



17 March 2022

Don't miss anything!
Weekend News List



- > **Saudi GDP in 2021 rose by the highest rate since 2015 on non-oil activities** (Arab News) [Read it here](#)
- > **Frequently Asked Questions on What ESG Means for Companies** (Sustainalytics) [Read it here](#)
- > **The Globalization Of Corporate Governance** (Forbes) [Read it here](#)

Hot off the press
Publications



Gender Diversity on Boards in Gulf Cooperation Council Countries (by State Street Global Advisors)

Gender diversity on boards has been a thematic engagement area for State Street Global Advisors since 2015. Leveraging these engagements we launched our Fearless Girl campaign in March 2017, which has contributed to the increased representation of women on boards in the major indices in the US, the UK, Europe, Canada, Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore, with close to 900 companies identified by State Street Global Advisors responding to our call by adding a female director.

State Street Global Advisors examined 172 blue-chip companies across the GCC region and found that one-third of them have at least one female board member, which represents a 130-percent increase over the last three years. The United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia have made greatest progress in terms of board gender diversity.

[To download the report, click here](#)

2022 MEIRA IR Best Practice Awards

Don't forget to complete the verification!

POLLING SOON

CORPORATES: VOTE & VERIFY

2022 DEVELOPED EUROPE & EMERGING EMEA EXECUTIVE TEAM

SIGN UP NOW

TO VOTE AND VERIFY YOUR COMPANY DETAILS

Institutional Investor

We are delighted to continue our collaboration with Institutional Investor for our 2022 IR Awards. The winners are determined on the basis of the **"Developed Europe and Emerging EMEA Executive Team Survey"** carried out by Institutional Investor which delivers the gold standard for independent performance validation. It has been the industry's first-choice and source of qualitative market intelligence for Corporates and Investment Professionals for over 40 years.

Insights Survey. Heads of Investor Relations have to SIGN-UP to the platform to proceed to:

- Verify their details: add/remove IROs, CEO and CFO, ensuring your details are correct and only market-facing individuals are listed.

- Complete the Corporate Insights Survey: IR Best Practices (Budgets, Engagement, ESG, IR Digitisation, Vote for Buy and Sell-side Firms etc.).

We highly encourage our members to finalise this process before the voting process starts on 4 April.

You can download the Roster and Corporate Insight Guide which includes some useful information about the process.

[Roster login](#)

Mark your calendar

Events



On the back of the Saudi Capital Markets Awards, which are taking place on 22 March, we would like to invite you to the MEIRA IR Breakfast on **23 March at 9 am.**

During the event, hosted by solutions by stc, we will have the opportunity to follow up on some of the conference sessions as well as the awards results.

We will also share some of our recent initiatives in Saudi Arabia and an overview of what we are planning in the next few months, including the 2022 MEIRA Annual Conference.

BRUNSWICK INSIGHT



What Motivates GCC Retail Investors to Invest in Listed Companies

Tuesday, 29 March 2022

3:00 PM Dubai Time / 2:00 PM Saudi Time

Retail investors make up nearly two-thirds of trading volumes across GCC markets. Understanding this cohort's attitude towards investments and behaviour towards media content is imperative when devising an effective investor relations and communication strategy.

Brunswick Insight surveyed 1034 retail investors across the GCC to:

- Understand retail investors' investment behaviour and outlook towards investing in IPOs
- Assess sources of information that retail investors tap into
- Identify the type of content that influences investment decisions
- Pinpoint media consumption behaviour among GCC retail investors and preferred channels of communication to hear from companies on

Join our webinar to learn more about the similarities and differences of retail investors across the GCC. We will explore what influences investment decisions and how can companies refine their narrative to be more salient with this audience? How can listed companies attract retail investors from other GCC countries? Which activities impact a company's reputation the most? How is it different across the GCC markets? Which stakeholder groups should companies proactively engage with?

Speakers:

- Ranya Afifi, Director, Insight Gulf, Brunswick
- Jamil Fahmy, Director, Brunswick
- Noelle S. Al Jaweini, Chief of Cash Markets, Saudi Exchange
- Moderator: Alicia Gallego, Senior Manager, Policy & Strategic Communications, MEIRA

[Register here](#)

Bloomberg

The Future of ESG in Qatar

Last week, John Gollifer, MEIRA General Manager, participated in the first event of Bloomberg's Middle East ESG Series. The event focused on the topic of ESG investing, first looking at the global view on international practices, strategies and how others are embracing ESG disclosure. The panel of experts from Qatar institutions discussed and provided insights into how the country is embracing ESG.

[If you missed it, you can access the recording here](#)

Always Learning

Get Certified in IR!



Get certified as an IRO with the CIRO Programme. The training course, delivered in partnership with the UK IR Society, is an internationally recognised qualification in Investor Relations.

A one-day online revision course, the CIRO is followed by an exam, offered on a number of occasions throughout the year

Register today via email:
info@meira.me.

[Check the training calendar here](#)

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Careers



Saudi Arabia. To download the job description, [click here](#).

Annual Strategic Partners



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