

2025 Qatar Economic Forum

May 20 - Tuesday

8:00 am **Morning Networking**

10:00 am **INVITE ONLY: Opening Ceremony**

10:05 am **Opening Address**

*Please note, His Excellency will speak in Arabic. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided into English.

Speaker:

[H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani](#)

Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs, State of Qatar

10:10 am **In Conversation With the Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar**

Speaker:

[H.E. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani](#)

Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs, State of Qatar

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

10:30 am **Global Energy Supplies & Security**

Amid geopolitical tensions, supply disruptions and shifting demand, energy security is paramount. Top energy executives explore the strategies, innovations and collaboration required to ensure

resilient and affordable global energy supplies.

Speakers:

[H.E. Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi](#)

Minister of State for Energy Affairs, State of Qatar, President & CEO, QatarEnergy

[Ryan M. Lance](#)

Chairman & CEO, ConocoPhillips

Moderator:

[Francine Lacqua](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

10:50 am

The Geoeconomics of Growth: Finance & Economy Minister Outlook

In a global economy where the rules keep changing, finance and economy ministers share how they're staying ahead of the curve—and turning uncertainty into resilience and long-term growth.

Speakers:

[H.E. Ali bin Ahmed Al-Kuwari](#)

Minister of Finance, State of Qatar

[H.E. Faisal F. Alibrahim](#)

Minister of Economy & Planning, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

[H.E. Mehmet Simsek](#)

Minister of Treasury & Finance, Republic of Türkiye

Moderator:

[Stephanie Flanders](#)

Head of Economics & Government, Bloomberg

11:15 am

Morning Networking Break

11:30 am

Roundtable: Reaching Within: The World Adapts to Radical Change

Recent shifts in US commercial and foreign policy have upset decades of established practice and created a climate of profound instability across the globe. While the near future is unpredictable, many governments will need to make structural changes to their economies, boosting domestic demand and lowering intra-regional barriers to trade and investment. This roundtable will help participants understand the potential opportunities and challenges as Asia and the Middle East hedge their dependence on the US-led trade, finance and security order.

Surendra Rosha, Co-Chief Executive, Asia & Middle East, HSBC
Moderator: Erik Schatzker, Editorial Director, Bloomberg New Economy

Participation is by invitation only and conversation will be held under Chatham House Rule.

12:00 pm

The New Risk Landscape

The Middle East is once again at the center of global geopolitical uncertainty. As regional tensions rise and alliances shift, we are entering uncharted territory with profound implications for global stability, markets and economic growth. General David Petraeus and former Egyptian Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy explore potential scenarios shaping the region and the world.

Speakers

[Nabil Fahmy](#)

Former Foreign Minister & Ambassador to the United States, Arab Republic of Egypt,
Chairman, Lynx Business Advisors

[General David H. Petraeus \(US Army, Ret.\)](#)

Chairman, Global Institute & KKR Middle East, Partner, KKR

Moderator

[John Micklethwait](#)

Editor-in-Chief, Bloomberg

12:25 pm

Financial Markets: Balancing Risk & Reward

Volatility is the defining challenge of today's markets. Leading central bankers and finance executives share insights on navigating uncertainty, managing risk and positioning themselves for success amid global economic uncertainty.

Speakers:

[H.E. Sheikh Bandar bin Mohammed bin Saoud Al-Thani](#)

Governor, Qatar Central Bank, Chairman, QIA

[Chia Der Jiun](#)

Managing Director, Monetary Authority of Singapore

[Mary Callahan Erdoes](#)

CEO, Asset & Wealth Management, J.P. Morgan

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

12:50 pm

In Conversation With Mohammed Saif Al-Sowaidi

The QIA CEO joins us for his first live speaking engagement to share his global outlook.

Speaker:

[Mohammed Saif Al-Sowaidi](#)

CEO, QIA

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

1:05 pm

Doing Global Business in Tumultuous Times

Geopolitical tensions, economic volatility, trade tariffs and rapid technological disruption are reshaping the global business landscape. Success demands bold leadership, agility, and innovation. Global leaders identify the strategies for managing risk, seizing opportunities, and sustaining growth in an increasingly unpredictable world.

