Saudi Green Initiative Forum

11-12 NOVEMBER 2022
PROGRAM
Updated 12 November
THE STATE OF THE PLANET

WELCOME REMARKS:
Eithne Treanor, Master of Ceremony

09:30-09:35

Fireside Chat

SGI ONE YEAR ON: WHERE DO WE STAND?
It’s been one year since SGI 2021 when Saudi Arabia announced a number of major initiatives to mitigate the effects of climate change and improve biodiversity. What has been achieved – and what’s still to be done? Saudi Arabia’s Minister of Energy will discuss the progress to date, the challenges, and the partnerships they’re building to address them.

09:35-09:55

Speaker:
H.R.H. Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Minister of Energy, Saudi Arabia

Moderators:
Jarad Daniels, CEO, CCS Institute
Dr. Angela Wilkinson, Secretary General and CEO, World Energy Council

Panel

THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION AT THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS - THE EXPERIENCE OF SAUDI ARABIA
It’s been one year since SGI 2021 when Saudi Arabia announced a number of major initiatives to mitigate the effects of climate change and improve biodiversity. What has been achieved – and what’s still to be done? This panel between Saudi Arabia’s Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture and environment officials will discuss the progress to date, the challenges, and the partnerships being built to address them.

09:55-10:20

Speakers:
H.E. Eng. Abdulrahman AlFadley, Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Saudi Arabia
Dr. Osama Faeqeha, Deputy Minister for Environment, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Saudi Arabia
Muneer AlSahli, CEO, Environment Fund, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Frank Kane
Fireside Chats

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM - PROTECTING NATURAL TREASURES

This session will explore what the power of tourism for good means from the policy, development and operations perspective and investigate the lessons learnt to date. What are the operational implications of ecotourism, and what solutions are being tested? The speakers will also share their thoughts on how we make eco-friendliness part of the tourism attraction, going beyond the ambition of not being harmful to the natural environment to actively enhancing and regenerating it.

- What is the role of eco-tourism in biodiversity and land protection?
- How is the Kingdom being eco-conscious in its tourism development plans?
- What does sustainable tourism mean, particularly those living in local communities, and the wider economy?
- What are the lessons to share from this ‘legacy-free’ approach when creating an eco-friendly tourism offer?

Fireside Chat 1: Speakers – Government/Institutional Perspective

H.E. Ahmed Aqil Al Khateeb, Minister of Tourism, Saudi Arabia

H.E. Felipe Calderón, Honorary Chairman, Global Commission on the Economy and Climate & Former President of the United Mexican States

Fireside Chat 2: Speaker – Private Sector Perspective

John Pagano, Group CEO, Red Sea Global, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:

Sarah Cocker
Transitioning to clean energy is a planned, staged process that requires investment, sufficient availability of alternative supplies of a credible energy source and a contingency plan. Decarbonizing oil and gas and developing Carbon Capture Storage technology is a core component, as is a continued focus on and investment in research and development into reducing the carbon footprint of hydrocarbons as well as increasing their efficiency. Specifically, what is the role of blue hydrogen in this process, and what is its long(er)-term role?

- Energy security – the role of the oil and gas industry
- Is blue and green hydrogen the silver bullet?
- How can CCUS be scaled up?

Speaker:
Amin Nasser, President and CEO, Saudi Aramco, Saudi Arabia
Patrick Pouyanné, Chairman of the Board and CEO, TotalEnergies, France

Moderator:
Eithne Treanor
Panel

**OPTIMIZING FOR NET-ZERO: KEY LEVERS OF ACTION**

Achieving net-zero in time to avoid runaway climate change requires action on multiple fronts simultaneously, including technology innovation, building new energy ecosystems, and enabling hundreds of thousands of smaller steps, involving place-based communities, cities and regions. Technological initiatives – such as sustainable emissions management technology, the deployment of renewable energy sources, carbon capture technologies (their impact will vary depending on the energy mix of the grid) require social license to effectively scale. Energy literacy and societal transformation are key in improving energy efficiency and changing consumer behavior. This panel discussion, featuring a mix of public and private actors, will explore the key technological and societal levers for accelerating transitions to net zero, and how Saudi Arabia is working on deploying them to achieve net-zero by 2060, through the Circular Carbon Economy approach.

