



MEIRA Newsletter

20 June 2019

[Download the newsletter \(PDF\)](#)

If you would like to collaborate in our next newsletter, contact us at pr@meira.me

Weekend reading list

- > **MEIRA News!** MEIRA, BIBF to roll out certified Investors Relations Programme. *News of Bahrain* [Read more](#)
- > Saudi Arabia on track to outpace India at top of ETF ranking. *Bloomberg* [Read more](#)
- > How do you measure the 'sustainability' of an investment? *The National* [Read more](#)
- > Moody's: Oman banks' funding, liquidity tighten. *Saudi Gazette* [Read more](#)
- > Dubai's stock market has success on the road. *IR Magazine* [Read more](#)

MEIRA Updates



The "2019 IR Practitioners Survey" is open!

We are delighted to announce that the **"2019 IR Practitioners Survey"** is now open. The Survey, launched by MEIRA in collaboration with Carter Murray, is designed to assess key career-related aspects of the IR role, including compensation, team structure, reporting line and KPIs, among other criteria.

The results of this third edition will be compiled into a comprehensive report which will be available at the 2019 MEIRA Annual Conference on 25 September.

We highly encourage you to take 5 minutes of your time and complete it now!

[Click here to participate](#)



Notes from a green and pleasant land!

Greetings!

I am Alicia Gallego, MEIRA Marketing and Events Manager, and this week I am taking John's section in the newsletter knowing that he certainly doesn't mind :).

If you are an IR professional in the UK, there is a date marked on your calendar that you cannot miss. This is the third Tuesday of June which this year fell on 18th. This week, I had the pleasure to attend the 33rd annual conference organised by the UK IR Society. It was a full day dedicated to analysing the latest trends in the IR landscape and a great opportunity to network with your peers.

Held at the iconic Kings Place, the event kicked off with a veritable captain of UK industry, John Allan, Chair of Tesco, Barratt Developments and President of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI). John shared his views on how the IR profession has evolved in the past years.

As per John's perspective, IR was mainly focused on shareholder value. However, nowadays IR professionals have a much wider audience to communicate with, including clients, suppliers and governmental entities, among others. How can IROs create a consistent message which such a new and challenging scenario? John advocated for designing a comprehensive message and understanding that all the groups are sensitive to the company strategy and message. Transparency is crucial!

After the keynote address, investors had the opportunity to share their current concerns and challenges when liaising with IR professionals. A key matter that was discussed during the entire conference was the increased demand for ESG information. Climate change, sustainability and diversity are now part of the day-to-day conversations between the buy-side and listed companies. Write down this new term: the 3 Ps (planet, people, profit)! These are the three indicators that investors will be looking for.

During the rest of the afternoon, we heard interesting thoughts from reputable IR professionals. Stuart Morgan, Head of Investor Relations at easyJet; James Collins, Head of Investors Relations at J Sainsbury; Rob Gurner, Head of Investor Relations at Inmarsat; and Richard O'Connor, Global Head of Investor Relations at HSBC, among others, participated in different panel discussions which agreed on similar conclusions: IROs need to be prepared to respond in a constantly changing industry. In order to succeed, IROs need to build a strong network, both internally and externally, and be able to communicate better on different matters, including ESG, technical data, long-term company strategy and business model proposition.

ESG experts discussed how important it is for companies to advocate for a sustainable strategy during the last panel. ESG has become an essential indicator for investors to understand how the company is positioning itself for the future and it is crucial during the investment process. IROs will have to integrate these principles if they wish to compete for capital in an even more international ecosystem.

Last but not least, Sarah Bates, Chair at Merian Global Investors, shared her wide experience, especially at the board level, and advised IR to maximize the involvement of the board members in the communications with the investment community.

The cocktail reception that the UK IR Society organised to conclude the day was the cherry on the cake. A unique opportunity to celebrate IR with friends and colleagues and now, to 25 September 2019, another date that should be etched into your diary, welcome to Dubai for the

MEIRA annual conference!

Best wishes from Team MEIRA

Publications



Making the grade: IR and certification (by IR Magazine)

The role of the IR professional has never been more important. The globalization of financial markets and the ever-changing complexity of the legal and regulatory environment have placed great emphasis on staying up to date on developments – IR certification can play a major role in this regard.

IR Magazine has recently published an article which uncovers the numerous ways global IR associations are stepping up to the mark. MEIRA has contributed to this piece to showcase how the CIRO Programme is evolving in the Middle East and the current professional development requirements from the local IROs.

