

Uzma Siddiqui, CEO and Co-Founder

Uzma Siddiqui: Indian national, was a deep tech investor and Managing Partner at Salama Holdings, where she would drive business growth and manage a diverse investment portfolio and advisory projects. With a focus on AI, deep tech, and sustainability, she has led strategic investments, including an early-stage stake in Cambridge Quantum Computing, which then merged with Honeywell to form Quantinuum. Uzma has vast expertise in cross-border ventures, overseeing projects across MENA, Europe, and India. She was the Chief Investment Officer at Abeer Group. Having lived in Saudi Arabia for most of her life, Uzma has a strong understanding of the region and is currently advising Indian companies on investment in Saudi Arabia. Uzma's experience spans venture capital, real estate, and technology sectors, alongside advising startups and securing capital. She is passionate about quantum computing and also won the first prize for a competition on Quantum Computing's impact on the Saudi Economy from the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. She holds an MBA from London Business School with distinction and a BSc in Economics from the University College London.

At Quantasphere, she is responsible for developing the concept, strategy and building the team. She is using her network to develop partnerships with key players, governments and investors. She is also developing the governance framework, systems and business plan for the Company.

Belbin Type: Plant/Resource Investigator/Shaper

Stress triggers:: fear of not meeting deadlines or commitments. Being behind on deadlines and targets makes me very stressed. Also being unable to reach team members especially if there are dependencies is very stressful for me. Mundane work makes me procrastinate which then creates a fear of not meeting deadlines or commitments.

Coping strategies: set deadlines, constant communication with team, prayer, a walk or some physical exercise, prayer and talking to family helps.

Support network: a variety of family and friends as well as professional mentors. Father for strategic business planning and ethics, mother for managing interpersonal relationships and ethics, lawyer for negotiation and bargaining, coach for personal and psychological limitations, Chairman and CEO of a private equity fund for spiritual advice. Otherwise various friends and family for different aspects of work. A friend Yasmine for startup advice.

Execution habits: write at night a list of what to do the next day. Get satisfaction from ticking off the list. Schedule the day. Weekly : put on Miro the various work streams and way ahead for the next week. Weekly call to check as accountability partners are team . Start journal every day

Dr Mohammed AlShareef, CBDO and Co-Founder

Dr. Mohammed AlShareef: A Saudi national, Dr. Mohammed AlShareef brings over 20 years of expertise in emerging technologies, research, and innovation. With a PhD in Communication Engineering from the University of Waterloo and an MBA from Imperial College London, he specializes in communication engineering, innovation policy, and strategic development. Dr. AlShareef currently serves as the General Manager of the National RDI Observatory at the Research, Development, and Innovation Authority (RDIA), where he spearheads initiatives in innovation strategy, technology monitoring, and ecosystem development. His leadership has been instrumental in advancing Saudi Arabia's research and innovation landscape, aligning with Vision 2030's objectives. An award-winning leader with a proven track record in project management, R&D, digital transformation, and technology intelligence, Dr. AlShareef is recognized for his published works and ability to drive impactful change across complex domains.

At Quantasphere, he plays a pivotal role in co-developing the business strategy, establishing the company, and leveraging his extensive expertise to deliver innovative solutions. Focused on ensuring market demand for the company's quantum-driven products, he is dedicated to positioning Quantasphere as a regional leader in healthcare innovation and data security.

Belbin Type: Plant/Monitor Evaluator/Teamworker

Stress triggers: unclear priorities or a lack of alignment. Delays that slow momentum and feeling overloaded with too many moving parts at once.

Coping Strategies: break problems into smaller clear steps, step back to see the bigger picture and keep balance by setting boundaries and recharging by traveling.

Support Network: a former head of RDIA for strategic business planning, my wife for guidance on interpersonal relationships, and Mr. Ahmed Alsomali, an advisor, who provides support in clarifying my vision and professional development.

Execution habits: focus on 2–3 most important tasks. Weekly: review progress and reset priorities. Keep time for reflection to learn and adjust.

Aakif Rehman, CTO and Co-Founder

Aakif Rehman: An Indian national is a computer science student at Durham University (2022–2025) specializing in quantum computing, cryptography, and interdisciplinary research. At the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), he contributed to India's first 7-qubit quantum computer, developing a Python-based translator for quantum programming and optimizing qubit operations. His research also includes genome analysis of COVID-19 variants, aiding vaccination efforts, and astrophysical studies analyzing X-ray emissions using NASA data.

Aakif is currently advancing quantum cryptographic algorithms for lattice-based cryptography as part of Quantasphere, a new venture focused on next-generation cryptographic solutions. Proficient in Python, C, and machine learning frameworks like TensorFlow and PyTorch, he has led impactful projects such as a quantum automation library, AR-based quantum education platforms, and thyroid cancer detection models.

With technical expertise and a passion for innovation, Aakif is dedicated to pushing the boundaries of computational and quantum sciences.

Belbin Type: Plant/Completer Finisher/Shaper

Stress triggers: thrives under stress. Gets stressed and frustrated with mundane work which leads to procrastination.

Coping strategies: cigarettes, cigarettes and talking to father.

Support Network: Father and Uzma Siddiqui

Execution Habits: Write notes, plan, reflect, revise and then set a deadline to execute.