- What are some of the most important levers to achieving a net-zero transition?
- What determines which model of clean and just/technology transition pathways go to scale?
- Saudi Arabia announced its goal to achieve net-zero by 2060. What are its key milestones towards that goal and what progress has been made so far?
- We hear a lot about government and industry. How can we build the wider energy innovation ecosystem and activate the role of customers and communities?

**Introductory Keynote:** Mohammed Albrahim, Assistant Minister for Oil & Gas, Ministry of Energy, Saudi Arabia

**Speakers:**
- Abdulrahman Al-Fageeh, Acting CEO, SABIC, Saudi Arabia
- Eng. Fahad Alajlan, President, KAPSARC, Saudi Arabia
- Jarad Daniels, CEO, CCS Institute
- Dr. Jennifer Holmgren, CEO, LanzaTech, United States
- Lorenzo Simonelli, Chairman & CEO, Baker Hughes, United States
- Lord Adair Turner, Chair, Energy Transitions Commission

**Moderator:**
- Dr. Angela Wilkinson, Secretary General and CEO, World Energy Council
Fireside Chats

CRITICAL MINERALS: A CRITICAL ISSUE

Minerals critical to the energy transition are expected to play a major role in driving minerals demand over the coming decades. Yet many are not being produced at the scale and speed necessary to deliver the transition in time. According to the IEA, for instance, production from existing and planned mines will only meet half of the lithium and cobalt needed by 2030 to achieve the targets set out in the Paris Agreement. With exploration, development and operating costs that are low relative to industry standards and a strong proximity to end-markets, the Saudi Arabia mining market is well positioned in this new race. This fireside chat with Saudi Arabia’s Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources will explore the opportunity associated with the clean energy transition, the role Saudi Arabia intends to play in it, and the efforts to build international collaboration to increase supply of the critical minerals.

- How have supply chain disruptions and geopolitics affected the mineral landscape?
- What is the role of international cooperation in ensuring the sustainable supply of critical minerals?
- What is Saudi Arabia’s vision for its role in supplying critical minerals?

Fireside Chat 1 - Government Perspective – Speaker:
H.E. Bandar Alkhorayef, Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources, Saudi Arabia

Fireside Chat 1 - Private Sector Perspective- Speaker:
Robert Wilt, CEO, Ma’aden, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Tumi Makgabo
Panel

THE CLEAN HYDROGEN REVOLUTION: IS NOW THE TIME?

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) anticipates that clean hydrogen could meet up to 12% of energy demand by 2050. Clean hydrogen is a new promising source with many applications in hard-to-abate sectors and especially attractive since it’s produced from low emission energy sources. Countries adopting Circular Carbon Economy approaches and with the space and climate for solar or wind farms will be primed to lead in hydrogen production. This panel discussion will explore the latest trends in the hydrogen market, Saudi Arabia’s vision for the sector, and how a global market for hydrogen would redefine global energy trade.

- Where are the trends shaping the hydrogen market today? Where are the most attractive investment opportunities?
- Saudi Arabia has the ambitious goal of becoming one of the world’s top suppliers of hydrogen. What steps is it taking in securing its position as market leader?
- How would a global market for hydrogen reshape the global energy landscape?
- International standards in the hydrogen trade are a major hurdle. How can international cooperation be encouraged and what role can Saudi Arabia play in that regard?

Speakers:
Dr. Zeid Al-Ghareeb, General Director, Hydrogen and Circular Carbon Economy National Program, Saudi Arabia
David R. Edmondson, CEO, NEOM Green Hydrogen Company (NGHC), Saudi Arabia
Brian Maxwell, CEO, Green Hydrogen International, United States
Jonas Moberg, CEO, Green Hydrogen Organisation (GH2)
Sumant Sinha, Chairman & CEO, ReNew Energy Global, India

Moderator:
Eithne Treanor

13:00-14:30  LUNCH & NETWORKING
There’s already one innovation on the market making a dent on climate change; nature’s own carbon capture system – trees. In addition to capturing carbon, they also combat desertification and help restore biodiversity. Last year, Saudi Arabia announced the goal to plant 10 billion trees in the country, and an ambition to help plant 50 billion trees in the region. This panel discussion will examine the status of Saudi Arabia’s ambitious greening goals, while also hearing from other experts in the field on how to best achieve long-term success.

