

Dubai World Trade Centre

21 - 24 November 2016







In 2016, the GCC construction market will be one of the key indicators of economic development. Despite low oil prices, the construction industry will remain healthy in 2016 and is expected to grow in 2017 with the help of the GCC government's vision and plans for the future. Major growth drivers for the construction industry include population growth, and rise in tourism due to hosting of mega events. Investments in infrastructure, affordable housing, healthcare, education and hospitality to promote tourism are expected to play a pivotal role in the GCC government's agendas to suit the needs of the increasing population. The UAE and Qatar will remain bright spots for the construction industry in 2016 and 2017 as they are pressing ahead with projects ahead of the Expo 2020 and FIFA World Cup 2022, respectively.

Overview of the GCC Construction Market

The GCC governments are taking precautionary measures to cope with volatility in oil prices. The recent GCC countries' budgets represent the governments' efforts to instill fiscal discipline and cut wasteful expenditures. Industry experts have predicted that the financing need for GCC countries is forecast to be worth US\$ 151 billion for 2016. They also predict that the GCC's overall capital spending over the next four years to be US\$ 480 billion of which 60% to 70% will go to infrastructure projects. Moreover, the GCC governments need US\$ 604 billion to fund projects through 2019, including US\$ 100 billion on infrastructure projects. While the oil and gas sectors remain major contributors to the regional GDP, the national economic policies and the visions of the GCC are majorly aimed towards economic diversification. These plans and visions are likely to contribute to increased construction activities in 2016 and 2017 across the GCC.

Construction is seen as a barometer of broader economic performance in the GCC. The first half of 2016 has clearly been a busy period for the GCC's construction industry, even though dwindling oil prices have led project owners to reconsider some of their planned pipeline of projects and activities for the future. However, despite cutbacks in overall expenditure, most GCC economies have retained spending on key sectors such as education, affordable housing, hospitality to promote tourism, and healthcare. As infrastructure is a very important catalyst and driver for an economy, this has prompted GCC governments to look at alternatives such as private-public

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partnerships (PPPs) for ensuring the continuity of the construction projects pipeline in the region.

The UAE and Qatar will remain bright spots for the construction industry in 2016 as they are pressing ahead with projects ahead of the Expo 2020 and FIFA World Cup 2022, respectively. Also, the UAE and Qatar rank the most attractive countries for infrastructure investment across the globe despite low oil prices. KSA is also likely to showcase great growth potential in the future, thanks to the approval of Saudi Vision 2030 and the National Transformation Plan 2020, which re-assesses its economic and social policies to move away from its dependency on oil.

Major growth drivers for the construction industry include population growth, and rising tourism due to hosting of mega events even though challenged by a drop in oil prices. An expanding population is expected to urge higher demand in residential, commercial, retail, hospitality, healthcare, and infrastructure sectors across the GCC region. The region's tourism industry is expected to boom in the future, and a rising demand is expected in retail, hospitality, and infrastructure construction

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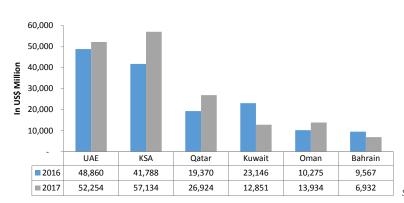
sectors. Mega events such as Dubai Expo 2020 and Qatar FIFA World Cup 2022 are expected to create opportunities across these sectors, which are likely to translate into growth in construction activities. Over the long term, government spend is expected to prove inadequate in sustaining the growth of the GCC's construction market and hence private sector involvement appears imperative for the industry's further development.



Snapshot of GGC Construction Contract Awards

The total GCC construction contract awards across the building, infrastructure and energy sectors are estimated to increase from US\$ 153,006 million in 2016 to US\$ 170,029 million in 2017. In 2016, the building construction sector (US\$ 74,705 million) is likely to register the highest contract awards followed by the energy (US\$ 57,088 million) and infrastructure sectors (US\$ 21,213 million). The trend is expected to remain the same in 2017 (refer Figure 1).

