

“OUT OF THE VALLEY OF DEATH – MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF FINANCING INNOVATION”

SIDE EVENT IN ANNUAL MEETINGS PROGRAM OF SEMINARS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2011 AT 10 – 11:30AM

**ROOM L-101, INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION (IFC) BUILDING
2121 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, WASHINGTON DC NW**

Moderator



Mohsen A. Khalil is the Global Head of the Climate Business Group at the International Finance Corporation (IFC). His mandate is to mainstream and scale up IFC’s climate related investments and advisory activities across all industries and regions. Since 2000 and until this appointment, Mr. Khalil was the joint Director at the World Bank and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the Global Information and Communication Technologies Department. In this capacity, Mr. Khalil led the World Bank Group’s activities in the area of telecommunications and information technologies worldwide. This involved advisory work to governments on sector reforms, regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity building, in addition to supporting private investments in developing countries.

Panelists



Fadi Ghandour is a Founding Partner of Maktoob.com, the world’s largest Arab online community. Maktoob was acquired by Yahoo! in 2010. Ghandour is also a member of the Board of Abraaj Capital, the largest private equity firm in the Middle East and South Asia, is a Founding Board Member of Endeavor Jordan, and serves on the Advisory Board of the Suliman S. Olayan School of Business at the American University of Beirut. Ghandour is the CEO of Aramex, the first company from Arab world to go public on the NASDAQ stock exchange.



Hossam Mahgoub, *President and CEO, alKhawarizmy Software*

Established in January 2006 by Dr. Hossam Mahgoub, alKhawarizmy Software is an Egyptian Company working in the Arabic Natural Language Processing (NLP) field. Despite the complex nature of the Arabic language and its unique structure, alKhawarizmy takes the challenge to provide the Arabic user with multiple applications that understand and interact with the Arabic language, in order to simplify the way the user interacts with Arabic electronic content.



John May is the Chairman Emeritus of Angel Capital Association and the Managing Partner of the New Vantage Group, which has organized five angel investing organizations in the Washington, D.C. area since 1999, placing funds into more than 50 companies.



Adrian Magendzo Weinberger, *Deputy Director of Innovative Entrepreneurship, CORFO Chile*

Corporación de Fomento de la Producción de Chile (CORFO) is a Chilean governmental organization supporting the country’s economic development by promoting investment, innovation, business and cluster development. CORFO oversees a variety of programs through the promotion of investment and the advocacy of competitiveness for domestic companies.