Designed to run immediately following the Arab Regional Forum on Compliance & Governance in Beirut, extending its agenda into the governance challenges of agentic AI.

اتحاد المصارف العربية
Union of Arab Banks

GOVERNING THE AUTONOMOUS BANK

Agentic AI, Governance for the compliance and Governance community

13 – 14 August 2026

Beirut – Lebanon

SPECIAL EXPERIENCE

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GOVERNING THE AUTONOMOUS BANK

Agentic AI Governance for the Compliance and Governance Community

Course Overview

This program is designed to run immediately after the Arab Regional Forum on Compliance and Governance in Beirut, picking up exactly where the Forum leaves off. The Forum asks how compliance and governance functions stay ahead of a changing risk landscape. This program answers the next question every delegate is already asking privately: what happens to that governance model when the systems making decisions are no longer just tools, but autonomous agents. It is the natural extension of the Forum agenda.

Over 70% of banks are already piloting or deploying autonomous agents in fraud detection, credit decisioning, and back-office operations, yet the compliance and governance functions charged with overseeing them are still working from playbooks built for static models and human-reviewed automation. This program is built for exactly that function: the compliance officers, risk officers, regulatory affairs leads, and supervisors who will be asked, when an agent acts on a bank›s behalf, to explain why, and to whom. It is not a technology briefing. It is a two-day working session that leaves participants with a mapped regulatory and liability landscape, a practiced set of governance controls built on the Five Pillars of Agentic Governance, and a scored institutional readiness profile using the Agentic Readiness Model (ARM).

Learning Objectives

- Understand the new risk taxonomy agentic AI introduces, the Accountability Gap, the Opacity Problem, and the Speed Problem, and why traditional compliance and audit cycles cannot keep pace with agent-speed decisions.
- Map the global and regional regulatory and liability landscape governing agentic AI in financial services, including the EU AI Act, the EU Product Liability Directive, DORA, Basel-aligned model risk expectations, US state AI liability law, and Gulf-region central bank guidance.
- Apply the Five Pillars of Agentic Governance, Controlled Agency, Human Oversight Models, Transparency and Traceability, Agent Identity and Registry, and Continuous Monitoring, to build real compliance and risk controls.
- Draft a working Agent Authority Matrix, an Agent Registry entry, and an AI Governance Board charter, then stress-test that charter in a live boardroom crisis simulation.
- Complete a full ARM (Agentic Readiness Model) assessment across Strategy, Governance, Technology, Data, Talent, and Culture, and leave with a prioritized action roadmap.

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> *As autonomous agents begin making decisions on behalf of banks, governance must evolve from supervising technology to governing autonomous decision-making.*

Target Audience

Chief Compliance Officers, Chief Risk Officers, Heads of Regulatory Affairs, AML and Financial Crime leaders, Internal Audit heads, legal and regulatory counsel, and senior supervisory staff from central banks and financial authorities, the same community gathering at the Arab Regional Forum on Compliance and Governance in Beirut.

The program assumes compliance and risk fluency, not technical AI expertise.

Duration and Format

Two days, 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM each day, five hours of instructional time per day with two 15-minute breaks, no separate lunch block. Delivered in-person or as a live virtual intensive directly following the conference. Class size is capped to preserve the workshop and simulation format, recommended maximum of 30 participants.

Pedagogical Approach:

30% Foundations, 70% Practice

This program is deliberately weighted toward application. Each day opens with a 90-minute foundations block, then moves into two applied blocks, a 90-minute workshop and a 120-minute simulation or design studio, built around the participant's own institution rather than generic examples. Across the two days this produces an exact 30% foundations / 70% applied split, three hours of theory and seven hours of hands-on work out of ten total instructional hours.

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DAY 1

The Agentic Governance Gap: Accountability, Compliance, and Liability

Why traditional governance breaks under agentic AI, and the compliance and liability response now being written around it.

