

# Suham Investment Forum 2024

منتدى صهار للاستثمار

ORGANIZED BY



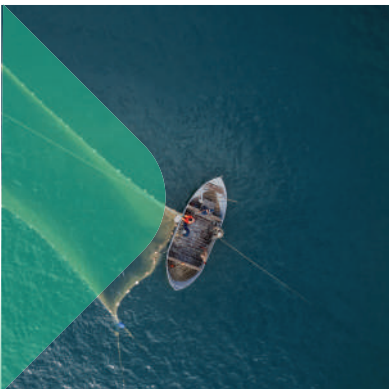
مجلس تجارة عمان  
فرع محافظة شمال الباطنة  
Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
AL Batinah North Governorate Branch



Connect.  
Collaborate.  
Capitalize



2024 | 26-27 February  
Hotel Radisson Blu, Suham  
Sultanate of Oman







“

Oman Vision 2040 is the Sultanate's gateway to overcome challenges, keep pace with regional and global changes, generate and seize opportunities to foster economic competitiveness and social well-being, stimulate growth, and build confidence in all economic, social and developmental relations nationwide.

**- His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik**



## Oman – The Next Big Opportunity for Global Investors

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has played a major role in the economic progress and social development over the decades in Oman. Over US\$40 billion have been invested in Oman through the FDI route.




Despite the pandemic related economic challenges globally, the volume of foreign direct investments (FDI) in Oman by end of Q1 in 2023 increased by 23.3 per cent to reach US\$ 55.31billion.

The Sultanate's friendly regulations and robust infrastructure have been the key drivers for the foreign investors keen interest in the country. Its geographical location that overlooks the major international and regional sea lanes along with the existence of multiple modern Omani ports have opened new horizons for investment and free trading.



# Key Features



**309,500** sq kms  
Total Area



**4.3%**  
GDP Growth  
Rate



**77.6 years**  
Life Expectancy



**\$18,325**  
GDP Per  
capita



**5.1 mn**  
Population



**\$93.97 bn**  
GDP

Source: The World Bank/IMF/Central Bank of Oman

Moreover, the Sultanate is characterized by its stable leadership and economy. The country's Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United States is a testament of the Oman's standing in the global economy. Oman is making rapid strides towards further opening the economy by introducing new business friendly regulations and creating new business opportunities in alignment with His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik's Vision 2040 to create a sustainable, diversified and innovation based economy.

Traditionally, oil & gas, manufacturing, financial services and real estate have been the major beneficiaries of FDI in Oman. Foreign investors are also showing an increased interest in other fast growing sectors such as logistics, tourism, renewable energy, technology, mining, agriculture, aquaculture and food processing, etc.





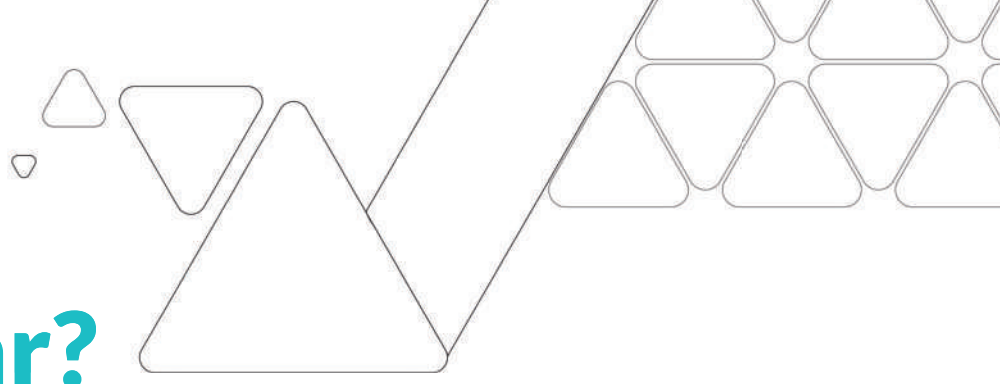
# About Suhar



Suhar, located in the Sultanate of Oman, has emerged as a highly attractive destination for foreign companies seeking to expand their global footprint. With its strategic geographical location, robust infrastructure, business-friendly policies, and stable economic environment, Suhar offers a multitude of opportunities for investors.



# Why Suhar?



Suhar has emerged as a leading destination for foreign investors over the last decade, owing to several factors. This includes:

## **Strategic Geographical Location**

Suhar's strategic location at the crossroads of the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean positions it as a pivotal point for trade and commerce. The Sohar Port and Freezone, in particular, is strategically positioned to serve as a gateway for goods entering and exiting the Middle East. The proximity to major markets in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), as well as access to the wider Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, makes Suhar a prime location for businesses engaged in logistics, distribution, manufacturing, fisheries, tourism, and more.

