

Expo 2020 Dubai Programme for People and Planet

WORLD MAJLIS AGENDA

UAE INNOVATION MONTH

February 2022



DATE

Friday, 4th February 2022

TIME

4.00 to 6.00 PM

VENUE

Spain Pavilion

THE TOPIC

INNOVATION NATION:

Creating innovative societies to solve humanity's greatest challenges

in collaboration with Spain

With the ever-increasing complexity of our world, fostering innovative societies can be part of the solution to addressing global challenges. Governments have an important role to play in widening the lens around innovation and implementing systems that generate robust and creative communities.

As innovation ecosystems mature, there are exciting opportunities to create truly innovative societies where all sectors—governments, corporations, NGOs, academia, entrepreneurs and individuals—collaborate to solve complex societal challenges.

Governments have an important role to play in fostering creative and collaborative communities. They can move beyond a narrow sector perspective and 'innovation for innovation's sake,' towards enabling environments—systems and culture—where cross-sectoral innovation is applied to major challenges and produce 'innovation for greater good.'

Mission-driven approaches can provide us with valuable models through focused, time-bound, and cross-sectoral approaches to innovation. These models help us harness our collective knowledge to address complex challenges such as climate change, pollution, well-being, digital ethics, and clean energy for all, and could light the way forward.

- Why are some countries/ societies more innovative than others?
- How can governments create systems of innovation in which all sectors of society participate to address challenges—what are the structure, mechanisms, funding, policies, etc. required to make this happen?
- Beyond governments, what role does entrepreneurship and private sector collaboration play in driving innovation?
- What have we learned about innovation in a crisis from the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how can these lessons be applied to solving other global challenges?

MODERATOR

Saeed Al Saeed

Science and Technology Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, UAE



Saeed Al Saeed is currently the Science and Technology Advisor at the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Previously, Al Saeed occupied several senior positions in prestigious organisations across the United Arab Emirates including the Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company, Abu Dhabi Digital Media Est, Abu Dhabi Media, and Emirates Airlines.

Known to be an agent of change who consistently improves processes and evaluates challenges from all angles, Al Saeed possesses a keen ability to translate corporate values into strategic action plans, with one eye on long term sustainability and big picture benefits.

Al Saeed holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems from Colorado State University, in addition to a Senior Diploma from the International Airline and Transportation Association (IATA) with distinction.

PARTICIPANTS

Alya Al Mazrouei

Program Director of UAE Research Program for Rain Enhancement Science, UAE



Alya Saeed Al Mazrouei is the Director of the UAE Research Program for Rain Enhancement Science. In this role, she leads a team responsible for managing an international competition promoting the UAE's engagement and capacity-building in the field of weather modification, particularly in the research and development of scientifically advanced technology for Rain Enhancement.

Prior to her current position, she joined the National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) since 2003. She has held a senior position as the Head of Training Section in the R&D Department since 2011 in addition to a 10-year experience in the climatology field.

Since joining NCM, she led a project tasked with launching a new Academic Meteorology Program (Bachelor on Meteorology Sciences) in cooperation with Abu Dhabi Polytechnic. In the Training field, she has been involved in utilizing and implementing new E-learning Methodology at the NCM for both behavioral and specialized technical skills in 2014.

Al Mazrouei also managed several Meteorological Courses certified by the World Meteorological Organization through a cooperative agreement with the UK Meteorological Office.

In 2005, she was awarded alongside her team members the UAE Weather Modification Excellence Prize. Several other awards were recognized for her outstanding achievements and contributions at NCM, including her participation in Phase II of the Rainfall Enhancement Assessment Program in the UAE in 2003.

Yoav Fisher

Head of Tech Innovation at HealthIL, Israel



Yoav Fisher is the Head of Tech Innovation at HealthIL, the leading healthcare innovation ecosystem in Israel. As part of HealthIL, Yoav works with all of the leading stakeholders in Israel, including governmental entities, healthcare systems, major MNCs, and startups, on a holistic, challenge-centric approach to integrating technological solutions in healthcare.

Prior to joining HealthIL, Yoav worked in Venture Capital at TriVentures, one of the leading health-focused investing entities in Israel. Yoav holds an M.A. in Economics from Tel Aviv University, specializing in applied economics.

Amin Gafaranga

Founder, Atelier (Design-Thinking Academy), Rwanda



Amin is a designer; exploring architecture as a means to create positive social infrastructure through empathy-centered design, building experiences and spaces that foster collaboration and inspire innovation.

Atelier is Amin's prototype studio that has helped reimagine several innovation, cultural and impact hubs such as K-Lab, the Kigali's tech start up lab, Nike Foundation's Girl-Impact Hub, Andela's Pan African Hub, AIMS-Next Einstein's knowledge ecosystem and the redesign of Kigali Public Library, the country's first and largest public library.

