

RFI Summit announces roundtable on responsible finance, FinTech and the CDIT Initiative

With the support of leading responsible finance institutions, the RFI Summit will bring two days of discussions on critical elements that support responsible finance in the MENA region and beyond.

London, United Kingdom, 18 April 2019 – The Responsible Finance & Investment Foundation and Swiss Arab Network are excited to announce the addition of another event alongside the RFI Summit, the CDIT Roundtable hosted by DDCAP Group. This roundtable will offer a focus into the linkages between FinTech and responsible finance and will occur on 28 April from 1:30pm to 4:30pm at the Four Seasons Abu Dhabi at Maryah Island, adjacent to Abu Dhabi Global Market.

The roundtable addresses a critically important issue of the role of technology in supporting the responsible finance industry and in strengthening the opportunities for responsible FinTech. It also reiterates the RFI Summit’s commitment to carrying forward the outcomes beyond the end of the formal Summit activities.

The CDIT Initiative uses collaboration and decentralisation to create incentives to rebuild trust between finance and society. It is working to address the data and reporting gaps in relation to the financial industry’s role in responsible finance and emerged from discussions during a roundtable at the RFI Summit 2018 on “Blockchain for Sustainable & Inclusive Finance”. Those discussions led to the initiative’s creation and announcement on the sidelines of the G20 in Buenos Aires, Argentina during the third “Value Based Investor” conference organised by Banco de la Nación Argentina held in September 2018.

A 12-person Advisory Board was appointed in February 2019 to oversee the development of the CDIT Initiative. Advisory Board members will join the roundtable in Abu Dhabi to continue progress on the initiative.

Blake Goud, CEO of RFI Foundation commented: “We are excited to see the progress continue on the CDIT Initiative, which emerged out of the RFI Summit 2018. We’re looking forward to gain insights from further discussion to assist the Advisory Board in guiding the continued development of the CDIT Initiative.”

Mounir Khouzami, Executive Board Member, Chairman of the Advisory Board and Co-Founder of Swiss Arab Network added: “We look forward to a focused discussion to expand the role for the CDIT initiative to gather support from across the Middle East’s financial markets as responsible finance grows in prominence.”

For more information about the RFI Summit, and to register, please visit www.rfisummit.org/.

About the Responsible Finance & Investment Summit 2019

The RFI Summit will be held at Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM), a broad-based international financial centre for local, regional and international institutions, on 29 April 2019 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The RFI Summit 2019 will bring together key stakeholders within responsible finance to build connections to new growth opportunities and more measurable impact. It plays a vital role in connecting representatives from across the global responsible finance industry to build on the growing cooperation between SRI, ESG and Islamic finance. Now in its fourth year, the RFI Summit is an initiative of the RFI Foundation and Swiss Arab Network to build awareness of shared values that can bring socially responsible investing (SRI), environmental, social and governance (ESG) and Islamic finance together to increase their positive impact.

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 organisation with headquarters 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 organises 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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