

Arab economies are in full swing, as the first measures of economic reforms are paying off. While the oil price is stabilising, most Arab countries are investing not only into infrastructure projects but also into technological advancement. Despite major challenges due to political instability in some countries, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently raised the expected growth rate of the region for this year to 3.6%. With a population of almost 400 million inhabitants, the Arab world is a promising region for business and investment.

At the same time, the German economy is booming more than ever. In 2017, German exports reached an all-time high with more than € 1,279 bn. Economists predict that it will maintain its momentum after expanding last year at the fastest pace since 2011.

German companies and institutions have been a long-term business partner for the Arab world and are well known for their high-quality services. To ensure a balanced and sustainable exchange, they are not only exporting top-notch products, but also bringing education and know-how along with it. The annual trade volume between Germany and the Arab countries, standing at about € 50 bn is evidence of the high potential of Arab-German cooperation.

To further strengthen and expand these sustainable relations, the Ghorfa Arab-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry will host the 21st Arab-German Business Forum.

This year's partner country is the State of Kuwait. Within the vision "New Kuwait" and its ambitious growth plan until 2035, the country offers promising investments and business opportunities.

More than 600 leading experts and decision makers from business, politics and science will attend this high-ranking conference which has become the most essential networking platform to create new and to enhance existing business relationships.

In addition to exciting panels, several interactive and expert-led roundtables will take place. In small groups, they give the opportunity to exchange experiences and discuss the innovation potential in different fields.

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Invitation

21st Arab-German Business Forum

June 25th-27th, 2018

Partner Country: State of Kuwait

Guest of Honor
H.H. Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Sabah
Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Potsdamer Platz 3, 10785 Berlin

www.ghorfa.de
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THE 21st ARAB-GERMAN BUSINESS FORUM PROGRAM

Monday, June 25th, 2018

18.00 h **Reception**
at The Palmenhof-Silbersaal
Bellevuestraße 1, 10785 Berlin

H.E. Nael Al Kabariti
President of the Union of Arab Chambers and
Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Jordan

15.30 h **Panel 4**
Infrastructure Megaprojects:
Government as an Enabler for Inclusive Growth

H.E. Ali Al Ghanim
Chairman, Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and
Industry, Kuwait

17.00h **Discussion Round**
Investment Opportunities in the Venture
Capital and Startup-Cluster

Tuesday, June 26th, 2018

08.00 h **Registration**
at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Potsdamer Platz 3, 10785 Berlin

H.E. Peter Altmaier
Federal Minister, Ministry for Economic Affairs
and Energy, Germany

19.30h **Gala Dinner**
at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Potsdamer Platz 3, 10785 Berlin

09.00 h **Opening Ceremony**

Keynote of the Guest of Honor:
H.H. Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah
Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait

Welcoming:
Abdulaziz Al Mikhlafti
Secretary General of the Ghorfa Arab-German
Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Germany

10.00 h **Panel 1**
The State of Kuwait:
Sustainable Development and Growth

Dr. Volker Treier
Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Association of
German Chambers of Commerce and Industry
(DIHK), Germany

11.00 h **Networking Break**

11.30 h **Panel 2**
Direct Investments & Know-How Transfer:
Supporting the Industrialisation Plans in the Arab
World

Speakers:
H.E. Dr. Peter Ramsauer
President of the Ghorfa Arab-German Chamber
of Commerce & Industry / Chairman of the
Committee on Economic Cooperation and
Development / Federal Minister ret., Germany

13.00 h **Networking Lunch**

14.00 h **Panel 3**
Managing the Digital Transformation:
Challenges & Opportunities of Disruptive Change

H.E. Dr. Mustapha Adib
Ambassador of the Republic of Lebanon / Dean
of the Arab Diplomatic Corps, Germany

15.00 h **Networking Break**

Wednesday, June 27th, 2018

09.00 h **Registration**

09.30 h **Panel 5**
Food Industry: Building Partnerships for
Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

11.00 h **Networking Break**

11.30 h **Panel 6**
Shared Responsibility for Inclusive
Development: Perspectives of Arab-German
Cooperation, Political & Economic Challenges
- Ambassadors' Discussion Round -

13.00 h **Networking Lunch**