



**Economic Forum**  
**FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**



# THE IDEA

## HOW WAS THE EFSD ESTABLISHED



The idea of establishing the Economic Forum for Sustainable Development dates to 2017, when Professor Manahel Thabet, a Professor of Economy of Yemeni origin, specializing in financial engineering and mathematics, accepted a broad invitation from the directors of independent Yemeni economic institutions to an informal meeting in the City of London. This took place in UK last February 2017, with the aim of focusing on economic development aspect, the first phase of human return and reconstruction in Yemen.

Before that, Professor Thabet made a tour to Egypt and met with Ambassador of Yemen, Dr. Mohammad Marem, and Yemeni minister of Commerce Dr. Mohammed al-Maytami at the Yemeni embassy in Cairo. She discussed with them ways to use Yemeni economic expertise to mobilize support and to energize the reconstruction phase and the revival of the Yemeni economy.

Prof. Manahel Thabet subsequently met with Dr. Kamal Hassan, Deputy Secretary-General of the Arab League States for Economic Affairs, as well as Dr Riyad Akbari, Permanent Representative of Yemen to the Arab League, and Mohammed Rabi, Chairman of the Organization of Arab Economic Unity.

Prof. Thabet stressed that she was striving to mobilize many diverse economic energies, businessmen and economists, both Yemeni and Arab, to support the Yemeni economy, to save the citizens from the crisis that had almost killed them and announced: "Enough politics when people are dying."

Prof. Thabet expressed her deep concern at the worsening humanitarian situation in her home country, Yemen, to many Yemeni officials and economic-related figures at the Arab League, saying: "People are dying of starvation and disease with fatal illnesses, and the lives of millions of people in Yemen must be saved before anything else."

She then directed a wide-ranging invitation from the directors of independent Yemeni economic institutions, businessmen and economic figures to an informal meeting in London In May 2018, with the aim of focusing on the economic development aspect, the first phase of human reconstruction and infrastructure rebuilding in Yemen.

# THE BOARD

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Chairman of the Board



The Economic Forum for Sustainable Development

is set up by Professor Manahel Thabet. Her leadership will guarantee rigorous standards in the context of ensuring a high-quality economic platform to deal transparently with all the difficulties of the reconstruction phase of Yemen. Professor Thabet's credentials are as a world-renowned economic figure, recognized by The UN and International community, and who enjoys wide privileges, holding numerous global recognitions, one of them being the significant privilege of the Freedom of the City of London.

Board members have been selected carefully and are free from any and all engagement with political parties, to ensure that the economic outlook is neutral, away from the current political conflict.

### Board of Directors

**Dr. Omar AbdulAziz**, Professor of Economics, who holds several Arab and international honors, one of the main moving engines of Arab culture and economical thinking in particular with more than 30 years of experience. Dr. Omar AbdulAziz is one of the main founders and Vice-President of the Economic Forum for Sustainable Development and his presence as an active member of the Governing Council is a major support and a major knowledge wealth that will enrich the participation and work of the Forum at the Yemeni and international levels. The Board of Directors also includes.

**Mr. Mohammed Abdo Hayel Saeed**, a businessman who has contributed significantly to moving the Yemeni economy to local, regional and global content.

The impartiality of the membership is the essential foundation that will give high credibility to the strategic plans and economic visions that will receive a strong and assured support of international financial institutions, donors and the United Nations. This initiative, therefore, launches the first and inaugural highly credible Yemeni Economic Forum. Up to now, no such body has existed to strategies and direct the future of this war ravaged, yet potentially rich and fertile land!



# STRATEGY

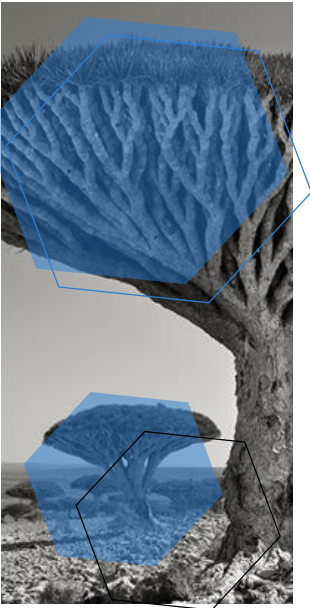
## THE ECONOMIC FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

