

منتدى صحر للاستثمار 2026

Suhar Investment Forum

Sultanate of Oman | 4 - 5 February



غرفة تجارة وصناعة عُمان
 OMAN CHAMBER OF
 COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
 فرع محافظة شمال الباطنة
 Al Batinah North Governorate Branch



Suhar Industrial Investment Destination

4-5 February 2026

Majan Hall, Sohar
 Sultanate of Oman

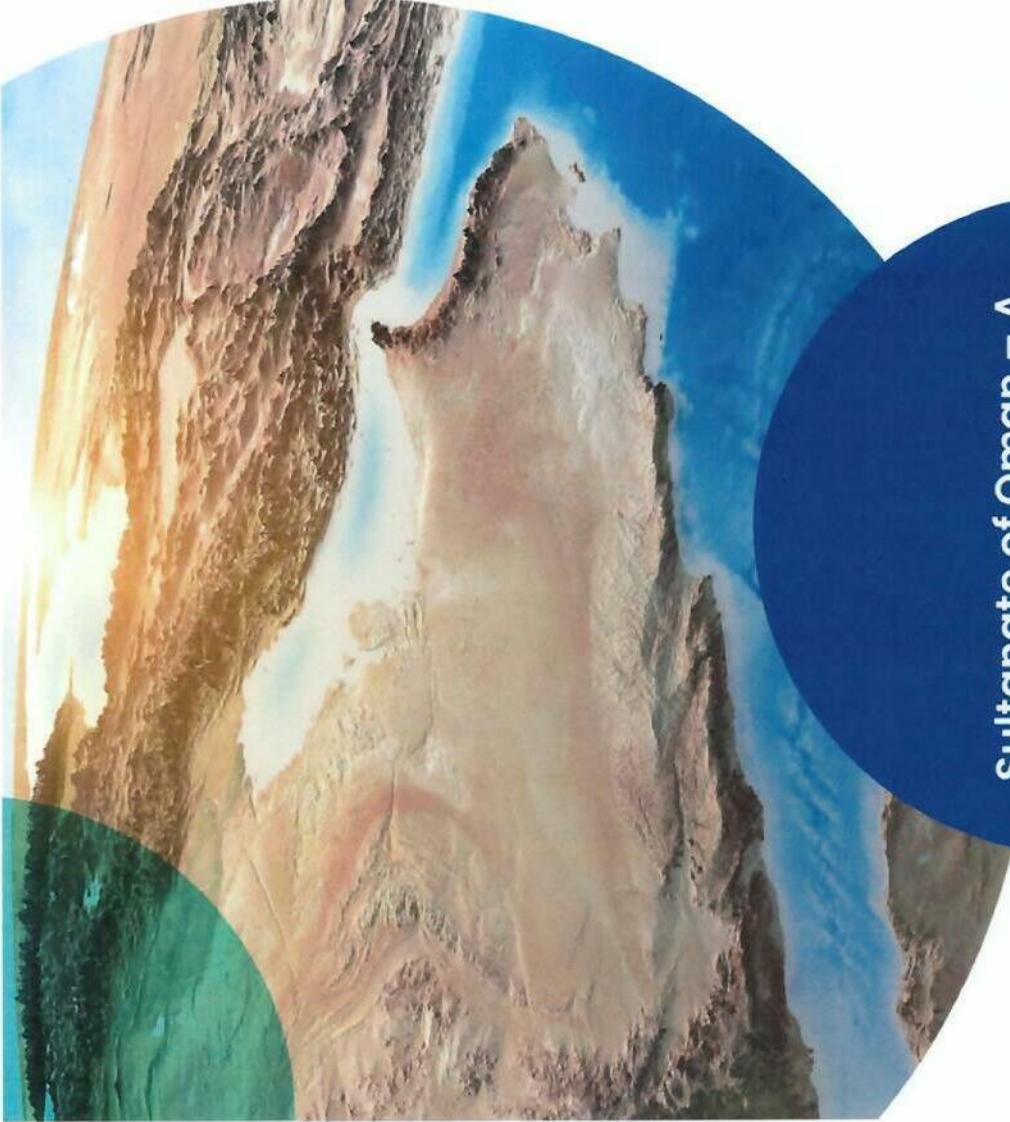
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Local investment is one of the key pillars in diversifying the sources of national income. Following the launch of various national programs and the creation of an enabling environment, we encourage the investment of capital within the country. There are abundant and rewarding investment opportunities across all sectors. We aspire for our nation to become a leading investment destination, particularly in areas that support our goals to expand the size of our national economy and diversify income sources. Our country — praise be to God — enjoys competitive advantages, vast potential, and promising opportunities that must be harnessed.