- What progress has been made in Saudi Arabia’s plans to plant 10 billion trees across the country?
- How are other countries around the world approaching afforestation/reforestation projects? What best practices can be shared, especially in the Middle East?
- What’s the role of the local population in afforestation and reforestation efforts?
- The role of artificial seeding in developing vegetation cover and enhancing vegetation cover in arid areas

Dr. Khaled Alabulqader, CEO, National Center for Vegetation Development and Combating Desertification, Saudi Arabia
Shahid Rashid Awan, Chief Conservator of Forest, Punjab Forest Department, Pakistan
Dr. Ayman S. Ghulam, CEO, National Center for Meteorology, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Sarah Cocker
CITIES LEADING THE WAY WITH URBAN GREENING

With more than half the global population residing in urban areas, creating more sustainable cities has become an imperative. Cities around the world – as diverse as New York, Barcelona, Mexico City, and Riyadh – have embarked on extensive greening programs. Planting trees and increasing green space can help lower city temperatures, increase air quality, and improve citizens’ well-being.

• What special considerations must be taken into account when greening urban areas versus rural?
• How can city leaders work with private companies and non-profits to implement greening programs?
• How can cities partner with one another to increase collaboration and share best practices?

Speakers:
H.E. Majed bin Abdullah Al Hogail, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Housing, Saudi Arabia
William McDonough, Chief Executive, McDonough Innovation, United States
Carlo Ratti, Director MIT Senseable City Lab, United States

Moderator:
Tumi Makgabo
A report released ahead of COP15 in Kunming reveals that biodiversity is declining faster than at any time in human history, with a 70% average reduction in the populations of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians since 1970. Countries like Saudi Arabia have announced ambitious plans to protect even more land and ensure local fauna and flora thrive, but challenges abound. This panel discussion will examine what Saudi Arabia and other countries have done to promote biodiversity.

- What progress has Saudi Arabia made in its pledge to designate 30% of its land and sea as protected?
- What are the plans for the next stage of implementation?
- What challenges have other countries faced when expanding the amount of protected land? How have they been overcome?
- How are governments balancing the need to conserve local flora and fauna, with the need to use the land to drive economic growth? How can these two aspects complement one another?
- What are the opportunities for private companies and investors to support land protection and increase biodiversity?

Speakers:
- H.E. Dr. Muhammad Ali Qurban, CEO, National Center for Wildlife, Saudi Arabia
- Stephen Browne, Wildlife Conservation Leader, National Center for Wildlife, Saudi Arabia
- Stewart Maginnis, Deputy Director General Programme, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Moderator:
- Sarah Cocker
Keynote
NEOM: BUILDING A NATURE-POSITIVE CITY
Starting from a blank canvas is a unique opportunity to redefine urban planning and its contribution to the biosphere. The NEOM project is one of the world’s leading examples in that regard. This fireside chat will delve into the details of NEOM’s strategy and how it is working to build a nature-positive city.

Speaker:
Nadhmi AlNasr, CEO, NEOM, Saudi Arabia

Fireside Chat
INVESTING IN THE GREEN TRANSITION- AN INVESTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Speaker:
Raymond T. Dalio, Founder, CIO Mentor and Member of the Board, Bridgewater Associates, LP, United States (virtual)

Moderator:
Tumi Makgabo
Panel

POWERING THE BLUE ECONOMY

The UN estimates the ‘Blue Economy’ – the use of the ocean for economic growth and livelihood – is worth $3 to $6 billion dollars a year. Yet, rising ocean temperatures have severely impacted species and ecosystems, causing coral bleaching and the loss of breeding grounds for fish and mammals. Among those precious ecosystems is the Red Sea, which includes some of the world’s most heat resistant corals. This session will bring together experts to discuss what Saudi Arabia is doing to protect the Red Sea and how investors can tap into the Blue Economy.

- What are some of the most effective ways to kickstart a blue economy?
- Which projects are ripe for more corporate investment? Where should the money go?
- What is Saudi’s vision for the protection of the Red Sea? How can investors and companies contribute to that effort?
- How can more international cooperation be encouraged to protect coastal ecosystems?