Speakers

[H.E. Bandar Ibrahim Abdullah Al Khorayef](#)

Minister of Industry & Mineral Resources, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

[Henadi Al-Saleh](#)

Chairperson, Agility

[Le Thi Thu Thuy](#)

Vice Chairwoman, Vingroup

Moderator

[Francine Lacqua](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

1:30 pm**Networking Lunch**

1:45 pm**Roundtable: The Next R&D Hub: Investing in Innovation's Future**

Amid an uncertain investment landscape and rapid advancements in AI, companies face critical decisions on R&D. Hosted by QRDI Council, this roundtable gathers C-suite executives to discuss talent, regulation, and geopolitical shifts, and will assess Qatar's role in fostering an innovation hub that attracts investment and drives breakthroughs.

This session is sponsored by QRDI Council and is not Bloomberg editorial content. Participation is by invitation only and conversation will be held under Chatham House Rule.

Breakout One: Where to Invest Right Now

Sponsored by QNB

1:45 PM Qatar – Opening Remarks

Maha Mohamad Al-Sulaiti, CEO, QNB Financial Services

1:50 PM Qatar – In Conversation With Marc Nachmann

Marc Nachmann, Global Head of Asset & Wealth Management,
Goldman Sachs

Moderator: Francine Lacqua, Anchor, Bloomberg Television

2:10 PM Qatar – Fueling the Future: Private Capital in the Middle East

The GCC has numerous characteristics that make it a compelling destination for investors – from its strategic location and economic diversification efforts, to its young, growing population and competitive regulatory environment. How are global money managers employing private capital in the region to ensure competitive returns?

Huda Al Lawati, Founder & CEO, Aliph Capital

Jan Philipp Schmitz, Executive Vice President, Ardian

Mihir Unadkat, Managing Director, Lone Star Funds

Moderator: Paul Wallace, Economy & Government Team Leader,
Bloomberg

2:35 PM Qatar – In Conversation With Rishi Kapoor

Rishi Kapoor, Vice Chairman & Chief Investment Officer, Investcorp

Moderator: Matthew Martin, Money & Power Reporter, Bloomberg

2:55 PM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

Breakout Two: Globalization & Trade: The New Reality

1:45 PM Qatar – In Conversation with Beatriz Martin Jimenez

Beatriz Martin Jimenez, Head, Non-Core & Legacy; President,
Europe, Middle East & Africa, UBS Group

Moderator: Jennifer Zabasajja, Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

2:00 PM Qatar – The Great Trade Reset: Geopolitics Meets Global Supply Chains

We analyze the policies, geopolitical disruptions and strategic alliances redefining global supply chains, offering crucial insights into navigating trade in an era of unprecedented change.

Amadou Diallo, CEO, Middle East & Africa, DHL Global Forwarding
Lisa Park, Managing Director for UAE, Oman & Qatar, A.P. Moller – Maersk

H.E. Jarno Syrjälä, Under-Secretary of State for International Trade, Finland

Moderator: Verity Ratcliffe, Energy Reporter, Bloomberg

2:20 PM Qatar – In Conversation With Morgan Ortagus

Morgan Ortagus, Deputy Special Presidential Envoy, United States
Moderator: Joumana Bercetche, Anchor, Bloomberg Television

2:35 PM Qatar – Accelerating Africa: Navigating Disruption, Driving Future Growth

How can Africa harness shifting global trade dynamics? We examine the finance and logistics innovations that will power Africa's rapidly evolving trade landscape.

Banji Fehintola, Executive Board Member & Head, Financial Services, Africa Finance Corporation

Mona Haddad, Global Director for Trade, Investment & Competitiveness, The World Bank

Abir Lehet, CEO, Egytrans

Moderator: Arijit Ghosh, Africa Managing Editor, Bloomberg

2:55 PM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

3:00 pm

Plenary Afternoon Program Begins

Global Aviation: The Power of Partnerships

We spotlight how new airline partnerships are reshaping global connectivity in Asia-Pacific and beyond. From opening up the iconic Kangaroo Route, to meeting new passenger demands, new cabins, new planes and the race toward sustainable air travel.

