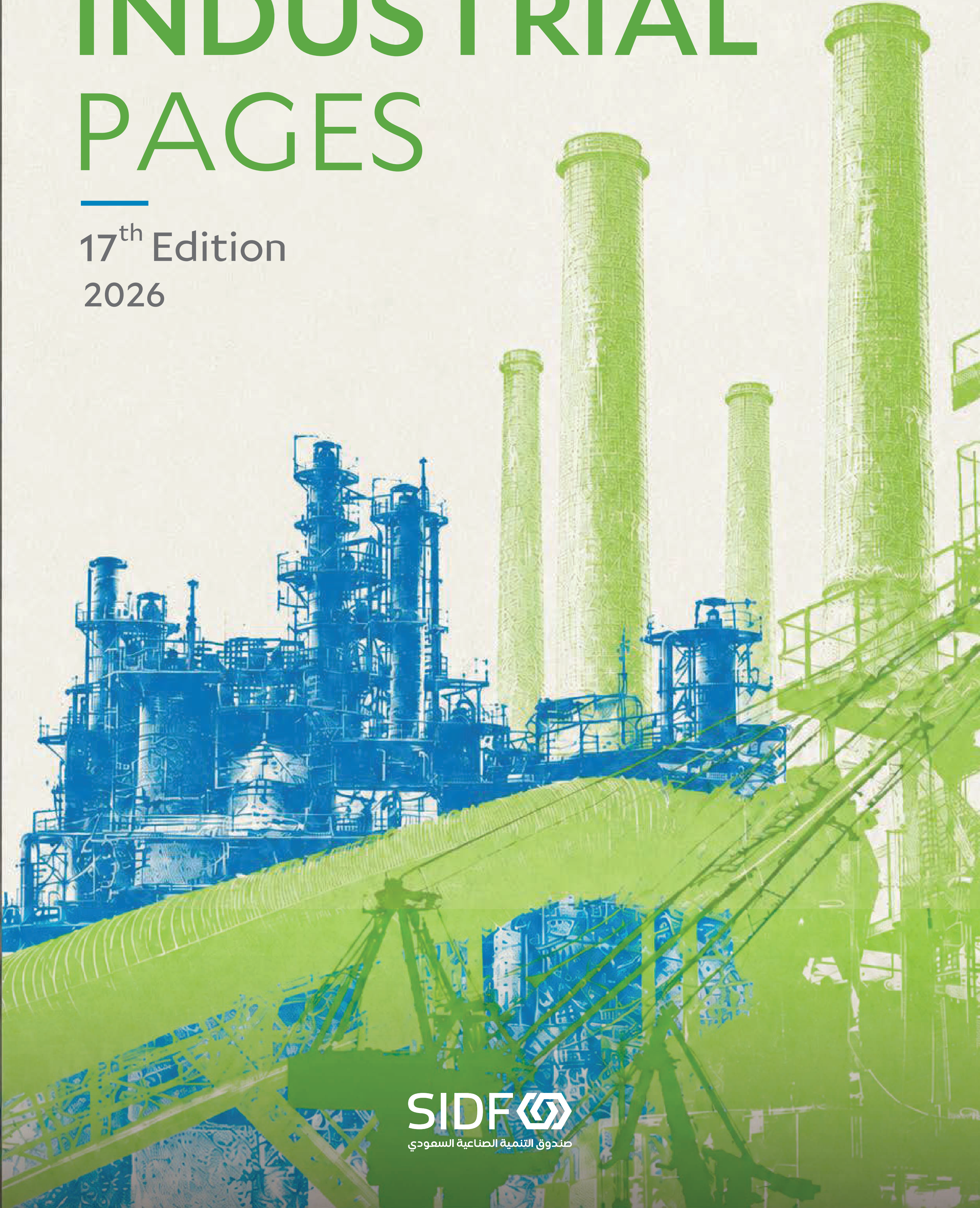
INDUSTRIAL PAGES

17th Edition

2026



SIDF

صندوق التنمية الصناعية السعودي

Newsletter Contents

01
Our Figures & Statistics

From SIDF's establishment through the end of the second quarter of 2026

5358

Approved Loans Since 1974

72%

of the total number of loans to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

