GLOBAL CCS INSTITUTE

2026

MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA FORUM ON CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE



THE AGENDA | 5 NOVEMBER, 2026

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
9:30 – 10:30	**Registration and Networking** Sign in, coffee, breakfast and network with attendees	
10:30 – 10:40	**Introduction and Housekeeping**	**Global CCS Institute** | Dr. Mohammad Abu Zahra, Chief Regional Officer MEA
10:40 – 10:50	**Opening Remarks** Welcome to the 2026 Middle East and Africa Forum on CCS. This opening session will set the scene for the day, highlighting the growing role of carbon capture and storage in supporting decarbonisation, energy security and economic growth across the region.	**Global CCS Institute** | Dr. Kamel Ben-Naceur, Board Director
10:50 – 11:20	**Institute Presentation | The Global Status of CCS Report 2026** This session will present the findings of our annual flagship report, including an overview of the latest developments across the global CCS landscape, including updates of the global project pipeline, policy and regulatory developments, investment trends and key milestones.	**Global CCS Institute** | Dr. Mohammad Abu Zahra, Chief Regional Officer MEA
11:20 – 12:00	**Presentation and Panel | CCS Policy Development in the UAE & Beyond** Policy and regulation play a critical role in supporting CCS deployment. This session will explore the recent developments in the UAE, including the General Policy On Carbon Capture in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, and other jurisdictions, examining how governments are building the frameworks needed to support investment, project development and long-term CCS growth.	• **Abu Dhabi Department of Energy** | Sergio Lopez Perez, Head of Energy Transition and Markets • **Abu Dhabi Department of Energy** | Sarra Ali Al Marzooqi, Energy Markets Officer • **Global CCS Institute** | Dr. Kamel Ben-Naceur, Board Director (Moderator)
12:00 – 13:05	**Buffet Lunch and Networking Break**	
13:05 – 13:50	**Panel Discussion | AI Data Centres in the Region** Growing demand for AI and digital infrastructure is driving significant increases in energy consumption. This panel will explore the relationship between AI, data centres and energy demand, and discuss the role CCS can play in supporting low-carbon power generation and industrial decarbonisation across the region.	• **Baker Hughes** | Maher Ayed, Head of Global Market Development, Industrial Power Generation • **EPRI Gulf** | Zaid AlAnsari, Executive Director • **Global CCS Institute** | Dr. Mohammad Abu Zahra, Chief Regional Officer MEA (Moderator)
13:50 – 14:20	**Technical Workshop | CO_2 Transport and Storage: Standards and Technical Requirements** Safe and reliable CO_2 transport and storage are critical to CCS deployment. This session will explore key standards, technical requirements and good practices for CO_2 transport and storage, including relevant ISO standards and other international guidelines, as well as infrastructure, storage site assessment, monitoring and verification.	• **Bureau Veritas** | Ahmed Samir Elbermbali, Director of Power & Utilities and Sustainability Middle East, Caspian and Africa • **Global CCS Institute** | Maryem El Farsaoui, Strategy & Growth Manager MEA (Chair)
14:20 – 15:20	**Presentation | CCS Lessons Learned: Regional and Global Perspectives** As CCS projects continue to move from planning to operation, there is growing value in sharing practical experience. This session will bring together project developers and industry experts to discuss key lessons learned, challenges encountered and insights that can help inform future CCS projects across the Middle East and Africa.	• **ADNOC** | Ayesha Albreiki, Technical Specialist, CCS Division • **Gulf Cryo** | Elie Adaimy, Group Director, Business Development & Innovation • **Global CCS Institute** | Maryem El Farsaoui, Strategy & Growth Manager MEA (Chair)
15:20 – 15:30	**Closing Remarks** A summary of the key themes and discussions from the Forum, highlighting the opportunities, challenges and priorities for advancing CCS deployment across the Middle East and Africa	**Global CCS Institute** | Dr. Mohammad Abu Zahra, Chief Regional Officer MEA