



QATAR NATIONAL حوار قطر  
DIALOGUE ON الوطني حول  
CLIMATE تغيّر  
CHANGE المناخ  
15-16 OCTOBER 2023 16-15 أكتوبر 2023

Strategic Partner الشريك الاستراتيجي



In Collaboration with بالتعاون مع





## OVERVIEW

Earthna Center for a Sustainable Future, a member of Qatar Foundation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, is hosting the third edition of the Qatar National Dialogue on Climate Change (QNDCC). In partnership with the French Embassy in Doha and the French Business Council in Qatar, we are honored to have QNB as our Strategic Partner for this impactful event.

Taking place on October 15-16, 2023, at the 2023 International Horticultural Exposition in al-Bidda Park, this two-day event plays a crucial role in convening representatives across different sectors. The goal is to collectively explore and shape the nation's approach to climate change, fostering cooperation and knowledge-sharing among ministries, local businesses, academic institutions, and international organizations.

The Qatar National Dialogue for Climate Change is a forum for open discussions, where participants will explore recent innovations and opportunities to address climate change. Key topics include water and food security, economic diversification, green finance, sustainable transportation, mitigation solutions, and decarbonization.

# Qatar National Dialogue on Climate Change Event 2023 Program

## DAY 1 - 15 October 2023

8:30am-9:30am

**Registration and Welcome**

9:30am-10am

**Opening Session**

10am-10:15am

**Talk by Mr. Ali bin Towar**

10:15am-11:05am

**Panel Discussion** Innovations in Climate Change

11:05am-11:25am

**QFFD Sustainability Award**

11:25am-11:40am

**Coffee Break and Networking**

11:40am-12:30pm

**Panel Discussion**

Economic Diversification and Sustainable Transition

12:30pm-12:50pm

**Presentation** Biocrude by Veolia

12:50pm-1:30pm

**Lunch Break and Networking**

1:30pm-2:30pm

**Panel Discussion** Water and Food Security

2:30pm

**Closing Remarks**

## Day 2 - 16 October 2023

8:30am-9:30am

**Registration and Welcome**

9:30am-9:35am

**Opening & Introduction**

9:35am-10:50am

**Fireside Chat**

Sky & Road – The Future of Transport

**Panel Discussion**

Sustainable Transportation - Public Transport infrastructure, Alternative fuels, EVs & Logistics

10:50am-11am

**Coffee Break and Networking**

11:10am-11:30am

**Presentation** Whole Life Carbon

11:30am-12:20pm

**Panel Discussion**

Artificial Intelligence Solutions to Combat Climate Change

12:20pm-12:50pm

**Lunch Break and Networking**

12:50pm-2:00pm

**Presentation**

Green and Sustainable Finance

**Panel Discussion**

Green and Sustainable Finance - Products and Investments

2:00pm

**Closing Remarks**

**Day 1**

# Opening Session

## Keynote Speeches



**Dr. Gonzalo Castro de la Mata**

Executive Director, Earthna



**His Excellency Sheikh Dr.  
Faleh bin Nasser bin Ahmed  
bin Ali Al Thani**

Minister of Environment and  
Climate Change, State of Qatar



**His Excellency Jean-Baptiste  
Faivre**

Ambassador of France to Qatar

## Talk by Mr. Ali bin Towar



Ali bin Towar

Ali bin Towar is a multifaceted Qatari dynamo. Beyond being a charismatic television presenter and the face of Ooredoo, he's a seasoned traveler, accomplished athlete, and the author behind "The Life of an Adventurer." Recognized as one of Qatar and the Persian Gulf's 'most influential young personalities,' his pursuits reflect a harmonious blend of adventure and ambassadorship. Ali's journey unfolds on screen, in print, and as the embodiment of an adventurous spirit.

During his talk, Ali will weave captivating narratives, delving into his personal tales while artfully connecting them to the critical theme of sustainability in travel. With an engaging storytelling style, he invites the audience to explore the intersection of his adventures and the broader spectrum of environmental responsibility.

# First Session

## Innovations in Climate Change

### Overview

The high-level panel discussion on “Innovations in Climate Change” stands as a pivotal platform, underscoring the paramount importance of innovation in both mitigating and adapting to climate change. This session will unite distinguished climate scientists, environmentalists, technologists, and policymakers to delve into cutting-edge innovations across various sectors.

The focus will be on exploring the development of novel technologies, sustainable practices, and policy initiatives designed to curtail greenhouse gas emissions, preserve biodiversity, and fortify resilience against climate impacts. Key topics will encompass breakthroughs in renewable energy, carbon capture and storage, climate-smart agriculture, and eco-friendly urban planning.

By fostering a robust dialogue on climate innovation, this panel aspires to inspire collaborative efforts and mobilize resources for an effective combat against climate change. The goal is to ensure a sustainable and habitable planet for future generations.