Introductory Keynote: Dr. Abdullah Tawlah, Minister Plenipotentiary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Saudi Arabia

Speakers:
Dr. Khaled Asfahani, CEO, General Organization for the Conservation of Coral Reefs and Turtles in the Red Sea, Saudi Arabia
Prof. Carlos Duarte, Distinguished Professor, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Sarah Cocker
Panel UNLEASHING SUSTAINABLE FINANCE AND INVESTMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST: OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD OF COP27 AND COP28
Long viewed to be lagging, interest in sustainable finance in the Middle East is growing. A recent HSBC survey of investors in the Middle East found that 41% intend to pursue firm-wide policies on responsible investing, the highest of any region. This session with major financial institutions will explore the trends shaping sustainable finance in the Middle East and the opportunities to scale up the mobilization of sustainable capital for the transition, especially in the light of the upcoming COP summits, both being held in the Middle East.

• What is the state of sustainable finance in the Middle East? Which have been the most promising markets and products?
• What are some of the barriers to deployment of sustainable capital in the region? And how are governments trying to address them?
• Saudi Arabia is leading the world in ESG sukuk. What lessons can we take from that example to mobilize finance in the Middle East?
Panel

THE COOPERATION IMPERATIVE

It’s increasingly clear that reaching net-zero will require great cooperation between countries. This panel will explore how to scale and share the best practices and cooperation needed to save the planet.

- How can international diplomacy and cooperation achieve a balanced, inclusive and equitable global green transition?
- What type of public interventions are most effective in driving new innovative technologies costs down?

10:25-11:10

Speakers:
H.E. Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir, Minister of State and Envoy for Climate, Saudi Arabia
H.E. Amb. Patricia Espinosa-Cantellano, Former Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Founding & Managing Partner Onepoint5
Nigel Topping, UK COP26 High-Level Champion, United Kingdom

Moderator:
Eithne Treanor
Building new tourism developments on sustainable principles is just part of the solution. Setting and driving sustainable practices across the existing tourism ecosystem is the greater challenge, requiring a mix of regulatory oversight, investment and training.

Speaker:
H.H. Princess Haifa bint Mohammed Al Saud, Vice Minister, Ministry of Tourism. Saudi Arabia
Fireside Chat

**TECH-DRIVEN GREENING OF SAUDI ARABIA**

One year after the first SGI Forum, many tech partnerships have been concluded between Saudi Arabia and foreign companies and government entities in support of a digitized Saudi Arabia, space exploration, and much more.

- How can technology accelerate the greening of Saudi Arabia, as well as the other sustainability-related objectives?
- What specific progress has been made to date?
- The role of partnerships: pros and cons of partnerships vs going it alone

**Speaker:**
H.E. Eng. Abdullah Alswaha, Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Saudi Arabia

**Moderator:**
Sarah Cocker
THE STATE OF THE PLANET

Panel

THE NEED FOR CLIMATE ACTION
According to the latest IPCC findings, without stronger climate action in the next decade, we will overshoot the global target of keeping the world’s warming well below 2-degrees Celsius. Given the gravity of the situation, what can still be done to right the ship? This panel discussion will provide a macro look at the current state of the planet, a regional assessment of the role of the Middle East and offer a realistic assessment of possible solutions.

- What are the implications of the latest IPCC report on COP27? Will nations be more likely to act and commit to new targets? How much of an emphasis should be placed on implementation of existing targets and key enablers for enhancing future ambition?
- Given the two consecutive COPs being hosted in the Middle East, how can the region come together to drive global conversations?
- Saudi Arabia is uniquely positioned to play a crucial role in upcoming conversations on climate. How is Saudi Arabia leading the way for regional and international cooperation?

Speakers:
H.R.H. Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Minister of Energy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
H.E. Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, United Arab Emirates
H.E. Sameh Shoukry, Minister of Foreign Affairs, COP27 President Designate, Egypt
Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, President of the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference, United Kingdom

Moderator:
Tumi Makgabo
Panel
HOW LARGE COMPANIES ARE INNOVATING FOR A NET-ZERO FUTURE
Nearly a third of the 2,000 largest companies have pledged to meet net-zero targets. For these companies, the challenge now becomes how to operationalize their commitments. Large corporations often have to reshape their management structure, introduce new reporting mechanisms, shift investment priorities, and hire or retrain employees. Steering a ship of this size toward a net zero future requires vision and innovation from within. This fireside chat with two CEOs from major companies will examine how each is tackling the challenge.

