



Global
Innovation
Summit



2025 Report

Global Innovation Summit


















Executive Summary

1200+ Participants · 20+ Countries · 1 Landmark Summit

On 25–26 February 2025, the Global Innovation Institute (GII) organized and hosted the first annual Global Innovation Summit at the SEE Institute in Sustainable City of Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The summit brought together over 1200 participants from more than 20 countries, including government ministers, policymakers, business leaders, academics, and globally recognized innovators, industry pioneers, and thought leaders.

Participating countries included:

	United States		Saudi Arabia
	Canada		United Arab Emirates
	Brazil		Qatar
	United Kingdom		Oman
	Netherlands		Iraq
	Spain		Australia
	Nigeria		South Korea
	Egypt		India
	Germany		Libya
	New Zealand		Lebanon

This diverse community shared experiences and practices across borders, engaging in two days of transformative collaboration and discovery under the theme:

“Driving Regional and Global Impact Through Innovation.”

Speakers & Panel Discussions

40+ Experts. **8** Nations. **6** Sectors. *One Summit*

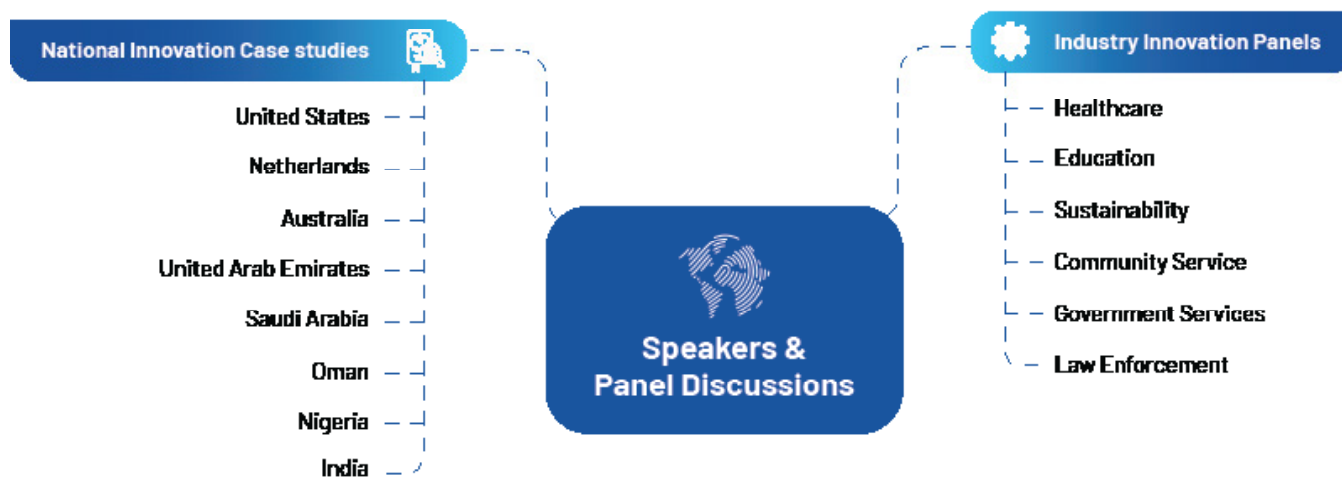
The Global Innovation Summit 2025 convened more than 40 distinguished speakers and panelists from across the world, addressing a broad range of topics. Collectively, they set the tone for the summit's discussions, offering insights into how innovation can be embedded across organizations, societies, and nations.

Key Thematic Areas

Across plenary sessions, keynote addresses, and panel discussions, participants explored a diverse range of themes:

- Innovation Leadership – Shaping cultures of innovation and driving transformation.
- Global Collaboration – Comparing policies and ecosystems across regions.
- Future Readiness – Preparing skills, technologies, and governance for accelerating change.
- Purpose-Driven Innovation – Aligning growth with social equity and sustainability.

Global Innovation Summit 2025 – Program Structure



Sponsors & Media Partners

Global Innovation Summit 2025 was sponsored by a number of leading and distinguished partner organizations.

