

2 April 2026

## WEEKEND READING LIST

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- Prioritising public investment in the GCC: a structured, impact-led approach ([PwC](#))
- Regulation, ESG and AI shaping investment manager focus across regions ([Fitch Ratings](#))
- Dubai advances to 7th place in Global Financial Centres Index, marking highest-ever ranking ([Zawya](#))

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Now available: key takeaways from MEIRA's webinar on IR leadership during periods of uncertainty.**

Moderated by **Reza Eftekhari**, CEO of MEIRA, the session brought together **S&P Global** and senior leaders from **Saudi Aramco**, **DP World**, **MFS Investment Management** and **Teneo** to examine how the current geopolitical environment is redefining investor expectations.

The message is clear: **investors are no longer viewing the region as a single narrative.** They are assessing companies on leadership quality, access and the ability to translate disruption into clear financial impact.

For IR teams, this marks a shift from communication to leadership, where transparency, engagement and consistency become critical to maintaining trust. Explore the key insights and practical actions.

[Download the Key Takeaways](#)

## MEIRA UPDATES

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**A message from Reza Eftekhari, MEIRA CEO:**

Larry Fink's latest Annual Chairman's Letter, published last week, offers a timely reflection on the forces reshaping the global economy, from the rise of self-reliance and the reorganisation of supply chains to the growing importance of long-term capital formation. What is particularly noteworthy for our region is his observation that even the wealthiest economies in the Gulf are not financing their ambitions through public money alone. As he highlights, the scale of transformation underway in the Middle East, across energy, infrastructure, technology and industrial development, increasingly depends on deeper and more active capital markets.

This message resonates even more strongly in today's environment. The GCC is operating against a backdrop of heightened regional tensions and shifting geopolitical dynamics, which, while creating periods of uncertainty, also sharpen the focus on resilience, transparency, and investor confidence. In such conditions, capital does not retreat, it becomes more selective. This places a premium on issuers' ability to communicate clearly, demonstrate robust governance, and articulate long-term value creation in a credible and consistent manner.

It is a powerful reminder of the strategic role that capital markets now play in supporting national and regional priorities. Across the Middle East, ambitious economic diversification agendas continue to advance, supported by regulatory reforms and increasing market sophistication. The ability to mobilise long-term capital efficiently, both domestic and international, will be essential to sustaining growth, competitiveness and resilience. As Fink underscores, the region's future will be shaped not only by public investment, but by how effectively markets can channel capital into productive opportunities at scale.

At MEIRA, we see this as a defining moment for investor relations. The IR function is increasingly central to bridging issuers and the investment community, particularly in times of complexity. Greater transparency, stronger engagement and broader participation are critical to unlocking the region's full potential.

As we continue to support our members and the wider IR community, we remain focused on fostering dialogue, recognising excellence, and facilitating knowledge exchange, through upcoming initiatives and opportunities for engagement that bring together regional and international perspectives. This ongoing collaboration reflects our shared commitment to strengthening capital markets and advancing best practice across the Middle East.

We welcome the insights raised in this letter and the broader dialogue it encourages around the role of capital markets in building long-term prosperity for the region.

[Read the article here](#)

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### Saudi Capital Market Awards deadline extended to 9 April

As proud partners of the Saudi Capital Market Awards, we are pleased to share that the deadline for entries **has been extended to 9 April**.

This extension offers participants an additional opportunity to submit their entries for a distinguished initiative that recognises excellence, innovation and leadership across the sector. We encourage all eligible organisations and individuals to make use of this extended timeline and take part in this important platform celebrating outstanding achievement.

[Know more](#)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MEIRA offers a comprehensive calendar of **professional development courses and webinars** throughout the year.

07 Apr	<b>CIRO Online Revision Bootcamp</b>
08 Apr	<b>Investor Room Deep Dive: Simplifying Your Earnings &amp; CMD Workflow</b>
15 Apr	<b>Next-Gen IR Strategy: Aligning with Long-Term Corporate Growth</b>
22 Apr	<b>AI &amp; Analytics in IR: Insights, Automation, and Predictive Tools</b>

### IR Academy calendar

[IR Academy 2026 - All courses](#)

## NEW MEMBERS



**Boxes Intelligent Communications**  
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**Boxes Intelligent Communications (BOXES)** is a Riyadh-headquartered, next-generation communications and consultancy firm specialised in financial communications, strategic public relations, and digital solutions. A trusted partner to companies listed on the Saudi Exchange (Tadawul), Boxes provides full-circle support throughout IPOs, RIs, M&A, Sukuk, bond issuances, investor relations, corporate governance, annual reports, and regulatory compliance.

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