895+ billion ⃁

Total Investment Value of Supported Projects (1974 – Q2 2026)

24%

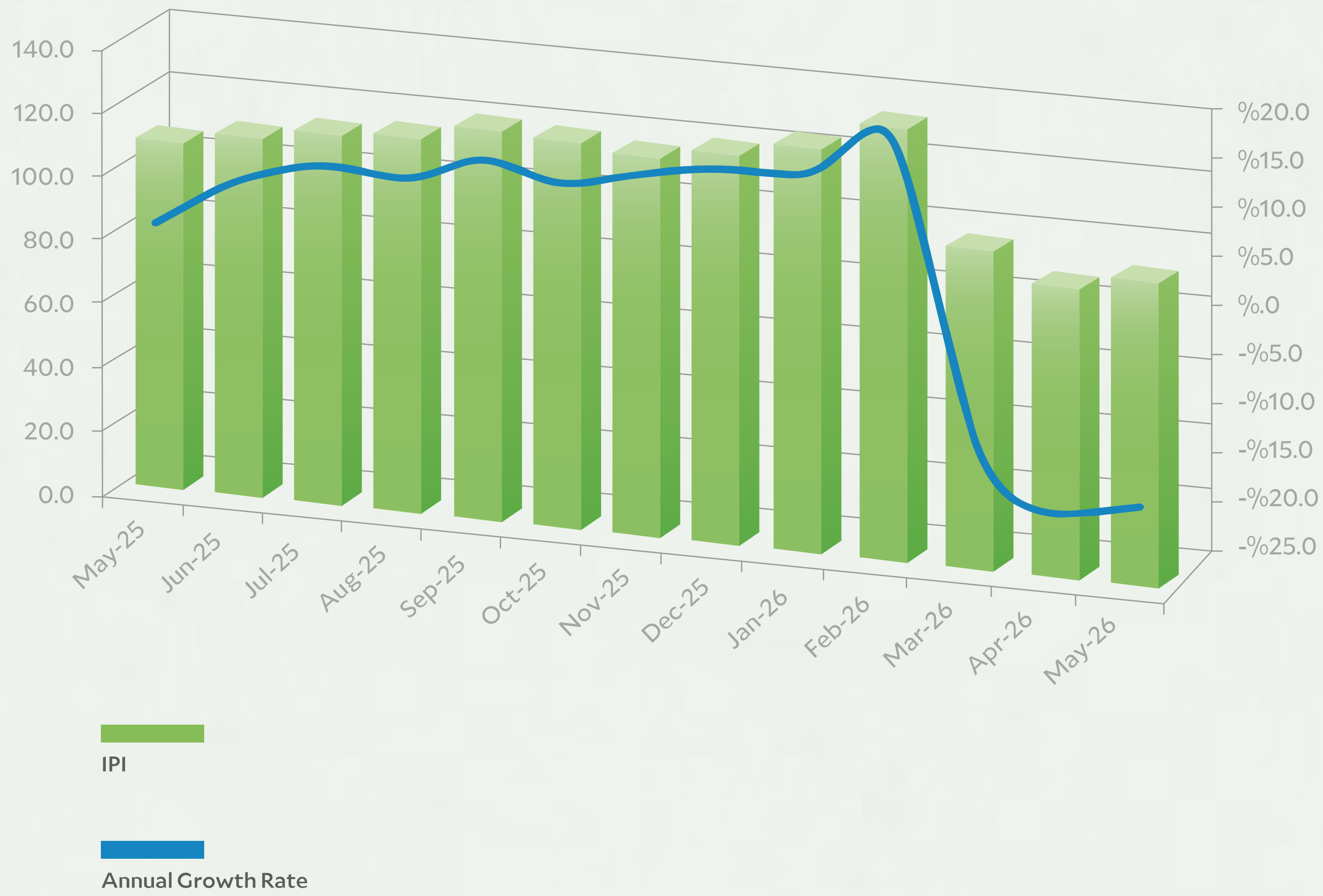
of the total number of loans to promising regions

01 Our Figures & Statistics

-18.7%

Year-on-year decline in the Industrial Production Index (IPI) in May 2026 was primarily driven by lower output in the Mining and Quarrying and Manufacturing sectors.