GCC Total Construction Contract Awards Split by Country, 2016-2017

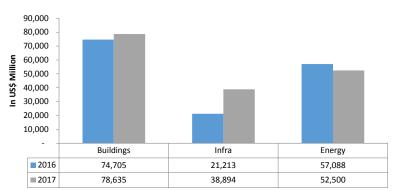




Source: Ventures Onsite MENA Projects Database: www.venturesonsite.com

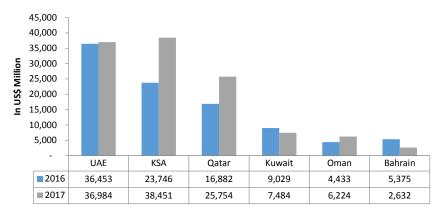
The total GCC construction contract awards split by sector and country from 2016 to 2017.

GCC Total Construction Contract Awards Split by Sector, 2016-2017



Source: Ventures Onsite MENA Projects Database: www.venturesonsite.com

GCC Building & Infrastructure Construction Contract Awards Split by Country, 2016-2017



Source: Ventures Onsite MENA Projects Database: www.venturesonsite.com

The GCC construction (building and infrastructure only) contract awards split by country from 2016 to 2017.





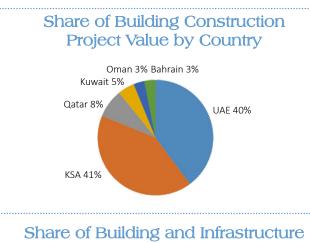


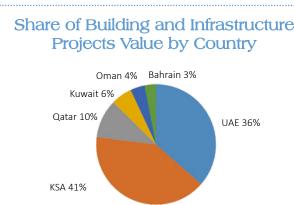


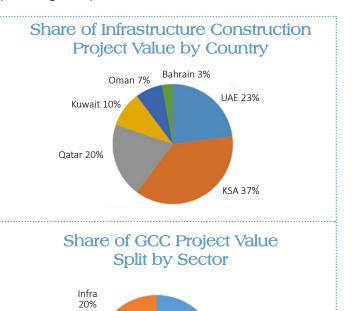
The UAE's building and infrastructure contract awards are forecast to remain the highest and increase from US\$ 36,453 million in 2016 to US\$ 36,984 million in 2017 (refer Figure 2). The UAE has been impacted less by lower oil prices than other GCC countries. There are a number of large property developments — some of them partly or fully privately financed — underway or being planned in the UAE, including Meydan Mohammad City, Lagoons, City, Dubai South - The Villages, Dubai Creek Harbour, Mall of the World, Burj 2020 District, Deira Islands, and Bluewaters Island in Dubai, as well as Lu'luat Al Raha, Lagoons District at Saadiyat Island and Yas Acres, etc. in Abu Dhabi. In addition, there are also a number of other developments such as new or expansion of hotels, hospitals, schools, airports, and shopping malls. The UAE's hotel construction pipeline is forecast to peak in 2017 and 2018 as the country gears up for the World Expo event in 2020.

Despite anxiety about the low oil price, history shows that the value of contract awards is not necessarily at its highest or lowest as the oil price peaks or troughs. History also shows that events over а five-year timespan, starting with the global economic meltdown in 2008/09 leading up to the award of Expo 2020 to Dubai in December 2013, have compelled companies involved in the construction sector and governments to adapt, making them better able to take advantage of opportunities as they arrive. For this reason, whilst KSA and to some extent Abu Dhabi is treading a cautious path with construction projects, the rest of the GCC – Dubai, Kuwait and Qatar in particular – will be busy with activities for the next two years.

As of 10th August 2016, KSA (41%) surpassed UAE (36%) in registering the highest share in project value in the building and infrastructure construction sectors (refer Figure 3).