Speakers:

[Engr. Badr Mohammed Al-Meer](#)

Group CEO, Qatar Airways Group

[Jayne Hrdlicka](#)

Former CEO, Virgin Australia

[Datuk Captain Izham Ismail](#)

Group Managing Director, Malaysia Aviation Group

Moderator:

[Joumanna Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

3:25 pm

Banking 2025: The New Growth Playbook

Disruptive technology, evolving credit markets and shifting risk dynamics are transforming global banking. Bank CEOs reveal how they are harnessing innovation, adapting to changing consumer behaviors and capturing growth in an era of volatility.

Speakers:

[Tony O. Elumelu](#)

Group Chair, Heirs Holdings & United Bank for Africa Plc, Founder, Tony Elumelu Foundation

[Tan Su Shan](#)

CEO & Director, DBS Bank Group

Moderator:

[Jennifer Zabasajja](#)

Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

3:50 pm

In Conversation With Todd Boehly

Speaker

[Todd L. Boehly](#)

Co-Founder, Chairman & CEO, Eldridge Industries

Moderator

[Francine Lacqua](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

4:10 pm

In Conversation With Elon Musk

Elon Musk joins us for a live virtual interview. We delve into Elon's global influence spanning DOGE, Tesla, SpaceX, Starlink, Neuralink and more.

Speaker:

[Elon Musk](#)

Moderator:

[Mishal Husain](#)

Editor-at-Large, Bloomberg Weekend

4:40 pm

Close of Day One Plenary

4:45 pm

Breakout One: Doing Business in Qatar Workshop

Sponsored by Invest Qatar, QFC & QFZ

4:45 PM Qatar – Economic Diversification : The New Growth Opportunities

As GCC nations accelerate diversification beyond hydrocarbons, strategic shifts unlock fresh avenues for economic resilience. We explore regional initiatives, sectors attracting investment and opportunities shaping the Gulf's future amid global market volatility.

Sheikh Ali Alwaleed Al-Thani, CEO, Investment Promotion Agency
Qatar (Invest Qatar)

Abdoul Aziz Wane, Director, Regional Office, Riyadh, IMF

Moderator: Joumanna Bercetche, Anchor, Bloomberg Television

5:00 PM Qatar – The Future of FDI & Shifting Supply Chains

Geopolitics and technological advancements are reshaping foreign direct investment (FDI) and global supply chains. How are companies and governments adapting their strategies? We find out.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Bin Faisal Al-Thani, CEO, Qatar
Free Zones Authority

Se Chul Oh, President & Co-CEO, Samsung C&T Corp.

Moderator: Joumanna Bercetche, Anchor, Bloomberg Television

5:15 PM Qatar – Doing Business in Qatar: A Case Study

Henk Jan Hoogendoorn, Chief Financial Services Sector Officer,
Qatar Financial Centre

Michael Lints, Partner, Golden Gate Ventures

5:25 PM Qatar – Interactive Workshop: Doing Business in Qatar

6:00 PM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

May 21 - Wednesday

8:00 am

Morning Networking

8:45 am

Breakout One: Middle East Security & Global Markets

Hosted by Bloomberg Economics

8:45 AM Qatar – Five Themes Driving the Middle East: From Oil to Instability

Middle East shifts loom large in 2025. Trump, oil risks and fragile recoveries could shake markets. We unpack five key themes and their impact on energy, debt and the region's global role.

Ziad Daoud, Chief Emerging Markets Economist, Bloomberg Economics

9:00 AM Qatar-In Conversation with Dominic Raab

Dominic Raab, Head of Global Affairs, Appian Capital Advisory LLP; Former Deputy Prime Minister, United Kingdom
Moderator: Ziad Daoud, Chief Emerging Markets Economist, Bloomberg Economics

9:20 AM Qatar – Geopolitics & Economics in The Middle East: A 2025 Forecast

As a new U.S. administration takes charge, the Middle East confronts a volatile economic future marked by geopolitical upheaval and shifting alliances. Leading experts discuss the region's risks and its impact on global markets.

