



Global  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
Summit

Presented  
by



ENTREPRENEURIAL  
VENTURES OF ARABIA  
Dubai, UAE

The Preeminent Global Summit and Exhibition for  
Innovation, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

11-12 December 2012  
Dubai World Trade Centre



The 3rd Annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit

Launched in Washington, D.C. in 2010 by President of  
the United States Barack Obama, the 3rd Annual Global  
Entrepreneurship Summit now comes to Dubai



Entrepreneurial Ventures of Arabia (EVA) Summit and Expo

Under the Patronage of  
His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum,  
UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai

### **What is the Global Entrepreneurship Summit?**

The Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) will bring together policy-makers, entrepreneurial ecosystem leaders such as investors, educators, and mentors, along with the region's most successful entrepreneurs to discuss the critical global issues of innovation and entrepreneurship, and more importantly, to spur the ideas and actions that foster entrepreneurial growth.

Announced in 2009 by President of the United States Barack Obama in his 'A New Beginning' speech at Cairo University in Egypt, the GES debuted the following year when the President held the first event in Washington, D.C. The 2nd annual GES followed in 2011 hosted by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Istanbul, Turkey.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit will be held in December, 2012 in Dubai alongside the Entrepreneurial Ventures of Arabia (EVA) Summit and Expo. Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister, and Ruler of Dubai, EVA will continue as an annual event of its own, anchoring and coordinating an ongoing regional effort to foster and promote entrepreneurship in the Middle East and Africa.

## **Why is GES-EVA important to the region?**

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is in the process of transforming into one of the world's most dynamic high growth markets. The overwhelming key to that transition will be the development of new businesses, improving competitiveness, raising incomes, and generating employment. As a result, entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are increasingly becoming a priority for policymakers, investors, educators and others who understand the vital roles these groups play in the economic and political health of the region.

Yet the challenges seem daunting. More than 25% of young people in the region are unemployed. The MENA region needs to create 75 million jobs by 2020 - an increase of over 40% from 2011 – just to keep employment levels stable. Although it has a rich history of trade and entrepreneurial activity, in more recent times the region has suffered with a less than ideal support infrastructure for this activity. Regulatory and legal frameworks, access to seed capital, and business-to-business relationships all need improving. And those leaders and path breakers who are starting and growing businesses despite these challenges need greater visibility to potential mentors, investors, customers and business partners.

## **Agenda**

**GES-EVA** will deliver global entrepreneur thought-leaders and power-packed plenary sessions and discussions, alongside a series of knowledge exchanges, mentoring and matchmaking sessions and networking opportunities, let your ideas come to life at GES-EVA 2012.

## **Selected Sessions**

- Entrepreneurship In Emerging Markets - Current Scenario and Future Opportunities
- Creating 'Change' Leaders in the Connected World
- Visioning A Unified MENA Entrepreneurship Ecosystem
- Power Debate: Ever Failed? Fail Again. Fail Better - Turn Failures Into Fortunes
- Hunting For One Believer - From Traditional Avenues and Alternative Channels
- Confessions of a Serial-Entrepreneur

## **To learn more:**

For details or to get involved, contact Kaveh Vessali ([vessalikv@state.gov](mailto:vessalikv@state.gov)) at the U.S. Consulate in Dubai or Trixee Loh ([Trixee.Loh@dwtc.com](mailto:Trixee.Loh@dwtc.com)) at the Dubai World Trade Center.

Or visit [www.ges-eva.com](http://www.ges-eva.com).



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