

Ahmad Ghaleb Badran

Director of AI Strategy | AI Strategy, Governance & Architecture Leader

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Executive Summary

Visionary AI leader with 17+ years of experience designing and executing AI transformation strategies for government-grade and enterprise environments. I combine strategic vision with hands-on depth in LLM systems (RAG, orchestration, guardrails), multi-tenant architecture, and cloud operations to deliver measurable impact across security, governance, and cost efficiency. Proven in high-trust, regulated settings, I align national AI agendas and C-suite OKRs with operational excellence, enabling scalable, ethical, and sustainable adoption of AI.

Strategic Vision

Committed to advancing national AI ecosystems through responsible innovation, I champion frameworks that unify AI governance, data sovereignty, and operational agility. My leadership philosophy centers on embedding ethical AI, transparency, and performance accountability into every stage of design and delivery, bridging vision with execution for public trust and long-term impact.

Leadership & Technical Impact

• Strategic Leadership

- Defined AI and digital transformation roadmaps aligned with government objectives and enterprise OKRs.
- Built AI Centers of Excellence integrating policy, data, and engineering teams under unified governance.
- Established FinOps, observability, and accountability frameworks that improved ROI and delivery outcomes.
- Advised executive boards on AI policy, national adoption strategy, and ethical compliance.

• Technical Depth

- Architected GenAI and LLM platforms with RAG, orchestration, evaluation guardrails, and explainability.
- Engineered multi-tenant platforms usingDDD/CQRS, event-driven design, and service mesh.
- Implemented SRE, IaC, and Kubernetes automation ensuring resilience and traceability.
- Integrated zero-trust and policy-as-code across cloud and hybrid infrastructures.

Signature Outcomes

- <1s semantic search latency across multilingual knowledge bases via optimized RAG pipelines.
- 30% infrastructure cost savings through automated workload right-sizing and FinOps alignment.
- 99.95% uptime achieved by transitioning monoliths to microservices on AKS/EKS with SRE practices.
- 80% defect reduction and release cycle improvement from weeks to hours using policy-as-code CI/CD.

Professional Experience

Director of AI Architecture & Strategy — X14 Holding | Abu Dhabi, UAE | Oct 2024 – Present

Lead AI/ML, OSINT, and Media Intelligence programs serving public-sector and enterprise clients. Define national-scale AI strategies, advise the Managing Director on policy alignment and architecture trade-offs, and deliver multi-tenant intelligence platforms supporting secure, explainable decision-making.

- Architected RAG-powered intelligence workbenches with traceability, grounding checks, and multilingual summarization.
- Established observability and cost governance (SLO/SLI, autoscaling) across ingest and analytics workloads.
- Delivered trends and narrative intelligence systems for real-time national situational awareness.

Head of Platform Engineering — Tahaluf Al Emarat | Abu Dhabi, UAE | May 2023 – Oct 2024

Oversaw AI-augmented modernization programs for government services, embedding secure DevSecOps, QA gates, and cost-optimized infrastructure. Drove 80% defect reduction and accelerated analytics delivery.

Principal Architect — UAE Presidential Court via ITQAN | Abu Dhabi | Jul 2014 – Apr 2023

Directed digital transformation across mission-critical identity, integration, and multimedia platforms. Instituted secure coding, observability, and unified API frameworks enabling efficient inter-entity communication.

Flagship Programs & Initiatives

AtlasEye — Omni-Channel Media Intelligence

National-scale intelligence platform unifying traditional and social media. Delivered GenAI workbenches powered by RAG, multilingual NLP, and explainability frameworks, supporting decision-makers across public entities.

Maestro Blocks — AI-Assisted Low-Code Platform

Defined low-code accelerators and governance patterns for rapid digital service delivery with AI-generated components and secure on-prem/cloud deployment.

RetailGreen — Unified Retail Data & Loyalty

Architected AI-driven retail analytics and loyalty intelligence systems, improving data quality, tenant insights, and real-time business decisions.

Education & Certifications

- M.Sc., Computer & Information Systems (Machine Learning) — University of Jordan
- B.Sc., Computer Information Systems — University of Jordan
- Professional Scrum Master (PSM-I) — Scrum.org | Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP)

Speaking & Community

- Speaker — GenAI-Powered Low-Code (with Forrester): AI-assisted app design & governance.
- Open-source contributor and mentor: Developed VS Code LIFX Plugin (4,000+ downloads).