

# Amer Al Ahbabi

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE





# Amer Al Ahbabi

*International Board Director & UAE Voice in Global Finance*

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Amer Al Ahbabi, a distinguished Emirati leader in governance, internal audit, compliance, and strategic finance. With a proven track record across both the public and private sectors, he has spearheaded transformative initiatives in institutional oversight, regulatory reform, and sustainable growth.

Renowned for his unwavering commitment to excellence and ethical leadership, Mr. Al Ahbabi earned the historic distinction of becoming the first Emirati appointed to the Global Board of Directors of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA – USA).

This pitch highlights his professional journey, strategic contributions, and enduring mission to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders across industries.



# Who Is Amer Al Ahbabi?

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*Pioneering Emirati Leadership in Global Finance & Governance*

Amer Al Ahbabi is a distinguished Emirati leader and global finance executive with a legacy of advancing ethical governance, financial strategy, and institutional transformation. He serves on global boards, leads major public-private initiatives, and champions the growth of national talent.

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## Global Leadership – Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)

Global Board Member IMA (USA)

President IMA Abu Dhabi Chapter

Advisory Member IMA Middle East & Africa Committee



# Academic Qualifications & Certifications

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## *Academic Degree*

- **B.Sc. in Accounting** – UAE University

## *Core Professional Certifications*

- **CMA** – Certified Management Accountant
- **CFE** – Certified Fraud Examiner
- **AFA** – Accredited Financial Analyst
- **ACCA** – Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (EAAA)

## *Special Designations & Technical Training*

- **TOT** – Training of Trainers (American Int'l Board)
- **GRCP** – Governance, Risk & Compliance Professional
- **Certified Compliance Auditor** – SAI UAE
- **Accredited Financial Examiner** – AFC-FA



# Memberships

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- Ambassador - UAE Internal Auditors Association ( **UAE-IAA** )
- Fellow Member – Emirates Association of Accountants & Auditors ( **EAAA** )
- Member – Emirates Entrepreneurs Association ( **EAA** )
- Member – Institute of Public Accountants ( **MIPA** )
- Member – Association of Certified Fraud Examiners ( **ACFE** )
- Member – Institute of Certified Investment and Financial Analysts ( **ICIFA** )
- Member – American International Board for Professional Training ( **AIBPT** )



# Executive & Board Roles

Driving impact through diversified leadership across real estate, investments, and F&B sectors

**Chairman**  
Vertex Holdings



**Chairman**  
Capstone  
Real Estate LLC



**Chairman**  
Vertex Auditing



**Board Member**  
ServCo Facility  
Management



**Advisory Board Member**  
College of Business,  
Abu Dhabi University



**Advisory Board Member**  
GCC Board  
Directors Institute  
UAE Chapter

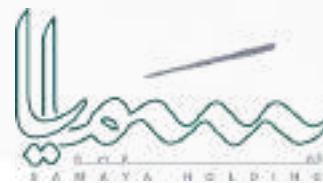


**Chairman & board  
member**  
Empowerment &  
Development  
Committee,



**Board Member** **SENZATI GCC**  
Senzati GCC Mercedes-Benz  
Strategic Partner

**Board Member**  
Samaya Holdings



**CEO**  
Asayel  
Investments



**Board Member**  
Paris Baguette  
Cafe UAE



**Board Member**  
Kenny Rogers  
Roasters UAE



**Chairman**  
Internal Audit  
Review (IAR)



**Ambassador**  
UAE Internal  
Auditors Association.



**Member**  
Young Arab  
Leaders



**Advisory  
Board Member**  
AMITY University



# Strategic Partnerships & MoUs



# Public Speaking Engagements



# Media & Podcast Appearances.



**Trendz** Podcast

[click to view](#)



**DXB with Mahmoud** Podcast

[click to view](#)



**IMA** Podcast

[click to view](#)



# International & PR Representation

## PR & Strategic Representative – UAE–China Entrepreneurs Forum

- Supporting cross-border collaboration in entrepreneurship, innovation, and investment between the UAE and China.

## PR & Representation – International Real Estate Exhibitions

- Representing leadership interests across global real estate exhibitions, investor forums, and cross-border property platforms.

## PR & Strategic Engagement – London Connect Chamber

- Supporting international business connectivity, investment dialogue, and UK–UAE market engagement.

## Academic & University Engagement (International)

- Active participation and representation across universities through advisory roles, guest lectures, leadership forums, and institutional dialogue.

## Event Partnership – GCC Board Directors Institute (BDI)

- Strategic partnership on board-level events and governance-focused forums



# Approved Training & Academic Engagements

## Approved Entrepreneurship Trainer – Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development

Officially approved to deliver entrepreneurship and business-focused training programs.

