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Dr Nasser H. Saidi heads Nasser Saidi & Associates an economic, financial and governance consultant and advisory firm to the banking & financial sector, governments, central banks, regulators, multi-national and regional companies. He is the former Chief Economist & Strategist, and Head of External Relations of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) from 2005 to 2012, and as a senior executive he built & promoted the centre and its strategic development and links with foreign governments, central banks, IFIs, banks & financial institutions and international financial centres. Dr Saidi is the Founder and former Executive Director of the DIFC's Hawkamah-Institute for Corporate Governance and the Mudara Institute of Directors, 2006-2012.

He founded and chairs the MENA Clean Energy Business Council (www.cebcmena.com) promoting clean energy and climate tech solutions & policies in the MENA countries. He is on the Board of Berytech (<https://berytch.org/about/> an incubator & accelerator in Beirut) and on the Board of Trustees of St Joseph University (<https://www.usj.edu.lb/anglais/>) and the Board of Trustees of the University of Dubai (<https://ud.ac.ae/>). He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF), was a member of the IMF's Regional Advisory Group for MENA and co-chaired the OECD MENA Corporate Governance Working Group.

Dr Saidi was the Minister of Economy and Trade and Minister of Industry of Lebanon between 1998 and 2000. He was the First Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Lebanon for two successive mandates, 1993-1998 and 1998-2003, a period spanning reconstruction of Lebanon's economy & its banking and financial sector. Former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan appointed him, in his personal capacity, as a Member of the UN Committee for Development Policy (UNCDP) for two mandates over the period 2000-2006.

Prior to his public career, Dr Saidi was a private banker and served as an economic adviser and director to central banks and financial institutions in Arab countries, Europe and Central and Latin America. Dr Saidi was an academic, serving as a Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics at the University of Chicago, the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales (Geneva, CH), and the Université de Genève. He also served as a professor at the American University of Beirut and the Université St. Joseph in Beirut.

Dr Saidi holds a Ph.D. and a M.A. in Economics from the University of Rochester in the USA, a M.Sc. from University College, London University and a B.A. from the American University of Beirut. He is a public speaker and commentator in international and regional media, author of numerous articles and has authored several books and publications addressing macroeconomic, capital market development and international economic issues in the MENA region, the GCC countries and Lebanon. His interests include macroeconomics, financial market development, FinTech, payment systems, international economic policy, corporate governance, climate change and digitalisation.

In 2014, he was named among the fifty most Influential Arabs in the World by The Middle East magazine, for the fourth consecutive year and named among the 500 Most Powerful Arabs in the world by Arabian Business for the second consecutive year.