### Moderator



**Sandra Gathmann**

Host, Al Jazeera English



## Panelists



**His Excellency Mr. Saleh bin Majed Al-Khulaifi**

Assistant Undersecretary for Trade Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Industry



**Mr. Laurent Furedi**

Country Manager, Engie Qatar



**Prof. Mariam Al-Maadeed**

Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Qatar University



**Mr. Thomas Bièche**

Middle East & South Asia Director, Egis



**Munera Al-Dosari**

CEO, Starlink ME

## QFFD Sustainability Awards Ceremony

In a collaborative effort, the Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), Earthna Center for a Sustainable Future, and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change proudly introduce the QFFD Sustainability Awards. Designed to recognize exemplary sustainability endeavors originating from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), this platform underscores a commitment to global progress.

The primary focus of this year's award was on food security. We meticulously examined projects characterized by innovation, scalability, and tangible, impactful solutions in the realm of climate change challenges.

During this session, Mr. Khalifa bin Jassem Al-Kuwari, Director General of QFFD, will assume the distinguished role of introducing the award and formally announcing the recipient—a pivotal moment that exemplifies our collaborative dedication to advancing sustainable practices on a global scale.



**His Excellency Mr. Khalifa bin  
Jassim Al-Kuwari**

Director General, Qatar Fund for  
Development

# Second Session

## Economic Diversification and Sustainable Transition

### Overview

This panel discussion addresses the pressing issue of climate change and its implications for the Qatari economy. Qatar, known for its significant hydrocarbon reserves, recognizes the urgency to diversify its economy while embracing sustainability. The proper management of the transformation process is essential for ensuring an orderly transition, as well as for the speed with which policies and measures can be implemented.

This session will convene leading experts, policymakers, and industry leaders to deliberate on strategies for economic diversification that align with global sustainability goals.

Key topics of discussion will include the green finance investments to promote faster and effective transition to a low carbon economy, development of renewable energy sources, eco-friendly urban planning, and the integration of circular economy principles.

### Moderator



**Samantha Johnson**

Presenter, Al Jazeera English

## Panelists



**Mr. Trevor Allen**

Head of Sustainability for Global Markets, BNP Paribas



**Mr. Ali Mohammed Al Mohannadi**

Executive Director of Business Finance, Qatar Development Bank



**Sheikha Amna Mohammed Suhaim Al-Thani**

CEO, Strategy Hub Qatar



**Ms. Efi Frager**

Head of the Economic Department, French Embassy in Doha

# Presentation on Biocrude by Veolia

## Presenters



**Mr. Laurent Gestin**

CEO, Veolia Qatar



**Mr. Hervé Paillard**

Director of Process &  
Industrialization, Veolia

# Third Session

## Water and Food Security

### Overview

Diving into the intricate dynamics of water and food security in Qatar, this panel discussion aims to dissect the challenges woven into securing sustainable access to clean water and ensuring food resilience within the distinctive Qatari context. Bringing together esteemed experts, policymakers, and key stakeholders, this session is dedicated to thoughtful deliberations on strategies to combat water scarcity and fortify food security.

An emphasis on innovative solutions will underscore the discourse, particularly in the realm of efficient water management. Topics of discussion will include cutting-edge technologies like desalination and wastewater recycling, recognized as pivotal in navigating Qatar's arid environmental constraints. On the front of food security, the panel will delve into discussions on local agricultural initiatives, the potential of vertical farming, and the diversification of food sources.

Additionally, the panel will consider the impacts of climate change on these critical sectors and the need for adaptation and mitigation strategies. By addressing water and food security comprehensively, this panel aims to foster sustainable solutions that not only benefit Qatar but also serve as a model for regions facing similar challenges in an increasingly climate-vulnerable world.

### Moderator



**Sandra Gathmann**

Host, Al Jazeera English

## Panelists



**Ms. Wafaa AlSaffar**

Environment, Social & Governance Director, Baladna



**Dr. Masoud Jarallah Al Marri**

Director of the Food and Security Department, Ministry of Municipality, State of Qatar



**H.E. Dr. Tariq Al Zadjali**

Former Director General, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development



**Mr. Michael Martin**

Director of Process & Innovation, Veolia



**Dr. Tareq Al Ansari**

Assistant Professor, College of Science and Engineering, HBKU

# Day 2



# Sky & Road – The Future of Transport

## Overview

In this thought-provoking session, we'll open with a captivating fireside chat titled "Sky & Road – The Future of Transport." Sheikh Khalifa Bin Ali Al-Thani and Mr. Alex Macheras will engage in a dynamic conversation, delving deep into the transformative impact of electrification on aviation and automotive industries. Together, they'll explore cutting-edge innovations and confront sustainability challenges head-on, painting a vivid picture of an interconnected future for transportation.

