Rama Chakaki

Co-Founder

Baraka Ventures

Ms. Chakaki has 22 years of experience in management, strategic planning and communications. Her passion is to promote a collaborative approach, invest in social enterprises, use technology for social development and nurture a generation of social entrepreneurs among youth and women in the Arab world.

As co-founder and CEO of Dubai-based Baraka Ventures, Rama facilitated women and youth leadership, entrepreneurship and civic engagement workshops, advised regional government and large enterprise on social investments in youth and women lead social enterprise, and incubated sustainable social ventures and Web Technologies.

In addition to a grass-roots community engagement approach, Rama worked with GCC institutions in the public, private, non-profit and education sectors to deliver the Baraka Ventures vision of being a positive change agent to build and support social ventures and sustainable businesses with a triple bottom line.

Ms. Chakaki holds a MS in Computer Science and a MS in Engineering Management from George Washington University.

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Nadereh Chamlou

Senior Advisor, Office of Chief Economist for MENA Region

World Bank

Nadereh Chamlou is Senior Advisor to the Chief Economist for the MENA Region of the World Bank. In her three decades with the World Bank, she has held technical advisory and managerial positions in economic management, private and financial sector development, infrastructure and environment, and worked on Latin America, East Asia and Pacific, Eastern Europe and MENA.

She authored "Gender and Development in the Middle East and North Africa Region—Women in the Public Sphere," and "The Environment for Women's Entrepreneurship in the Middle East and North Africa Region."

Ms. Chamlou is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Tunis-based Center for Arab Women's Training and Research; a founding member of the Steering Committee and the Advisory Committee of the Gender Economic Research and Policy Analysis initiative, Chair of Friends of the Board of the Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund, and the Global Advisory Council of the Global Fund for Women and Girls.

She is a graduate of Georgetown's School of Foreign Service and the Graduate School for Economics.
Dr. Leila Hoteit

Principal

Booz & Company

Dr. Leila Hoteit is a Principal with Booz & Company and a member of the firm’s public sector practice. Dr. Hoteit has over 11 years of strategy and business experience. She has worked with clients in a variety of sectors and geographies on projects covering turnaround strategies, organization and restructuring, and large-scale transformation.

Her current work focuses on human capital development and encompasses Education and Culture as well as helping organization tapping the full potential of women in their workforce. Dr. Hoteit today co-leads the work on the Third Billion Index.

In 2012, Booz & Company published the inaugural index, which builds on the Third Billion concept to provide a baseline for women's progress in the world of work, while trying to determine what barriers women in those countries face as they attempt to become active economic agents, as well as what companies and governments can do to increase women participation in entrepreneurship and the labor force.

Dr. Hoteit holds a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Imperial College of London and an MBA from INSEAD.

Dr. Dima Jamali

Professor, Olayan School of Business
Chair of the Management, Marketing and Entrepreneurship Track

American University of Beirut (AUB)

Dr. Dima Jamali is a Professor at the American University of Beirut Olayan School of Business and the Chair of the Management, Marketing and Entrepreneurship Track.

She worked as an expert consultant for the United Nations on Social Policy and CSR as well as various projects funded by the World Bank, the US Agency for International Development, NGOs, and other local public and private firms.

Dr. Jamali has authored over 40 international publications, mostly around CSR in MENA, a record which has won her a number of scientific awards and honors, including the Abdul Hameed Shoman Award for Best Young Arab Researcher for the year 2010, Best Paper Awards at the Irish Academy of Management (2011) and the American Academy of Management (2012 & 2008), British Academy of Management Fellowship for South Asia and Middle East (2007), and the Best Paper Award by North American Case Research Association (2003).

She holds a PhD in Social Policy and Administration, from the University of Kent at Canterbury, UK.
Ambareen Musa

Founding CEO
Souqalmal.com

Ambareen Musa is the founder and CEO of Souqalmal.com. Originally from Mauritius, and he started her first online business, an online property portal for international students to Australia at the age of 21.

In 2004, she moved to London to work for GE’s financial arm, GE Money, where she held various roles including marketing, customer advocacy and E-commerce. She also led the first online financial literacy initiative in the UK, Moneybasics.co.uk. In 2006, she contributed to a book on entrepreneurial opportunities on the internet, entitled “Entrepreneurship and innovations in e-business: an integrative perspective”.

Moving to the Middle East in 2008, Ambareen worked as a consultant for Bain & Company - Middle East and focused on the financial services sector, before joining MasterCard Middle East and Africa to set up their consulting arm, before leaving 2 years later to become the founder of Souqalmal.com in 2011.

Musa holds an undergraduate business degree from RMIT University, Australia, and an MBA from INSEAD.

Dr. Nasser Saidi

Former Chief Economist of the DIFCA

Executive Director
Hawkamah Institute for Corporate Governance

Dr. Saidi has been on the list of the 50 Most Influential Arabs in the World by The Middle East magazine since 2009.

He has held many regional and international roles and functions in public, private, non-profit and global organizations, including being a member of the IMF’s Regional Advisory Group for MENA, the Minister of Economy and Trade and Minister of Industry of Lebanon, first Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Lebanon, member of the UN Committee for Development Policy (UNCDP). He has written a number of books and numerous publications addressing macroeconomic, capital market development and international economic issues in Lebanon and the region.

Dr. Saidi was also a private banker and served as an economic adviser and director to a number of central banks and financial institutions in Arab countries, Europe and Central and Latin America. Prior to his public career, Dr. Nasser served as a Professor at the University of Chicago and other prominent institutions in Switzerland and Lebanon.

Dr. Saidi holds a Ph.D. and a M.A. in Economics from the University of Rochester in the U.S.A, a M.Sc. from University College, London University and a B.A. from the American University of Beirut.