Close of event

Networking Break Sponsor



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An invoice will be issued to the email address provided, payment can be made via a bank transfer or credit card, a payment link will be provided.

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