**His Majesty
Sultan Haitham bin Tarik**





Sultanate of Oman – A Promising Destination for Smart Global Investments

The Sultanate of Oman continues to strengthen its position as an attractive hub for foreign direct investment (FDI), thanks to a stable economic environment, investor-friendly legislation, and a unique geographic location that connects Asian, African, and European markets through major global maritime routes. In recent years, Oman has witnessed significant leaps in attracting FDI, with inflows reaching USD 68.9 billion by the end of Q2024 3—marking a %16.2 growth compared to the same period in 2023. Moreover, this was achieved inspite of global economic fluctuations.

These figures reflect the confidence of international investors in Oman's modern infrastructure—ranging from ports and freezones to advanced logistics networks—as well as the government's commitment to reforming regulations and streamlining procedures within a competitive framework that enhances ease of doing business.

Under Oman Vision 2040, the Sultanate is transitioning toward a diversified and sustainable economy built on knowledge, innovation, and modern technologies. In addition to traditional sectors such as oil and gas, manufacturing, and financial services, Oman is prioritizing investment in future-oriented sectors, including the green economy, renewable energy, logistics, technology, agri-food industries, and sustainable tourism. These areas form the foundation of the nation's vision for a resilient, forward-looking economy aligned with global trends.

Oman is not only economically and politically stable but also a reliable strategic partner, underscored by its international agreements, such as the Free Trade Agreement with the United States, and other regional and global accords.

Strategically located in the heart of international trade routes, Oman's industrial zones and ports—such as Sohar, Duqm, and Salalah—offer a competitive advantage. These gateways are ideally positioned near key global markets in Asia, Africa, and the Gulf region, making Oman an ideal launch pad for businesses targeting East Africa, the Middle East, and South and East Asia. This geographic advantage, coupled with political stability, proactive government facilitation, and world-class infrastructure, offers investors a unique opportunity to build sustainable, cross-border ventures.

Oman not only provides a secure and investor-friendly environment but also serves as a strategic platform for global companies seeking smart expansion in one of the world's most dynamic and rapidly growing regions.

Why Oman?



Key Indicators

- Total Area: 309,500 km²
- Population (2025): 5.49 million
- Gross Domestic Product (2024): USD 106.9 billion
- GDP per Capita: USD 20,700
- Real GDP Growth Rate (2024): 1.7%
- Life Expectancy (2024): 78.78 years

- North Al Batinah Governorate's contribution to Oman's GDP (2024) – 11.1%
- New Investments in Sohar Industrial City (2024) – OMR 75 million+



Sohar – The Future of Investment at the Heart of Global Trade

Strategically located in the Gulf region and within close proximity to major regional and international markets, Sohar continues to cement its status as a prime destination for sustainable investment and smart expansion. With its vital location along key international shipping lanes, advanced infrastructure, and business-friendly regulatory environment, Sohar serves as an ideal gateway for companies aiming to access markets across the Middle East, North and East Africa, and South Asia.





Competitive Advantages Elevating Suhar's Investment Landscape

Global Strategic Location

Situated at the crossroads of the Arabian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, Suhar acts as a commercial hub serving over two billion consumers within a 5–10 day shipping window. Home to one of the region's fastest-growing logistics centers—Sohar Port and Freezone—the city is quickly emerging as a leading industrial and economic hub in the Arabian Peninsula.