The share of GCC building and infrastructure construction projects value by country and sector (as of 10th August 2016).



Buildings 80%







United Arab Emirates

espite headwinds, a lot of opportunities exist in UAE's construction market as it looks set to witness the initiation of a number of building and infrastructure projects leading up to Dubai Expo 2020 and the Abu Dhabi Vision 2030.

As the population rises, the need to build affordable housing for an increasing workforce is gaining ground across the emirates. The UAE government plans to develop 17 new projects worth US\$ 408 million from 2016 to 2017 in the Eastern region. These include residential support programmes, building new residential complexes, schools, health centres and government buildings. The Ministry of Public Works is now working on another 26 housing complexes in different emirates, as well as 148 standalone houses. These houses are part of the UAE's efforts to provide



Opportunities exist in the construction market despite low oil prices as the UAE is set to initiate a number of building and infrastructure projects leading up to Dubai Expo 2020, Abu Dhabi Vision 2030, and 2021 National Agenda.





adequate housing for its citizens. Dubai Municipality has launched a number of new eco-friendly projects aimed at making Dubai a green and fully sustainable city by 2021.

The proposed law by Dubai Municipality for mandatory 15-20% affordable housing in future residential developments could help improve the demand-supply situation. The UAE's Sheikh Zayed Housing Programme will develop US\$ 88.2 million homes in Umm Al Quwain.

Dubai is set to be revamped under the Emirate's five-year plan to transform the city into a disability-friendly city. All new buildings and facilities in the city, including offices, residential towers, schools, stadiums, and parks, will be constructed to comply with disability-friendly standards. The project, titled 'Accessible Environments for People with Disability based on Universal Design', is in line with the 'My Community- A City for Everyone' initiative to transform Dubai into a disability-friendly city by 2020.

Theme parks and entertainment destinations are integral to attracting more families to the region as part of the emirate's strategic roadmap for the sector, Tourism Vision 2020. With demand for leisure tourism on the rise, the IMG Worlds of Adventure, the world's largest indoor theme part is getting ready to open doors in 2016 in Dubai. UAE's strategic location and a lack of regional competition in the theme park segment should also give the emirate an edge.







For the infrastructure sector, the UAE's 2021 national agenda aims to establish the emirate as the first country globally in terms of quality of seaports, airports, and roads. UAE airports are investing up to US\$ 50 billion in new and expanded projects over the next 15 years, which will provide capacity for an additional 200 million passengers per annum. The maritime transport sector in the UAE has witnessed remarkable improvements in terms of seaports and construction of ships and dry docks. UAE ports account for 60% of GCC total

containerisation after becoming a global maritime trade hub. The ports undergo continuous development projects to cope up with economic growth. In its 2016 budget announced in December 2015, Dubai set aside US\$ 4.5 billion for infrastructure, transport and economics—a rise of US\$ 0.5 billion from 2015—to cater for the increase in spending ahead of Expo 2020. Abu Dhabi's Executive Council had also approved the allocation of US\$ 1 billion for infrastructure projects in 2016 as per the objectives and goals set in the Abu Dhabi Vision 2030.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



n 2016, more efforts may be seen towards empowering low and middle income families and addressing their basic needs such as affordable housing. The government is taking significant steps in addressing the shortage of affordable housing revenues from the While Land Tax will also contribute toward the funding of affordable housing projects. Similarly, the Ministry of Housing's 'ESKAN' project should add 500,000 units to the total stock of KSA's affordable housing. Salman King urged the Housing Ministry to build suitable and affordable housing for citizens as it is a government priority. The government has issued legislation and set aside huge allocations in the budget for housing. KSA has allegedly a shortage of 1,500,000 homes over the next five years. Despite the slowing economy, the huge shortage of homes for KSA's rapidly growing population means that there are opportunities for developers. While 47% of Saudi families own their homes, the government aims to increase this to 52% by 2020.

