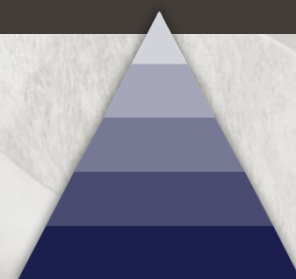


Established in 1994

Asbar Center and Related Initiatives: *An Overview*



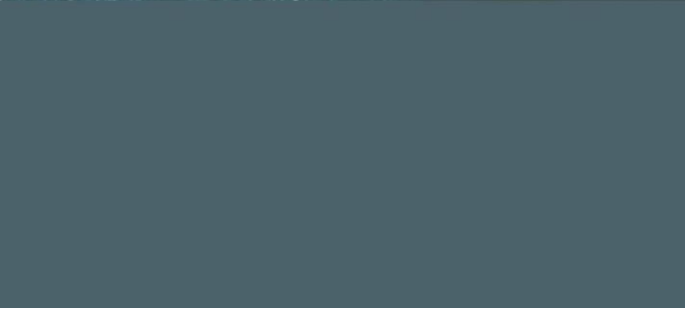
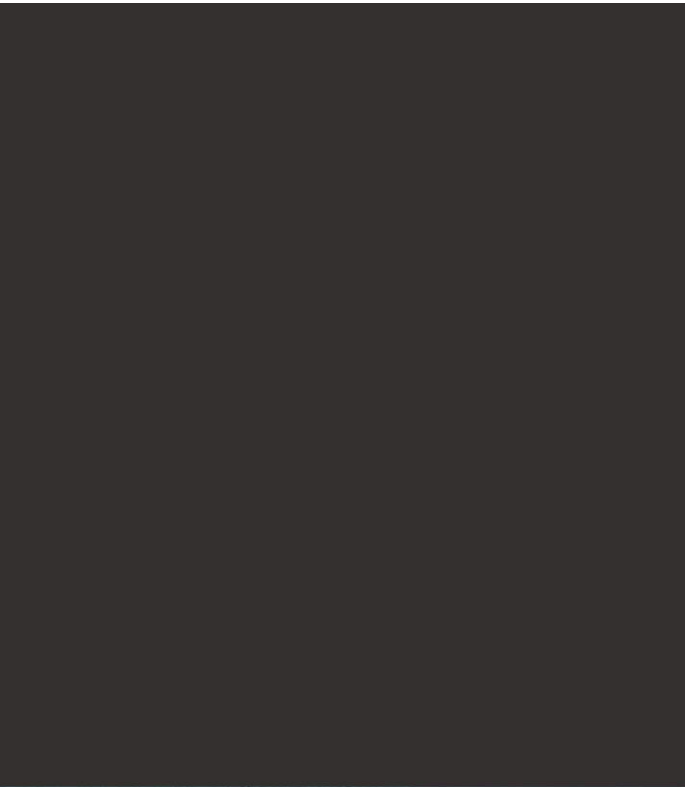
مركز أسبار
ASBAR CENTER
(Studies & Research)



Asbar
World
Forum
منتدى أسبار الدولي
(Conference & Events)

أسبار
ملتقى

(Think Tank)



Asbar Center:

Established in 1994

We are a scientific organization concerned with conducting studies and research on development and policies. Asbar Center has outstanding initiatives in dialogues and thinking including "Asbar Council", which is a think-tank with a pool of more than one hundred thinkers, researchers and experts. Other initiatives include "Asbar World Forum" which is concerned with holding conferences, symposia and workshops that complement the intellectual and scientific products of the Center.

◉ **Objectives**

- Providing consultations, research and policy development.
- Articulating ideas and enhancing dialogue.
- Providing theoretical and applied solutions for the current issues.
- Supporting the knowledge community, innovation and future prospective.
- Linking the research projects, consultations, and events with the community needs and problems.

◉ **Vision**

Asbar Center strives to become a prominent consulting center and a think-tank in the Arab region.

◉ **Mission**

Participating in the development of society, raising the efficiency of decision-making in the relevant institutions and assisting such institutions in drafting the policies related to development through providing systematic consulting services, conducting scientific studies, hosting meetings, conferences and workshops.

◉ **Fields of work:**

- Strategic studies.
- Social studies.
- Political studies.
- Polls.
- Media studies and consultations.
- Organization of conferences and events (Asbar World Forum).
- Hosting dialogues, symposia and workshops (Asbar Council).
- Dictionaries and encyclopedias.