Integrated Multimodal Logistics

Suhar offers a seamless transportation network encompassing sea, air, and road connectivity, with an upcoming railway project that will further enhance its role as a regional center for logistics and distribution.

Modern, Incentive-Driven Freezone

Suhar Freezone provides a robust investment environment supported by competitive tax exemptions, comprehensive investor support services, and state-of-the-art infrastructure tailored for heavy and advanced industries—making it an ideal platform for establishing and operating industrial and commercial ventures.

Flexible, Investor-Friendly Regulatory Framework

With legislation that allows 100% foreign ownership, free repatriation of profits, and no personal income tax, Oman—especially Suhar—has emerged as a model business environment for both startups and innovative enterprises.

Diverse Investment Opportunities Across Future-Driven Sectors

Suhar presents a wide array of investment avenues in future-centric industries, including:

Advanced Manufacturing (metals, petrochemicals, food, automotive)

Clean and Renewable Energy, aligned with Oman's carbon neutrality goals

Smart Logistics and Digital Supply Chains

Sustainable Tourism and Hospitality

Tech-Driven and Green Industries supporting the circular economy

Political and Economic Stability Boosting Investor Confidence

The Sultanate of Oman enjoys a high degree of political stability and international reputation as a secure and neutral investment hub. Its forward-looking economic policies align with the ambitions of global investors seeking safe and sustainable environments for long-term growth.



Key Investments in Sohar

Over the past two decades, Sohar has undergone a significant economic transformation, evolving into a fully integrated industrial hub thanks to major investments from both public and private sectors. This trajectory has recently been strengthened by innovative industrial projects aligned with global trends in sustainability, the circular economy, and low-carbon manufacturing—positioning Sohar as one of the region's premier destinations for industrial investment.

1. Public-Private Partnerships

Sohar Port and Freezone

One of the fastest-growing parts in the region, Sohar Port and Freezone has attracted over \$30 billion in investments till date. In 2024 alone, the port saw expansion projects exceeding \$4 billion, reinforcing its role as a regional trade and logistics powerhouse.

Sohar Aluminium

A fully integrated world-class aluminium production complex, contributing to Oman's non-oil industrial output.

OQ Refinery

A strategic facility in petrochemicals and refining, adding value to Oman's hydrocarbon resources.

Liwa Plastics Industries Complex

A flagship downstream petrochemical project driving transformation in the plastics sector.

2. Private Sector Investments

- Jindal – Steel Sohar
- Sohar Galvanizing & Steel Industries
- Larsen & Toubro (Heavy Engineering)
- Taghileef Industries (Petrochemicals)
- Oman Methanol Company
- Oman Formaldehyde Chemicals Company
- Majan Glass Company
- Al Tamman Ferro Alloys
- Sohar University – Investing in education and human capital development

3. Recent Strategic Projects (2023–2025)

• Low-Carbon Iron Ore Concentration Plant

A joint venture between Vale and China's Jinan Group, valued at OMR 240 million, targeting the global demand for clean industrial materials.

• Largest Polysilicon Production Plant in the Middle East

A \$1.35 billion investment to support advanced solar energy manufacturing in the region.

• LNG Ship Bunkering Project Powered by Renewable Energy

With \$1.6 billion in investment, this pioneering project reduces maritime emissions and positions Sohar as a green fuel hub.

• Additional High-Capacity Iron Ore Concentration Plant

Costing \$600 million, the facility strengthens Sohar's industrial supply chain within the Freezone.

• Expansion of the Integrated Aluminium Industrial Complex

Aimed at developing high-value industrial production chains in the metals sector.

These investments reflect a unique blend of global expertise, local ambition, and advanced infrastructure—establishing Sohar not just as an industrial city, but as a smart platform for sustainable industrial growth and a top-tier destination for investors in future-oriented sectors.

Suhar Investment Forum 2026

Following the resounding success of its inaugural edition in 2024, the Suhar Investment Forum returns in 2026 for its second edition—further establishing North Al Batinah Governorate as a strategic destination for smart investment in the region. Organized by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry – North Al Batinah Branch, the Forum serves as a comprehensive platform that brings together business opportunities, investment dialogue, and promotion of major projects.