## **Multimodal Connectivity**

Suhar boasts outstanding connectivity through its integrated network of air, sea, and land transportation, with promising prospects for further enhancement with the anticipated railway project. The Sohar Airport ensures swift and efficient air travel, linking the city to regional and international destinations, fostering business and tourism. The Sohar Port, strategically situated on the Oman Sea, stands as a vital maritime hub, facilitating the smooth flow of goods and bolstering the city's trade potential. The well-maintained roadways and highways provide seamless land connectivity, ensuring easy access to neighboring regions and promoting intra-city mobility.





### **State-of-the-Art Infrastructure**

Sohar boasts world-class business infrastructure. For reference, the Sohar Port and Freezone, which is one of the primary drivers of its economic growth ranks among the fastest-growing ports in the world and is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities to handle a wide range of cargo, including containers, bulk, and liquid cargo. The Sohar Freezone, adjacent to the port, provides businesses with a tax-free environment (for 10 to 25 years depending on various factors), modern logistics services, and world-class amenities for manufacturing and storage, making it an ideal location for foreign investors to establish their operations.

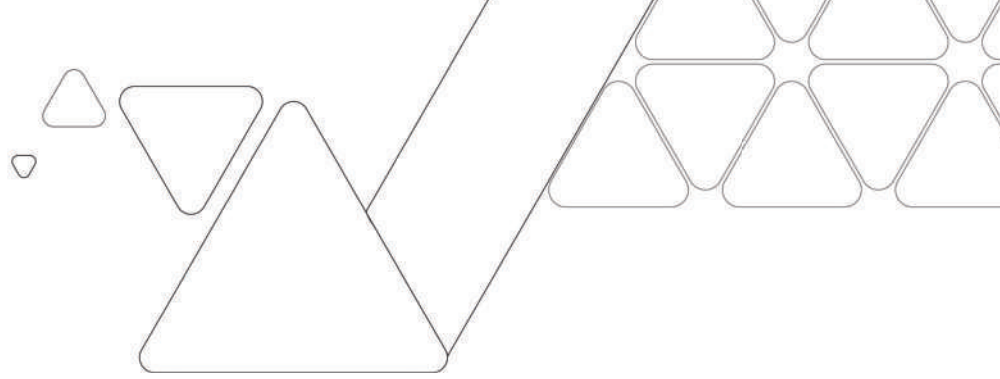
### **Business-Friendly Regulatory Environment**

The Sultanate of Oman has adopted a business-friendly regulatory framework to attract foreign investment, and Sohar is no exception. The Omani government actively encourages foreign participation in various sectors of the economy, offering incentives such as:

- 100% foreign ownership in most sectors
- Competitive corporate tax rates
- No personal income tax
- Repatriation of profits and capital allowed
- Intellectual property protection

Oman has strong laws and regulations, which are constantly amended to provide a flexible and up-to-date legal framework to do business in. Business disputes are adjudicated by the commercial courts.





## Diverse Investment Opportunities

Suhar offers a wide range of investment opportunities across various sectors. Some of the key sectors that have seen significant growth and present attractive prospects for foreign companies include:

- **Manufacturing:** Suhar's industrial hub includes sectors like petrochemicals, metals, food processing, and automotive manufacturing.
- **Logistics and Transportation:** The region is a logistics and transportation hub with opportunities in warehousing, distribution, and supply chain management.
- **Renewable Energy:** Oman is actively pursuing renewable energy projects, making it an attractive destination for companies involved in renewable energy development.
- **Tourism and Hospitality:** The country's tourism sector is on the rise, presenting opportunities in hotels, resorts, and related services.

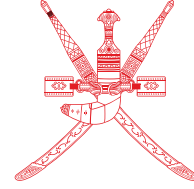
## Stable Political and Economic Environment

Oman is renowned for its political stability and prudent economic policies. The government's commitment to diversifying the economy away from oil dependency has resulted in a stable economic environment with consistent growth. Oman's focus on economic diversification aligns with the interests of foreign investors looking for sustainable, long-term opportunities.

