



Social Innovation House:

From Davos to Riyadh

A focused gathering connecting global insight with local priorities to explore coordinated, development ecosystems-level pathways for impact in Saudi Arabia.



Organizers

Anweqah Areyadah in partnership with Catalyst Now

POWERED BY



PROGRAM BOOKLET

The Cultural House - Altaawun Public Library, Riyadh

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Introduction

The event “Social Innovation House: From Davos to Riyadh” marked a significant milestone in strengthening Saudi Arabia’s global role in social innovation, development ecosystems transformation, and impact-driven development.

Organized by **Arweqah Alreyadah** in partnership with **Catalyst Now**, the gathering brought together world-renowned social innovators, policymakers, financiers, ecosystem builders, and leaders from across the globe.

This high-level convening served as a bridge between global systems innovation and Saudi Arabia’s rapidly evolving development landscape. Through keynote speeches, strategic roundtables, and the official launch of the **Catalyst Now - Saudi Chapter**, the event highlighted the Kingdom’s ambition to become a global hub for innovation-driven social and economic transformation.

Why Riyadh? Why Now?

Riyadh is becoming a regional hub for innovation and cross-sector collaboration.

Its rapid transformation creates a timely opportunity to align global methodologies with the Kingdom's evolving priorities.

What is SIH Riyadh?

A collaborative platform that brings leaders and practitioners together to examine practical models and strengthen the social innovation ecosystem, moving from discussion to grounded action.



SOCIAL
INNOVATION
HOUSE



Our Partnership with Catalyst Now

Catalyst Now introduces a systems-thinking approach that enhances coordination and shared capacity across socio-economic sectors. Through this partnership, Riyadh becomes a regional entry point for global learning and locally tailored implementation.



Opening Remarks

Eng. Alaa bin Attaf Samman

Vice Chairman of the Board, Arweqah Alreyadah

Eng. Alaa inaugurated the event by welcoming distinguished global leaders and underscoring Riyadh's emergence as a rising global capital for innovation, creativity, investment, and social progress under Vision 2030. His keynote positioned Saudi Arabia as a country moving decisively from ambition to execution, and from local influence to global leadership.

Framed the gathering as an opportunity to connect local momentum with global expertise, and emphasized Arweqah's journey from a local initiative to a regional and international contributor.

His remarks set the tone for a focused and purposeful evening.



Opening Keynote



Eng. Basel AlAghbar

Head of Social Investment & Entrepreneurship,
Arweqah Alreyadah

Eng. Basel highlighted the unprecedented pace of Saudi Arabia's national reinvention and the emergence of a new innovation culture across institutions and communities. He reinforced the idea that innovation in the Kingdom is no longer limited to specific sectors but represents a transformative societal shift.

Emphasized that meaningful innovation begins with people and that Catalyst Now offers a global mechanism for moving from isolated initiatives to coordinated, ecosystem-level approaches.

Reinforced Arweqah's commitment to co-designing practical, grounded models with partners.



Roundtable 1

Catalyst Now: Vision, Impact, and Future Directions

Speakers:



Matthew Bishop
Author of Philanthrocapitalism;
Advisor, Beyond Profit Forum



Simon Christopher
Founder, Blu Hope



Karen Storey
CEO The Storey Group &
Impact Investor



Fredrik Galtung
Chief Facilitator, Catalyst
Now



Moderator
Brahim Daoulhadj
Head of International
Department, Arweqah
Alreyadah

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Roundtable 1

Catalyst Now: Vision, Impact, and Future Directions

Purpose: To explore Catalyst Now's global systems-change work across 150+ countries and its strategic alignment with Saudi Arabia.

Key Themes

- Mobilizing cross-sector innovators
- Building global-local innovation bridges
- Regional opportunities for Catalyst Now's expansion
- Positioning Riyadh as a potential regional hub

Speakers discussed shared capabilities, the importance of cross-sector alignment, and the potential for Riyadh to become a regional hub for the movement.



