



**H.E. ABDULLAH SAEED AL DARMAKI**

Chief Executive Officer  
Khalifa Fund

H.E. Abdullah Saeed Al Darmaki is the Chief Executive of the prestigious Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development (Khalifa Fund) a Government-owned vehicle that drives the development of Small & Medium Enterprises in the UAE. Mr. Al Darmaki's visionary role and strategic objectives has further cemented Khalifa Fund as part of the Abu Dhabi Economic Vision 2030 to drive and cater for a versatile base of investments, which also is synonymous with the bigger UAE Vision 2021. H.E. Al Darmaki's attributes his lean style of management to the experience he has managed to attain over the last 20 years, starting in the Hydrocarbon spectrum back in 1994, then Capital Investments as well as Manufacturing Industry and most recently within the Civil Service domain.

H.E. Al Darmaki, was one of the first to be selected from the Oil & Gas sector to be working within the (back then newly established) Petrochemical Industry. That would then give him the opportunity to be stationed within South East Asia and gain experience on how this new industry coming from the Middle East is able to penetrate the Asian Markets. Upon his return, he ventures into Capital Investments in the Emirate of Dubai at a time when the Global Financial markets were heavily invested in the region and being part of the Dubai Holding gave him the ability to work with leading Investment Institutions who look at the UAE as an attractive investment. In the late 2000's, Mr. Al Darmaki was headhunter to join the Abu Dhabi Civil Service as the local government looking to rebuff its senior civil service pool. He was assigned to head the National Employment Agency (the Abu Dhabi Tatween Council) a domain outside his comfort zone, but nonetheless a challenge to which he was able to rise up to the occasion. Transforming the role of the Abu Dhabi Tawteen Council is possibly considered to be one of his major milestones that he was able to deliver especially, when there were multiple stakeholders involved and required the buy in from Civil Society to understand their ability to become employable and apprehend the chance to further develop their skills to enter the employment market.

His prominent, pragmatic and dynamic approach coupled with his knowledge gamut of both the UAE and International markets has earned him Executive Board-level positions in a variety of prestigious companies and governmental initiatives ranging from specialized navy defense systems, manufacturing, cross-country loan management to name a few.

H.E. Abdullah Al Darmaki is a prime example of how leadership, diligence and collaboration can unleash untapped resources that adds value to the UAE's already promising future.

**Education:**

Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs and Political Science – Minor in History: Lewis & Clarke College, Portland, Oregon, USA.