Sponsors Included:

- Global Innovation Institute
- The UAE General Directorate of Identity & Foreigners Affairs – GDIFA
- SEE Holding / SEE Institute
- Front End of Innovation (FEI)
- Innovation Library
- InnovationTalk
- Simsy Ventures



Memorandums of Understanding

One of the key outcomes of the Global Innovation Summit 2025 was the signing of more than 30 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs). These included agreements signed directly by the Global Innovation Institute (GII) with a number of leading companies and institutions, as well as additional MoUs signed between participating governments, organizations, and partners.

Collectively, these agreements reinforced the summit's role as a platform for collaboration and laid the foundation for sustained partnerships and long-term impact beyond the event.



Awards & Recognitions

The GDI Awards Program

During the Global Innovation Summit 2025, the Global Innovation Institute (GII) presented the Global Distinguished Innovator (GDI) Awards, recognizing individuals, teams, and organizations that have advanced innovation with exceptional leadership, creativity, and measurable impact.

Covering ten categories, the awards celebrated distinguished innovators, Chief Innovation Officers, ambassadors, organizations, enablers, chapters, and providers – reinforcing GII's mission to promote purposeful, structured innovation worldwide.



2025 Highlights

- ✓ Over 60 awards were presented to distinguished innovation leaders and trailblazers from across the world, representing more than 20 countries across the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia-Pacific.
- ✓ Recognition extended to individuals, institutions, and networks driving innovation within their sectors and communities.
- ✓ Chapters and providers worldwide demonstrated the strength of GII's global ecosystem.

Impact

The GDI Awards underscored the global culture of innovation that is emerging across regions and sectors. By recognizing outstanding contributions, the program validated innovation as a driver of economic growth, emphasized the value of collaboration across borders, and reinforced GII's commitment to advancing sustainable and impactful innovation worldwide.



Environment

The environment of Global Innovation Summit 2025 was absolutely electric. The overall community of attendees had the feeling of a collective village that had assembled for a common and compelling purpose, most important of which was to learn from one another and expand their global networks.

Attendees openly networked with each other and established incredible connections – all within a very friendly and supportive environment that fostered open collaboration and mutual support. It was truly a win-win environment in which everyone, from everywhere, benefited immeasurably.



Ancillary Activities

During the Summit, a number of ancillary activities also took place that further supported the cause of innovation globally.

This included the recording of several podcast sessions with different renowned attendee guests, tours of the incredible SEE Institute facilities, and evening dinners with different global influencers.



GInS Innovation Communities

As an ongoing outcome of Global Innovation Summit, a whole series of new GInS Innovation Communities have been established to carry on the sector-based thought leadership discussion throughout the year, allowing for leaders and practitioners to constantly share sector-based innovation insights with each other – as well as share the key points of those with the rest of the world through whitepapers.

The specific sector-based Innovation Communities include:



Sustainability & Climate
Innovation



Digital Transformation &
Emerging Technologies



Education & Lifelong
Learning



Smart Cities & Urban
Development



Innovation in Government
Services



Finance & FinTech
Innovation



Innovation in Community
Impact & Civic Engagement



Healthcare & Well-being
Innovation



GInI's Psychometric Profiling Tool

A behavioral assessment framework designed to evaluate individual and organizational innovation capacity. This tool provides insight into cognitive styles, creative potential, and readiness for innovation-driven roles – enabling leaders to make data-informed decisions about talent development, team design, and innovation strategy.



Highlights from the Gallery



Outcomes & Recommendations

Global Innovation Summit 2025 achieved in full its objective of bringing together the world's foremost innovators, industry pioneers, and thought leaders for a transformative collaboration and discovery experience! As a result, the attendees came away fully rejuvenated with new insights and with the memories of an incredibly memorable event experience.

It is estimated that this Summit will produce an uplift of 500M USD in additional profits to the global private sector organizations in attendance, as well as hundreds of millions of USD worth of overall social, economic, and environmental impacts from the public sector organizations in attendance.