Source: General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT)



02
SIDF Challenge 2026

A Journey of Innovation Transforming the Lending Experience

Every transformative journey begins with a simple question

How can we reimagine SIDF's lending journey to deliver a smarter, faster, and more seamless experience for both customers and employees ?

From this question emerged SIDF Challenge 2026, an innovative initiative designed to empower employees to rethink one of SIDF's most critical operational journeys. Rather than seeking incremental improvements, the challenge encouraged participants to transform day-to-day operational insights into practical, scalable solutions capable of reshaping the future of SIDF's lending ecosystem.

Innovation was not positioned as a standalone project; it became a shared organizational responsibility, providing employees with the opportunity to actively contribute to SIDF's future through collaboration, creativity, and solution-driven thinking.

Turning Challenges into **Opportunities**

Then challenge was built upon a comprehensive review of the lending journey. Despite continuous improvements over the years, several challenges remained, affecting the overall customer experience.

Rather than focusing solely on shortening processing times or streamlining individual procedures, participants were encouraged to redesign the lending journey holistically by leveraging emerging technologies, digital capabilities, and innovative operating models that deliver sustainable value.

02
SIDF Challenge 2026

Three Principles That Shaped the Challenge

The initiative was guided by three strategic principals:

Innovation by introducing new ideas that go beyond conventional improvements

Collaboration by forming cross-functional teams with employees from different departments

Impact by focusing on solutions that deliver meaningful value to both customers and employees

From Registration to Recognition

Participation was open to all SIDF employees as part of cross-functional teams. This approach reflects SIDF's belief that the strongest ideas and most effective solutions are created through the integration of diverse expertise and perspectives.

SIDF Challenge 2026 unfolded through a structured innovation journey comprising several key phases.

The initiative began with the registration phase, which ran from **8 March to 7 April 2026.** Participants then progressed to the solution development phase and benefited from workshops and mentoring sessions. This was followed by an intensive challenge bootcamp, the judging phase, and finally the announcement of the winning teams.

Throughout the challenge, SIDF ensured that participants had access to an integrated support environment. This included introductory workshops, reference documents, in addition to a number of mentors from various sectors, who assisted the teams and addressed their inquiries throughout the solution development process.

02
SIDF Challenge 2026

Numbers That Tell the Story

The final results reflected the remarkable level of engagement achieved across SIDF
The challenge brought together 229 employees, representing approximately 25% of SIDF's workforce, who formed 44 teams and submitted 42 innovative solutions. Participants were supported through 8 specialized workshops and 13 dedicated mentors, while the bootcamp welcomed more than 200 participants.

These figures demonstrate that the initiative was more than an internal competition; it was a broad institutional experience that strengthened the culture of innovation and collaboration across SIDF.

229 Employees **42** Ideas **13** Mentors

Judging Innovation by Value

Solutions were evaluated against a comprehensive framework focusing on five key criteria: Problem definition, innovation, feasibility, And expected impact, technical quality. The judging panel encouraged ideas that fundamentally rethink the lending journey by incorporating automation, artificial intelligence, digital platforms, and advanced technologies while maintaining governance standards and decision-making effectiveness to ensure that the proposed solutions are practical and implementable.

Beyond the Challenge

The journey concluded with the announcement of the winning teams and recognition of the most outstanding solutions. More importantly, the true value of the challenge extended far beyond recognition. It established an institutional platform that embeds innovation into everyday practice and gives employees a direct role in improving SIDF's operations.

Every idea presented throughout the journey represents an opportunity to enhance the customer experience, improve operational efficiency, and advance digital transformation. Together, these ideas support SIDF's ambition to build a lending journey that is smarter, faster, and more agile.

Today, the challenge stands as an inspiring example of how operational challenges can be transformed into employee-led development initiatives. It reinforces the belief that meaningful innovation begins from within, and that the strongest solutions emerge when ideas are given room to grow and employees are empowered to shape the future.