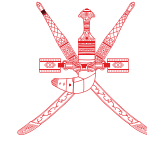


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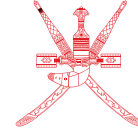


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Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones  
Sultanate of Oman

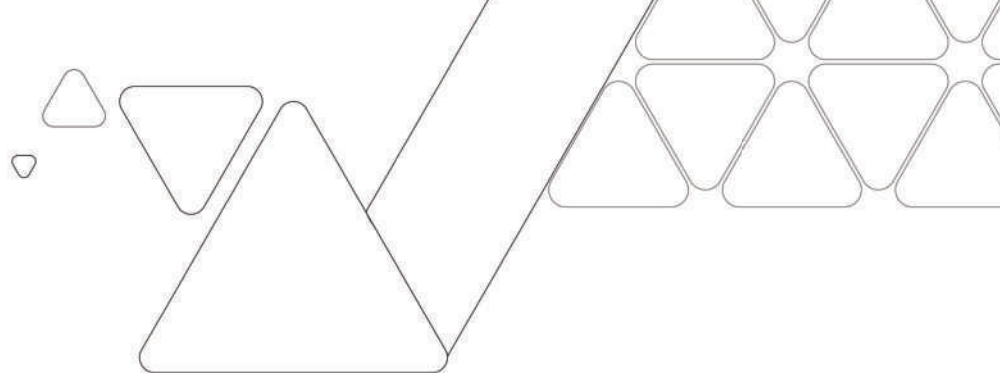
سلطنة عمان



مدائن  
madayn

SOHAR  
PORT / FREEZONE





# Key Investments in Sohar



Investments in the Wilayat have predominantly revolved around its transformation into an industrial city. Notable among these investments in Sohar are:

## Public/Private Partnerships:

- Sohar Port and Freezone (Ports & Logistics)
- Sohar Aluminium (Manufacturing)
- OQ Refinery (Petrochemicals)
- Liwa Plastics Industries Complex (Petrochemicals)

## Private Sector Investments:

- Jindal Shadeed Iron & Steel (Manufacturing)
- Taghleef Industries (Petrochemicals)
- L&T Modular Fabrication Yard (Heavy Engineering)
- Al Tamman Indsil Ferrochrome (Manufacturing)
- Oman Methanol Company (Petrochemicals)
- Majan Glass Company (Manufacturing)
- Sohar Steel (Manufacturing)
- Oman Formaldehyde Chemical Company (Petrochemicals)
- Sohar Galvanizing & Steel Industries (Manufacturing)
- Sohar University (Education)





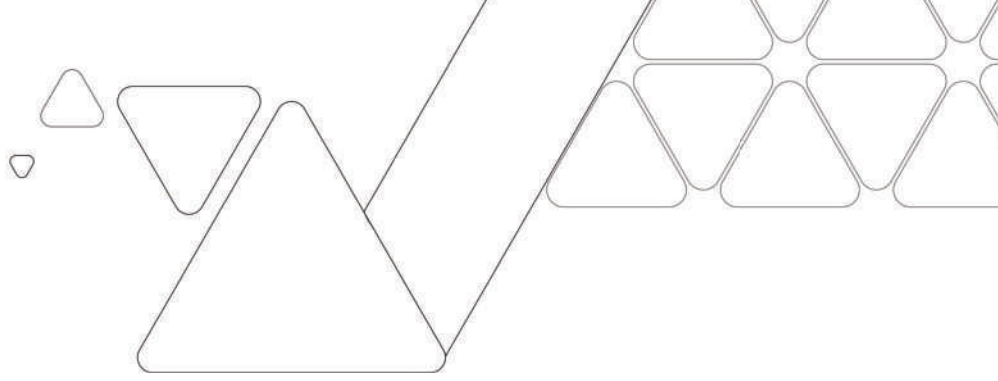
# Suhar Investment Forum Overview



The Suhar Investment Forum 2024, hosted by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) – North Al Batinah, is poised to become a pivotal event aimed at ushering in a new era of investment opportunities and economic growth in the Governorate of North Al Batinah. Over the course of two dynamic days, this forum will serve as a beacon for both local and international investors, offering a plethora of investment prospects and fostering collaboration through informative workshops, engaging forums, and captivating exhibitions.

**Unveiling Prosperity:** The primary objective of the Forum is to showcase the abundant investment opportunities within the Governorate. By doing so, we aspire to catalyze the growth of investment projects across various sectors, including business, industry, tourism, and logistics services. These opportunities are not only lucrative but also integral to achieving sustainable economic development in the region.





