

OMAN Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“Fifth AL Duqm Forum”

Proposal For:

topics, sessions, and speakers of **the Fifth Duqm Forum**

Oman Conventions and Exhibitions Center - Muscat

October 20, 2024

General Title :

**“Blue Economy
The new destination for investment”**

Pillars of blue economy:

- Logistics and supply chain sector
- Food security investments
- Offshore exploration and mining
- Investments and Touristic activities
- Maritime technology and climate
- Power generation

Introduction

Blue Economy is about the sustainable use and conservation of water resources - **oceans, seas, lakes and rivers** - in order to manage economic growth, improve livelihoods and create jobs, while ensuring respect for the environment, cultural values and biodiversity.

Blue Economy includes **power generation** (electricity) from water energy, as well as mining activities in seas and oceans, marine tourism, fishing and marine creatures activities, extracting raw materials from seas and other forms of economic activity primarily related to water.

Blue Economy and Growth Opportunities in the “Sultanate of Oman”:

The Sultanate of Oman is considered an island of peace and stability. This is the expression used by Professor Dr. Gunther Pauli, author of the book “ **Blue Economy,**” to describe the Sultanate, reason is; having great opportunities of investment in the world of blue economy. He also stressed that the Sultanate’s government is diligent in using financial resources to achieve stability and explained that the Sultanate could enter into the marine mining sector, which is considered an important sector due to the Sultanate’s extensive coastlines and natural resources that can be economically exploited in various sectors, like, the industrial, commercial, medical and touristic sector.

In March 2016, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) chose the Sultanate of Oman, along

with six other Arab countries with pioneering experiences in Fisheries development, to be part of what is known as the blue economy based on marine activities in bodies of water, and that is because the fisheries sector in the Sultanate of Oman played an important role in achieving Food security, because it is considered one of the most important economic and productive sectors

Fifth AL Duqm Forum

In its fifth edition, the Duqm Forum highlights the role that blue economy can play in economic, investment and environmental development and it also enhances projects' growth, human resources employment and creates prosperity for communities living on the coasts of the seas and oceans.

The forum will discuss in its sessions and via international and local experts and speakers, the new destination for governments and investors to benefit from the aquatic wealth surrounding them and how such resources can be exploited to boost economy by using new data and standards and how supply chains, marine life monitoring and navigation can be enhanced with the use of such new technologies .

Main Pillars :

- **Blue Economy** Investments opportunities in Gulf countries
- Investment opportunities in food security in Omani oceans and seas.
- **Blue investments** opportunities in the logistics sector.
- investment opportunities in tourism and renewable energy sectors and how to develop them in the Sultanate of Oman.
- **(The Blue Investor)** showcase international experiences, global and local investors in blue economy.

The conference will also include : hosting international experiences that have achieved success in developing **blue economy** and a dedicated special exhibition.

Strategic Goals :

- 1- Talk about the size of wealth reserves found in seas, oceans and beaches that can be exploited for economic growth and for the prosperity of society.
- 2- Discuss investment opportunities that can be provided by the blue water sector that can revitalize the productive sectors and create jobs for local/national human resources.
- 3- Highlight International experiences with extensive knowledge in the field of investment in blue economy.
- 4- Talk about the Sultanate's map and its vision for developing this sector and benefit from its coastline extending for more than 3,000 km.
- 5- Collect all the visions and experiences that will be presented at the forum in order to formulate them into outputs that benefit decision-makers and policymakers in this sector.
- 6- Talk about the importance of water wealth and environmental sustainability that preserves blue economy sector in the Sultanate.
- 7- Highlight some studies, research and innovations related to this sector.

Target groups :

- Economic and investment policy makers

- Business experts and investors in the following sectors : logistics, tourism, oil as well as investors in environmental, industrial and technological sectors.
- Investors and companies working in minerals, oil and petrochemicals exploration in seas and oceans.
- Investors and companies working in ports management, maritime transport and supply chains.
- Investors and companies working in fish farming and food security projects.
- Investors and companies working in touristic projects and cruise ship activities.
- Manufacturing, insurance and maritime shipping companies.
- Technology companies specialized in managing blue economy projects.
- Academics and researchers in blue economy investment sector.