Faisal Al-Nabhani, Managing Director & Country Lead, Oman & Qatar, State Street
Mahmoud Mohieldin, Former Minister of Investment, Egypt; Special Envoy, Financing Sustainable Development, United Nations
Alia Moubayed, Managing Director, MENA & Pakistan Chief Economist, Jefferie
Moderator: Ziad Daoud, Chief Emerging Markets Economist, Bloomberg Economics

9:45 AM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

9:00 am

**Roundtable: The Regional Media Production Industry:
Business Models, Incentives, and Cross-Border
Collaboration**

This session is sponsored by MCQ and is not Bloomberg editorial content. Participation is by invitation only.

**Roundtable: Rethinking Economic Impact and
Development in the AI Era**

The rise of AI is reshaping how we define progress. This roundtable, hosted by Qatar University President Dr. Omar Al Ansari, explores how GCC nations can evolve development strategies beyond traditional KPIs—embracing digital ethics, inclusion, and real-time impact across key sectors like education, media, energy, and technology.

This session is sponsored by Qatar University and is not Bloomberg editorial content. Participation is by invitation only and conversation will be held under Chatham House Rule.

**Breakout Two: It's Time to HODL: Crypto Investor
Outlook**

9:00 AM Qatar – Striking the Balance: Crypto & Regulation

How can leaders best strike the balance between championing cryptocurrency innovation, while having clear, adaptive regulatory oversight that mitigates risks of fraud and market instability.

Konstantinos Adamos, Head of Legal, Cryptoassets, Revolut
Usman Ahmad, Co-Founder & CEO, Zodia Markets
Anatoly Crachilov, CEO & Founding Partner, Nickel Digital Asset

Management

Lucy Gazmararian, Founder & Managing Partner, Token Bay Capital

Moderator: Anna Irrera, Crypto Senior Editor, Bloomberg

9:40 AM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

10:00 am

The Global Investor Outlook

Two of the world's most notable investors share their overview on today's volatile markets and tell us where the smart money is going.

Speakers:

[H.E. Sheikh Saoud Salem Abdulaziz Al-Sabah](#)

Managing Director, Kuwait Investment Authority

[Howard Marks](#)

Co-Chairman, Oaktree Capital Management

Moderator:

[Stephanie Flanders](#)

Head of Economics & Government, Bloomberg

10:25 am

Riding the Macro Wave: What's Coming Next?

We take the big picture view. AI, geopolitics, inflation, globalization, demographics and the energy transition. What's the state of play in these huge shifts and how will global business look different in the next decade?

Speakers:

[Katie Koch](#)

President & CEO, The TCW Group

[Rajeev Misra](#)

Founder, One Investment Management

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

10:50 am

Hunting for Growth

Top investors reveal the companies and sectors poised for breakout growth amid economic volatility and rapid technological transformation.

Speakers:

[Marcelo Claure](#)

Co-Chairman & Partner, Brightstar Capital Partners, CEO & Founder, Claure Group

[Jenny Lee](#)

Senior Managing Partner, Granite Asia

[Steven T. Mnuchin](#)

Founder & Managing Partner, Liberty Strategic Capital, Former Secretary, US Department of the Treasury

Moderator:

[Erik Schatzker](#)

Editorial Director, Bloomberg New Economy

11:15 am

Investing in America

We hear from Donald Trump Jr. and Omeed Malik on their unique plans for investing in American industry and innovation.

Speakers:

[Omeed Malik](#)

President, 1789 Capital

[Donald Trump Jr.](#)

Executive Vice President of Development Acquisitions, The Trump Organization, Partner, 1789 Capital

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

11:40 am

Multi-Team, Multi-Sport & Multi-Media

Owning multiple teams across multiple sports is the trend that will drive the multi-trillion dollar global sports industry into the next

decade. Big sports investors tell us what's next.

