IBFD Diploma in GCC VAT

Government Specification
Day 1

09.00 - 10.40  **Tax Policy Formulation and the Value Added Tax in GCC**

- The role of VAT in fiscal and tax policy of GCC
- Neutrality (economic, internal, external)
- Revenue considerations
- Social policy implications
- Equity and fairness
- Advantages and disadvantages of VAT systems
- Legislating a modern, efficient VAT system
- VAT trends around the globe
- VAT developments in Europe
- The new VATs/GSTs and the old ones
  - India, Australia, United States
- VAT policy in the 21st century
- OECD developments
- The new business models and VAT (i.e. digital economy and e-commerce)
- Lowering administrative and compliance burden
- How does the GCC VAT compare to VATs in other states?
- VAT and the GCC: state of play of implementation
- The interaction between VAT and Customs duties

10.40 - 11.00  Break – Refreshments

11.00 - 12.45  **Institutional, Operational and Organizational Models for VAT Administration**

- The role of audits and enforcement
- Mandate, mission and objectives of VAT audit teams
- Good organizational standards
- Workforce resources, skills and competencies
- Performance management

12.45 - 14.00  Lunch

14.00 - 15.40  **Introduction to VAT Audits and Enforcement**

- Overview and introduction
- VAT audit policy
- Good international standards in auditing
- Ethical and professional requirements

15.40 - 16.00  Break – Refreshments

16.00 - 17.00  **VAT Fraud Detection**

- Challenges in detection
- Latest trends of VAT frauds and non-compliance
- Risk assessment
  - High and low-risk businesses, transactions and structures
  - Risk models for categorizing taxpayers
Day 2

09.00 - 10.40  **VAT Audits**

- Preparation and pre-audit phase
  - data gathering, retention and use
  - data sources
  - cooperation with government offices, businesses and data providers within and outside GCC
- Automation and digitalization prior and during audits
  - data matching and analytics
- The audit processes
  - auditing VAT returns, documentation, records and invoices
  - conducting interviews
  - other audit methods
  - writing minutes, notices and assessment letters
  - time limits
  - taxpayer rights
- The post-audit phases

10.40 - 11.00  Break – Refreshments

11.00 - 12.45  **VAT Audits (Continued)**

12.45 - 14.00  Lunch

14.00 - 15.40  **Case Study**

- A real-life scenario that helps the (future) GCC VAT assessors, auditors and other government agents experience a practical VAT audit. Instructors will guide the participants through the various problems and challenges they might meet during their day-to-day work. The session will enable participants to immediately apply the skills and knowledge they obtain during the 2-day program.

15.40 - 16.00  Break – Refreshments

16.00 - 17.00  **Questions and Answers**

- An informal session where the participants can freely ask questions and share their experience and concerns with the instructors and their colleagues from the GCC.