

Demystifying venture capital

Panelsits

Tuesday, December 12th, 2023

Time: 11:00am ET

Format: Virtual



Amal Dokhan

Partner, 500 Global MENA

Amal Dokhan is a partner at 500 Startups MENA and previously served as an advisor there. She is a board member of the King Abdulaziz University Female Advisory Board and the Cranfield University Saudi Advisory Board. Previously, she served as CEO of the Global Entrepreneurship Network Saudi and worked as a Vision Realization Office Consultant for the Ministry of Health Saudi Arabia and as Director of the Babson Global Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership. Throughout her career, Amal has gained a diversified range of experience in management and marketing related roles particularly in education and consultancy. Amal was part of the Entrepreneurship Center in King Abdullah University of Science and Technology in a number of roles including the New Ventures Acceleration and Corporate Innovation program. Prior to that, she worked in the KAUST Seed Fund where she developed marketing and events, while also providing a range of services to startup clients. Amal has previously managed an educational organization; during that time, she designed programs and started several innovative initiatives to be implemented by the educators to improve the mindsets in order to foster creativity in the workplace and the educational tools. In parallel to this, she started her own business, which organized sports events and offered commercial consultancy to large organizations. During her master's degree research period in the University of Wollongong, she managed to be exposed to large organizations and built marketing strategies to several entities, such as Dubai government departments, Kempinski hotel, Infiniti Cars, and other service providers. She was also involved in a joint venture with another start up in Dubai focused on creating media and production services to other agencies including Starcom Dubai, Yahoo Dubai and many others. She also coauthored two business articles focused on services marketing during her master's.



Tammer Qaddumi

Co-Founder and General Partner, VentureSouq

Tammer Qaddumi is the co-founder and general partner at VentureSouq. Previously, Qaddumi was Vice President of Private Equity at Waha Capital, a diversified investment company based in Abu Dhabi with assets of c.\$3 billion. Prior to joining Waha, Qaddumi worked with UBS and HSBC in New York and Dubai, respectively. He served as a Fulbright Scholar in Damascus, Syria and worked with the Office of Presidential Personnel at the White House in Washington, D.C. Qaddumi holds a B.A. from Yale University and serves on the Board of Directors of Addax Bank in Bahrain and of the Yale Arab Alumni Association.

Moderator



Amjad Ahmad

Chairman, empowerME, Rafik Hariri Center & Middle East programs, Atlantic Council

Amjad Ahmad is chairman of the empowerME Initiative at the Atlantic Council and managing partner and emerging market advisor at 500 Global. Ahmad also serves on the board of directors of Amideast, Homzmart, Koita Foods, and Tapal Tea. Ahmad has invested in emerging markets for over two decades, building two investment firms and providing over one billion dollars in venture and growth financing to companies in the Middle East, North Africa, Pakistan, and Turkey in sectors ranging from technology and education to healthcare and finance. Based in the Gulf for seventeen years before moving to Washington, DC, Ahmad has collaborated with business leaders, entrepreneurs, and investors to build companies in the Middle East. Ahmad holds a master's degree in international affairs with a concentration in international finance and economics from Columbia University and is a graduate of the general management program at Harvard Business School.