



GLOBAL  
LABOR MARKET  
CONFERENCE

# PROGRAM

AT A GLANCE

29 – 30 January 2025  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

# GLMC Program At A Glance

## 6 NEW PILLARS

01



### FOREVER SKILLING

Tech leaps, green jobs, and longer lives mean constant upskilling and reskilling. This pillar will take stock of what we have learnt about minimizing skills mismatches: What are effective ways of encouraging a culture of lifelong learning and what role do employers play? What impact is the use of digital technologies having on employment and pay? Would focusing on skill-based hiring as opposed to traditional credentials be more effective in the future labor market?

02



### THE WIN-WIN OF A MOBILE WORKFORCE

Curbing brain drain and attracting talent fuels economies, but how do markets find equilibrium? Smart policies can help identify and signal in-demand skills, generate value for receiving and home markets alike. How can we better integrate job-seekers where they are needed? A win-win awaits if we can't solve this equation.

03



### YOUTH IN A BIND

Young workers face a tough start: market-skills mismatches lead to underemployment, while fewer mid-management roles keep many in entry-level positions, while the un-skilled risk getting trapped in the informal economy. How can we bridge the gap between young workers' aspirations and expectations, and the reality of the labor market, to ensure they become productive, accomplished professionals who contribute to the growth of the economy?

04



### PRODUCTIVITY ON THE MEND. MAYBE

Some markets are showing increased productivity rates, but it's far from a homogenous story around the world. We discuss which drivers of productivity (technology implementation, improved work conditions, organizational restructuring, reskilling programs...) leveraged by productivity leaders can be rolled out universally to create a more level field.

05



### GROWING GREEN JOBS FOR A JUST ECONOMY

Climate change disrupts jobs, from heat stress to industry shifts, resulting in employment strains and job losses. At the same time, the transition to a greener economy creates demand for new skills, which are often better paid and lead to healthier jobs. This pillar considers how to ensure the green transition is inclusive and equitable, offering meaningful and productive jobs. Can we improve the supply of green skills through enhanced demand forecasting and training?

06



### SMES AND NEW WORK MODELS AS JOB CREATORS

Over 90% of businesses globally are SMEs and these represent approximately 50% of all jobs. While they may not be able to match compensation packages offered by larger companies, they do often offer flexibility, and in addition, tend to be agile, have considerable innovation capacity and allow for faster career growth, which can make them particularly attractive to young workers.

How can SMEs gain better support for growth, digital transformation and green initiatives, to generate more meaningful and productive jobs?

# GLMC Program At A Glance

## DAY ONE



Plenary Pillars

\*Youth Track

\*Academic Track

\*Silver Track

Time	Title		
09:00-11:15	MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE FAMILY PHOTO		
11:30-11:40	Performance OPENING CEREMONY		
11:40-11:55	Opening Remarks THE GLOBAL LABOR MARKET CONFERENCE – ONE YEAR ON H.E. Ahmad Sulaiman Al Rajhi, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development Kingdom of Saudi Arabia		
11:55-12:15	Fireside Chat LABOR MARKET IN TURMOIL: HOW TO DESIGN AN INCLUSIVE GROWTH POLICY?		
PLENARY PILLAR 1 : FOREVER SKILLING			
12:15-12:50	Panel Discussion LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL? LABOR MARKET MISMATCHES AND SKILLS GAPS		
12:50-13:05	Face-Off THE TASK OF FINANCING RESKILLING – HERCULES MET SISYPHUS?		
13:05-13:15	Keynote / Fireside Chat LEVERAGING THE “SILVER” DIVIDEND”		
13:30-14:15	BREAKOUT ROUND 1	BREAKOUT ROUND 1	
14:15-15:00	BREAKOUT ROUND 2	BREAKOUT ROUND 2	
PLENARY PILLAR 2 : THE WIN-WIN OF A MOBILE WORKFORCE			
15:00-15:35	Panel Discussion LEVERAGING AI & TECH CROSS-BORDER TALENT	Academic Track Deep Dive 1 POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR YOUTH @ WORK	Silver Track
15:35-15:50	Face-Off (TARGETED) IMMIGRATION – IS THAT EVEN A THING?		Youth Track
15:50-16:00	Keynote / Fireside Chat FROM BRAIN DRAIN TO BRAIN GAIN: INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS		
PLENARY PILLAR 3 : YOUTH IN A BIND			
16:00-16:15	Fireside Chat WOULD YOU WANT TO BE YOUNG TODAY?!	Academic Track Deep Dive 2 THE PRODUCTIVITY CONUNDRUM	Silver Track
16:15-16:50	Panel WANTED: DECENT JOBS FOR OUR YOUTH		Youth Track
16:50-17:15	2x consecutive Rapid Fires TAKE A CHANCE ON ME		
17:15-17:25	MC Remarks WRAP-UP OF DAY 1		