④ **Samples of studies conducted by the Center over the past years:**

• **Social Studies and Research**

- The Religiosity of Saudis.
- The Uses of Internet in the Saudi society.
- The Saudi Youth: Concerns, Issues and Aspirations
- The Saudi Youth and the Other
- The Educational Setting as Seen by the Saudi Youth
- Women's Issues and Rights as Seen by the Saudi Youth
- The Saudi Youth's Estimation of Religious Commitment Among their Peers
- The Economic Problems which the Saudi Youth Believe they Suffer from
- Problems Facing the Saudi Society as Seen by the Saudi Youth
- The Exposure of the Saudi Youth to the Media and Cultural Tools
- The Saudi Youth and Leisure Problems
- The Estimation of the Saudi Youth for the Emotional and Social Problems they Suffer from
- The Inmates of Correctional and Surveillance Centers in the Kingdom and the Reasons for their Return after Discharged

• **Economic Studies & Research**

- The Oil Pricing Components: From the Well to the End Consumers in Europe and the World.
- Traders' Trends and Expectations in the Saudi Stock Market.
- The Traders' Characteristics in the Saudi Stock Market and the Factors Affecting their Decisions
- Developmental Impacts of the Saudi Development Funds.
- Damages and Risks Caused by the Failure of the Saudi Stock Market.

• **Developmental Studies**

- Studying the trends of the youth sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Studying the youth sector system in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

• **Political Studies**

- Evaluation of the Municipal Elections Experience in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- Evaluation of the National Solidarity Campaign against Terrorism.

- The Future of the Saudi Relationship with Yemen Amid the Status Quo Geopolitical Challenges and the Rise of Houthi's Influence.
- Conversion to Shi'ism in Africa (Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania)
- Towards a comprehensive vision for a national strategy for Saudi soft power.
- **Intellectual Studies**
 - Political Islam in the Arab world (attitudes, experiences and prospects)
 - The Role of Islamic Centers in the West in Maintaining the Islamic Identity and Addressing Islamophobia
- **Documentary Studies**
 - The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: The Land, the Human and the Civilization (issued in Arabic, English and French).
 - Health in a Century (issued in Arabic, English and French).
 - Brides of the Desert (book); addresses the urban development witnessed by the Kingdom and the accompanying development and growth in the municipal services in both the countryside and the urban regions (issued in Arabic, English and French).
 - The Painters' Garden (book); deals with the true art of the architectural culture of the southern regions and cities of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (issued in English and French).
- **Strategic Studies**
 - The National Strategy of the "Generation's Culture."
 - The Media Strategy of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) 2010 - 2020.
 - The Developmental Demands of Holy Mecca and the Services Provided to the People, Pilgrims and Umrah Performers
- **Media Studies**
 - Performance Evaluation of the Ministry of Culture and Information and Its Institutions: A Sequential Study
 - The Electronic Media Law in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
 - The Attitudes of Saudi Writers and Publications on the War on Iraq.
 - A Content Analysis Study: Published Articles in Newspapers and Electronic Journalism on Tourism in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
 - Foundation Studies for Al Nadwa Newspaper.
 - A Study on Updating the Media Policy in the Kingdom.

- Studies on the Restructuring and Updating of Al Sharqia Print, Press and Media Co.
- Foundation Studies for Al Watan newspaper.
- Foundation Studies for Saheel magazine (forthcoming).
- Monitoring and Analyzing the Read-media Contents on Saudi Aramco.
- The Progress of the Saudi Media (issued in Arabic, English and French).
- A Content Analysis Study on Opinion Articles on Saudi Arabia in the Daily and Weekly Egyptian Newspapers before and after the Decisive Storm Operation (between 26/03/2014 and 25/03/2016).
- A Content Analysis Study on Opinion Articles on Saudi Arabia in the Daily and Weekly Lebanese Newspapers before and after the Decisive Storm Operation (between 26/03/2014 and 25/03/2016).
- A Comparative Content Analysis Study on Okaz Newspaper and the Competing Local Daily Newspapers
- An Analytical Descriptive Study of the Lebanese Channel “Newtv sat” and Its Programs
- ⊙ **The center has designed some scientific standards registered in its name, including:**
 - Asbar scale for religious extremism.
 - Asbar scale for the tendency towards drug addiction.
- ⊙ **Workshops**
 - The national strategy for promoting citizenship and patriotism.
 - The developmental needs of Mecca and the services provided to the pilgrims and Umrah performers.
 - The Saudi-Iranian crisis and its political and security implications.
 - The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Western media.
 - Lebanon: Endless crises, a country for other crises.
 - Correcting the view towards Saudi Salafism and the linkage with terrorism.
 - ISIS, where from? and where to?
 - Arabism of the Arab Shia: the damaged relationship.
 - The future of the American relations with Saudi Arabia and Gulf States in the light of the results of the upcoming American elections.