Speakers:

[Mark Attanasio](#)

Co-Founder, Crescent Capital, Chairman & Principal Owner, Milwaukee Brewers

[Ted Leonsis](#)

Founder, Chairman, Managing Partner & CEO, Monumental Sports & Entertainment

[Amanda Staveley](#)

CEO, PCP Capital Partners

Moderator:

[Jason Kelly](#)

Chief Correspondent, Bloomberg Originals, Host & Executive Producer, "Power Players"

12:00 pm

CFO Roundtable: The New Risk Reality

This exclusive roundtable at the Qatar Economic Forum, Powered by Bloomberg, is the second installment of our Bloomberg CFO Briefing. We created this series to give chief financial officers from around the world an opportunity to share perspectives and learnings on key issues they confront performing one of the most demanding roles in the corporate world.

In Doha, we invite participants to discuss the challenge of business risk management at a time of geopolitical upheaval in the global economy. Specifically, we'll explore how CFOs operating in different regions view the current landscape and see conditions evolving. Among the topics we hope to discuss are: trade policy, energy supplies, regulatory regimes, and market volatility.

Participation is by invitation only. Attendance is limited.

12:05 pm

Powering AI: Confronting Growing Demand

Utilities were already transforming the way they operate—from grid security and stability, to renewables and new gas infrastructure—then the AI driven data center boom came along. With power demand set to hit unprecedented levels globally,

industry leaders tell us how they are transforming.

Speakers:

[Markus Krebber](#)

CEO , RWE AG

[Julian Nebreda](#)

President & CEO, Fluence Energy

Moderator:

[Francine Lacqua](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

12:30 pm

Networking Lunch

12:45 pm

Breakout One: What is Trumponomics for the Middle East? : A Special Podcast Taping

12:45 PM Qatar – Welcome Remarks

12:50 PM Qatar – What is Trumponomics for the Middle East? : A Special Podcast Taping

Donald Trump's return to the White House has had wide-ranging ramifications for the Middle East, from his approach to the future of Gaza, to his attitude towards Iran, and his plans for shaking up the global energy markets. Will Washington remain a major partner for Gulf States on defense, technology and investments? How will Trump's economic policies and plans shape the region's future?

Ziad Daoud, Chief Emerging Markets Economist, Bloomberg Economics

Dina Esfandiary, Middle East Geoeconomics Lead, Bloomberg

John Micklethwait, Editor-in-Chief, Bloomberg

Moderator: Stephanie Flanders, Head of Economics & Government, Bloomberg

1:30 PM Qatar – Podcast Taping Concludes; Live Audience Q&A

1:45 PM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

Breakout Two: Global Real Estate: Supply & Demand

12:45 PM Qatar – The Future of Real Estate Supply & Demand

Managers, developers and regulators tell us the latest real estate dynamics, from emerging construction trends to new consumer preferences and regulatory shifts. We find out what's being built and who's buying.

H.E. Khalid Al-Obaidli, President, Real Estate Regulatory Authority
– Aqarat

David L. Steinbach, Global Chief Investment Officer, Hines

Fettah Tamine, Founder & Chairman, Rixos Hotels

Moderator: Zainab Fattah, Money & Power Reporter, Bloomberg

1:15 PM Qatar – The Future of New York: In Conversation With
Scott Rechler

Scott Rechler, Chairman & CEO, RXR

Moderator: Jason Kelly, Chief Correspondent, Bloomberg Originals;
Host & Executive Producer, “Power Players”

1:35 PM Qatar – In Conversation With Farhad Karim

Farhad Karim, Chairman, Europe & Global Chief Operations
Officer, Private Wealth, Blackstone

Moderator: Erik Schatzker, Editorial Director, Bloomberg New
Economy

1:55 PM Qatar – Close of Breakout

2:00 pm

Plenary Afternoon Program Begins

CEOs in the Storm: Navigating Volatile Markets

As global markets fragment and capital flows face disruption, investor CEOs must pivot strategically and tactically. How can investment leaders reposition their businesses, manage client anxieties, embrace emerging opportunities and thrive despite rising geopolitical complexities and economic uncertainty?