Business tourism growth is well complemented by the rising number of religious tourists to the holy cities of Makkah and Madinah. Jeddah and Riyadh have a pipeline of noteworthy projects, including large hotel projects by leading brands, which highlight the increased interest of international and regional investors in KSA's hospitality sector. KSA plans to more than double its number of hotel rooms as part of the 2030 Vision. Currently, it has the most hotels under construction in MENA region. Religious tourism has also been given importance and the vision is to increase annual capacity to 15 million by 2020 and 30 million by 2030. To facilitate this, a third expansion of the two holy mosques has been launched. Vision 2030 has a big role to play in privatising health services and opening up opportunities to the private sector, helping improve services. Also, it plans to work with the private sector and enter into a new series of international partnerships to complete, improve and link the infrastructure internally and across borders. KSA's retail sector is also booming as the government eases restrictions on foreign investment and its young population keeps spending amid slowing economy.







With Vision 2030, retail sector is expected to boom especially in Jeddah.

As KSA wants to increase non-oil revenues, promoting aviation as an economic growth engine could prove effective. The kingdom has earmarked US\$ 10.65 billion to build and upgrade more than 20 airports to help accommodate its fast growing aviation industry. The scope of the planned Saudi rail projects and required investment are massive and one-third of the GCC rail budget is allocated to upgrading existing lines and building the new rail networks across the kingdom before 2030.

KSA will build four new highways linking Makkah and Jeddah, which will benefit 35 million people. The projects include the Makkah-Jeddah Highway, the Old Makkah-Jeddah Road, the Breman-Hada Al-Sham-Makkah Road, and a road for cargo and freight trucks that links the Second Ring Road in Jeddah and Hada-Al-Jamoum Roadway. Jeddah's transport department has completed about 38 major projects over the past five years including underpasses and flyovers, while 23 projects are still under way. Another landmark development taking



Vision 2030 is likely to boost growth in the hospitality, retail, affordable housing, and infrastructure projects.

shape is a world-class maritime complex for which Saudi Aramco, the National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia (Bahri), Lamprell Energy and Hyundai Heavy Industries have recently signed a MoU for joint collaboration.

Qatar

atar is anticipated to undergo intensified activity, sustaining steady growth driven by the Qatar National Vision (QNV) 2030 and hosting of FIFA World Cup 2022.

Despite a considerable reduction in oil and gas revenues, Qatar is one of the fastest growing economies in the region due to continued infrastructure spending by the government. The allocation to the infrastructure sector totaled US\$ 14 billion in the 2016 budget, which represents 25% of the total expenditure planned for the 2016 fiscal year. The government is planning to spend over US\$ 200 billion as part of a major infrastructure investment scheme between 2016









and 2022. The World Cup is expected to cost about US\$ 30 billion, with stadiums accounting for US\$ 10 billion. Qatar's infrastructure sector and housing projects has enjoyed an investment of US\$ 27 billion annually since 2010. The investments have included a variety of projects, among which were new highways, the development of economic zones and also stadiums and other public infrastructure to host the World Cup in 2022.

Qatar aims to increase tourism demand by growing and diversifying its leisure and cultural offerings. Qatar is planning to build new hotels and hotel apartments over the next five years in advance of the surge in visitors expected during the 2022 FIFA World Cup, which is driving the hotel pipeline. Qatar is expected to continue its aggressive retail expansion in the coming years as the supply of retail space is expected to nearly double in 2017. Qatar is also continuing to enhance spending on key sectors, especially education, as funds allocated to the sector have increased to US\$ 5.59 billion. Qatar's western region is planning a major expansion of healthcare facilities in a bid to meet the needs of a growing population.

Most recent in the series of infrastructure contract awards is Qatar signing an agreement with Turkish

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New Ppp laws are being drafted for efficient delivery of future projects and meeting growth plans in its

National Vision 2030.

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Qatar is likely to witness high intensity construction activities primarily driven by FIFA World Cup 2022.