• What was the key determinant in setting out a net-zero goal?
• What governance mechanism have been put in place to make sure the goal is delivered in time?
• What are successful operational best practices to implement net-zero strategies?
• How has corporate culture changed since setting out net-zero goals?
• Circular Economy and Waste Management. How can the private sector benefit from the Net Positive Impact?

Speakers:
Eng. Ziyad Alshiha, Group CEO, SIRC, Saudi Arabia
Mohammed AlTayyar, Program Director, Oil Sustainability Program, Saudi Arabia
Valborg Lundegaard, CEO, Aker Carbon Capture, Norway
Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance
Anthony Nakache, Managing Director, Google MENA, United States
Julie Shuttleworth, Global Growth, Fortescue, Australia

Moderator:
Frank Kane
Fireside Chat

A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION – A SAUDI-GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE ON ENERGY RESILIENCE

Over a short period of time, solar energy in Saudi Arabia has become the cheapest energy source, thanks to a strategic focus, both in the private sector and government, on developing renewable energy.

• How can we apply lessons about creating affordable, renewable energy, learnt in Saudi Arabia and other energy-advanced countries, to other parts of the world?
• How can we work with regional/local definitions of affordability and build energy resilience globally?

Speaker:
Mohammad A. Abunayyan, Chairman, ACWA Power, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Frank Kane
THE POWER OF YOUTH

13:10-14:10  LUNCH & NETWORKING

14:10-14:25  Keynote
SPORTS, YOUTH AND CONVERGENCE WITH NATURE

Speaker:
H.H. Fahad Bin Jalawi Al Saud, Vice-President, Saudi Olympic & Paralympic Committee, Saudi Arabia

14:25-15:10  Panel
HOW TO PAVE A CAREER PATH IN PROTECTING THE PLANET

More than any other age group, it’s the younger generation who are worried about the state of the planet. In the U.S., a Pew Research poll found that the environment was a higher concern for Gen Z than any other demographic. Finding a career that also helps protect the planet is one way youth can make a difference. This panel, featuring Human resources leaders and career experts, will offer practical guidance to the next generation on how to find a career in protecting the planet.

• What green energy jobs exist and are growing?
• How does someone enter the industry? What training do you need?
• What opportunities exist for green careers in the Middle East?
• For those already in the workplace, what is the best way to make a career transition into the green sector?

Speakers:
Sara Alghamdi, Mawhiba Alumna, Saudi Arabia
Mashael AlShalan, Co-Founder, Aeon Collective and Founding Partner, Aeon Strategy, Saudi Arabia
Dr. Sultan Alshareef, Director of Sustainable Development, National Center for Environmental Compliance, Saudi Arabia
Prof. Tony Chan, President, King Abdullah University of Science & Technology (KAUST), Saudi Arabia
Sarah Dutton, Penultimate International Business Student & Assistant, Simply Sustainable, Australia

Moderator:
Sarah Cocker
THE POWER OF YOUTH

Panel
MY FUTURE, OUR RESPONSIBILITY: WHAT YOUTH WANTS FROM COMPANIES
Youth is on the forefront of pushing corporations to act responsibly. In this panel, leading corporate actors and young people will discuss what the next generation wants from incumbents when it comes to protecting the planet.

- What environmental issues does the next generation care most about? What are the issues keeping them up at night?
- What products do the new generation want to see more of? Which ones should be taken off the shelf?
- How can corporations shift their practices to better reflect new demands from upcoming consumers?

Speakers:
H.H. Princess Noura Bint Turki Al Saud, Co-Founder, Aeon Collective and Founding Partner, Aeon Strategy, Saudi Arabia
Balqees AlShareef, Graduate Student, KAUST in AMPM Center, Saudi Arabia
Rishi Kapoor, Co-CEO, Investcorp, Bahrain
Sarah Al Harthey, Executive Manager of Business Development, ACWA Power, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Sarah Cocker
Closing Session

IF I WERE WRITING THE SUSTAINABILITY DO LIST FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS....

Speakers:
Sara Alghamdi, Mawhiba Alumna, Saudi Arabia
Balqees AlShareef, Graduate Student, KAUST in AMPM Center, Saudi Arabia

Moderator:
Tumi Makgabo