- The role of the Islamic centers in serving Islam and Muslims in the Western communities.
- The people and the elites in studying the developmental needs of the Holy Mecca and the services provided to the pilgrims and Umrah performers
- The future of the Saudi-Yemen relationship amid the status quo geopolitical challenges and the rise of Houthi's influence
- A workshop on "Vision of the system and directions of the labor sector with regards to the youth in the Kingdom"
- Workshop "The Future of Think Tanks in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia"

⊙ **Initiatives and Projects Launched by the Center:**

Asbar Center launched a number of significant initiatives and projects, including:

- Establishing and launching the Saudi Newspaper "Al-Watan", which was the first newspaper in the southern region and it has a significant place among the Saudi newspapers. Al-Watan has a unique style that sets it apart from other newspapers. Asbar Center made the foundational studies for "Al-Watan" whose first issue was published in 2000.
- Establishing Asbar Council: The Council was established in 2015 and it includes more than one-hundred intellectuals and experts in various disciplines. This is a pioneering experience in the Think-Tank world for enhancing dialogue and sharing ideas.
- Establishing "Asbar World Forum": The Forum was established in 2016 to maximize the opportunities of linking knowledge agents and users together and have a tangible impact on development and society. The Forum is an annual conference held in Riyadh for three days, while its activities and events last throughout the year (lectures, symposia and workshops). It addresses topics like knowledge society, digital transformation and the future.

Website and Social Media

Website: www.asbar.com

Facebook: facebook.com/asbarcentreforstudies

Twitter: [@Asbar_Center](https://twitter.com/Asbar_Center)

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/asbar-center/>

Asbar Council

(Think Tank)

An Initiative of Asbar Center





Asbar Council:

⦿ **About Asbar Council:**

It is one of the important initiatives launched under the umbrella of Asbar Center and it is a non-profit Think-Tank established in 2015. It includes about 100 intellectuals and experts from different disciplines, and political, intellectual and social spectra.

The Council publishes a monthly report on the most important political, social and intellectual issues (12 reports and 48 topics annually). It has a website and platforms on social media (Twitter, Facebook and YouTube).

The Council is a vital and an important space for discussing intellectual, cultural, political, social and developmental issues and subjects with interest to the Kingdom, the Arab world and the world at large. The most important constituents of the Council is that it has elite thinkers, intellectuals and researchers concerned with the development and social reform. The Council is characterized by the easy way of communication among its members through using the social media networks and other direct and indirect means such as meetings, seminars and workshops. Besides, the Council works in accordance with systematic procedures that define its identity, functions and mechanisms. The Council benefits from the variety of its members' disciplines.

⦿ **Vision:**

Positioning itself as a local and Arab leader in shaping opinions and ideas to serve the society issues and sustainable development.

⦿ **Mission:**

Establishing intellectual, cultural and social space to discuss intellectual, cultural, political, social and developmental issues of interest to the Saudi society, the Arab world and the world at large.

⦿ **Objectives:**

1. Deepening knowledge on the latest events and society issues.
2. Promoting the values of dialogue and sharing views among the intellectual and cultural elites.
3. Providing specialized cultural and intellectual insights on the latest events and translating them into a reference material for those who are interested.
4. Suggesting scientific and practical solutions for the existing problems and presenting some related initiatives.

◉ **Members of Asbar Council:**

The fields of specialization of the Council members are diverse so that they draw a beautiful painting and enrich discussion. The Council includes intellectuals in: media, sociology, social services, education, engineering, public administration, business administration, economics, medicine, health sciences, computer and its applications, political sciences, Islamic law, law, psychology, Arabic language and literature, accounting and finance, English literature, comparative literature, philosophy, history and archaeology, arts, Persian language, agriculture and natural sciences (chemistry, biology, geology)

◉ **Forum working committees**

1. Council management committee
2. Meetings and lectures committee
3. Monthly reports committee
4. Issue of the week committee
5. Symposiums committee
6. Monthly speaker committee

◉ **The most important events conducted by Asbar Council:**

• **Monthly report**

During the recent five years (May 2015 to May 2020), sixty-three reports have been issued by the Council. They include the main papers, comments, contributions and discussions of the members on the issues and topics raised by the Council. The number of issues included in those reports has been more than 290.

The Council hosts every now and then and regularly some dialogues and discussions carried out by the Council members with officials and experts on issues of public interest (political, economic, social) with local, regional and international focus.

• **Guest speakers**

Occasionally, the Council receives some government officials and experts to talk with the members on issues of public affairs with different themes; political, economic and social, at the local, regional and international levels.

• **Annual meeting**

An annual social meeting in which the members of the Council communicate and discuss the development of the Council and activation of its events and the issues that need to be discussed and addressed.

◎ Council Reports:

• Social Issues:

- Woman's Work: Reality and Expectations.
- Sexual Harassment of Women.
- Divorce in the Saudi society.
- Voluntary Works; reality, obstacles and mechanisms of development.
- Woman between Shariah and inherited customs.
- Risks of demographic imbalance in the Arab Gulf Countries.
- COVID-19 pandemic and psychological health.
- Challenges of social change in the Saudi society.
- Protection against violence and damage.....gaps of application.
- The relationship of social media networks with the spread of drug and psychotropic substances, and how to protect young people.
- Challenges facing the family in light of the rapid changes due to the Corona pandemic.
- Assigning top priority to national responsibility during crisis.
- Slums.
- Human rights and the Kingdom's stance during the Corona crisis.
- Social Responsibility of Corporations: Voluntary or mandatory?
- People with Disabilities and the Quality-of-Life Program: Facts and Endeavored.
- Determining the "Norms of the Nation" for a positive future vision.
- Social and economic impacts of the empowerment of women.
- Technical and vocational training between reality and the endeavor of the vision of the Kingdom 2030, and its role in solving the problem of unemployment.