[Read the article here](#)

MEIRA members can enjoy discounted subscriptions fees. If you want to subscribe to IR Magazine and you are a MEIRA member, contact info@meira.me

Events

What's coming?

2019 Calendar of Events

MEIRA Webinar: July (Online) **MEIRA members only**

2019 MEIRA Annual Conference & Awards: 25 September (Dubai, UAE)

2019 IR Magazine Global Forum & Awards: 6 October (Paris, France)

[Check our online calendar of events](#)



With the support of our Platinum and Gold sponsors:



[**Register now**](#)

Past events



17 June - BIBF and MEIRA MOU Signing Ceremony and IR Seminar - Manama, Bahrain

Bahrain Institute of Banking & Finance ("BIBF") and MEIRA in presence of head of MEIRA Bahrain Chapter, have signed an agreement to roll-out the Certified Investors Relations Program ('CIRO') in Bahrain under the Investment Academy umbrella. The CIRO program has

been launched as a joint initiative between Bahrain Bourse (BHB), MEIRA, and the BIBF. The signing ceremony took place at Bahrain Bourse premises and it was followed by a seminar attended by representatives from local listed companies who had the opportunity to discuss the importance of the CIRO certification within their line of work.

On the day before, the members of the MEIRA Bahrain Chapter held its first official Chapter Meeting in order to discuss the strategy to develop local initiatives after being launched last April.



18 June - [MEIRA Kuwait Chapter Meeting - Kuwait City](#)

More than 20 IR professionals from the Kuwaiti Premier Market met on Tuesday at the Chairman's Club in Kuwait. Following the awareness session organised by MEIRA and Boursa Kuwait in April, the local Members and representatives from the exchanged enjoyed an exclusive opportunity to share their views on the status of the market and the current opportunities to develop the IR profession.

[Watch the highlights video here](#)

International Conferences

International Conferences Calendar

HSBC GEMs Investor Forum: 3-5 Sep (London, UK)

EFG Hermes 9th Annual London Conference: 9-12 Sep (London, UK)

Arqaam MENA Conference: 23-24 Sep (Dubai, UAE)

Goldman Sachs 7th CEEMEA Corporate Days: TBC Sep (Frankfurt, Germany)

Goldman Sachs 11th CEEMEA 1x1 Conference: 11-12 Nov (London, UK)

UBS GEM Conference: 3-4 Dec (New York, USA)

For a complete list, contact Closir [here](#)

Training

CIRO programme

The Certified Investor Relations Officer programme, delivered in partnership with the London based UK IR Society, is an internationally recognised qualification in Investor Relations.

[Read more](#)

CIRO Calendar 2019

- **Dubai:** 29 - 30 - 31 October

[Register now!](#)

The Introduction to Investor Relations course

This one-day course provides an introduction to financial markets, Investor Relations and the financial environment in which Investor Relations professionals work.

[Read more](#)

Introduction to IR Calendar 2019

- **Dubai:** 29 October

[Register now!](#)

**Are you looking for a bespoke or
in-house training?**

[Contact us](#)

Members



Do you want to join MEIRA?

Don't miss the opportunity to join our IR community and become a member today.

You just need to fill our [membership form](#) and send it to info@meira.me in order to finalise the process.

We are looking forward to welcoming you!

[Membership form](#)

Share this newsletter with your colleagues and friends



Share



Tweet



Forward

With the support of our annual strategic partners



BNY MELLON



Emirates NBD



بنك أبوظبي الأول
FAB
First Abu Dhabi Bank



Nasdaq
Boardvantage



About Middle East Investor Relations Association

The Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) is an independent non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the Investor Relations (IR) profession and industry standards in corporate governance. The mission of MEIRA is to enhance the reputation, efficiency and attractiveness of the Middle East capital markets.

This involves a commitment to fostering increased dialogue among its members and to encourage them to share and adopt best practice techniques within the field of IR. In partnership with stock exchanges, regulators and other market participants, MEIRA supports companies through its professional development and certification programmes as well as its membership community and network of country chapters.



Follow us



Follow us



Visit our website

Copyright © 2019 Middle East Investor Relations Association, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you have requested to be added to the Middle East Investor Relations Association mailing list.

Middle East Investor Relations Association

Office 18, Floor 7

Sheikh Rashid Tower, DWTC

PO Box 9576

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

info@meira.me or +971 (0)4 309 7034

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)