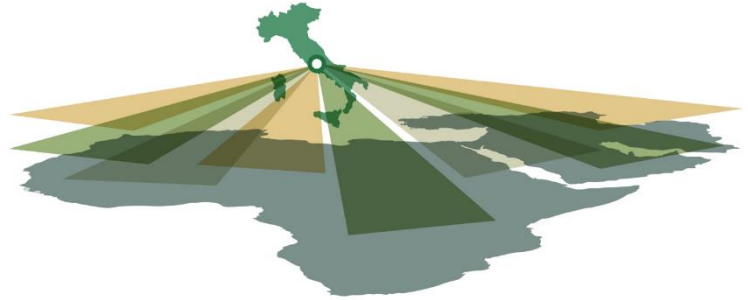


ANNUAL MEETING ITALIAN ARAB BUSINESS FORUM

Rome, 14 November 2023
Auditorium della Tecnica



9:30 am **Registration and welcome coffee**

9:50 –10:10 am – **Opening ceremony**

10:50 am – 11:25 am

Dialogues: a new Agenda for the Mediterranean

Description: The Mediterranean is theater to some of the most compelling challenges of our time. Deeper cooperation between neighboring country may foster a greater degree of security and economic prosperity. What are the strategies that could be implemented to address the challenges and achieve such results?

Format: The session is envisioned as an open discussion between Government Representatives of the three countries

11:30 am – 12:45 pm

Economy Boosters: Islamic Finance and Circular Investments

Description: The Islamic finance sector has been growing at a rate of 15% to 25% per year, with Islamic financial institutions managing assets worth over 2.7 trillion USD globally, it caters to the financial needs of around a quarter of the world's population. Fostering Islamic finance in the Italian system would help attract diverse, international and ethical investments that would result in a more sustainable economic and financial system.

Format: The session is envisioned as an open discussion between Government Representatives or Public servants of three countries

12:45 pm – **Photo opportunity**

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm **Networking Lunch**

- 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm
Country Focus Algeria
- 2:50 pm – 3:35 pm
Country Focus Tunisia

3:35 – 3:50 pm Wrap up and conclusions

WORKSHOPS

3:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Boosting Food Security through Agri-tech

Description: *With the world's population expected to hit 10 billion in 2050, we urgently need to find better ways to produce and distribute food in a more efficient and sustainable way. Agri-tech can help revolutionize our approach to food production and distribution in order to reduce the impact on the planet and on future generations.*

Format: *Workshop*

3:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Getting investment right: Building resilient Infrastructure and Networks

Description: *Infrastructure and networks can boost investment, promote industrial development and economic diversification of the economies in the MENA region, facilitate trade, and boost competitiveness. Moreover, an increased connectivity between Europe, Africa and Asia can lead to a coordinated transition towards carbon neutrality. In order to do so, however, a dialogue on investment for infrastructure connectivity in the two shores of the Mediterranean is essential and instrumental to foster joint economic development, at the intra-regional level and between the north and south.*

Format: *Workshop*

3:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Rethinking the Energy sector: from Security to Energy Transition

Description: *The energy-driven policy that the Italian government has been carrying on, in the pursue of a greater independence from Russia, is certainly one of the main pillars of the partnership between Italy and North African countries. There is indeed a momentum that the country could seize, also thanks to its role in the ELMED project, to successfully contribute to the energy transition and position itself as a regional energy hub. What are the challenges to be addressed to achieve a proper energy diversification?*

Format: *Workshop*