

SUSTAINABILITY

ESG AND ISLAMIC FINANCE: IMPLICATIONS FOR BOARDS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Faculty **Dr. Aamir Abdul Rehman**





7 November 2023 9.00AM - 1.00PM RM1,100 before SST

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Program Overview

As both ESG (environmental, social, and governance) investment and Islamic finance thrive and expand, there is increasing convergence between the two. Global investors increasingly see Islamic finance as part of the broader ESG community, and Islamic finance stakeholders are increasingly embracing global ESG considerations.

The convergence creates both opportunities and challenges for institutions, boards, and corpo- rate governance. Opportunities are especially prevalent in Asia, where ESG is increasingly embraced and Islamic capital markets are well-developed.

Participants will emerge from this program with a deeper understanding of:

- ESG and Islamic finance: key commonalities and contrasts;
- Cross-sector opportunities: what ESG and Islamic finance can learn from each other;
- Opportunities and challenges for institutions and boards; and
- Corporate governance challenges and risk management.

By the end of the program, participants will return to their institutions better prepared to

- Identify and pursue opportunities for ESG and Islamic finance through business growth and capital markets;
- Position their organizations to avail of the convergence of ESG and Islamic finance via regional and the associated capital flows;
- Recognize the challenges and risks associated with ESG and Islamic finance at the ' institutional and board levels; and
- Design and implement corporate governance strategies to avail of the opportunities and manage the risks.

Who Should Attend

- Board of directors of financial institutions
- Board of directors of Islamic financial institutions
- Anyone who might find this program helpful

Program Outline

Session 1: Demystifying ESG and Islamic Finance

Our opening session will lay the groundwork by presenting key concepts from the ESG and Islamic finance industries. Jargon from each field will be explained, allowing participants to compare and contrast the two fields.

Session 2: Cross-Sector Lessons and Best Practices

Our second session will probe on what the ESG and Islamic finance sectors can learn from one another. How can each benefit from the best practices of the other, and how can they be blended?

Session 3: Pursuing Opportunities and Avoiding Pitfalls

Our final session will provide guidelines - especially from a board of directors' perspective - on pursuing opportunities in ESG and Islamic finance. We will consider key governance pitfalls and provide strategies for addressing them.

Faculty



Dr. Aamir A. Rehman is a Senior Fellow at Columbia University's Rich- man Center for Business, Law, and Public Policy and an adjunct faculty member at Columbia Business School. Additionally, he is a member of the board of directors of INCEIF University and a consultant to the World Bank.

Dr. Aamir is also an active investor, serving a Chair of Innate Capital Partners. He was previously a co-founder and managing director of Fajr Capital, a private equity group. He has also served as an executive at the HSBC Group and Boston Consulting Group.

Dr. Aamir serves on several boards of directors, including the boards of Fajr Capital Advisors, INCEIF University, Dinar Standard, and Shukr Investments.

Dr. Aamir is author of the book Gulf Capital and Islamic Finance: The Rise of the New Global Players (McGraw-Hill, 2009). He holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard College, a master's degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and an MBA from the Harvard Business School.

He further holds a doctoral degree in education (Ed.D.) from Columbia University. Dr. Aamir resides with his family in Princeton Junction, New Jersey.

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ESG and Islamic Finance: Implications for Boards and Corporate Governance

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