Atelier is currently designing Norrsken House, East Africa's largest hub for entrepreneurs based in Kigali, Rwanda.

Amin has had the privilege of serving as the current chairman of the board of Akagera National Park - Rwanda (Central Africa's largest protected wetland and the last remaining refuge for savannah-adapted species.)



Professor Javier Garcia Martinez

**President of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
Founder, Rive Technology
Founder and president of Celera, Spain**

Founder of the technology-based company Rive Technology, which markets the catalysts Javier developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Since 2012, the catalysts that Rive Technology sells are used in several refineries, significantly increasing fuel production and the energy efficiency of the process. In 2019, W. R. GRACE acquired Rive Technology.

Founder and president of Celera, a talent support program in Spain that selects ten exceptional young people each year to give them resources, training and, mentoring. Seventy young people have already participated in this program. Over ten companies have been founded and more than three hundred million dollars have been raised by the members of Celera.

Javier is the President the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, IUPAC. Previously, he served as member of the Executive Committee and at its Bureau.

Professor of Inorganic Chemistry and Director of the Molecular Nanotechnology Laboratory of the University of Alicante (UA) where he leads an international team working on the synthesis and application of nanostructured materials for the production of chemicals and energy. He has published more than one hundred papers in top journals. He is inventor in more than forty patents and the author or editor of six books including: The Chemical Element (2011), Chemistry Education (2015), and Chemistry Entrepreneurship (2021).

In June 2014, the Queen of Spain presented Javier with the King James I Award. In 2015, Javier received Emerging Researcher Award by the American Chemical Society and in 2018 the Kathryn C. Hach Award as the best US entrepreneur in the chemical sector. Javier is a member of the Council of Emerging Technologies of the World Economic Forum, Panel Member of the European Research Council, and Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Oscar Di Montigny

Ideator of the Humanovability vision, Italy



Oscar Di Montigny is an expert in Mega trends and Major Scenarios and Corporate Education. With keynote speeches with a strong motivational impact, he leads the audience through the identification of new possible keys to interpret events, offering complementary and functional perspectives to face the challenges of the future.

He is Chief Innovability and Value Strategy Officer at Banca Mediolanum and President of Flowe.

He also promotes these principles through his activities in publishing, as a keynote speaker at international conferences, as a guest lecturer at schools and universities, and in his advocacy work with business groups.



Arun Sundararajan

**Harold Price Chair in Entrepreneurship;
Professor of Technology, Operations and Statistics, Leonard N. Stern
School of Business, New York University, USA**

Arun Sundararajan holds the Harold Price endowed chair in Entrepreneurship at New York University's (NYU) Stern School of Business, where he is also Professor of Technology, Operations and Statistics and an affiliated faculty member at NYU's Center for Data Science. His best-selling book, "The Sharing Economy," published by the MIT Press, has been translated into Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese and Portuguese. His scholarship has been recognized by nine Best Paper awards, two Google Faculty awards, an Axiom Best Business Books Award and a Thinkers50 Thinker Award. He has authored over 50 peer-reviewed scientific papers, published over 40 op-eds in leading outlets, and has given hundreds of talks globally.

Professor Sundararajan has been a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Councils on the New Economic Agenda and Technology, Values and Policy, and an advisor or board member to organizations that include the Carnegie Council, Rally, the City of New York, the City of Seoul, Walmart Corporation, Freddie Mac, the Female Founders Fund, the Internet Society of China, OuiShare and Samasource. He has provided expert input about the digital economy as testimony to the United States Congress, the European Parliament, the United Nations, the Federal Reserve Bank (New York, San Francisco and Atlanta), the Federal Trade Commission, the White House and a range of government agencies and regulators globally. He teaches in executive education programs in the United States, Europe and Asia, focusing primarily on web3, artificial intelligence, digital strategy and governance. He teaches full-time MBA students about hi-tech entrepreneurship. He is a frequent angel investor.

VIRTUAL PARTICIPANT



Marc Galabert

**Secretary of State for Economic Diversification and Innovation,
Government of Andorra
Commissioner General, Andorra Pavilion, Expo 2020 Dubai**

Marc Galabert is the Secretary of State for Economic Diversification and Innovation of the Government of Andorra and Commissioner General for Andorra at Expo 2020 Dubai. Mr. Galabert holds a PhD in Economic History and a BA in Business Administration. His topics of expertise are long term processes of economic growth, mainly focusing in business and financial history. Previously to his current political position, he was Coordinator for Bachelor of Business at the University of Andorra.