Spanning two days of sessions, discussions, and exhibitions, the Forum aims to present a roadmap for sustainable investment in the Sultanate. It highlights promising sectors, facilitates direct engagement between investors and decision-makers, and fosters an enabling environment for high-value partnerships.

Objectives of the Forum

- Build on the momentum of past achievements and expand the base of strategic partnerships.
- Highlight high-impact projects in sectors such as manufacturing, sustainable industries, clean energy, and advanced industrial technologies.
- Provide a strategic platform connecting local and international investors, developers, and government entities.
- Showcase updates in the regulatory and legislative environment that supports investment in the Sultanate of Oman.

Facts & Figures from the Inaugural Edition (2024)

The success of the first edition laid a strong foundation for a more ambitious and expansive second edition:

800+

participants and exhibition visitors

104

investment opportunities showcased, with a total value exceeding OMR 1 billion

14

agreements signed, worth OMR 115 million

40+

speakers from Oman and around the world

24+

countries participated

25+

supporting and sponsoring entities, including participants in the accompanying exhibition



Event Highlights

The Suhar Investment Forum spans two days filled with interactive sessions, business-to-business meetings, specialized activities, presentations and field visits, all meticulously designed to meet the expectations of investors and decision-makers, and to reinforce North Al Batinah's position as a key hub on the regional and international investment map.

Key Components of the Forum:

Plenary Sessions and Keynote Dialogues

The opening session will host high-level international speakers and senior officials from Omani government entities, delivering keynote addresses and regulatory insights highlighting Oman's evolving investment climate and growth potential in North Al Batinah.

Showcase of Premier Investment Opportunities

Omani companies from both public and private sectors will present case studies and presentations on investment opportunities - across key sectors such as industry, logistics, energy, and tourism - emphasizing expected returns and strategic advantages.

Interactive Panel Discussions & Specialized Workshops

A host of specialized sessions will allow participants to engage directly with industry experts, explore global success stories, and evaluate innovative financing and investment models aligned with global shifts toward sustainability and digital transformation.

B2B Matchmaking Platform

The forum features a professional space dedicated to one-on-one meetings between major investors, government officials, and entrepreneurs, enabling direct negotiation and the discovery of practical partnership opportunities.

Investment Exhibition

An accompanying exhibition will host over 25 entities showcasing ongoing projects and open investment opportunities across promising sectors in Suhar and the wider North Al Batinah Governorate.



Broad Participation & Engaging Environment:

