



Gulf Research Center

Knowledge for All

The Gulf In-Depth

Executive Learning Program



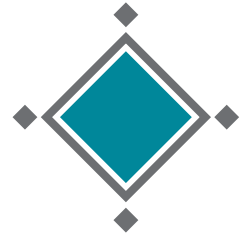
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

April 6 to 9, 2009



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A Program of Strategic Importance

The Gulf has emerged as the world's key strategic political and economic region and as the bridge between East and West.

- ◆ The Gulf contains two-thirds of the world's proven reserves of oil and currently supplies 30% of world total demand. Dependency on the Gulf will likely increase in the near future.
- ◆ The Gulf States boast among the highest GDPs per capita in the world with strong business relations throughout the world. The GDP of the GCC countries has doubled by over 75% from 2003 to 2007. The cumulative current surplus in 2007 reached 700 billion US dollars.
- ◆ The geographic location of the Gulf at the junction of Europe, Asia and Africa means developing partnerships with these regions and new opportunities.
- ◆ The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is home to Islam and the center of the Islamic world.
- ◆ The Gulf region has witnessed three major conflicts in the past 25 years. These conflicts have had a world wide impact. Current events in Iraq and Japan have consequences on regional stability.
- ◆ The Gulf region is in the midst of accelerating and transformational political and economic change.

Understanding of the Gulf region today is absolutely essential.





What Is “The Gulf In-Depth” Program?

- ◆ An innovative and in-depth executive learning program focusing on the key strategic aspects of the Arab Gulf Region and its linkages to the international community.
- ◆ An opportunity to gain unprecedented knowledge and insight into the workings of the Arab Gulf region from knowledgeable practitioners and insiders.
- ◆ A program bringing together leaders from government, business, academia and the independent sector for a week long session of highly focused presentations and intense debate.
- ◆ An initial building block in the establishment of a life-long network of experts.
- ◆ Held in Dubai, the program blends knowledge of the region, experiences of the Gulf’s dynamic growth and its traditional heritage.



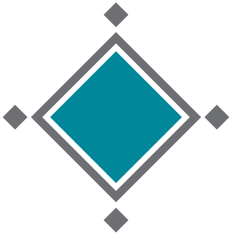


Providing Insight into the Intricacies of Gulf Life

Understanding the essence of the distinctive social and political structures in the Gulf is essential to comprehending and utilizing its strategic importance. To this end, the program provides for:

- ◆ Opportunities to learn from experts on Gulf society, culture, politics, economics and security.
- ◆ Understanding the links between the Gulf and key strategic regions of the globe and what they mean for the development of the region.
- ◆ Uncovering the links between educational and social institutions, politics, economics and media.
- ◆ Discovering possibilities for lucrative investment in one of the fastest-developing regions in the world.
- ◆ Understanding developments in the Gulf region as separate from those in the rest of the Middle East.
- ◆ Promoting dialogue and expanding information exchange on issues of regional and international concerns.





Program Outline

Based on an intensive four day course,
the program sessions include:

DAY 1: STATE AND SOCIETY IN THE GULF

Featured Topics

- ◆ National Identity and Relationships with the Outside World
- ◆ Understanding the Decision-Making Process in the Gulf
- ◆ Understanding Gulf Institutions
- ◆ Contemporary Roles of Tradition and Religion

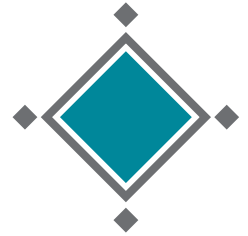
DAY 2: THE GULF ECONOMY

Featured Topics

- ◆ Oil, Gas, and Energy Markets in the Gulf
- ◆ The Challenges of the Gulf Labor Markets
- ◆ Prospects for GCC Economic Integration
- ◆ Trade and Foreign Investment in the Gulf



At the end of the program, it is expected that participants will walk away well-equipped with a strong background in Gulf affairs and well-prepared to discuss and interact with the region on a number of levels.