The Summit's discussions generated a body of innovative proposals, reflecting the diverse perspectives of its participants. While not binding, they are intended to guide and inspire governments and institutions in shaping their future innovation agendas.

1. National Government Innovation Index

Develop an annual measurement framework to assess the level of innovation across every ministry and government agency, with results published transparently to stimulate healthy competition among institutions.

2. Open Government Data & Public Dashboards

Require all ministries to make non-confidential datasets accessible via a unified platform, while also publishing real-time performance and financial indicators to strengthen transparency and enable external innovation.

3. Youth Advisory Councils in Ministries

Establish permanent councils of young innovators within every ministry, providing recommendations directly to ministers and ensuring the perspectives of future generations are integrated into policymaking.

4. Public Sector Innovation Incubators

Set up internal incubators in ministries to test solutions proposed by staff and partners, with each ministry mandated to launch a number of pilot projects annually.

5. Dedicated Innovation Budget & Fund

Allocate a fixed percentage of the national budget to innovation initiatives, supplemented by a special Government Innovation Emergency Fund for crises such as pandemics, disasters, or economic shocks.



6. Government–University Partnership Fund

Create a joint fund between government and universities to co-develop practical solutions for national challenges like healthcare, transportation, and the environment, with financing tied to measurable outcomes.

7. National Innovation Week & Competitions

Organize an annual nationwide event where ministries showcase innovations to the public and run open competitions that allow citizens and companies to propose solutions to government challenges.

8. Legislative Innovation Sandboxes

Launch controlled experimental environments where new laws and policies can be tested before formal adoption, reducing risks and accelerating development.

9. Periodic Legislative Review

Adopt a mandatory mechanism to review all laws and regulations every five years to ensure alignment with technological and economic changes.

10. National Innovation & Participation Platform

Introduce a nationwide platform that allows citizens to contribute ideas, participate in consultations, and co-develop initiatives with government institutions.

11. National Platform for Ideas & Solutions

Launch a government-run platform enabling citizens to propose solutions for daily challenges like healthcare, traffic, and education—with ministries committed to reviewing and transparently publishing adopted ideas.

12. Ministerial Twinning & Cross-Ministry Exchange

Introduce a dual program that exchanges employees across ministries domestically and internationally, fostering knowledge transfer and diverse experience.

13. AI-Powered Ministerial Assistant

Provide ministers with AI-driven tools to evaluate decisions, simulate outcomes, and strengthen evidence-based policymaking.

14. Institutional Failure Reports

Mandate annual reports in ministries documenting unsuccessful projects and lessons learned to foster a culture of institutional learning.



15. Employee Innovation Portfolio

Establish a unified digital portfolio documenting employees' contributions to innovation, used as a reference for promotions, training, and professional development.

16. Weekly Innovation Hours & Sabbaticals

Dedicate weekly hours for employees to work on personal innovation projects, and offer periodic paid sabbaticals in startups or universities to bring back fresh expertise.

17. Advanced Digital Training Platforms

Develop national training platforms to equip public servants with future skills, including artificial intelligence, data analytics, and the green economy.

18. Ministry of Future Generations

Create an independent body to evaluate long-term impacts of policies (30–50 years ahead) and issue binding recommendations to ministries.

19. National Digital Twin

Develop a real-time digital model of the state—covering infrastructure, economy, and environment—to simulate and test government policies before real-world implementation.

20. Experimental Cities Program

Designate select cities as “innovation zones” to pilot advanced policies and smart solutions before scaling them nationwide.

Conclusion

Global Innovation Summit 2025 had an unmistakable impact on the global innovation scene around the world. Few other events have this level of impact. Indeed, few other events succeed at engaging and informing a ‘global village’ the way this one did – inspiring each attendee to take what they learned back to their organizations and apply it effectively for even greater impact therein.

Going forward, GInI will continue to organize the Global Innovation Summit each year – hosting it in different international cities around the world so as to reach the greatest possible global audience, and thereby have the greatest possible global impact conceivable

