

Haifa Al Khaifi

Chief Financial Officer, Petroleum Development Oman LLC



Education:

2014 - Prince of Wales's Business & Sustainability Programme (BSSP) - University of Cambridge, UK

2015 - INSEAD, (AMP) - France; Financial Sector Issues: Building Financial Sectors that Support - World Bank, USA

2018 - Strategic Negotiations: Deal making for the long term - Harvard Business School, USA

Spoken Languages: English, Arabic & Swahili

Interests & Hobbies: Running, Hiking, Combat martial arts, Traveling

Sector: Oil & Gas

Ownership: Public-Private

Established in: 1937

Ms. Haifa Al Khaifi has played a key role as the Finance Director at Oman's largest oil and gas company. As a strong leader, Ms. Al Khaifi has the ability to take calculated risks while demonstrating an outstanding enthusiasm for driving change and staff development.

In a finance career spanning 24 years, Ms. Al Khaifi has gained an enormous amount of valuable experience across the oil and gas sector, working in Oman, the United Arab Emirates and in Europe. She has spent her entire career serving in different roles for Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) and Shell.

PDO is the leading exploration and production company in the Sultanate, delivering the majority of the country's crude oil production and natural gas supply. Sixty percent of the company is owned by the Omani government, with Royal Dutch Shell, the largest minority shareholder, holding a 34% stake. PDO's mission is to find, develop, and produce oil and gas in a safe, responsible, and profitable manner, in order to contribute to the sustainable development of Oman. It prides itself on providing safe and healthy work conditions for its 8,600 employees and 70,000 contractors.

In Ms. Al Khaifi's current role, she focuses on contracting and procurement, new business development, operations excellence, people and capability, legal and financial matters, overseeing approximately 500 staff working in PDO's Finance Directorate. She closely tracks a broad range of metrics to optimize cost savings. In addition, during her time at PDO, she has devised a series of important strategies and measures to enhance efficiency. Since Ms. Al Khaifi first started working in the sector, the industry has gone through major changes including technology advancements and meeting the growing challenge of finding and extracting hydrocarbons. In 1995, she was one of very few women working in the industry but today she is pleased to see that there are many more opportunities for females, not only in PDO, which currently employs over 1,000 (some of them in

senior positions), but also in general.

In 2018, PDO's combined oil, gas, and condensate production was 1.205 million barrels of oil equivalent per day (boepd). Oil production was 610,170 barrels per day (the highest since 2005) and the company now plans to increase output to 670,000 barrels in the next five years.

According to Ms. Al Khaifi, among PDO's main goals is to gradually transition to a fully-fledged energy company, with a focus on solar and other forms of alternative energy generation, all in line with Oman's vision for economic diversification. Due to the country having some of the world's highest year-round solar radiation intensity levels, solar is the obvious first choice in the renewable space. Ms. Al Khaifi also says the company has been testing a wide variety of new technologies in recent years, with a 90% success rate, underlining how it is evolving and preparing for a sustainable future.

Ms. Al Khaifi highlights that this summer, PDO started production at its Rabab Harweel Integrated Project (RHIP), its largest capital investment, and in 2021 it plans to launch its most complex project called Yibal Khuff, an integrated oil and sour gas facility. Another exciting initiative is being conducted by PDO's New Business Development Team, which is exploring ways to commercialize expertise in areas like project management, engineering design, training and lean continuous improvement, field development, and enhanced oil recovery. An example of the commercialisation philosophy is the Nibras system that is designed to optimize operations and maintenance of oil and gas assets.

Ms. Haifa Al Khaifi feels privileged to work for such a professional and pioneering organization as PDO. Her career has evolved along with the company, and she has benefitted from many opportunities for growth and self-improvement, including first-class training and development as well as the chance to live and work abroad.

In addition to her CFO role, Ms. Al Khaifi is also the PDO Company Secretary and the Secretary to the Oil and Gas Boards. Over the years, she has served as a member on external boards, such as the Omani Society for Petroleum Services and the Sultan Qaboos University Academic Innovation Program Oman.

Ms. Al Khaifi has a very open and transparent management style, and she always makes sure she is

My advice to youth:

Dream big, visualize success, and be tenacious in pursuing your dream preferably in areas that you are passionate about. Study hard, have a "can do" attitude, and proactively seize opportunities.

My message about Oman:

Oman is a beautiful and stable country, with a unique position in the Middle East that welcomes foreign investment and has a skilled, young workforce across a broad range of growing industries. Omanis are also warm and friendly people.



building capable teams, empowered to make decisions and equipped with the tools to succeed. However, she is also always available whenever someone needs support and guidance. Passionate about her work, she is committed to serving her country and helping talented people reach their potential.

Ms. Al Khaifi's goals for the near future involve continuing her contribution towards positioning PDO for long term sustainable success, delivering the Finance Directorate's 2020 vision and driving further change and improvement, including empowering and supporting more women in senior roles. She believes that it is important for women to educate themselves and actively contribute to the development of the country, and she hopes to inspire more females to take every opportunity available to make a difference in their fields.

Affiliations, Awards & Honors

2019 - World Women Leadership Congress Award; Oman Woman of the Year (Apex); Oman Economic Review: HR & Finance Award

2015, 2017, 2019 - PDO Chairman's Award for Excellence Forbes

2014 - 2019: Most Powerful Arab Business Women

2017 - Shell Upstream Impact Award ; Oman Society for Petroleum Services

2016 - Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW): Outstanding contribution to the profession by an individual

2015 - MENA CFO Award