World Export Development Forum 2015
Sustainable trade: Innovate, invest, internationalize
The World Export Development Forum (WEDF) is a unique global platform to support trade-led development through high-level plenaries, workshops and facilitated business-to-business meetings.

As the flagship event of the International Trade Centre, WEDF gathers over 500 senior policymakers, business leaders, heads of national trade support institutions, and international agency officials to address trade competitiveness topics and to establish new partnerships.

This 15th edition of WEDF will be hosted by the Ministry of Finance of the State of Qatar, through the Qatar Development Bank (QDB).

Opening up new trade and investment opportunities to encourage sustainable growth will be at the heart of this year’s WEDF in Doha.

ITC is the only United Nations organization with an exclusive focus on assisting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to internationalize. QDB’s mission is to drive private-sector participation and growth through innovative tools for SMEs in Qatar.

**WHY ATTEND WEDF 2015?**

WEDF 2015 is designed for policymakers and business executives who are charged with driving innovation and internationalization.

High-level panel discussions and practical workshops will focus on this year’s theme, Sustainable trade: Innovate, invest, internationalize. In parallel, facilitated business-to-business meetings will allow participants to explore new business opportunities, taking advantage of the Gulf countries’ unique position at the crossroads where East meets West.

Among the questions WEDF 2015 will answer:

- What will the new Sustainable Development Goals mean for business?
- How can services play an even bigger role in lifting people out of poverty?
- What future for regional integration in an era of mega-trade deals?
- What would a common halal standard mean for exports?

**WEDF THEMES OVER 15 YEARS**

**2014** SMEs: Creating jobs through trade

**2012** Linking growth markets: New dynamics in global trade

**2011** Private sector engagement with LDCs for tourism-led growth and inclusive sustainable development

**2010** Adapting to post-crisis world trade patterns, and lessons for export development

**2008** Consumer Conscience: How Environment and Ethics are Influencing Exports

**2007** Bringing Down the Barriers – Charting a Dynamic Export Development Agenda

**2006** Export Development and Poverty Reduction: Linkages and Implications for Export Strategy-Makers

**2005** Export of Services: Hype or High Potential? Implications for Strategy-Makers

**2004** Competitiveness through Public-Private Partnership: Successes and Lessons Learned

**2003** Business for Development: Implications for Strategy-Makers

**2002** Managing Competitive Advantage: The Values of National Strategy

**2001** Is Your Trade Support Network Working?

**2000** Export Development and the Digital Economy

**1999** Redefining Trade Promotion – The Need for a Strategic Response
B2B meetings

Facilitated business-to-business meetings for specific business sectors will take place over the two days. Business networking between registered participants is also possible at any time, in parallel to the event programme.