Speakers:

[Mathieu Chabran](#)

Co-Founder, Tikehau Capital

[Mark Coombs](#)

CEO, Ashmore Group

[Jenny Johnson](#)

President & CEO, Franklin Templeton

Moderator:

[Erik Schatzker](#)

Editorial Director, Bloomberg New Economy

2:25 pm

Global Real Estate Horizons: Navigating Growth & Demand

As global real estate investments surge, regions like the Gulf are experiencing unprecedented growth, driven by major infrastructure projects, tourism, and a burgeoning expatriate population. We explore new consumer demands, identify the hot markets and pinpoint the trajectory of global real estate demand.

Speakers:

[H.E. Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah Al-Attiya](#)

Minister of Municipality, State of Qatar, Chairman, Qatari Diar Real Estate Investment Company

[Jeff T. Blau](#)

CEO, Related Companies

[Chee Koon Lee](#)

Group CEO, CapitaLand Investment Ltd.

Moderator:

[Jennifer Zabasajja](#)

Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

2:50 pm

Tourism in Focus

We talk luxury, sustainability, health tourism, Gulf competition and China. Join us as we discuss where global tourism is today and where it's headed.

Speakers:

[H.E. Saad Bin Ali Al-Kharji](#)

Chairman, Qatar Tourism, State of Qatar

[Sébastien Bazin](#)

Group Chairman & CEO, Accor

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

3:10 pm

In Conversation With H.E. Hassan Al-Thawadi

We find out how the State of Qatar is leveraging the FIFA World Cup experience to drive economic diversification, attract global mega events and position itself as a global hub for entertainment, sports and media investment.

Speaker:

[H.E. Hassan Al-Thawadi](#)

Managing Director, Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy

Moderator:

[Jason Kelly](#)

Chief Correspondent, Bloomberg Originals, Host & Executive Producer, "Power Players"

3:30 pm

Crypto & Digital Assets: Investing in the New Era

From new regulations to billion-dollar bets, the digital asset space is as unpredictable as ever. We dive into what's next for regulators, platforms and investors as we cover risk, regulation and where the smart money is headed.

Speakers

[Yousuf Mohamed Al-Jaida](#)

CEO, Qatar Financial Centre

[Ola Doudin](#)

Co-Founder & CEO, BitOasis

[Emmanuel Givanakis](#)

CEO, Financial Services Regulatory Authority, Abu Dhabi Global Market

Moderator:

[Anna Irrera](#)

Crypto Senior Editor, Bloomberg

4:00 pm

Close of Day Two Plenary

4:30 pm

Breakout One: Bloomberg New Voices Reception

For the first time at the Qatar Economic Forum, Powered by Bloomberg, New Voices will celebrate senior women in finance with a reception featuring Carmen Haddad, Vice Chair at Citi Private Bank and begin taking applications from women across the Middle East to take part in Bloomberg-funded media training.

Bloomberg New Voices began in 2018 to raise the visibility of female experts and other underrepresented executives in global finance across our media platforms. Since then, more than 700 executives in 16 cities around the world have participated in the initiative and helped nearly quadruple the representation of external female experts on Bloomberg Television.

4:30 PM Qatar – Welcome Reception

5:00 PM Qatar – Welcome Remarks from Bloomberg

John Micklethwait, Editor-in-Chief, Bloomberg

5:05 PM Qatar – Introduction to Bloomberg New Voices

Laura Zelenko, Senior Executive Editor & New Voices Founder,
Bloomberg News

5:10 PM Qatar – In Conversation With Carmen Haddad

Carmen Haddad, Vice Chair, Citi Private Bank
Moderator: Joumanna Bercetche, Anchor, Bloomberg Television

5:30 PM Qatar – Bloomberg New Voices Reception

6:30 PM Qatar – Close of Reception

May 22 - Thursday

8:00 am

Morning Networking

8:30 am

Breakout One: Bloomberg Africa Start-Ups to Watch

8:30 AM Qatar – Welcome Remarks & Introducing the Africa
Startups to Watch List

Arijit Ghosh, Africa Managing Editor, Bloomberg
Jennifer Zabasajja, Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor,
Bloomberg Television

8:35 AM Qatar – Green Innovation for Africa's Future

From solar-powered freezers to electric bikes, Africa is focusing
on practical solutions to problems facing the continent. We

discover how startups are delivering green tech to transform industries and empower communities.