## University Workshops & Executive Training Engagements

Delivered professional workshops, lectures, and leadership sessions in collaboration with leading academic institutions, including:

- United Arab Emirates University (UAEU)
- Abu Dhabi University (ADU)
- American University in Dubai (AUD)
- Canadian University Dubai (CUD)

Engagements focus on entrepreneurship, finance, governance, leadership, and practical business application.



# Official financial influencer by SCA

This official registration by the UAE Securities & Commodities Authority affirms Amer Al Ahababi's recognized role as a Financial Influencer, aligning with his mission to enhance transparency and leadership in financial governance.



SCAN THE CODE



# Standing Among Finance's Elite Forbes Council Member

*Amer Al Ahbabi – Official Member, Forbes Finance Council (2025-2026)*

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Mr. Amer Al Ahbabi is an esteemed member of the Forbes Finance Council, an invitation-only community of globally recognized finance leaders and innovators. His selection reflects a distinguished record of leadership in strategic finance, governance, and enterprise transformation across regional and international platforms.

As a council member, Mr. Al Ahbabi contributes to high-level discussions shaping the future of finance and economic strategy. Through Forbes' global publishing channels, he shares insights that bridge policy, innovation, and ethical business growth. His membership grants him access to curated networks, peer collaboration, and thought leadership forums that amplify his impact far beyond the UAE.

This recognition by Forbes affirms Mr. Al Ahbabi's status as a voice of authority in finance, and a leading figure in advancing sustainable financial leadership in the Middle East and around the world.



# Institute of Management Accountants (IMA)

## *Strengthening Global Finance with UAE Representation on IMA's Highest Board*

The Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) is one of the world's most influential associations for finance professionals, dedicated to advancing excellence in management accounting, ethics, and financial leadership.

With a presence across six global regions — the Americas, Europe, China, India, the Middle East/North Africa, and Asia Pacific — IMA provides a powerful ecosystem of world-class certifications, thought leadership, continuing education, and professional networks.

In a historic milestone for the UAE, Amer Al Ahbabi was appointed in March 2025 as the first Emirati to serve on IMA's Global Board of Directors. This appointment not only reinforces the UAE's global role in shaping finance and governance, but also marks a bold step in amplifying Emirati leadership on the world stage.

Through this role, Mr. Al Ahbabi contributes to IMA's mission of ethical excellence, strategic foresight, and inclusive advancement for finance professionals worldwide.





# IMA's Global Footprint

**140,000+**

Members in more than  
150 different countries

**100,000+**

CMAAs certified in more  
than 100 countries

**12**

Global Offices

**350**

Chapters

**100**

Years of legacy



# A Historic Appointment: Why It Matters for the UAE

*The Impact of Amer Al Ahbabi's Appointment to IMA's Global Board*

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## A Global First

In March 2025, Amer Al Ahbabi became the first Emirati appointed to the Global Board of Directors of the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA). This board leads IMA's strategy, certification standards, ethics, and global initiatives.

## Why It Matters

- Positions the UAE as a global voice in financial leadership
- Amplifies Emirati professionals in shaping international standards
- Aligns with the UAE's vision to be a global hub for innovation and finance

## National Impact

- Elevates visibility of UAE-based talent in international finance circles
- Opens doors to global collaboration, partnerships, and policy dialogue
- Inspires Emirati youth to pursue global certifications and leadership
- Strengthens the UAE's future pipeline in accounting, auditing, and governance



# Strategic Collaborations & Institutional Engagements

Strengthening Public, Private, and Academic Alliances to Advance Financial Leadership in the UAE

## Government Sector

- **Department of Government Enablement – Abu Dhabi**

MoU signed | Workshop delivered | IMA Online Course Collaboration (2025)

- **Department of Finance – Abu Dhabi**

Hosted & delivered high-level financial workshop (2025)

- **Ministry of Finance – UAE**

Led specialized workshop titled “Financial Reporting in the AI Era”  
focused on strategic finance and public

## Professional Associations

- **Emirates Association of Accountants & Auditors (EAAA)**

MoU signed | Contributed to professional forums and events

- **UAE Internal Auditors Association (UAE IAA)**

MoU signed | Speaker in national audit forums and training programs

- **Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE)**

Active contributor | Participated in anti-fraud and compliance leadership events

## Academic Institutions

- **Abu Dhabi University (ADU)**

MoU signed | Participated in conferences, career events, and specialized workshops

- **Al Ain University**

MoU signed | Engaged in academic events, guest lectures, and leadership panels

- **United Arab Emirates University (UAEU)**

MoU signed | Led workshops, conferences, and collaborative initiatives

## Community Engagement

- **Youth Authority – UAE**

Participated in events and strategic meetings (2025) to support youth professional development in accounting and finance

- **Emirates Entrepreneurs Association (EAA)**

MoU signed | Contributed to events, provided sponsorship and active support for entrepreneurial initiatives

- **Emirates Society of Certified Accountants**

Engaged events & promoting excellence in accounting & talent development



# Navigating Industry 4.0: Challenges & Opportunities

## *Redefining Finance and Audit in the Age of Smart Technologies*

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As a finance and audit leader, I've observed how Industry 4.0 is reshaping the accounting and finance profession—ushering in both significant challenges and groundbreaking opportunities.