**\*Youth Track:**  
Parallel sessions fostering youth-to-youth engagement

**\*Academic Track:**  
Parallel sessions focusing on scholarly topics

**\*Silver Track:**  
Parallel sessions co-creating solutions from experienced workers

# GLMC Program At A Glance

## DAY TWO



Plenary Pillars

\*Youth Track

\*Academic Track

\*Silver Track

Time	Title		
09:45-10:00	MC Remarks WELCOME BACK		
10:00-10:35	Panel Discussion NUMBERS DON'T LIE – THE GLMC RESEARCH STUDY NAVIGATING TOMORROW: MASTERING SKILLS IN A DYNAMIC GLOBAL LABOUR MARKET		
10:35-10:50	Keynote SPEAK LOUDER, PLEASE - THE MARKET SIGNALLING SEEMS HARD TO HEAR		
PLENARY PILLAR 4 : PRODUCTIVITY ON THE MEND			
10:50-11:00	Panel PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT: IGNORE AT YOUR PERIL	Academic Track Deep Dive 3 THE REAL IMPACT OF AI ON THE WORKFORCE	
11:00-11:15	Face-Off GLOVES OFF: IS AI/TECHNOLOGY REALLY IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY?		
11:15-11:30	Keynote / Fireside Chat IT'S ALL ABOUT SKILLS (GAPS); TECH ALONE WON'T CUT IT		
PLENARY PILLAR 5 : GROWING GREEN JOBS FOR A JUST ECONOMY			
11:30-12:10	Panel Discussion GREEN JOBS ABOUND. TALENT IN SHORT SUPPLY - WHY THE LAG?	Academic Track Deep Dive 4 MULTI- DISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO A HEALTHY MIGRANT LABOR MARKET	Silver Track
12:10-12:25	Fireside Chat YOU LOSE SOME, YOU WIN SOME - THE UNEQUAL JOB IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE		Youth Track
12:25-12:40	Fireside Chat JOBS WITH A PURPOSE: TRUE OR FALSE		
12:50-13:35	BREAKOUT ROUND 3	BREAKOUT ROUND 3	
13:35-14:20	BREAKOUT ROUND 4	BREAKOUT ROUND 4	
PLENARY PILLAR 6 : SMES AND NEW WORK MODELS AS JOB CREATORS			
14:30-15:15	Panel Discussion SMALL BUT MIGHTY: MAXIMIZING SMES JOB CREATION POTENTIAL		
15:15-15:30	Fireside Chat SMES - THE FRONTRUNNERS OF ‘GOOD WORK’?		
15:30-15:45	Keynote AI IN SMES – DRIVER OR ROADBLOCK FOR JOB CREATION?		
15:45-16:15	Panel Discussion From Our Breakouts: GENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY OR RACE FOR THE JOBS?		
16:15-16:30	Call to Action GLMC COMMITS!		
16:30-15:45	Closing Address THE ROADMAP TO GLMC 2026		

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**THANK YOU**

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