Ayoola Dominic, President & Co-Founder, Koolboks
Uka Eje, CEO, ThriveAgric
Martha Osier, Partner, Adenia
Yuma Sasaki, Founder & CEO, Dodai
Moderator: Jennifer Zabasajja, Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

9:00 AM Qatar – Investing in African Innovation

What's fueling Africa's innovation surge? VCs and startups help us unpack the technologies, sectors and success stories driving transformation across the continent.

Dr. Ola Brown, General Partner & Founder, Healthcap Africa
Sneha Mehta, Co-Founder & CEO, Uncover
Sergio Tati, Co-Founder & CEO, Anda
Moderator: Arijit Ghosh, Africa Managing Editor, Bloomberg

9:25 AM Qatar – AI in Action: Empowering Emerging Markets

Artificial intelligence is revolutionizing innovation across emerging markets. Discover how visionary startups and investors leverage AI to scale solutions and drive growth.

Derrick Akpalu, Co-Founder & CEO, Revna Biosciences
Del Titus Bawuah, CEO, Web3 Africa Group
Hendrik du Toit, Founder & CEO, Ninety One
Moderator: Jennifer Zabasajja, Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

9:50 AM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

8:45 am

Breakout Two: Where to Invest in AI Right Now

8:45 AM Qatar – AI Investment: Chasing Opportunity,

Managing Risk

As AI valuations soar and investor enthusiasm heats up, seasoned players are watching the downside. We track where the smart money is flowing—from core infrastructure to cutting-edge applications—and spotlight where real opportunity may lie once the hype fades and adoption takes hold.

Mohammed Al-Hardan, Head of Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT), QIA

Christina Minnis, Global Head of Credit & Asset Finance & Head of Global Acquisition Finance, Goldman Sachs

Dana Settle, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Greycroft

Moderator: Matthew Martin, Money & Power Reporter, Bloomberg

Power AI

Rob Barnett, Senior Energy Analyst, Bloomberg Intelligence

9:20 AM Qatar – Tech-Driven Capital

Top investors reveal how AI is reshaping their investment strategies and transforming the companies they back. Discover where capital is being allocated, and why technology is at the center of it all.

Yalda Aoukar, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Bracket Capital

Jack Selby, Managing Director, Thiel Capital

Moderator: Alex Dooler, Money & Power Reporter, Bloomberg

9:40 AM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

10:00 am

Opening Address

Speaker:

[Eng. Omar Ali Al-Ansari](#)

Secretary-General, The QRDI Council

10:10 am

In Conversation With Yanis Varoufakis

Economist and former Greek finance minister Yanis Varoufakis unpacks his bold thesis on Big Tech's growing dominance, the emergence of technofeudalism and how digital giants are reshaping global economic power in ways that challenge traditional capitalism.

Speaker:

[Yanis Varoufakis](#)

Former Finance Minister, Greece

Moderator:

[Mishal Husain](#)

Editor-at-Large, Bloomberg Weekend

10:35 am

Tech Investor Outlook: AI is Here. Now What?

AI has boomed. Where is the next big tech investor growth opportunity? Tech investors tell us how they are investing in the current AI adoption phase and identify the other promising technologies worth betting on.

Speakers:

[Samia Bouazza](#)

Group CEO & Managing Director, Multiply Group

[Chris Farmer](#)

Partner & CEO, SignalFire

[Henry B. Nguyen](#)

Chairman, Phoenix Holdings

Moderator:

[Francine Lacqua](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

11:00 am

The Future of Biotech: In Conversation With James Flynn

Biotechnology is booming—but will it last? We get the biotech

outlook from the head of one of the world's largest dedicated healthcare investment firms.

Speaker:

[James Flynn](#)

Managing Partner, Deerfield

Moderator:

[Jennifer Zabasajja](#)

Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

11:20 am

Speaker:

[Rob Barnett](#)

Senior Analyst, Bloomberg Intelligence

11:30 am

Building AI's Backbone: Next-Gen Data Centers

As AI's rapid growth needs more data centers. With global trade and tech headwinds ahead of us, how can we meet the global demand explosion? We explore how tech innovation is combining with real estate investment to help global business reap the full potential of the AI revolution.