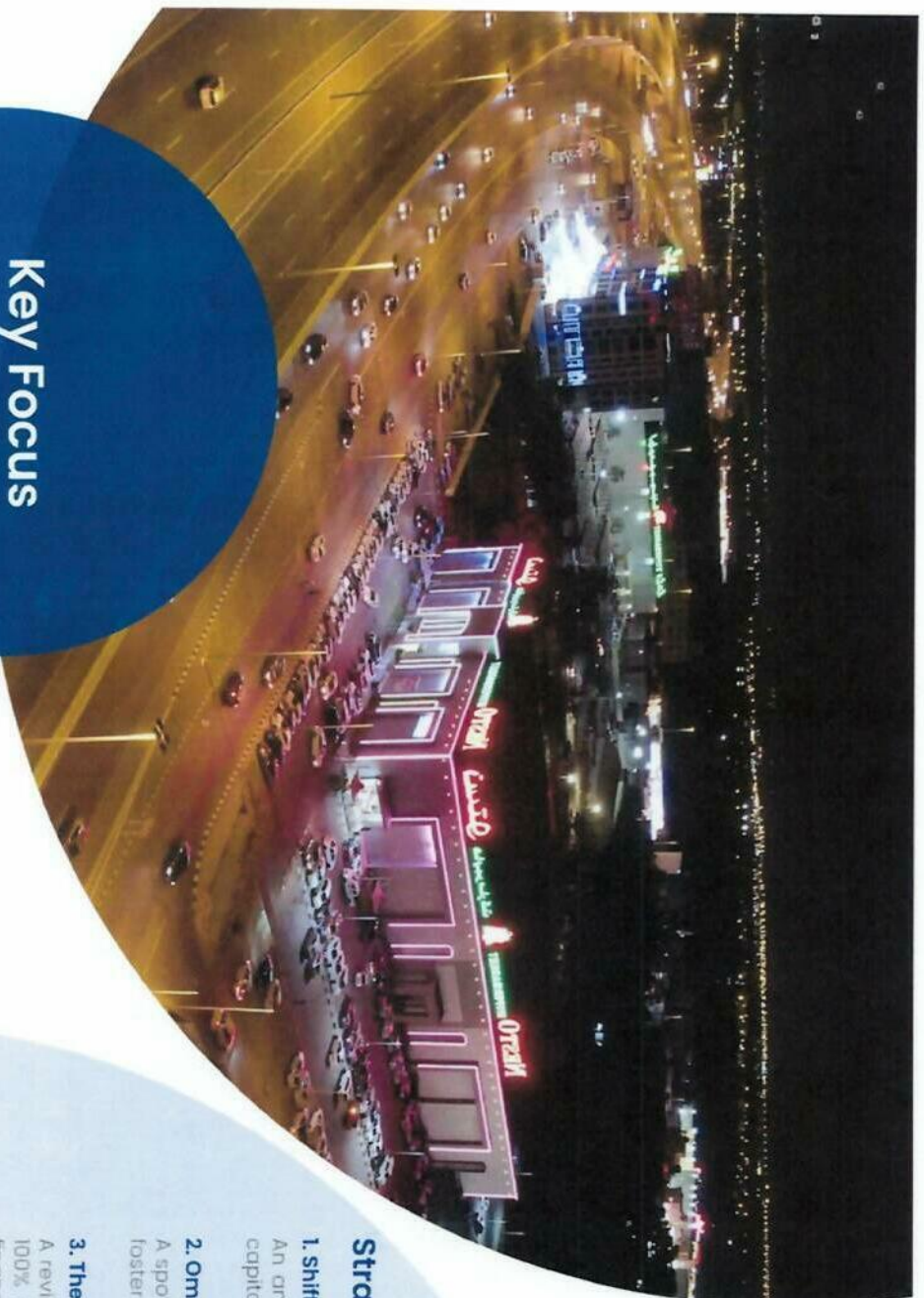
- Over 700 participants from Oman and abroad
- Representation from more than 200 International Investors
- Delegations from 20+ countries
- Comprehensive media coverage via regional and international channels and digital platforms

Strategic Site Visits

Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in curated field visits to selected projects including the Freezone, Sohar Port, and major industrial complexes—gaining firsthand insights into infrastructure readiness and project execution on the ground.

What's New in the Second Edition?

- Elevated level of international coordination and high-value participation
- Broader focus on industrial, green and digital economy sectors
- Activation of investment tech platforms and industrial transformation tools
- Emphasis on future ready investment opportunities and a chance to capture captive business opportunities.



Key Focus Areas

The agenda of the forum's second edition is built around a series of strategic themes that reflect regional and global economic shifts while aligning with the priorities of Oman Vision 2040. These focus areas aim to position North Al Batinah as a leading regional hub for high-value investments.

Strategic Themes:

1. Shifts in the Global Economic Landscape

An analysis of geo-economic transformations and their implications on capital flows, global trade routes, and supply chains.

2. Oman Vision 2040 – Investment as an enabler of growth

A spotlight on national efforts to modernize the business environment and foster public-private partnerships in line with long-term national goals.

3. The New Generation of Investment Legislation

A review of recent reforms promoting foreign direct investment, including 100% ownership rights, simplified business procedures, and accessible financing tools.

4. Smart Economic Infrastructure

Exploring opportunities in the development of freezones, industrial cities, and specialized economic clusters to enhance competitiveness and productivity.