• Economic Issues:

- Non-oil strategic alternatives for promoting the national income.
- Privatization: Challenges and Success requirements now.
- Hosting-conferences industry in the Kingdom (Asbar World Council 2016).
- Government competition with the private sector in the economic activities.
- Future of family companies and effect on the national economy.
- Partnership between the public and the private sectors... from dominance to competition.
- Model of circular economy and industry in the Kingdom.
- Blue economy: A promising future and supporting sector for national income, an attractive element for local and international investments.
- Venture investment and startups.

- Palm cultivation and dates production and marketing in the Kingdom.
- Drugs manufacturing and nationalization in the Kingdom: Status and challenges.
- Future and sustainability of water resources in the Kingdom in the Saudi Vision 2030.
- Social responsibility of the private sector.
- National industries development and logistics services program.
- National Industries Development and Logistics Services Program.
- OPEC Plus Plus.
- Corona pandemic crisis and working remotely.
- Commercial fraud and the adequacy of the applied penalties.
- Domestic tourism and its role in the development of the national economy in the Kingdom.
- The role of entrepreneurship and innovation in developing societies and the challenges faced by entrepreneurs.
- The Saudi youth trends towards non-traditional professions.
- The economic and social effects of privatization in the Kingdom.
- **Media Issues:**
 - How to correct the global view towards Wahhabism?
 - Tackling and countering image of Saudi Arabia abroad.
 - Saudi embassies and people's diplomacy.
 - American media representation of the Saudi woman.
 - Our image and social communication via the electronic networks.
 - Saudi military media and its role in the media coverage of the Yemeni crisis.
 - Media Literacy.
- **Political Issues:**
 - Municipal elections.
 - Future of the religious discourse in the light of the regional and international variables.
 - The royal visit to America, "The Political Decisive Storm."
 - Opportunities for promoting the national unity.
 - The visit by the American President to Saudi Arabia and the three summits.
 - The Saudi American relations: An Outlook
 - Maximizing national responsibility during crises.
 - Hosting G20 by KSA and how to benefit from the Summit.
 - Shura Council: Reality and Expectations.
 - International marine passages.
 - Think-Tanks and political significance.
 - The Turkish threat to national security: its extent and how to combat it.

- The future relations of the Gulf states with China in light of the Chinese-Iranian agreement.
- The G20 Summit: Riyadh 2020.
- The Kingdom's Foreign Aid: The Desired Transformation (International Development).
- Saudi Arabia and Africa: the components and benefits of the partnership
- Al-Ula Summit and the Gulf Nations' Reconciliation.
- The strategic importance of research and development for the military forces.
- Money Laundering: the reality of the situation and methods of combating it in the Saudi financial system.
- **Educational Issues:**
 - Work of the cultural attachés and scholarships.
 - Why don't our children like school; and how to make schools an attracting environment?
 - Policy of scholarship and its relation to development
 - Higher education between quantity and quality
 - Education in the Kingdom.. An Outlook
 - Scientific research at universities and public and private research centers: reality and expectations
 - Teaching dialogue or the culture of respect, which of them we need first?
 - The Saudi universities between the hammer and anvil.
 - Reality of the educational administration and the future look to it in the educational process.
 - Future specializations.
 - Document of education policy in the Kingdom.
 - Digging deep: Summary of secondary school results in the aptitude and performance tests.
 - Distance Learning.
 - The new higher education system between achieving independence and ensuring equal educational opportunities.
 - An analysis of the results of the students of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the international examination courses TIMSS-KSA.
- **Developmental Issues:**
 - National Transformation Program 2020
 - Developmental equivalence among the regions of the Kingdom.
 - Begging: A modern look at an extended phenomenon.
 - Innovations; the future of development.
 - General Investment Fund. its role in development and developing its policies.
 - Scientific and professional associations and their role in development.
 - Objectives and initiatives of the developmental sector in the program of national transformation in the Kingdom and probable challenges.