**A Regional Hub:** North Al Batinah Governorate, with Suhar at its heart, aspires to become a regional logistic and business hub in the Middle East. This ambitious vision aims to leverage the strategic location of Suhar and the vast economic potential it offers. Through the Suhar Investment Forum, we aim to attract both local and foreign investments that will drive innovative development in the Governorate and bolster its position on the global economic stage.

**Gateway to Success :** The OCCI Branch in North Al Batinah Governorate plays a pivotal role in promoting investment opportunities to both local and foreign investors. The Forum will unveil a plethora of investment prospects within Sohar Port, Free Zone, Sohar Industrial Area, as well as opportunities in tourism and commercial centers. These projects will not only stimulate economic growth but also create jobs, enhance development, and address key challenges facing the investment landscape.



**Regulating Growth:** The Suhar Investment Forum will provide valuable insights into the laws and regulations governing investment in North Al Batinah Governorate, ensuring that investors have a clear roadmap for their ventures. It will foster collaboration between the public and private sectors, fostering a conducive business environment and creating employment opportunities for job seekers.





# The 2-Day Power Packed Event Includes:

## **The Forum**

Exchange of information, knowledge, views and investment opportunities

## **B2B Meetings**

Exclusive designated private meeting rooms for the VIP delegates

## **Investor Exhibitor Slot**

Companies from public and private sector showcasing the investment gateways and opportunities for investors

## **Suhar Investment Forum felicitation**

Honouring the most successful FDI initiatives in different sectors in a gala evening ceremony

## **Site Visits**

The Site Visits activity provides attendees with a unique opportunity to explore carefully selected locations and projects that are at the forefront of shaping the business landscape in Suhar.



# Event Highlights



Keynote addresses by global experts

Speeches by top policymakers on Oman's open regulatory landscape

Focused presentations on US\$10 billion plus investment opportunities in Suhar and their benefits

Interactive panel discussions with industry experts

Participation of 600+ delegates from Oman, the region, and international markets

Congregation of 200+ global investors including HNIs and institutions

Unique platform for never before networking between investors, project owners and regulators

High decibel media coverage local, regional and international media

Felicitation of successful FDIs in Suhar

Exhibition of major investment projects in Suhar

Extensive exposure in international & regional media – digital, print, TV & radio



# Agenda Day 1

## Main Hall

**08.30 – 10.30:**

**Session 1: Focus on Suhar as an Investment destination and ease of doing business.**

Delve into the vibrant potential of Suhar as an investment destination. This segment will highlight the strategic advantages and opportunities that Suhar offers to investors and discover how Suhar's favorable business environment, coupled with its commitment to innovation and sustainability, makes it a prime choice for investment.

- Welcome speech
- Keynote speeches by leading government officials
- Signing ceremony on major Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) on investments in Suhar.
  
- Exhibition Opening

**10.30 – 11.00:**

**Networking Break**


**11.00 – 14.00:**

**Session 2: Special focus on incentives, opportunities and the promise of Suhar as an investment destination**

Unravel a world of incentives, opportunities, and endless possibilities for investors, and discover the wealth of benefits that await those who choose to invest in Suhar, from strategic advantages to thriving sectors ready for growth.

- Presentation on key investment opportunities that signify a remarkable showcase of diverse and enticing prospects for investors looking to engage with the city of Suhar.



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- Presentations by senior officials of key investment promotion bodies, relevant ministries and major investors in Sohar.
  - Panel Discussion on 'Incentives, opportunities and the promise of Sohar as an investment destination'

Learn how Sohar offers a compelling trifecta of incentives, abundant investment opportunities, and a promising future as an investment destination. With tax benefits, strategic location, and robust infrastructure, the city beckons investors to participate in its economic growth story, making it a beacon of opportunity in the region.

**14.00:**

**Lunch**

**15.00 – 17.00:**

**Tour of Sohar Port & Freezone and Industrial Estate**

A journey through the heart of Sohar will explore the dynamic synergy of industry, innovation, and natural beauty on the bespoke tour. This curated experience promises to be a captivating blend of tradition and modernity, showcasing the key features and highlights of Sohar's thriving landscape and the supporting Port and Freezone.