5. Sustainability and Renewable Energy – Catalysts for Future Investment

Discussions on scalable investment opportunities in clean energy, green hydrogen, and low-emission technologies as part of Oman's climate commitments.

6. Digitalization and Industry 4.0 in Production Sectors

A forward-looking dialogue on transforming Suhar into a smart industrial hub powered by AI, automation, and digital supply chain solutions.



Target Sectors

The 2026 edition of the Suhar Investment Forum embraces a broader, future-oriented vision, integrating traditional industrial strengths with emerging global trends. The aim is to support the development of a diversified, resilient, and sustainable economy aligned with global investment priorities and Oman Vision 2040.

Core Industrial Sectors:

- **Supporting Industries for Heavy Manufacturing**
Infrastructure and component production essential to large-scale industrial operations.
- **Recycling Industries and Circular Economy**
Solutions driving sustainability through material recovery, waste reduction, and green manufacturing.
- **Iron, Aluminum, and Plastic Industries**
Expansion of industrial products with -export potential.
- **High-Value Food and Medical Industries**
Sectors focused on food security and advanced pharmaceutical manufacturing.

Future-Driven and Emerging Sectors:

- **Advanced Industrial Technologies (Industry 4.0)**
Smart manufacturing technologies including automation, robotics, and real-time data systems.
- **Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation in Manufacturing**
Tech-driven industrial evolution powered by AI and intelligent systems.
- **Smart Logistics and Digital Supply Chains**
Innovations in supply chain efficiency, tracking, and multimodal transport.
- **Eco-Tourism, Health Tourism, and Specialized Hospitality**
Niche tourism segments combining wellness, sustainability, and immersive experiences.

Reasons to partner and participate in with Suhar Investment Forum 2026

The Suhar Investment Forum offers a rare opportunity for investors, business leaders, and innovators to engage directly with decision-makers, on ground projects - and strategic partners. Set within a results-oriented, high-impact environment, the forum bridges Oman's national vision with global economic trends.

Reasons to attend:

In-Depth Economic Insights

Attend high-level sessions featuring ministers, global experts, and senior officials discussing the future of investment and geopolitical-economic shifts.

Real, Actionable Opportunities

Explore investment-ready projects in high-value sectors, collectively worth billions of dollars.

High-Level Networking

Gain direct access and a chance to network with government representatives, C-suite executives, venture capitalists, and global investors.

Platform to Showcase Innovation

Present your company, product, or service to a targeted audience of decision-makers, international investors, and financing institutions.

Practical Dialogues and Direct Solutions

Join interactive discussions and closed-door sessions to address investment challenges and discover real-time funding and incentive mechanisms.

Who Will Attend the Forum?

The Suhar Investment Forum will bring together a distinguished and influential audience from across Oman and around the world. It is a strategic destination for decision-makers, investors, experts, and representatives of both public and private institutions to explore investment opportunities and forge meaningful collaborations.



The audience includes:

- Senior government officials from key economic and regulatory ministries and authorities
- Chairpersons and representatives of free-zones, industrial cities, and special economic zones
- Leading Omani business figures and major investment company owners
- Executives from public and private sector entities in Oman and the broader region
- C-level executives from top-tier regional and international companies
- Representatives of sovereign, public, and private investment funds
- Strategic consultancy firms and business development agencies
- Delegations from regional and international chambers of commerce
- Ambassadors, honorary consuls, and commercial attachés from diplomatic and trade missions
- Representatives of international trade and investment promotion agencies

Endorsed by:

Sultanate of Oman
سلطنة عُمان
وزارة التجارة والصناعة وترويج الاستثمار
Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion



الهيئة العامة للمناطق الاقتصادية الخاصة والمناطق الحرة
Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones
سلطنة عُمان



جهاز الاستثمار العماني
Oman Investment Authority



محافظ شمال الباطنة
AL BATINAH NORTH GOVERNORATE



Forum Agenda

Day One | Wednesday, 4 February 2026

08:30 – 09:30

Guest reception and registration

09:30 – 11:30 – Opening Session: "New Suhar – Gateway to Industrial and Technological Investments"

This session highlights the strategic transformation of Suhar from a traditional industrial hub into an integrated platform for smart industry and sustainable investment. It will cover the future vision, major opportunities, and ways to attract foreign investment through new policies and competitive incentives.