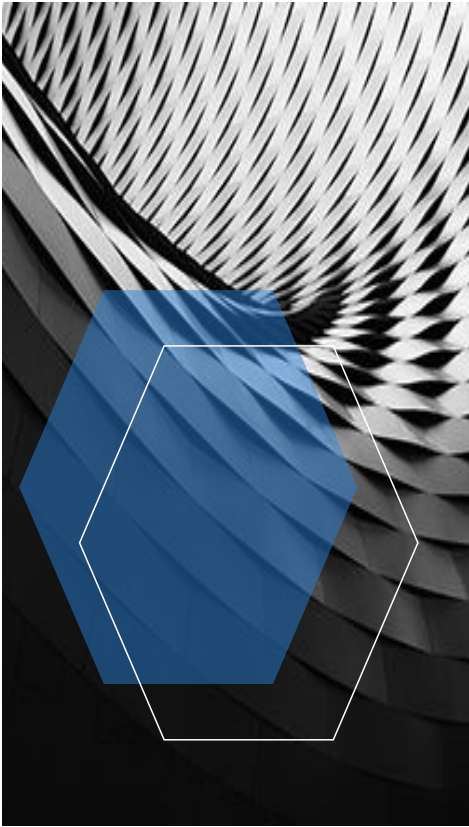
The Economic Forum for Sustainable Development is an independent, non-profit international organization. The Forum undertakes to provide studies and economic insights in order to improve Yemen's economic situation and its reconstruction phase. By involving independent Yemeni and foreign economists, the forum provides insights on Economic and trade agendas, especially Yemeni, Arab and international, industrial and economic policies, investment laws and consultations to restructure Yemen's debt situation.

The Forum's motto is "Constructive activities in the service of Yemeni economic interests."

Participants in the forum include: economic leaders, businessmen, entrepreneurs and experts from various fields. They will meet seasonally to discuss Yemeni economic issues and how to involve Yemen economically in its regional and international environment.

The Forum members are selected by acclamation from the Board of Directors. Partners are carefully selected members or companies who will be active in Forum activities. The Forum is the highest Yemeni non-governmental economic entity.





# MISSION OF THE FORUM

"WE AIM TO BECOME THE ECONOMIC THINK TANK" -mission statement.

## **The mission of the Forum is:**

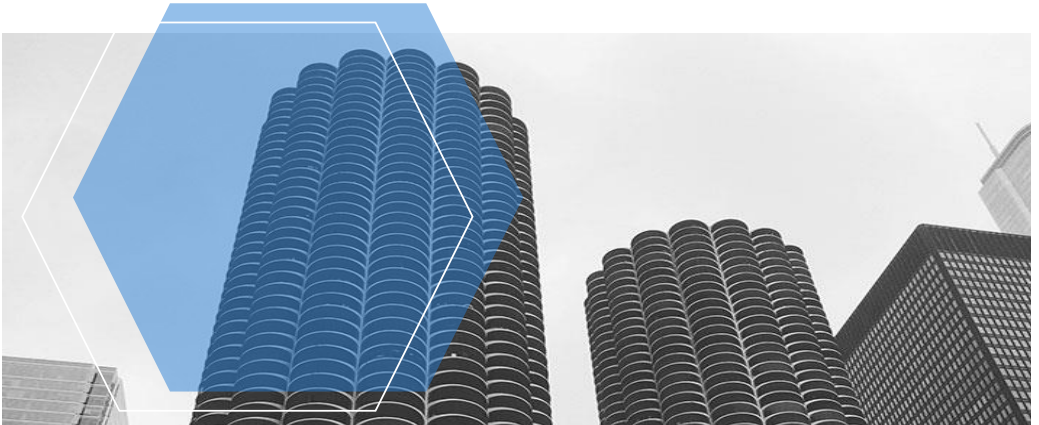
An independent organization tasked with studying and anticipating the development of Yemen's economic conditions and the reconstruction of Yemen. The Forum is working in accordance with Yemen's desire to increase economic growth and social development, and it serves Yemen in general by creating a partnership among businessmen and women, entrepreneurs, politicians, intellectuals and leaders. They will also look into other community issues to identify, and study, such as: salaries, pension funds, SME €™s trade and investment laws and regulations and/or other basic economic topics on the Yemeni agenda. As a voluntary institution, the Forum is constrained by non-interference in politics or advocacy in national conflicts.

# THE PLAN

## SHORT TERM PLAN 2018 - 2019

The APPG in the British Parliament accepted the Declaration of the launch of the Economic Forum for Sustainable Development. On September 03, 2018 in The Palace of Westminster, under the chairmanship of Keith Vaz, MP, Chair of the APPG Committee of Yemen Affairs. The plenary session will be co-chaired by Professor Manahel Thabet, with, in attendance, members of the Board of Directors, Dr. Omar Abdulaziz, Mr. Mohammed Abdo Hayel Saeed.

The first meetings of the Economic Forum for Sustainable Development will be held in early September 2018, and the meetings will focus on the reconstruction and rescheduling of Yemen debts, as well as the discussion of the most important topics and future economic, investment and trade requirements in Yemen. The Forum's governing body will adopt a highly selective policy of inviting distinguished individuals who will be called.



# MANAGEMENT OF THE FORUM

The Management of EFSD are leading Chairmen, CEOs and academic Professionals. Composed they set the strategic sequence of the EFSD. The Management members also use their own resources, expertise and networks to comprehend the success of the EFSD. Management Members join EFSD by invitation only.

VP Advisory Board: Raymond Keene OBE

VP Research and Development: Prof Fredrick J. Trowman

Event Management: Don Morris

## Financing of the Forum

The Forum is self-funded through board members and will be examining future methods on how to engage future supporters.

## Forum Management

The forum is run by the institutional sphere headed by Professor Thabet (where she is responsible for the long-term establishment and direction of the Forum's strategies, orientations and objectives).





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