Click here to watch

03
SIDF News

SIDF **Hosts "Sunna'a Meet-Ups"** with H.E. Eng. Khalid Al-Falih

As part of the Sunna'a Meet-Ups, SIDF hosted H.E. Eng. Khalid Al-Falih, Minister of State and Member of the Council of Ministers, for an inspiring dialogue with SIDF employees.

The session explored key milestones from His Excellency's leadership journey, perspectives on Saudi Arabia's economic transformation, and lessons in strategic decision-making, providing valuable insights that foster a culture of continuous learning and leadership development across the organization.

SIDF Welcomes Saudi **Winners of ISEF 2026**

SIDF hosted the Saudi students who earned 24 international awards at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF 2026). The event was attended by His Excellency Bandar AlKhorayef, Former Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources.

The event celebrated the remarkable achievements of the Kingdom's young innovators and reflected SIDF's commitment to recognizing national talent, inspiring future generations, and supporting a culture of innovation that contributes to Saudi Arabia's knowledge-based economy.

03
SIDF News

SIDF organized an awareness workshop introducing its advisory services and their role in enhancing operational efficiency, supporting business expansion, and improving the competitiveness of industrial enterprises.

The workshop forms part of SIDF's broader efforts to help manufacturers strengthen operational performance, overcome business challenges, and achieve sustainable growth through specialized advisory support.

SIDF Promotes **Advisory Services** for Industrial Enterprises

SIDF launched a new edition of "Nokhab" Training Program, a graduate development initiative designed to prepare outstanding Saudi talent for professional careers through structured learning pathways and practical experience.

The program offers specialized tracks in Credit, Market Studies, and Engineering. The program is delivered in collaboration with distinguished local and international learning partners. Through this program, SIDF continues to invest in human capital, equip national talent with specialized capabilities, and contribute to the sustainability of the industry, energy, mining, and logistics sectors.

SIDF Launches a New Edition of "Nokhab" Training Program

03
SIDF News

SIDF Launches the Fifth Edition of the **Lean Manufacturing Program**

SIDF launched the fifth edition of the Lean Manufacturing Program, aimed at helping manufacturers improve operational efficiency, address production challenges, and achieve sustainable performance improvements with specialized experts.

The program continues to support industrial enterprises in adopting lean manufacturing best practices to boost productivity, reduce costs, and improve operational efficiency. Building on the success of previous editions across several industries, it also contributes to strengthening the overall competitiveness of the industrial sector.

King Faisal University **Honors SIDF**

King Faisal University honored the Saudi Industrial Development Fund (SIDF) in recognition of its role as a strategic partner in the Industrial Business Incubator Program, which aims to empower entrepreneurs and support the growth of industrial ventures.

The recognition reflects SIDF's continued commitment to fostering industrial entrepreneurship, supporting high-potential enterprises, and strengthening institutional partnerships that contribute to building a more competitive and sustainable industrial ecosystem.

03 SIDF News

SIDF Participates in **Hannover Messe 2026**

As part of the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources ecosystem pavilion, SIDF participated at Hannover Messe 2026 in Germany, showcasing the financing and advisory solutions it provides to industrial investors, thereby enhancing investment opportunities in the Kingdom's industrial sectors.

This participation comes as part of SIDF's efforts to highlight its financing and advisory capabilities and enable investors to benefit from high-potential opportunities, contributing to the growth and competitiveness of the industrial sectors and achieving their development objectives.

SIDF Releases Its **2025 Annual Report**

SIDF published its 2025 Annual Report, highlighting SIDF's key achievements, strategic initiatives, and development milestones across financing, innovation, training, and advisory services.

The report showcases SIDF's continued efforts to build an integrated ecosystem of financing solutions and strategic partnerships that stimulate industrial growth, enhance sector competitiveness, and contribute to achieving the objectives of Saudi Vision 2030.

Read the Annual Report: Click Here

02 SIDF News

SIDF participated in the “A Step Ahead” Forum, reaffirming its commitment to developing national talent and showcasing the career and training opportunities it offers to young Saudi professionals.

This participation comes as part of SIDF’s efforts to support young talent in building promising career paths by introducing development and training opportunities and contributing to the development of national capabilities that can support the industrial sectors and help achieve their objectives.

