

The Overview



- Manufacturers play a crucial role in the economy, accounting for about 17% of global GDP. They generate wealth for investors, pay taxes to government and employ half a billion people globally. They are far too important to be allowed to fail. But they are drifting into crisis.
- Driven by the digital revolution, convergence is everywhere breaking down barriers: between different technologies and between different domains of knowledge, such as electronics and biology. Convergence is disrupting established business models, delivering threats for some, opportunities for others and question-marks for businesses, governments and civil society.
- What's urgently needed is a global, cross-industry forum for business and political leaders to seek order in the chaos. They need to ask fundamental questions, find transformational answers and take action for the benefit of business, society and the environment.
- A world first, Global Manufacturing & Industry Summit will offer a voice and a venue for leaders with vision to shape the future of manufacturing. The launch and First Edition is to be held over three days in Abu Dhabi, with a personally- invited audience of 1,200 delegates. Funded by global businesses as founding partners, strategic partners or sponsors, it is intended that the Summit will meet every two years.
- GMIS will deliver a voice for transformational ideas, a venue for the generation of new networks and cross-industry partnerships, a showcase for pilot projects arising from cross-industry research, and a post-Summit Report with recommendations for action to be submitted to global stakeholders.
- GMIS is hosted by the UAE Ministry of Economy and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- UNIDO's purpose in co-hosting GMIS is to pursue its aim of fostering inclusive and sustainable industrial development across the world through technical co-operation, analytical and policy advisory services, standard-setting and compliance and partnership. The Sustainable Development Goals, which relate to industrialization, innovation and economic growth, have been agreed by all member countries of the United Nations.

- The UAE Ministry of Economy's aim is to promote the role of manufacturing in the UAE's diversification from oil and gas, especially timely in light of the current high volatility in energy prices. In January 2016, the government announced its intention for manufacturing to more than double its contribution to GDP from 11% today to 25% over the next 10 years. In 2015 values alone, this represents an increase of AED 250 billion (\$68 billion), a huge opportunity for global businesses and investors, which GMIS partners will be ideally placed to exploit.
- The First Edition will feature an exhibition of UAE and other GCC manufacturing, plus a B2B networking platform that will bring together investors, buyers and suppliers for potential technical and commercial partnerships, to run in parallel with the Summit itself. Abu Dhabi in particular is funding manufacturing interests all over the world through its Mubadala investment arm. A knowledge broker centered between the emerging East and the developed West, between the affluent North and the poorer South, Abu Dhabi is an ideal strategic location for GMIS.
- To generate input for the Summit, there will be a GMIS Global Roadshow: a series of workshops for C-suite leaders from government, business and civil society. Visiting 10 major cities we will build a starting point for discussion on trends, challenges and potential solutions for the manufacturing sector, capitalize on opportunities for innovation and creativity, and explore how industry stakeholders can develop mutually beneficial partnerships. These partnerships are important, as we are seeking concrete outcomes, not just contributions to the debate.
- First Edition will be produced in association with The Economist.

Co-Chair and Host



Co-Chair