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company Tekfen for the construction of US\$ 2.1 billion highway as part of Al Khor Expressway project in August 2016. The highway will span 34 km, include 12 bridges and crossings and will link Doha with Lusail, Al Khor and the new stadiums. It will consist of five lanes in each direction and is to be completed in 30 months. It will also include eight intersections pedestrian, bicycle and motorcycle lanes. Another awarded major project recently the Qatar Foundation Stadium for which Joannou & Paraskevaides Overseas / J&P Avax bagged the main construction contract in July 2016.

Qatar is now in the process of drafting a new law to facilitate and nurture its fledgling PPP sector, and to provide a strong legal framework for the efficient delivery of future PPP projects. PPPs can help Qatar realise the ambitious growth plans in its QNV 2030, and address the medium and long-term needs of its growing population. The driving influences are the acceleration of infrastructure development, and the closer public sector integration of private sector experience in the construction and operation of these projects. Industry experts have predicted that PPP's worth is estimated to be US\$ 30 billion during the course of the next decade.







Kuwait

uwait's construction market continues to provide attractive opportunities and government initiatives are supporting the private sector. overall residential market is currently undersupplied, with the demand for the governmentfunded housing units likely to reach 175,000 units by 2020. Kuwait's residential market primarily includes properties built under the government housing program and administered by the Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW). Kuwait has a large housing deficit and a young population. Both the state and private sector are attempting to meet this demand with new housing and development projects. The Al Mutla housing project involving the construction of 12 residential complexes that will offer 30,000 units for sale to Kuwaiti citizens is scheduled for delivery in 2017.

The Kuwait Development plan seeks the active participation of the private sector through public private partnerships (PPP) in such areas as low cost housing, hospitals and higher education institutions. Kuwait International Airport has



unveiled US\$ 2.1 billion expansion plans, which will more than double its annual passenger capacity. Hospitals' total bed capacity is expected to reach 12,000 beds by 2020. Kuwait's government is set to award US\$ 2.9 billion worth of hospital projects in 2016 as part of its plan to boost the bed capacity per family in hospitals across the country.

The construction sector will grow owing to the Kuwait government's initiatives infrastructure development. Kuwait plans to forge ahead with railways, roads and highways and seaport infrastructure projects despite the oil price drop and will depend on the private sector to help finance some of these projects realise its long-term 2035 Vision development plan. The new PPP implementation regulations positive resolve step number of challenges to that present under the previous regime. Kuwait's Ministry of Public Works has announced plans to develop 30 infrastructure projects worth US\$ 11 billion under its current development plan.

Some of the major projects awarded to contractors in 2016 include South Al Mutla Development- Roads and Infrastructure - Contract 1, Sabah Al Salem



Kuwait's construction sector is likely to grow due to government's initiatives to boost infrastructure development and support the private sector.







University - Administration Facilities (ADFA), 6.5 Ring Road and East Extension, Seventh Ring Road - Phase 1 to name a few. Another major project expected to commence construction later the year is the Kuwait International Airport Expansion. The contractor for the US\$ 4.2 billion project is a JV of Kharafi National and Limak Holding Once complete, the new passenger terminal will have a capacity to handle 25 million passengers

per year and be able to handle all aircraft types through 51 new gates and stands. The construction is expected to take six years to complete. More than 1 million cubic metres of concrete and more than 100,000 tonnes of structural steel will be used in the terminal's construction, which has been designed by Foster + Partners with a single roof canopy containing glazed openings aimed at letting in light while deflecting heat.

Oman



man's status as a family tourist destination is helping the development of its hospitality sector. Oman's luxury hotels market will be given a significant boost in 2016 as a host of major international hotel chains are set to open their first or new properties in the country. Among hotel operators entering the Sultanate for the first time include the Anantara Group who will open two five-star resorts in Jebel Akhdar and Salalah and the Kempinski and Fairmont hotels in Al Mouj. Construction is underway for the W and Westin hotel properties, near the Intercontinental Hotel. A Louis Vuitton property is also planned for the capital. Another major project underway is the Saraya Bandar Jissah project on the outskirts of Muscat.