Session includes:

- Welcome speech by Eng. Soid bin Ali Al-Abri, Chairman of the Chamber branch in North Al Batinah
- Keynote speech by H.E. Qais Al Yousif, Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion
- Keynote by an international investor.
- Panel discussion with senior government officials, experts, and investors
- Presentation on investment opportunities offered during the forum
- Signing ceremonies for agreements and MoUs
- Opening of the accompanying exhibition

11:30 – 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 14:30 – Session Two: Enhancing the Investment Environment – Pillars of Finance, Logistics, and Sustainability

This session explores ways to develop a more attractive and competitive investment environment in Oman by reviewing practical experiences, challenges faced by investors, and government programs supporting them.

Key topics:

- **Logistics Connectivity:** Infrastructure readiness and linking economic zones to facilitate trade and investment.
- **Finance:** Innovative financing solutions and support mechanisms that accelerate project implementation
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Balancing industrial growth with environmental protection and resource preservation.

Participants:

- Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones
- Environment Authority
- Asyad Group
- Sohar International
- International investor in Sohar

14:30 – 15:30 Lunch break

16:00 – 18:00 – Field Visit

This visit allows investors and international delegates to directly view logistics readiness and integration between industry and modern technologies.

Sites include:

- Sohar Industrial Port
- Sohar Free Zone
- Major projects in industrial and energy sectors

19:00 – 21:00 – Official Dinner – “Sohar Fort” Evening program:

- Welcome remarks
- Short video showcasing highlights of Day One
- Recognition ceremony
- Official dinner with forum guests

Day Two | Thursday, 5 February 2026

08:30 – 09:00 Registration and guest reception

09:00 – 10:30 – Session One: "Growth Sectors – Investment Opportunities in Future Industries"

Key themes:

- Advanced food and medical industries
- Supporting industries for heavy industries
- Stimulating industrial supply chains through major projects

Presentations by:

- Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones: legislative framework and incentives that make Suhar attractive
- Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion: investment indicators in food and medical industries and their alignment with Oman Vision 2040
- Authority for SME Development: role of SMEs in industrial supply chains and integration with large companies
- Oman Industrialists Association: enhancing local value-added and supply chain connections
- Contribution from an international investor

Panel Discussion: "How is Suhar stimulating industrial supply chains?"

Participants:

- Mada'yn
- Authority for SME Development
- Invest in Oman
- Representatives of foreign investments in Suhar

10:30 – 13:00 – Session Two: Future Sectors – Investment in Artificial Intelligence and Clean Technologies

This session looks at future opportunities in digital transformation, AI, and smart supply chains.

Key themes:

- Digital transformation in industries and logistics
- AI applications to enhance efficiency and productivity
- Clean technologies and sustainable energy
- Future of smart supply chains in Suhar

Main presentations:

- Asyad Group – Digital transformation and smart logistics
- OQ Group – Clean technologies and energy transformation
- Renewable energy and industrial sustainability
- Sohar Aluminium – Smart solutions in heavy industries
- Sohar University – Industrial innovation and AI
- Integrated General Penicillin Industry Co. – Advanced pharmaceutical technologies

Panel Discussion: "Industrial Innovation in Suhar – What Opportunities Await Tomorrow's Investors?"

Participants:

- Ministry of Transport, Communications, and Information Technology
- Oman Investment Authority – Oman Future Fund
- Mada'yn, Suhar
- Representatives of investors in Suhar

B2B Meetings

Held continuously across both days in a dedicated space, enabling investors and entrepreneurs to meet directly with government entities and companies. Provides a flexible and effective environment for partnership building and immediate cooperation opportunities.

13:00 – Closing Declaration of Suhar Investment Forum 2026

13:30 – Official conclusion of the second edition of the forum and lunch



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