

Press Release

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World Agriculture Forum Launches UAE Country Council Headquarters in Dubai



The World Agriculture Forum (WAF) has taken a significant step in its global expansion with the launch of the WAF UAE Country Council, a 40 member multi-stakeholder body positioned to become the apex platform for agriculture and food systems in the country. The inaugural session was hosted at the headquarters of the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development (AAAID) in Dubai.

The Country Council initiative is part of WAF's wider program to establish national platforms that bring together leaders from policy, business, technology, investment, and academia. Each council is designed to foster structured dialogue with governments, facilitate trade and business linkages, and drive coordinated action to strengthen agri-food ecosystems.

Dr. M.J. Khan, Special Advisor to the WAF Board, set the agenda for the newly launched council, underscoring the UAE's role as a hub for innovation, food security, and climate resilience in the region.

“The UAE is uniquely positioned as a global hub for technology, trade, and investment. With this Country Council, WAF is creating a collaborative platform where stakeholders can co-create solutions, share innovations, and engage directly with policymakers to ensure food security and sustainability,” Dr. Khan said.

The UAE Country Council brings together 40 eminent leaders from government-linked entities, agribusiness companies, research and academic institutions, investors, and farmer-linked organisations. Its mandate is to advance food security initiatives through strategy-building, partnerships, and programs aligned with the UAE’s National Food Security Strategy and global commitments such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The choice of AAAID as host for the inaugural session highlighted the importance of regional cooperation. With its long-standing mandate to promote agricultural investment and development across the Arab world, AAAID’s partnership with WAF reflects the growing emphasis on cross-border collaboration for food security.

With the UAE Country Council in place, WAF deepens its footprint in the Middle East. The Forum’s network of Country Councils is intended to operate as national convergence platforms, enabling governments, industry, and knowledge institutions to work in synergy on policies, investments, and innovations shaping the future of agriculture.



About the World Agriculture Forum (WAF)

The World Agriculture Forum (WAF) is a global, multi-stakeholder platform dedicated to advancing sustainable agriculture and food systems. Since its inception, WAF has served as a catalyst for dialogue and partnerships between governments, businesses, farmers, academia, and civil society. Through its international summits, regional programs, and national country councils, WAF promotes inclusive growth, food security, and resilience in agriculture worldwide.

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