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## 2025 | IsDB Group Private Sector Forum

20 - 22 May 2025

Abdelatif Rahal International Conference Center, Algiers - Algeria

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### PANEL: TRADE FACILITATION & REGIONAL INTEGRATION

## THEME UNLOCKING PRIVATE SECTOR POTENTIAL IN ALGERIA: STRENGTHENING LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS



WEDNESDAY, 21ST MAY 2025



14:00 PM - 15:00 PM



DJANET ROOM

### Background

In 2024, ITFC launched its first operation in Algeria by onboarding Al Salam Bank Algeria. This important step reflects ITFC's commitment to expanding trade finance services across its MCs and opens the door for deeper engagement in Algeria. Building on this, ITFC is now looking at working with more local banks to facilitate trade.

Algeria has a vibrant private sector made up of large exporters, SMEs, and a growing startup ecosystem. Large enterprises serve both local and international markets, while startups reflect the country's increasing focus on innovation. The Algerian Startup Fund, under the Ministry of Finance, supports this ecosystem and offers opportunities for stronger collaboration.

This diverse group of actors shows the strength and potential of Algeria's economy. However, they may face important challenges limiting this potential:

- Large exporters can be exposed to risks from trade wars and rising tariffs, making it harder to access international markets.
- SMEs may struggle with limited access to finance, affecting their ability to grow locally and regionally.
- Startups may lack incubation support and private investment, limiting their ability to scale.

If these challenges persist and enablers are not supported, they could limit the growth of Algeria's private sector.

### Key Questions: Can market support and repositioning help?

To strengthen Algeria's private sector, the following key questions will be addressed:

- How can large exporters find new markets within the 57 OIC member countries to overcome growing barriers in global trade?
- How can SMEs be supported to reduce perceived risks and improve access to financing from local banks?
- Can local banks be equipped with special tools such as risk-sharing facilities, LC confirmation services, and guarantee schemes to better support SMEs and startups?
- What role can ITFC play:
  - How can ITFC provide trade finance, risk mitigation, and technical support to improve access to markets?
  - How can ITFC contribute to strengthen Algeria's position in the regional African trade? AATB Program as an example..

### Way Forward

Strengthening Algeria's private sector will require teamwork between exporters, SMEs, startups, banks, and development partners. ITFC's financing tools, technical support, and facilitation role can help drive this transformation.

### Perspectives expected from panelists based on their experience:

- Availability and need for access to trade finance for SMEs and startups.
- Exporters experience in seeking opportunities in African, Arab and Asian regional markets. Ex: opportunities by ITFC flagship programs.
- Collaborations with initiatives like the Algerian Startup Fund: return on experience.
- Banks' ability to finance private sector growth: current strategies and examples.
- Risk mitigation solutions to attract more private capital: lessons from Algerian experience.

By focusing on these areas, the panel aims to discuss key areas that could **strengthen** Algeria's domestic market, **grow** its regional presence, and better **withstand** global economic pressures.

### Speakers



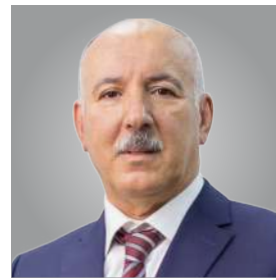
**Mr. Nazeem Noordali**  
Chief Operating Officer  
International Islamic Trade  
Finance Corporation (ITFC)



**Mr. Any's Rahaby**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Algerian Startup Fund

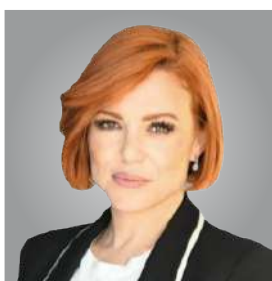


**Mr. Alp Topcuoglu**  
Executive Member of  
the Board of Directors  
Tosyali Algeria



**Mr. Zohir Laiche**  
Chairman and  
Chief Executive Officer  
CAGEX

### Moderator



**Mrs. Lamia Achouche**