- Municipal councils and their role in the local development.
- NEOM: A future destination.
- Population policies of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: The International, Gulf, and National Dimensions.
- The reality of voluntary work in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- The importance of geospatial information in sustainable development and economic return.
- Tourism ... The industry that is fit for the new Saudi Arabia.
- Hajj: The most effective Islamic power in the Muslim and other countries.
- Building code for mosques in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- Quality of life in light of Vision 2030.
- Child Rights and Vision 2030.
- The National Program for Reducing Food Loss and Waste in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Health transformation programs ... the roadmap towards Vision 2030
- **Terrorism Issues:**
 - Terrorist explosions in France; Implications and dimensions.
 - Enabling family to fight extremism and terrorism.
 - Biological and chemical security .. an integral part of national security.
- **Cultural Issues:**
 - Joy commodification celebrations.
 - The future of religious discourse in the light of regional and international variables.
 - The elite in the Saudi society and how they are formed and their degree of influence.
 - Hosting-conferences industry in the Kingdom (Asbar World Council 2016).
 - Challenges before our Arabic language in its World Day.
 - Cultural diversity is the belt of unity and the optimum bridge to the world: Janaderiah as a model
 - Limits of harmonious vision in the discourse of Saudi intellectuals.. an overview of the call of reform
 - Hatred discourse, reasons, consequences... treatment.
 - National culture between the elites and the people.
 - Management of understanding and engineering of ignorance.
 - Cultural identity, where to?
 - UNESCO. What did the Arab benefit?
 - Cinema. cultural and economic approaches.
 - The expected (Cultural Arab Summit), will it make a difference?!
 - Councils of intellectual dialogue and their role in development ... Asbar Council as a model

- Ministry of Culture. Meaning and significance.
- Saudi entertainment industry. a local-international context.
- The Saudi regulations of international heritage sites: development and maintaining culture.
- The 3rd session of Asbar World Council 2018: Age of the Future, “Saudi Arabia of Tomorrow”
- Cultural Security.
- Cultural economy.
- The death of culture .. or the death of the intellectual?!
- The labor market: skills or certificates?
- Cinema: creating the future and soft power.
- The economic aspect of the Arabic language and lingual policy in the Kingdom.
- Innovation Opportunities of Media.
- **Administrative Issues:**
 - Corona pandemic and remote work.
 - Some biases and errors in decision-making.
 - Crises and disasters management: problems and possible solutions.
 - Restructuring the General Presidency of the Promotion of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice (coping with the social variables).
 - Obligatory national service.
 - 2030 Vision: transforming systems and administration or transforming society?
 - Jobs in the future.
- **Health Issues**
 - Corona pandemic and mental health.
 - Scientific research and the role of non-therapeutic health.
 - What if Corona continues for another year?
 - The challenges facing the Kingdom in developing epidemiological studies and vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Urbanization Issues**
 - Contracts for the finance subsidized housing.
 - Expanding the population of Riyadh City from the perspective of balanced development,
 - Quality of Life Program and Municipal Councils.
- **Technological Issues**
 - Localization of technology from the perspective of local content - the military industries as an example.
- **Agricultural issues**
 - The conundrum of agricultural marketing.

- **Legislative Issues**

- Bureaucracy in a time of crisis.
- A glimpse of the Commercial Courts System.
- Proposed Corporate Law: Views and Insights.
- Informal commitment and accountability in organizations.
- Governance in the private sector, a choice or an obligation?
- Development of the legislative system.
- Evaluation of the initiative to improve the contractual relationship and its implications.
- The reality of traffic behavior in the Kingdom in light of the new legislation, and suggestions for developing the traffic system

- ◉ **Council Figures:**

- The number of the followers of the Council Twitter account reached 5800 followers.
- The Facebook page of the Council has 2000 likes.

- ◉ **Scientific studies on the Asbar Forum Experience**

- **(Dialogue in the Virtual Space)**
- A methodical scientific study prepared by Dr. Ibrahim Al-Bayez on the experience of the Forum as a Virtual Think-Tank, which is the first of its kind in terms of its means of dialogue and discussion according to trusted scientific methodologies.

Link for some photos of the Forum's guests

<https://goo.gl/NSzPsR>

Link for the monthly reports of the Forum

<https://goo.gl/2LF78Z>

Interviews with Senior Officials - Monthly Meetings Videos

Full Interview: Asbar Forum: [The monthly interview with the Minister of Housing, Mr. Majid Al Hoqail](#)

Full Interview: Asbar Forum: [The Monthly meeting with the Former Yemeni Foreign Minister Dr. Riad Yaseen](#)

Full Interview: Asbar Forum: [The fifth monthly interview with the Secretary General Dr. Abdullatif Al Zayani](#)

Full Interview: Asbar Forum: [The Monthly interview with His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Musa'ed bin Abdulaziz Al Saud](#)

Website and Social Media Accounts Links:

Website: <http://multaqaasbar.com>

Twitter: @Multaqa_Asbar

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MultaqaAsbar/>

YouTube: Youtube.Multaqa_asbar.com



Asbar World Forum

An Initiative of Asbar Center



Asbar World Forum:

It is an annual development forum established in 2016. It is concerned with introducing knowledge society, digital transformation, innovation, new job opportunities, and future prospects.