Parallel Track (Large Meeting Room) – B2B Meetings with Teams of:

10.00am - 11.00am: Government foreign investment promotion bodies

11.00am - 12.00pm: Sohar Port and Freezone

12.00pm - 1.00pm: Tourism & Real Estate

1.00pm - 1.30pm: Project financing

**19.00 – 21.00**

**Evening Gala Dinner - Main Hall (By Invitation)**

- Welcome address
- Felicitation of key investors and event partners
- Dinner



# Agenda

## Day 2

### Main Hall

**8.30 – 11.20:**

#### **Session 1: Investment opportunities in Energy & Minerals**

Investment opportunities in Suhar's energy and minerals sector are aplenty for exploration. The region is a hub for diverse mineral resources like limestone and gypsum, and is also a hotspot for renewable energy projects, including solar, wind power, and now green hydrogen and its derivatives

- Presentations by senior government officials and major investors in energy and minerals sector
- Panel discussion on Investment opportunities in Energy & Minerals

#### **Session 2: Logistics & Supply Chain – Growth and Investment Opportunities**

Suhar's logistics and supply chain sector is experiencing rapid growth, presenting lucrative investment opportunities owed largely to its strategic location, state-of-the-art port, and freezone facilities. The session will focus on how investors can tap into this dynamic sector, poised for continued expansion and innovation

- Presentations by senior government officials and major investors in logistics & supply chain

**11.20:**

#### **Networking & Coffee Break**





**11.40 – 13.30**

**Session 3: Suhar – A gateway to new opportunities in diversified sectors**

A session highlighting how Suhar is a gateway to new opportunities across diversified sectors. Its strategic location, robust infrastructure, and business-friendly environment make it an ideal destination for investors in tourism, food processing, .

- Presentations by senior government officials and major investors in tourism, food processing, transport, IT and energy.
- Panel discussion on Suhar – The gateway to new opportunities in diversified sectors

**1.30pm:**

**Lunch**

Parallel Track (Large Meeting Room) – B2B Meetings with Teams of:

10.00am -11.30am: Oil & gas, petrochemicals, power, renewable energy & minerals

11.30am - 1.00pm: Manufacturing, industrial estates and major investors

10.00am -1.00pm: Project Financing





# Focus Areas

- Changing global economic landscape
- Oman Vision 2040
- New foreign investment laws
- New single channel FDI fasttrack processing
- Free zones
  - Industrial cities

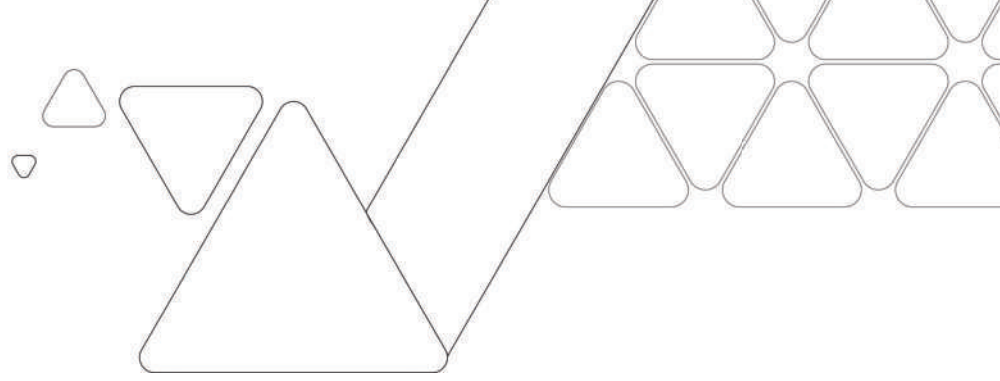


# Sectors

- Manufacturing
- Petrochemicals
- Logistics
- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Fisheries
- Mining
- Energy

- Food processing
- Technology
- E-Commerce
- Healthcare
- Education
- Retail
- Real Estate
- Low carbon economy





# Why Attend?

- Gain knowledge on the new, more open & friendly foreign investment laws in Oman
- Direct face-to-face interaction with decision makers for fastrack FDI processing
- Explore a wide variety of tangible over \$10 billion investment opportunities in over 15 industries across Oman
- Networking opportunities with top officials, business owners, joint venture partners and global investors (institutional & HNIs)
- Showcase your vision, services, products & infrastructure to the leaders from all over the world





# Who Will Attend?

- Omani ministers & undersecretaries
- Top business owners in Oman
- C-Level executives of Oman's public & private sectors
- Heads of special economic zones, freezones and industrial cities in Oman
- Heads of regional & international chambers of commerce & industry
- Heads of regional & international sovereign funds
- Heads of regional & international public & private investment funds
- Top leaders from business consulting firms
- Top regional & global business owners
- C-level executives from regional & global firms
- Top officials of current institutional investors in Oman
- Ambassadors, Consul Generals & Commercial Attaches – Embassies & Consulate Generals
- Heads of foreign trade missions & bodies
- Heads of bilateral friendship clubs







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