SIDF Participates in the **“A Step Ahead” Forum**

As part of its efforts to strengthen institutional governance and promote organizational excellence, SIDF hosted a knowledge-sharing session titled "Boards of Directors in Light of the Companies Law"
The session contributed to enhancing institutional awareness, facilitating knowledge exchange, and promoting governance practices that support operational excellence and organizational performance.

The session was delivered by Khalid Al-Hanati, Chief Executive Officer of the Governance Center, a Public Investment Fund (PIF) company, and explored the latest concepts and best practices in board governance and committee effectiveness.

SIDF Hosts Knowledge Session on **Corporate Governance**

03
SIDF News

SIDF Participates in **Eurosatory 2026**

SIDF participated in Eurosatory 2026 in Paris as part of the Saudi pavilion, presenting its financing incentives and advisory services that support investors in the defense and military industries.

Through its participation, SIDF reaffirmed its commitment to advancing high-value industrial investments and promoting its financing and advisory offerings, helping strengthen the competitiveness of the Kingdom's industrial sector and accelerate its industrial development goals.

SIDF Highlights Industrial Opportunities at **SPIEF 2026**

SIDF took part in the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF 2026) under the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources pavilion.

SIDF introduced international investors to its financing solutions, advisory services, and investment enablers supporting industrial and mining projects, while emphasizing Saudi Arabia's competitive investment environment and its position as a rapidly growing industrial hub.

03

SIDF News

SIDF Highlights Financing Solutions During **Riyadh International Industry Week 2026**

SIDF participated in Riyadh International Industry Week 2026 as part of the Industry and Mineral Resources Ecosystem pavilion, where it showcased its financing solutions and advisory services for investors, as well as its role in supporting industrial projects and driving sector growth.

As part of the week's program, Mr. Mohammed Al-Bassam, Manager of Incentives and Financial Solutions Division at SIDF, took part in a panel discussion on how SIDF enables industrial investors through its financing and advisory offerings. The session highlighted SIDF's role in supporting business growth, strengthening competitiveness, and promoting the long-term sustainability of the industrial sector.

SIDF Highlights Financing Solutions During **Finance Week**

SIDF participated in Finance Week, where it showcased its integrated financing and advisory solutions through panel discussions and specialized workshops.

During the event, Mr. Khalil Al-Nammari, Vice President of Strategic Planning and Business Development, emphasized SIDF's commitment to supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which accounted for 70% of its total number of loans from the launch of Saudi Vision 2030 in 2016 through 2026.

SIDF representatives also delivered specialized workshops titled "SIDF Financing and Advisory Enablers", introducing entrepreneurs and SMEs to SIDF's financing solutions and development services designed to support business growth and industrial expansion.

Advancing Digital Transformation **Through AI Workshops**

As part of its ongoing digital transformation initiatives, SIDF organized a series of specialized workshops in collaboration with Penny Software and Mozn.

The workshops showcased the latest developments in artificial intelligence, automation, supplier and customer relationship management, and practical AI applications in modern workplaces, reinforcing SIDF's commitment to adopting innovative technologies that enhance operational excellence and customer experience.

04

Local & Global Industry News

Saudi Arabia's Non-Oil Exports Reach a Record High in 2025

Saudi Arabia's non-oil exports achieved their strongest annual performance in 2025, reaching 624 billion ⃁, a 15% increase compared to the previous year. Their contribution to the Kingdom's total exports also rose to 44% marking the highest level ever recorded and reflecting the continued success of Saudi Vision 2030 in diversifying the national economy.

This growth was driven by the strong performance of various non-oil export components. Services exports reached record levels, alongside continued growth in non-oil merchandise exports, particularly non-petrochemical products. The re-export sector recorded the highest growth rate among all sectors, surpassing 100 billion ⃁ for the first time.

This performance underscores the growing competitiveness of Saudi products and services in global markets, supported by infrastructure development, the expansion partnerships, and an enhanced investment environment, further strengthening the Kingdom's position as a global industrial and logistics hub.

Click Here

04
Local & Global Industry News

Saudi Arabia Joins the World's Top Ten Mining Investment Destinations

Saudi Arabia has entered the top ten global destinations for mining investment attractiveness, ranking 10th worldwide in the Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies 2025, becoming the only Asian country among the world's ten most attractive mining investment destinations.