◉ Vision:

To be at the forefront of conferences that provide tools, procedures, methodologies and practices to everyone in order to benefit from the social and economic knowledge, and make it a reality.

◉ Mission:

To make the influence of knowledge on the society something tangible through creating, integrating and using knowledge to become the main practice for everyone.

◉ Objectives:

- Founding the principles of strategic work in achieving objectives of knowledge economy.
- Providing a high-level of understanding for the knowledge-based economy.
- Framing innovation and generating discussions that result in policies, initiatives and outcomes on which to build developmental strategies.
- Activating information technology and communications to reduce the costs of economic activities within the context of the 4th industrial revolution.
- Increasing the opportunities of linking knowledge agents and users.

◉ Strategic Partners:

- Ministry of Information
- King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST)
- Rotana Group
- Saudi ARAMCO
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
- Raqami
- Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority
- Saudi Aramco

- Al-Arabia Outdoor Ads
- Ministry of Housing
- King Abdullah University for Science and Technology (KAUST)
- Ministry of Labor and Social Development
- SABIC
- Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority "Monshaat"
- Human Resources Development Fund "Hadaf"

⊙ **Academic Partners:**

- King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)
- King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals
- King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- MIT University/ The United States of America (MIT Institute)
- The Business School for the World (INSEAD), France (INSEAD college)
- EA Business School / Spain
- World Futures Studies Federation
- McKinsey & Company
- MIT Technology Review
- Harvard Business Review

⊙ **Brief Overview of Former Forums:**

– **Forum 1: Knowledge Economy and Job Creation**

In line with Vision 2030 that aims to accelerate development and economic diversity, Asbar World Forum launched its first edition in 2016 to highlight a group of knowledge economy issues under the slogan (knowledge is power) and the concept of knowledge economy; its reality and challenges. Besides, the Forum focused on the modern concepts and methods of transformation to knowledge-based economy and creating new jobs that serve the new economy and achieve its objectives, which reflects the importance of human capital to achieve the objectives of sustainable development. The Forum reviewed the most prominent regional and international experiences in this field.

- **Forum 2: Creativity and Innovation in Knowledge Economy:**

The second edition of Asbar World Forum was in 2017 and it focused on creativity and innovation in the 4th industrial revolution. It was dominated by the orientation towards continuous innovation for a long time in several vital sectors that serve and support the economy to overcome the current development obstacles (scarcity of natural resources), while we find such a trend was absent in formulating policies and legislations as well as protecting, supporting and spreading such a trend widely in the Kingdom.

- **Forum 3: The Future Age:**

Asbar World Forum, in its 3rd edition 2018 is in harmony with the same vision, which aims to build a future based on a vital society privileged by flourished economy, and a new era of aspirations and objectives that accelerate development and diversity of economy and resources towards greater and fruitful directions. Therefore, we must emphasize that the new edition of the Forum, that particularly tackles the topic of “the world and the future”, will embrace the aspirations of 2030 Vision under the slogan “Saudi Arabia of Tomorrow”. The Forum reviews the recent topics and discussions around the world about “the future” which is governed by the great transformations witnessed in the fields of education, health, technology, power and environment. These transformations will establish the future of science, knowledge, economy, welfare and life improvement in the stable and ambitious societies. This takes place in the important contexts through massive developments in creativity and innovation means, the quality and mastery of achievement, reducing the costs and rationalization of efforts.

- **Forum 4: Towards Change and Transformation: Towards the Future:**

Forum 4, 2019 was held under the slogan "The Inspiring Saudi Arabia" and entitled "Towards Change and Transformation ... Towards the Future" with the participation of more than 100 speakers who are local and foreign experts and specialists in various fields. They contributed with scientific papers on themes including industry, energy, water, services and media, security, cities, economy, venture investment, artificial intelligence, etc. This emanated from the Forum's keenness on opening new scientific horizons related to the future and transformation in light of the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

- **Fifth Session: “The Future of the Future”**

The fifth session of the Forum for the year 2020 was held under the title “Digital transformation that transcends borders to create a better tomorrow” under the slogan “The Future of the Future” with the participation of more than 100 speakers

of experts and specialists in various fields, from home and abroad, who discussed major topics that included: Foreseeing the future of the most important development sectors at the world level, Setting a Road Map to 2050, Studying the Long-term Effects of the Corona Pandemic, Shedding light on the best local and global practices in Crises Management, and reviewing a more comprehensive vision of the new world that is being formed.

- **KAUST Challenge Media Hackathon (Shaping the Future of Media)**

Asbar World Forum, in its fourth session in 2019, announced the launch of the “Media Hackathon” and due to the Corona pandemic, it was postponed, as King Abdullah University of Science and Technology participated in its implementation with the Asbar International Forum in 2021, and the hackathon is the first of its kind in the Kingdom. More than 700 innovators from 37 countries from around the world had participated, and the hackathon covered 13 topics: Content Filtering, Online Gaming, Data Privacy and Security, Ecosystem Support, Content Protection, Inclusiveness and Accessibility, Content Creation, Content Distribution, Insights and Analytics, Media Localization, Regulatory Barriers, Content Noise, and Setting Ideal Standards.