A flurry of activities is expected in the retail sector too with plans of major new shopping malls such as Mall of Oman and My City Centre in Sur by Majid Al Futtaim (MAF) and Muscat Festival City Mall by Al Futtaim Group Real Estate. All the three projects are currently in the design stage.

To decrease its dependence on oil, Oman has embarked on a diversification plan that will see it invest more than US\$50 billion on infrastructure over the next 15 years, of which US\$ 20 billion has been

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To diversify from oil, Oman plans to invest billions on infrastructure over the next 15 years, particularly on the transport sector.

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earmarked for the transport sector. Oman's transport sector has been offering ample opportunities for the construction sector through the expansion of ports, airports, roads, and the proposed railway that will connect with the GCC-wide network. Infrastructure projects launched by the Omani government in 2015 have given most contractors healthy order book positions for 2016.

Given volatility the in oil prices, the government's push for PPPs will be key to increasing sector investment in infrastructure. which is critical for Oman's future economic development. As per the 9th five year plan (2016-2020) under the Vision 2020, investment in infrastructure is 29%. Targeted infrastructure projects for private sector (on either individual or partnership basis) cover Oman railway, South Batinah Logistics Area etc. Oman's government is keen to develop its US\$775 million medical city project in Barka on a PPP model.

Some of the major projects awarded to contractors in 2016 include Integrated Light Industries Park at Muscat Expressway, MISCO Steel Plant in

Sohar, The iTower in Baushar, Industrial Waste Water Treatment Plant at Sohar Industrial port, Al Sulaimi Group Headquarter Building at Ghala Heights to name a few. Some of the projects expected to be awarded soon to contractors include New Sultan Qaboos Hospital in Salalah, Housing Complex in Saham, Various sections of Batinah expressway etc.

One of the major setbacks in 2016 was the announcement to put the ambitious multi-billion dollar Oman Rail project on hold. Given the importance of the project, the government is expected to activate the scheme, but a time frame is not available. Government officials have confirmed recently that while the rail link aiming to connect the countries of the GCC has been put on hold following the dip in global oil prices, Oman's own internal rail network plan is still on track. The internal rail link will connect all three major ports in the country: Salalah, Sohar and Dugm - and would be a vital logistics boost for the country when completed.

Bahrain



ahrain's building construction market growth is mainly attributed to the housing projects. There are currently 53,000 social housing applications with 4,000 new applications annually. The government has earmarked US\$ 3.2 billion to construct 30,000 homes by 2016. It also plans to develop three new cities in East Hidd, East Sitra and Northern Town, which are expected to provide approximately 23,000 units by the end of 2016. Bahrain has experienced considerable growth in residential construction sector over the last decade.

The Hunainya project represents one of the most important housing development schemes in the Southern Governorate. The project features on the







Government Action Plan (GAP), which endorsed a scheme to construct 25,000 housing units. It is also in line with the royal order, which was issued by the King to fast-track construction of 40,000 units. A total of 3,100 homes that are part of a multi-million dinar social housing scheme in Diyar Al Muharraq in Bahrain will be ready by the end of 2017. Bahrain has signed contracts on 23rd August 2016 to carry out housing projects worth more than US\$ 395 million funded by the Gulf Development Programme.

The Saudi Development Fund is funding the construction of six schools in Bahrain at a cost of US\$ 85 million. In the hospitality sector, there is steady progress made towards the launch of two new developments in early 2016. The Rotana Downtown in central Manama, along with Wyndham Grand at Bahrain Bay will add a further 509 rooms to the five-star hotel stock. Amongst others, the Marriott Residence Inn at Water Garden City is also expected to be completed in 2016. Emaar Hospitality Group will reportedly build five

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Bahrain is making significant investment in infrastructure, awarding tenders and bids for projects related to roads, sanitary work, and infrastructure upgradation.