Industry 4.0 refers to the Fourth Industrial Revolution—an era driven by smart technologies, automation, artificial intelligence, and real-time data, fundamentally transforming how businesses operate and make decisions.

In this fast-evolving environment, professionals face several critical challenges:

- Rapid digitization and process automation
- Adoption of emerging technologies such as AI and blockchain
- Cybersecurity risks and data governance complexities
- Skills gaps in digital fluency and strategic finance

To stay ahead, finance professionals must embrace innovation, continuously develop new skills, and lead with agility—evolving into strategic leaders who create value in a digital-first world.



# Empowering Government Talent Through Strategic Collaboration

*Customized Learning with the Department of Government Enablement*

دائرة التمكين الحكومي  
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT ENABLEMENT



In 2025, I led a strategic collaboration with the Department of Government Enablement – Abu Dhabi through an MoU that included a specialized workshop and the launch of a dedicated IMA microsite for GovAcademy. The program was customized with the department's branding and provided curated self-study courses to support continuous learning and upskilling of government employees in finance and accounting



# Empowering Government Talent Through Strategic Collaboration

*Customized Learning with the Department of Government Enablement*

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As part of my commitment to advancing the accounting profession, I actively champion the Enhanced Management Accounting Competency Framework by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA – USA).

This framework provides a clear roadmap for developing the critical skills finance professionals need in today's fast-changing world — including data analytics, cybersecurity, sustainability, leadership, ethics, and digital transformation.

It supports the shift from traditional accounting to strategic, tech-enabled roles that deliver greater value.

Through workshops, advisory roles, and partnerships with government and academic institutions, I help professionals build the right competencies to lead with agility, integrity, and forward-thinking leadership.



*"During the honoring of Amer Al Ahbabi by H.E. Dr. Sultan bin Saif Muftah Hamad Al Neyadi, Minister of State for Youth Affairs."*



# Amer Al Ahbabi's Focus Areas: Workshops, Speaking Engagements & Strategic Events

*Driving Regional Talent Development and Global Financial Leadership*

## Governance, Audit & Risk



- Auditing, Internal Control & Compliance Frameworks
- Enterprise Risk Management & Risk Assessment
- Ethics, Governance & Regulatory Alignment

## Real Estate, Valuation & Strategic Finance



- Real Estate & Asset Management Strategies
- Mergers, Acquisitions & Business Restructuring
- Company Valuation & Financial Due Diligence
- Management Accounting & Strategic Financial Planning

## Professional Certification Growth



- Advocacy for Global Certifications: CMA, CSCA, FMAA, CPA, ACCA, CIA, CFE, ECPA
- Building Institutional Certification Pathways
- Career Mapping for Finance & Audit Professionals

## Sustainability & Leadership



- Sustainability & ESG in Financial Planning
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) in Finance
- Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Purpose-Driven Leadership
- Motivation, Career Development & Youth Empowerment



# Amer Al Ahbabi's Advocacy for Professional Certification & Skill Advancement

In addition, I advocate for other leading credentials such as the CFE, CIA, CPA, ACCA, and ECPA, recognizing the importance of a broad certification ecosystem that serves diverse professional goals

These certifications strengthen critical areas such as financial reporting, analytics, decision-making, risk management, and strategic thinking – empowering professionals to lead with confidence in a dynamic global economy.



Financial & Managerial  
Accounting Associate

**I regularly encourage and support students,  
young professionals, and employees  
across sectors to pursue:**



IMA's Certification for  
Accountants and  
Financial Professionals  
in Business



Certified in Strategy  
and Competitive  
Analysis



# Thank You

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It's been a pleasure sharing my journey, insights, and areas of focus with you. If you're interested in collaboration, speaking engagements, or knowledge-sharing initiatives

**Feel free to connect:**

✉ [hello@ameralahbabi.com](mailto:hello@ameralahbabi.com)

🌐 [linkedin.com/in/amer-al-ahbabi](https://www.linkedin.com/in/amer-al-ahbabi)

📷 [@amer\\_alahbabi](https://www.instagram.com/_amer_alahbabi)

🌐 [www.ameralahbabi.com](http://www.ameralahbabi.com)



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*Aligned with the UAE's designation of 2025 as the Year of Community by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, I am proud to offer my expertise on a voluntary basis—supporting the growth of finance, audit, and entrepreneurial communities. With a strong belief in giving back, mentoring, and empowering future leaders, I remain committed to fostering collective progress through community-driven engagement.*

## Disclaimer

All insights, recommendations, and examples shared are based on personal experience, public knowledge, and voluntary contributions. They do not represent the official views of any organization I am affiliated with.