- **Some of the Forum Annual Activities:**

Over the recent four years, the Forum hosted a number of activities that covered lectures, workshops and symposia, including:

- Economic policy and sustainable growth, by the Nobel Prize laureate in economics Professor Finn E. Kidland.
- Vision 2030: Redesigning education for the future, Mr. Stephen Dawens, philosopher and specialist in online learning technology and new media.
- Man in the future, by Dr. Abdullah Weld Abah - Professor of Philosophy and Studies - University of Nouakchott.
- Smart Cities: Digital solutions for a better future, by Mr. Abdulqader Lama', Associate Partner, Mckinsey & Company
- From research to sustainable development: Creativity and innovation and the university's role in improving economic growth
- Capacity building for technology transfer: Universities and industries, by Mr. Arundee Pradhan.

- Using satellite data to identify resources and risks in arid lands. Michael Thiel, expert in remote sensing.
- Saudi Arabia 2030: How to achieve a dynamic and prosperous economy of the 21st Century, by Mr. Gary Whitehill, Economist.
- Cities as drivers for future growth, and as attractions for talent and innovation, Dr. Colm Reilly, specialist in cities and urban areas.
- How emerging industries are transforming investment and trade, by Dr. Kim Zietlow, CEO of OCO.
- The role of radio and television in sustainable development (Mirage TV and Mirage Radio in Afghanistan as an example), by Sakina Yaqoubi, an Afghan development activist.
- Data .. New Oil, by Ibrahim Al Badawi, Chief Executive Officer, "Government 01"
- "The Kingdom's Presidency of the G20," by Dr. Fahad Al-Mubarak, Minister of State
- "Water production without any waste: new technologies" by Dr. Nobuya Fujirawa, Director of the International Water Desalination Association (IDA) and Vice President of the Japanese Water Desalination Association (JDA)
- Greening "Black Gold: Saudi Arabia and Clean Energy... in the Future" by Dr. Noura Mansouri, Senior Researcher at KAPSARC for Energy Studies
- A behavioral economics perspective on human behavior, by Dr. Manuel Schubert, co-founder of BEHAVIA
- "The future of charitable work and non-profit organizations"
- "Cyber Security: Why Is All This Interest?" by Dr. Mohammed Al-Mushaigeh.
- "Future Studies: Methodologies and Applications" by Dr. Nisreen Al-Lahham - Chairman of the Forum for Future Studies for Africa and the Middle East (FSF)
- "The Future of Jobs" by Tariq Mansour, a senior McKinsey expert.

© **Workshops:**

- Pioneering leadership
- Principles of thinking design
- Ideas challenging program (STEAM)
- How to reinforce optimum innovation?
- Three-dimensional medical printing: revolution in healthcare
- Enhanced the reality of techniques in education

- The Youth and the future
- The role of universities in knowledge economy
- Design and implementation of the technical training courses to transfer knowledge
- Staying creative
- Culture of innovation
- Smart cities; platforms for work and innovation
- The role of contract agreement in technology transfer
- The role of organizations in knowledge economy
- Public and private sectors partnerships: The best practices
- The most exciting fictional scenario for the future of healthcare / university education up to 2050.
- Cyber security and information crime
- Why do we fail to take common global measures?
- Strategic alignment and overall leadership transformation
- Public diplomacy: Soft power
- Evaluating the development of the Internet and harnessing potentials to serve sustainable development
- Educational Workshop: Future Studies and Post-Normal Times

◉ **Webinars organized by the Forum to discuss the Corona pandemic:**

- “Education after the Corona Crisis,” March 25, 2020.
- “Measures and initiatives taken to support the SME in Saudi Arabia in countering the Corona crisis,” March 30, 2020.
- This is how the Saudis overcome their ordeal abroad, April 2, 2020.
- Services and Citizens: Technology in countering Corona, April 6, 2020.
- “How will the world be after Corona?” April 9, 2020.
- “Preparing and Responding: Global Insights on COVID-19,” April 13, 2020
- “The Social Effects of COVID -19 Pandemic,” April 16, 2020.
- “World Order and International Relations After COVID -19,” April 20, 2020.
- “Empowering cities ... urban design and planning during crises,” April 22, 2020.

◉ **Initiatives launched by Asbar World Forum:**

1) The "Self-Employment Platform" initiative:

It is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Labor, which is an online portal under the "Self-Employment" program to enable Saudis to work on their own. Since its launch in December 2016 to December 2019, the initiative had 175,000 subscribers and 45,000 issued the document.