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Bahrain's building construction market growth is mainly attributed to the housing projects.

new hotels in the kingdom by the end of 2018. The government is focusing on its strategy to attract high-end tourists, which is driving an upturn in the number of five star hotels. New investments in the hospitality sector and efforts to raise Bahrain's international profile should drive tourism growth in 2016. Several international hotel chains are looking to raise their profile in Bahrain, either by entering the market or expanding their existing holdings to take advantage of the longer term potential of the country's hospitality sector. Under the Bahrain Tourism Strategy 2015-18, a new Supreme Council for Tourism was created that aims to help guide development of the sector.

Bahrain government is investing making in improvements to its infrastructure. Bahrain has awarded 12 tenders worth US\$ 55.3 million in Q1 2016, and invited bids for 17 others worth US\$ 266 million for projects related to roads, sanitary work and infrastructure upgradation. One of the major projects awarded to contractors in early 2016 is for the construction of new passenger terminal at Bahrain International Airport. More contracts are expected to be finalised on the airport expansion program soon. Also, detailed study on Bahrain's railway network is expected to be finalised in 2017, which is expected to add more activity into Bahrain construction industry in the near future.

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) with its sixth potline expansion as well as the power station package gave Bahrain a clear push in its 2016 contract awards as well as the construction activity for the next couple of years.







Future outlook of GCC Construction Market

The GCC construction market will be one of the key indicators of economic development in 2016 and 2017. Although the GCC countries are currently grappling with the volatility in oil prices, the construction industry is expected to remain healthy in 2016 and 2017 with the help of the GCC government's vision and plans for the future. The Expo 2020 and FIFA World Cup 2022 are likely to provide the necessary impetus to growth in construction activities. Investments in infrastructure, affordable housing, healthcare, education, hospitality to promote tourism are expected to play a pivotal role in the GCC government's agendas to suit the needs of an increasing population.

Infrastructure is very important for an economy, the GCC countries are expected to continue spending on infrastructure and capital projects but stringently. Major projects expected to start construction in the next 12 months include Kuwait International Airport Expansion, Dubai Metro — Route 2020, Al Khor Expressway, South Al Mutla Development - Roads and Infrastructure - Contract 1, Deerat Al Oyoun - 3,100 Residential Units etc. to name a few. Over the long term and in order to reduce the strain on

GCC governments' finances, private sector funding on construction projects will gain huge importance in the wake of low oil prices.

The UAE and Qatar are likely to have the strongest construction market opportunities in 2016 and 2017. KSA is also likely to be viewed as an attractive market, as the unprecedented reform efforts announced by Saudi Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman would set the stage for the kingdom to emerge as a major economic powerhouse, with lower dependence on oil. Oman's construction industry outlook remains healthy as there exists a constant flow of public projects, and sustained demand for high-quality private real estate projects. If oil prices remain low, or drop further, the government may reassess some projects, but priority development should continue, while tighter resources could drive further use of PPPs. Kuwait's construction industry will continue to expand with investments infrastructure, healthcare, in educational facilities, and housing projects continuing to drive growth. Bahrain's construction industry's growth in the near future is expected to be driven by investments in infrastructure including rail and airport expansion projects as well as and residential and industrial projects.



This report was created for Middle East Concrete and PMV Live by Ventures ONSITE construction projects tracker.

About Ventures ONSITE

A product by Ventures Middle East, Ventures ONSITE has been a market leader in tracking construction projects for more than 15 years. The subscription-based service provides in-depth and up-to-date coverage of key Middle East and North African (MENA) construction projects and information of companies and decision makers involved. In addition, Ventures ONSITE allows its users to convert the data into statistical charts and graphs, making it a critical decision-support tool for individuals, companies and organisations that directly or indirectly target the region's construction industry.