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**World Economic Forum on the Middle East 2009**  
**Dead Sea, Jordan, 15-17 May 2009**  
*"Home-grown Strategies for Global Success"*

**Call for Scientist Application**

The World Economic Forum, working in conjunction with the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, is seeking applications for scientists in all fields of study to participate in the 2009 World Economic Forum on the Middle East at the Dead Sea, Jordan.

The World Economic Forum on the Middle East is the region's foremost gathering of government, business and civil society leaders, and is scheduled to take place on 15-17 May 2009. Under the theme "Home-grown Strategies for Global Success", the meeting will focus on the role of the Middle East in addressing critical global challenges ranging from science and technology and systemic financial risk to resource management and political extremism.

For the first time, the Forum will bring together leading scientists from the region and the diaspora to engage top executives, science and technology ministers and leading decision-makers in a dialogue on a long-term strategy for higher education, science and research in the Middle East. They will also look at the possibility of developing a successful business model for leading scientific infrastructure in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, such as the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST).

Scientists will be selected by a high-level selection board that includes CEOs from leading Fortune 500 companies, presidents of the world's top academic institutions and editors of scientific journals.

**Application Eligibility**

All applicants must hold a doctoral degree in a recognized field of natural, formal, systems or applied science with a minimum of five years of relevant senior management experience in academia, industry or government. Applicants should demonstrate science policy or science planning experience, as well as a broad intellectual background and a commitment to the MENA region, in particular, the development of higher education, science and technology.

**Application Deadline**

All applications are due to the World Economic Forum no later than 1 March 2009. Selections will be announced in early April.

**Application**

For consideration, please upload your CV and answers to the essay questions at <http://WEF09-Scientists.epfl.ch/>

- 1) How do you assess the current situation in the MENA region in terms of higher education, science, research and technology, and what strategies would you propose for regional advancement in these areas?
- 2) What key obstacles to implementing a successful regional science and technology strategy do you perceive in the MENA region, and what is necessary to promote possibilities for regional cooperation in these areas?
- 3) What relevant experiences have you had in working with science and technology or relevant initiatives in the MENA region?

**The World Economic Forum** is an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging leaders in partnerships to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

Incorporated as a foundation in 1971, and based in Geneva, Switzerland, the World Economic Forum is impartial and not-for-profit; it is tied to no political, partisan or national interests.

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**The Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)** is one of the two premier national institutes of technology in Switzerland and one of the world's most international campuses. As one of Europe's most innovative and productive technology institutes, the EPFL seeks to contribute to addressing the complexity of global challenges by promoting transdisciplinary education and research at the interface of basic and physical sciences, engineering and life sciences. Through strategic collaborations and partnerships with other academic institutions the private sector around the world, the EPFL aims to develop solutions for global challenges and transform scientific achievement into economic competitiveness, jobs and improved quality of life for all.

#### **Links**

##### **World Economic Forum**

<http://www.weforum.org>

##### **World Economic Forum on the Middle East**

<http://www.weforum.org/en/events/WorldEconomicForumonMiddleEast>

##### **The Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne**

<http://www.epfl.ch/>