2) Award of "Ideas for the Future":

It aimed at bringing creative and entrepreneurial ideas away from simulating or re-producing reality. The award included five main sectors (education in the future, health in the future, technology in the future, energy in the future, environment in the future), and the awards were sponsored by His Royal Highness, the Governor of the Riyadh Region.

3) Innovate Award:

Launched by Asbar World Forum in partnership with the Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority. The Award aims at discovering innovations in their early stages, based on a set of criteria and conditions including obtaining a patent, preparing a prototype, and its economic feasibility.

4) Innovate exhibition:

An exhibition created by the Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority in partnership with Asbar World Forum which aims at uncovering talents and innovators. It provides opportunities for entrepreneurs with innovative ideas to present their projects to investors.

5) Book of the Year:

The Forum launched the "Book of the Year" project during the third session 2018, and the first version of this project was the Arabic version of "Transforming the Future - Expectation in the Twenty-first Century" in partnership with UNESCO. A new book is annually published under this initiative.

In the fourth session 2019, the Forum issued a new book entitled "Glossary of basic terms for future studies", and it is considered the first of its kind in the Arab world.

6) The Arabic translation initiative:

The Forum seeks to provide the Arab library with important books through translation from English into Arabic, and in the fourth session 2019, the Forum launched the translation project by issuing a translation of "The McQueel Theory of Mass Communication" for prominent media thinker Dennis McQueel. This book is an unprecedented scientific and academic addition to the Arab library, especially for academic institutions, media colleges and institutes in Saudi Arabia and the Arab world.

7) Asbar Blog:

The blog aims at enriching the Arabic digital content on the Internet. So far, it includes various articles on artificial intelligence, the Internet of things, the knowledge economy, and others.

8) The Big Data initiative:

Asbar World Forum 2018 launched a national initiative for big data under the auspices of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, aiming at catering for the big data bases.

9) Initiative of "Media Incubators":

It is an initiative launched for Saudi talents, in partnership with Rotana Media Group, and with the participation and support of the Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority.

10) Initiative of Innovation and Building Technologies:

This initiative was launched in partnership with the Innovation and Building Technology Program of the Ministry of Housing. The Ministry seeks to adopt the latest technologies and innovative methods in construction.

11) Initiative of Prototypes Design:

The prototype design initiative was launched in partnership with the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology. It aims at introducing participants to the "Saudi Innovation" competition with the methodology for designing and manufacturing prototypes.

12) Initiative of Prototypes Design:

In cooperation with the Asbar World Forum, KAUST held an exhibition for startups, accompanying the third session of the Forum 2018. The exhibition included 4 main sections that showcase the various stages that entrepreneurs and startups go through, and includes initial designs (Prototypes) for the most prominent startups that KAUST hosts. It also included the results of research carried out by the students in the strategic topics: (water, energy, food, environment).

13) Media Hackathon:

The Asbar World Forum at its fourth session 2019 announced the Media Hackathon as the first of its kind in the Kingdom and in partnership with the University of KAUST.

14) Future Institute:

In the fourth session of the Asbar World Forum, the Chairman of the Board of the Asbar World Forum announced the establishment of the "Future Institute" as one of the important initiatives of 2019. The Institute will establish partnerships with the most important institutes and centers concerned with studying the future in the world. The idea of the "Future Institute" aligns with the sustainable development goals, and integrates with international quality levels in all effective management, products and partnerships, and the Institute's goals and products will meet objectives of the Saudi Vision 2030.

Asbar World Forum, 2016 (events)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B_yiTT_D1I&t=25s

Asbar World Forum, 2016 (Promo)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_8nrepNxtI

Asbar World Forum, 2017 (Promo)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZb4trtBBII>

Asbar World Forum 2, 2017 (events)

<https://youtu.be/a8A0-VFQ4bU>

Asbar World Forum, 2018 (Promo)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_IQDFcXspw

Asbar World Forum 3, 2018 (events)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qnRj3CJ9pM>

Asbar World Forum, 2019 (Promo)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzyW70UHVF4>

Inauguration Ceremony for Asbar World Forum, 2, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmN3Fwd1DN4>

Inauguration Ceremony for Asbar World Forum, 3, 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMzUUBshiXk>

Inauguration Ceremony for Asbar World Forum, 4, 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7hVRu-JkUKU>

Inauguration Ceremony for Asbar World Forum, 5, 2020

<https://youtu.be/II8hu43hCRg>

Opening Ceremony of the Media Hackathon "KAUST Challenge" in partnership with King

Abdullah University of Science and Technology

<https://youtu.be/BFqvoiDpN5g>

Website and Social Media Accounts

Website: www.awforum.org

Facebook: [AsbarWF](https://www.facebook.com/AsbarWF)

Twitter: [@Asbar_WF](https://twitter.com/Asbar_WF)

Instagram: [asbar_wf](https://www.instagram.com/asbar_wf)

YouTube: <https://goo.gl/zgqkPL>



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Future Vision



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