## Fireside Chat



**Sheikh Khalifa Bin  
Ali Al-Thani**

EV Expert



**Mr. Alex Macheras**

Aviation Analyst, Consultant and  
Advisor

# First Session

Sustainable  
Transportation &  
Aviation

Public Transport  
Infrastructure, Alternative  
fuels, EVs & Logistics

## Overview

Exploring the nexus of climate action and urban development, the session on “Sustainable Transportation” assumes a critical role. Leading experts, policymakers, and industry leaders will unravel transformative solutions for sustainable transportation. The focal point will be the integration of robust public transport systems into urban planning, strategically aimed at diminishing private vehicle use and curbing greenhouse gas emissions.

This panel aims to address the multifaceted dimensions of sustainable transportation, propelling the transition towards greener, more efficient, and integrated transportation systems. Crucially, it aspires to contribute significantly to climate change mitigation and the enhancement of urban livability. The session will emphasize key elements such as the widespread adoption of electric vehicles (EVs), the development of EV charging infrastructure, and the utilization of alternative fuel sources like Biofuels and Hydrogen.

The proceedings will commence with a fireside chat featuring Sheikh Khalifa Bin Ali Al-Thani and Mr. Alex Macheras.

## Moderator



**Samantha Johnson**

Presenter, Al Jazeera English

## Panelists



**Dr. Shima Ali Al-Quradaghi**

Director of Qatar Transportation & Traffic Safety Center, Qatar University



**Mr. Mohamed Abu Khadija**

Director of Strategy, Mowasalat



**Mr. Jérémy Caussade**

President, Co-Founder and Chief Engineer, AURA AERO



**Mr. Thierry Puy**

Chief Operation Officer Eastern Europe, Vinci Highways



**Mr. Paul Bou Chebl**

Vice President of Strategy, Alstom AMECA

# Presentation on Whole Life Carbon

## Presenter



**Dr. Ali Amiri**

Regional Director for  
Sustainability, Egis

# Second Session

## Artificial Intelligence Solutions to Combat Climate Change

### Overview

Exploring the intersection of technology and climate action, this session aims to highlight the significant potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in reshaping our approach to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Convening leading AI researchers, environmentalists, policymakers, and industry pioneers, this discussion delves into the transformative role of AI in addressing climate challenges.

The session unfolds with a showcase of innovative AI applications across diverse domains, including climate modeling, renewable energy optimization, carbon footprint reduction, and natural disaster prediction and response. The panel emphasizes the power of AI in data analysis, facilitating more informed decision-making and robust policy formulation. Ethical considerations, data privacy, and equity in deploying AI solutions for climate action will also be integral to the conversation.

By shedding light on the intersection of AI and climate change, this discussion seeks to inspire collaborations and investments in AI-driven solutions. These have the potential to hasten our progress toward a more sustainable and resilient future, effectively combating climate change and ensuring a better world for generations to come.

### Moderator



**Samantha Johnson**

Presenter, Al Jazeera English

## Panelists



**Sheikha Athba Al-Thani**

Head of Sustainable Development and  
Chief Business Officer, QDVC



**Ms. Hayfa Al Abdallah**

Innovation Director, Qatar Science  
and Technology Park



**Dr. Ghanim Al-Sulaiti**

Director of Government Innovation,  
Civil Service and Government  
Development Bureau



**Dr. Abdelaziz Bouras**

Professor in Computer Science  
and Manager of Pre-Award  
Department, Qatar University



**Mr. Yasser Ahmed**

MEA Director of Digital Buildings &  
Software, Schneider Electric

# Presentation on Sustainable and Green Finance

## Presenter



**Mr. Trevor Allen**

Head of Sustainability for  
Global Markets, BNP Paribas

# Third Session

## Green and Sustainable Finance - Products and Investments

### Overview

Highlighting the integral connection between climate change mitigation, Qatar's economic trajectory, and the role of finance and investment, this session assumes a crucial position in steering towards a sustainable, low-carbon economy and aims to present and explore innovative financial products and investment strategies aligning with environmental and social sustainability goals.

The session will commence with a presentation on green and sustainable finance by BNP Paribas, shedding light on their insights and contributions to the field. Following this, the discussion will navigate through topics such as green bonds, sustainable investment funds, and responsible banking practices, all with the potential to mobilize capital for projects carrying positive environmental impacts. Beyond that, the panel will delve into the significance of incorporating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria into investment decisions, fostering transparency and accountability.

Furthermore, the session will address Qatar's unique position in the global financial landscape and the potential for becoming a hub for sustainable finance and investments in the region. By promoting green and sustainable finance solutions, this panel aims to catalyze investments that not only drive economic growth but also contribute significantly to climate change mitigation and environmental stewardship, positioning Qatar as a leader in sustainable finance.

### Moderator



**Sandra Gathmann**

Host, Al Jazeera English



## Panelists



**Dr. Dalal Aassouli**

Assistant Professor of Islamic Finance, HBKU



**Mr. Leo Chi Wai Tong**

Head of Sustainability, QNB



**Mr. Jérôme Ponrouch**

Head of CSR and Sustainability MEA, BNP Paribas



**Ms. Sarya Kudsi**

Regional Sustainability Director, Crédit Agricole CIB



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