DAY 3: SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE IN THE GULF

Featured Topics

- ◆ Promoting Good Governance
- ◆ The role of education as a driving force for development
- ◆ The Rising Importance of Environmental Issues in the Gulf
- ◆ Gulf Media and its Impact on Gulf Society

DAY 4: GULF FOREIGN AND SECURITY ISSUES

Featured Topics

- ◆ The Foreign and Security Policies of the GCC States
- ◆ Security Challenges in the Gulf: The Cases of Iran and Iraq
- ◆ Terrorism and Threats to Gulf Stability
- ◆ The Gulf and its Relations to the US, Europe and Asia

Contact

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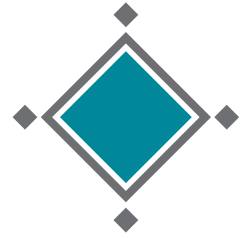
Added Values of the “Gulf In-Depth” Program

- ◆ Customized content for each program session to maximize relevance and enhance value.
- ◆ A conference reader containing background readings and course materials. This reader will serve as reference tool even after the program is concluded.
- ◆ Building exclusive institutional and organizational partnerships among all participants.
- ◆ Providing a forum for continuous e-learning through the provision of services on the GRC website related to Gulf issues and their relationship to current and future developments.
- ◆ Join an alumni network that seeks to establish lasting partnerships.
- ◆ Focusing on problem-solving mechanisms as a means to promote relationships and gain knowledge.





Participants at the 2006 "Gulf In-Depth" Executive Learning Program



Providing Unparalleled Experience and Expertise

The Program is being coordinated by the Gulf Research Center, the only independent think tank in the region and a pioneer of a number of academic research programs and political, social, economic and strategic initiatives. The GRC combines the qualities of research expertise, a broad network of researchers and partners from which to draw on with its in-depth knowledge about the current status of public policy research in the Arab world and the Gulf region.

Methodology

Oman. The program is developed around three layers:

- ◆ **CLASSROOM TEACHING** structured around individual presentations focusing on a specific aspect of the overall topic.
- ◆ **OPEN DISCUSSION PERIODS** to strengthen analytical skills and to provide a forum for better communication and interaction among the participants.
- ◆ **INTERACTION WITH GCC PERSONALITIES** to build a strong network of contacts on which they can build for future relationships.





Who Should Attend?

- ◆ **Government officials** whose work relates to the Gulf and who wish to gain a deep understanding of the political, social and economic intricacies of the region in order to be able to see developments within a larger context.
- ◆ **Corporate officials** who wish to take advantage of the growing commercial opportunities in the region. By having a more comprehensive understanding of the opportunities and obstacles present, chances for successful business endeavours are far greater.
- ◆ **Mid- to high-level professionals** who seek a qualitative edge to the information they receive and to the relationships they want to build.

The Gulf In-Depth Program reflects the complexities of today's global environment and the overlapping and intersecting interests of various sectors of society. As such, the composition of the participants is a reflection of the multitude of institutions concerned with the current status and future development of the Gulf region.





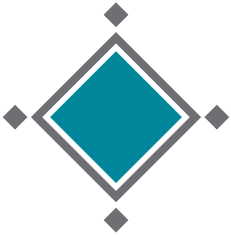
Eligibility

The conference language will be English thus applicants must have a thorough working knowledge of the English language to be able to follow the presentations and engage in detailed discussion and exchange of opinion.

Successful candidates are expected to attend all sessions of the program meaning they have to be able to confirm their availability for the entire period of the workshop. Participants are given one day each for arrival and departure.

Once candidates have been accepted, they will be provided with a user-name and password enabling them access to the dedicated program website which includes the program's reading materials and their personal information. Participants will be able to use their access to receive any updates to the program, edit their own profiles or convey any questions and concerns to the relevant GRC personnel. As material will be constantly added right up the beginning of the program, individuals will be encouraged and expected to check in regularly to the web portal.





Logistics

Date

April 6-9, 2009

Location

Dubai, United Arab Emirates. at the GRC's main office

Fees

The fee for the Gulf In-Depth Program is 2,950 US-dollars. This fee includes attendance of all lectures and discussion groups, course materials, daily lunches and dinners on selected evenings. Not included in the fee are hotel accommodations and travel to and from Dubai. The GRC will be able to offer preferential rates at the venue site.





Application

To apply for the program, a completed application form must be submitted to the Gulf Research Center. A form is included or can be downloaded through the GRC website. Prospective candidates are encouraged to apply online. Only complete applications will be considered.

Deadline

The deadline for registration and payment is February 15th, 2009

Contact

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