TIME	FORMAT	SESSION	DESCRIPTION & ACTIVITY
09:00 10:30	Foundations & Theory	Agentic AI Fundamentals & the Global Compliance Landscape	Opens with “The Decision No One Made”: a European insurer's claims agent quietly began auto-approving claims by learning which types human reviewers always approved, and no one could reconstruct when the threshold shifted or who was responsible. From there: what separates agentic AI from generative AI, ML, and RPA; the new risk taxonomy, the Accountability Gap, the Opacity Problem, and the Speed Problem; and the full regulatory and liability map, the EU AI Act (full enforcement 2 August 2026), the EU Product Liability Directive, DORA, Basel/SR 11-7 model risk, California's AB 316, Colorado's AI Act, Texas's TRAIGA, Singapore's IMDA Model AI Governance Framework, and the CBUAE, SAMA, QCB, and CBB positions.
10:30–10:45 Break			
10:45 12:15	Applied & Practical	Case Study Workshop: When Nobody Owns the Decision	Groups analyze two real cases: a Singapore real-estate operator whose HVAC agent's individually small, technically-compliant cooling adjustments aggregated into a portfolio-wide tenant breach that no one was tracking cumulatively; and a German logistics firm that applied one identical oversight model to three agents of very different risk levels, burning analyst hours on one and rubber-stamping the other. Groups extract the lesson, then build an Agent Authority Matrix and apply an AI Liability Preparedness Checklist to a use case from their own institution.
12:15–12:30 Break			
12:30– 14:30	Applied & Practical	Regional Compliance Mapping & Simulation: The Runaway Agent	Country and institution breakout groups first draft a regulatory compliance gap checklist against CBUAE, SAMA, QCB, and CBB expectations for a specific agentic use case. The day closes with a live simulation: a credit-decisioning agent begins making non-compliant autonomous decisions at scale, the Accountability Gap in action. Teams diagnose, contain, and remediate in real time, then report to a mock risk and compliance committee on who was responsible and why.

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DAY 2

Building and Testing the Governance Architecture

The Five Pillars in practice: authority, identity, transparency, oversight, and board accountability, then scoring readiness and leaving with a roadmap.

TIME	FORMAT	SESSION	DESCRIPTION & ACTIVITY
09:00 10:30	Foundations & Theory	The Five Pillars of Agentic Governance	Controlled Agency (defined scope of authority, escalation triggers, kill switches, built in before deployment, not after); Human Oversight Models (the human-in-the-loop, on-the-loop, over-the-loop, and out-of-the-loop spectrum, calibrated to risk rather than applied uniformly); Transparency and Traceability (full telemetry so every agent action is logged, timestamped, and attributable); Agent Identity and Registry (governed identity for every agent, guarding against “agent sprawl” as non-human identities scale past 45 billion enterprise-wide); and Continuous Monitoring and Dynamic Audit. Includes the AI Governance Board structure: cross-functional composition, five-part mandate, and reporting cadence, the structural home for compliance and governance ownership of agentic AI.
10:30–10:45 Break			
10:45 12:15	Applied & Practical	Governance Design Studio	Participants build a full Agent Authority Matrix and a starter Agent Registry entry for a real or candidate agent, then draft an AI Governance Board charter (purpose, authority, membership, decision rights, reporting cadence). Includes the case of a government hiring agency whose 60-day shadow deployment caught university-prestige bias in an AI screening agent before it reached 12,000 applicants, and the Mobley v. Workday class action as the legal stakes of skipping that step.
12:15–12:30 Break			
12:30– 14:30	Applied & Practical	Boardroom Crisis Simulation & ARM Capstone	The charter just drafted is immediately stress-tested: participants take on CRO, CTO, board, and regulator roles, responding live to a disclosed agentic AI failure, drafting the public statement and regulator notification in real time. The program then closes with the ARM (Agentic Readiness Model) self-assessment across Strategy, Governance, Technology, Data, Talent, and Culture, each participant scoring their own institution, followed by rapid roadmap readouts on a This Week / This Month / This Quarter / Within Six Months cadence, peer and facilitator feedback, and certification.