Roundtable 2

Innovative Finance, Systemic Innovation & Inclusive Development

Speakers:



Muayed Bagais
CEO, 3i Holding Company



Saeed Assiri
Chief Innovation Officer,
Saudi Awwal Bank



Shatha Alsaeed
GM of entrepreneurship
planning . Monsha'at



Moderator
Fredrik Galtung –
Chief Facilitator, Catalyst Now

Roundtable 2

Innovative Finance, Systemic Innovation & Inclusive Development

Purpose: To explore next-generation financial architectures and systemic approaches for inclusive development.

Key Themes:

- Innovative finance mechanisms
- Cross-sector collaboration
- Data-driven ecosystem design
- New models for community empowerment



Speakers explored how financial tools and collaborative mechanisms can support long-term, equitable outcomes across Saudi Arabia.



Launch of Catalyst Now - Saudi Chapter

Remarks by Eng. Muatamad Bagais - CEO, Arweqah

Eng. Muatamad framed the launch of Catalyst Now - Saudi Chapter as part of a wider national movement expanding the Kingdom's regional and global role in innovation, social investment, and development. His address reflected a confident message of Saudi leadership in shaping future global agendas.

He emphasized moving from learning to structured implementation, aligning global methodologies with local priorities, and enabling measurable impact.

His remarks signaled the beginning of a new phase for ecosystem-building in the Kingdom.



Why This Matters in Saudi Arabia ?

The launch introduces a new mechanism to align global methodologies with local priorities—supporting shared capacity, structured implementation, and evidence-based collaboration across sectors.





Ecosystem Opportunities in KSA



Scalable financing
models



Cross-sector
partnerships



Unified impact
measurement



Community-driven
innovation

These opportunities reinforce the Kingdom's readiness for a more connected ecosystem.

Key Messages & Strategic Outcomes

- Saudi Arabia's Global Positioning

Riyadh is rising as a regional hub for innovation and social transformation, reflecting the Kingdom's shift from beneficiary to global contributor.

- Arweqah's Strategic Direction

Driving international expansion through scalable development models, with a focus on entrepreneurship, social investment, and youth empowerment across MENA, Africa, and Asia.

- Impact of Catalyst Now Partnership

Establishing a long-term collaboration that links global and local innovation ecosystems, positioning Riyadh as a systems-innovation hub and preparing jointly for Davos 2026.

- Opportunities Identified

Cross-sector financing, ecosystem development, community-led models, youth and women empowerment, and new international alliances for global impact.



What Collaboration with SIH Riyadh Enables

- 01 | Access to global frameworks tailored to local needs
- 02 | Participation in structured ecosystem-building efforts
- 03 | Shared learning and aligned priorities across sectors
- 04 | Pathways to test and scale practical solutions



Next Steps - From Riyadh to Davos 2026

Insights from Riyadh will inform the next phase of collaboration leading into Davos 2026 focused on refining models, strengthening partnerships, and activating practical initiatives.

Why Davos 2026 ?

1. Align your brand with Catalyst Now's trusted, impact-driven network, not performative presence
2. Engage with leaders shaping the future of AI, climate, equity, health and more
3. Shape global dialogue through co-created sessions and collaborative storytelling
4. Gain visibility among a curated, cross-sectoral audience that values authenticity and purpose
5. Tell your story with meaning - beyond logos and panels, towards shared impact





Join the Network – How to Partner

Organizations can engage through co-designed models, pilot programs, knowledge exchange, and strategic partnerships aligned with national priorities.



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Connect With Us

We welcome institutions and partners committed to advancing collaborative, systems-focused innovation in Saudi Arabia and beyond.

For partnership or coordination inquiries, please reach our team at
info@arweqah.sa.

Together, We look forward to building pathways that enable meaningful, sustainable impact.



Thank you for being with us.

We look forward to what comes next together.