Speakers:

[Doug Adams](#)

President & CEO, NTT Global Data Centers

[Navid Chamdia](#)

Head of Real Estate, QIA

[Marc C. Ganzi](#)

CEO, DigitalBridge

[Goodwin Gaw](#)

Chairman, Managing Principal, Member of Investment Committee & Co-Founder, Gaw Capital

Moderator:

[Joumana Bercetche](#)

Anchor, Bloomberg Television

12:00 pm

Bloomberg's Africa Start-Ups to Watch

From Lagos to Nairobi and Cape Town, African startups are transforming finance, energy, food, and tech. Bloomberg's Africa Startups to Watch highlights visionary founders reshaping the continent's economy, attracting investment, and accelerating growth through bold innovation. Start-up founders help us identify the future of African innovation.

Speakers:

[Owusu Akoto](#)

CEO, FreezeLink

[Chilufya Mutale-Mwila](#)

Co-Founder & Chief Visionary Officer, eShandi

[Dennis Mwangi](#)

Managing Partner , Thalia Psychotherapy

Moderator:

[Jennifer Zabasajja](#)

Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

12:25 pm

Networking Lunch & Close of Day Three Plenary

12:45 pm

Breakout One: AI IRL: From Innovation to Application

12:45 PM Qatar – Welcome Remarks & AI Global State of Play

Gary Kazantsev, Head of Quant Technology Strategy, Bloomberg

12:55 PM Qatar – AI's Next Leap Forward: From Assistants to Autonomous Intelligence

AI has rapidly evolved from simplistic digital assistants to autonomous intelligence capable of reasoning and complex problem solving. Where will the biggest leaps forward in innovation be this year?

Ade Famoti, Global Head, Research Incubations, Microsoft Research

Safa Messaoud, Scientist, Qatar Computing Research Institute

Feng Ren, Co-CEO, Chief Science Officer & Head of Drug R&D, Insilico Medicine

Moderator: Gary Kazantsev, Head of Quant Technology Strategy, Bloomberg

1:20 PM Qatar – AI in Action: Practical Applications in the GCC

AI is transforming industries across the Middle East, from smart city automation to healthcare, finance, energy and more. We hear from a multi-sector panel of experts on the latest game changing applications in the GCC.

Nour Al Hassan, Founder & CEO, Arabic AI & Tarjama&

Magda Davila, CEO, Middle East & APAC, Clarity AI

Moderator: Tamim Saleh, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company

1:45 PM Qatar – Realizing AI's Potential Today

AI is enhancing telecom networks, driving cloud innovation and digital transformation. We find out how Qatar technology leaders are powering growth and connectivity today.

Sheikh Ali Bin Jabor Al-Thani, CEO, Ooredoo Qatar

Lana Khalaf, General Manager, Microsoft Qatar

Moderator: Jennifer Zabasajja, Chief Africa Correspondent & Anchor, Bloomberg Television

2:05 PM Qatar – Breakout Concludes

Breakout Two: The Venture Capital Outlook

12:45 PM Qatar – Beyond Borders: The Global VC Forecast

Top VCs tell us what's coming in the world of startups. We

explore the emerging technologies, regional innovation hotspots and the smart investor strategies shaping the future of global venture capital.

Justin Fishner-Wolfson, Managing Partner, 137 Ventures

Jörg Goschin, CEO, KfW Capital

Jenny Zeng, Founder & Managing Partner, MSA Capital

Moderator: Laura Gardner Cuesta, Money & Power Reporter, Bloomberg

1:15 PM Qatar – The Latest From the Middle East VC Boom

The Middle East is one of the world's fastest-emerging startup landscapes. And it now has the VC capital to match. We talk about funds, fund-of-funds, tech trends and identify where the growth opportunities are for VCs investing in the region.

Soumaya Ben Beya Dridje, Partner, Rasmal Ventures

Michael Lints, Partner, Golden Gate Ventures

Alina Truhina, Founding & Managing Partner, Utopia Capital Management

Moderator: Joumanna Bercetche, Anchor, Bloomberg Television

1:45 PM Qatar – Breakout Concludes