

New innovations make responsible finance stronger and more inclusive

- Responsible Finance & Investment Summit 2017 will explore intersection of fintech, ESG and Islamic finance
- Speakers from Europe, the Middle East, Asia and the U.S. will share insights to highlight how technology and responsible finance combine to make a global impact
- Early-bird registration opens today with a limited number of discounted passes

January 24, 2017, Zurich, Switzerland – Bringing together a diversity of perspectives is critical for continuing the growth occurring within responsible finance. On this premise, the Responsible Finance & Investment Summit 2017 will convene in Zurich, Switzerland from 3-4 May 2017 around the theme “Building Bridges, Expanding Impact”.

Recent estimates from industry stakeholders show continued growth in responsible finance assets in many geographies and sectors. Responsible investment in Europe grew by 42% during the past 2 years, while in the U.S., assets grew by 33%. In Islamic finance, which has a global presence with a significant presence in Europe, the Middle East and Asia, growth in the last 2 years has been 21%. Identifying actionable areas for collaboration will support continued growth towards a more sustainable financial system.

The Responsible Finance Summit 2017 will address some of the most important areas for future growth of responsible finance including ethical & responsible fintech, ESG integration by asset owners in Emerging Markets, and ways in which Islamic finance can support greater financial inclusion. These will be the important drivers needed for responsible finance to continue its recent growth trajectory and enter new markets.

Blake Goud, CEO of the Responsible Finance & Investment Foundation (RFI) commented: “The upcoming Summit builds on our event last year in Kuala Lumpur hosted by Bank Negara Malaysia which focused on opportunities for responsible finance in emerging markets. This year we expect to build on the common themes driving responsible finance activities while adding perspectives from many of the global asset managers who bring long track records of responsible investment and ESG integration.”

Mounir Khouzami, President and Co-Founder of Swiss Arab Network commented: “We have been excited by the response to the Summit’s announcement from responsible investment leaders in Europe, the largest responsible investment market in the world. Connecting European asset and wealth managers with financial institutions and asset owners from other regions including from across the Arab World is key to promoting further dialogue”

For more information about the Responsible Finance & Investment Summit 2017, or to register at an exclusive early bird rate, visit www.rfisummit.org.

We would like to thank our partners for their support for the Summit including Alexander & Partner, DDCAP Group, the Bahrain Economic Development Board, Eiger Trading Advisors Ltd, Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (FNG), IsFin, the Islamica 500, Luxembourg for Finance,

Millenium Associates AG, Saudia, SEDCO Capital, Swiss Finance + Technology Association, Thomson Reuters and Zoccolillo Partner.

For updates on the Summit, follow the [RFI Foundation](#) and [Swiss Arab Network](#) on LinkedIn, or connect with us on Twitter @RFIFoundation or using #RFISummit17.

About the Responsible Finance & Investment Summit 2017

The Summit, to be held on 3 and 4 May 2017 at the Atlantis Hotel by Giardino in Zurich, Switzerland, will play a vital role in connecting representatives from across the responsible finance industry to build on the growing cooperation between responsible investment (RI), environmental, social and governance (ESG) and Islamic finance. The RFI Summit in Zurich is an initiative of the RFI Foundation and Swiss Arab Network, two globally active nonprofits institutions seeking to build awareness of shared values that can bring together people from various backgrounds working towards similar goals connected to generating benefits to society.

About RFI Foundation

The RFI Foundation is a non-profit organisation with a mission to identify a neutral, nonpartisan and universal value proposition that encourages convergence of responsible finance practices. RFI evolves Sustainable, Responsible, Impact Investing (SRI), Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and the Islamic finance sectors towards a convergence of their shared standards, and engages stakeholders to build the responsible finance industry as a catalyst to support equitable, inclusive and sustainable economic development. Visit us at www.rfi-foundation.org

About Swiss Arab Network

The Swiss Arab Network (SAN) is a non-profit networking organization with headquarter in Zurich and affiliations in the Arab world that strives to bridge gaps, promote sustainable exchange and intensify the mutual understanding among Swiss and Arab people. SAN is a networking platform and organizes events and gives speeches on topics like Swiss and Arab finance, business, culture, art and film. Established and high-profile organisations from Switzerland and the Arab world are members of the network. Visit us at www.swissarab.org

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