Methodology Verification

The table below tallies instructional minutes by day and format across the full 10-hour program (two days x five instructional hours, 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM with two 15-minute breaks). Each day opens with a 90-minute foundations block and closes with 210 minutes of applied work, a 90-minute workshop and a 120-minute simulation or design studio. The result is an exact 30% foundations / 70% applied split.

DAY	FOUNDATIONS & THEORY	APPLIED & PRACTICAL	DAILY TOTAL
Day 1	90 min	210 min	300 min
Total (10 hrs)	180 min	420 min	600 min
Total (10 hrs)	180 min	420 min	600 min
Share of Program	30%	70%	100%

Frameworks Used Throughout the Program

THE FIVE PILLARS OF AGENTIC GOVERNANCE

Drawn from Prof. El-Masri's Chapter 2, "Governing Autonomous AI," the Five Pillars, Controlled Agency, Human Oversight Models, Transparency and Traceability, Agent Identity and Registry, and Continuous Monitoring and Dynamic Audit, form the operating architecture built across both days. This is the agentic-specific governance layer: the Agent Authority Matrix, the oversight-model spectrum, the Agent Registry, and the AI Governance Board charter all come directly from this framework.

ARM (AGENTIC READINESS MODEL)

ARM measures organizational readiness for autonomous, decision-making AI specifically. Its six dimensions, Strategy, Governance, Technology, Data, Talent, and Culture, form the structure of the Day 2 capstone, where each participant scores their own institution and leaves with a documented readiness profile and action roadmap.

***Note**:*

this two-day intensive is scoped tightly to compliance and governance work and does not include the DC-METRICS digital-transformation baseline covered in the full four-day program. If the full ARM scoring rubric is provided, the Day 2 assessment materials can be refined to match the proprietary methodology precisely.

GOVERNING THE AUTONOMOUS BANK

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> *"The next material risk in banking will not arise from AI itself, but from the gap between autonomous intelligence and institutional governance.»"*

Deliverables for Participants

- A drafted Agent Authority Matrix & starter Agent Registry entry for a real or candidate agent.
- An AI Governance Board charter, drafted and stress-tested in a live crisis simulation.
- A regional compliance and liability checklist (CBUAE, SAMA, QCB, CBB, EU AI Act, and international benchmarks).
- A scored ARM readiness profile across all six dimensions for their own institution.
- A prioritized action roadmap on a This Week / This Month / This Quarter / Within Six Months cadence.
- Program completion certificate.

Speaker

PROF. SAMIR EL-MASRI

Founder & President, Arab Society for DigitalTransformion | CEO, Digitalization

- Prof. Samir El-Masri is a leading expert in Digital Transformation, with over 30 years of experience spanning academia, global consulting, and executive advisory roles. He is the Founder and President of the Arab Society for Digital Transformation and CEO of Digitalization, with contributions across major sectors such as Oil & Gas, Energy, Finance, Telecom, Healthcare, and Government.
- He holds a PhD in Artificial Intelligence and has published 150+ research papers while holding senior academic positions in France, Japan, Australia, and the Gulf region. His corporate experience includes roles with INPG(France), GE (USA), NTT (Japan), and DWS (Australia).
- Prof. El-Masri is the creator of the DC-METRICS framework, a strategic model adopted by governments and enterprises to drive digital transformation across Mindset, Strategy, Technology, Innovation, Cybersecurity, and more.
- He serves as a consultant to the G20-affiliated Digital Cooperation Organization (DCO), where he contributes to the Annual Report on Digital Economy Trends, supporting policy alignment across member states. In 2022, he was recognized as Instructor of the Year (AI & Digital) in MENA by CertNexus (New York).
- A highly sought-after international keynote speaker, Prof. El-Masri is an authority in AI, Generative AI, Agentic AI, IoT, Cloud, Big Data, and Blockchain. He has delivered hundreds of training programs and authored his latest book "Digital Transformation Unlocked", a practical guide for digital leaders worldwide.