The achievement reflects the Kingdom's comprehensive transformation of its mining sector through regulatory reforms, enhanced geological data, investor-friendly legislation, and continued investment in infrastructure. Together, these initiatives have strengthened investor confidence and significantly improved the competitiveness of Saudi Arabia's mining ecosystem.

The ranking also coincides with tangible investment growth, including increased exploration licenses, expanding mining activities, and rising international participation, reinforcing mining's role as the third pillar of Saudi industry under Vision 2030 and positioning the Kingdom as a strategic global supplier of future minerals.

Click Here

04
Local & Global Industry News

Saudi-Made Materials Used at the FIFA World Cup 2026 Opening Stadium

Saudi manufacturing reached another international milestone as FBPC Industry, a subsidiary of FIPCO, supplied more than **4,000 square meters** of advanced PVC architectural fabric for the roof structure of Estadio Azteca in Mexico, the venue hosting the opening match of the FIFA World Cup 2026.

Selected through international competition, the Saudi-made technical fabric met the stringent engineering and quality standards required for one of the world's most iconic football stadiums, demonstrating the growing global competitiveness of Saudi industrial products.

The participation underscores the growing global presence of Saudi products, reflecting sustained efforts to promote national exports. It contributes to positioning the Kingdom as a leading source of high-value industrial products while supporting the goals of Saudi Vision 2030 to increase non-oil exports and enhance the competitiveness of the industrial sector.

Click Here

05
Industrial Automation

Building **Smarter and More Productive** Factories

Automation is no longer a future aspiration—it has become a defining feature of modern manufacturing. As industries worldwide embrace digital transformation, automation technologies are reshaping production environments, enabling manufacturers to improve productivity, enhance quality, and respond more effectively to evolving market demands.

Industrial automation integrates robotics, artificial intelligence, industrial Internet of Things (IIoT), advanced sensors, control systems, and data analytics into manufacturing operations. Together, these technologies create intelligent production environments capable of monitoring performance in real time, optimizing workflows, and reducing reliance on repetitive manual processes.

Beyond increasing production speed, automation significantly improves product consistency, minimizes waste, enhances workplace safety, and supports predictive maintenance by identifying equipment failures before they occur. These capabilities reduce unplanned downtime, improve asset utilization, and enable manufacturers to operate with greater efficiency and resilience.

Digital factories also generate vast amounts of operational data, allowing organizations to make faster, evidence-based decisions. Through advanced analytics and artificial intelligence, manufacturers can continuously optimize production, improve supply chain visibility, and respond rapidly to changing customer requirements.

However, successful automation extends beyond technology deployment. It requires investment in digital infrastructure, workforce capabilities, organizational readiness, and effective data integration. Companies that successfully combine technological innovation with skilled human capital are best positioned to maximize the value of Industry 4.0.

In Saudi Arabia, industrial automation represents a strategic priority within the Kingdom's industrial transformation agenda. Supported by Saudi Vision 2030, manufacturers are increasingly adopting smart manufacturing technologies, digital solutions, and artificial intelligence to enhance productivity, strengthen competitiveness,accelerate industrial growth, and reinforce the Kingdom's position as a leading industrial and logistics hub regionally and globally.

As automation technologies continue to evolve, factories are becoming increasingly intelligent—capable of self-monitoring, predicting operational challenges, and optimizing production with minimal human intervention. This evolution is redefining industrial excellence and positioning smart manufacturing as a key driver of sustainable economic growth in the decades ahead.

06
SIDF Academy Programs

Training Programs Second Half of 2026

Training Tracks

- Finance
- Business Management
- Leadership

Highlighted Programs

01 Certified Innovation Professional

02 Finance for Non-Finance Professionals

03 Working Capital Management

04 Cost Behavior Analysis & Decision-Making for Entrepreneurship

05 Innovation Management in the Digital Transformation Era

06 360° Executive Leadership Program

Academy Partners

ACADEMY 32 أكاديمية ٣٢ | Stanford | FitchLearning a FitchSolutions Company

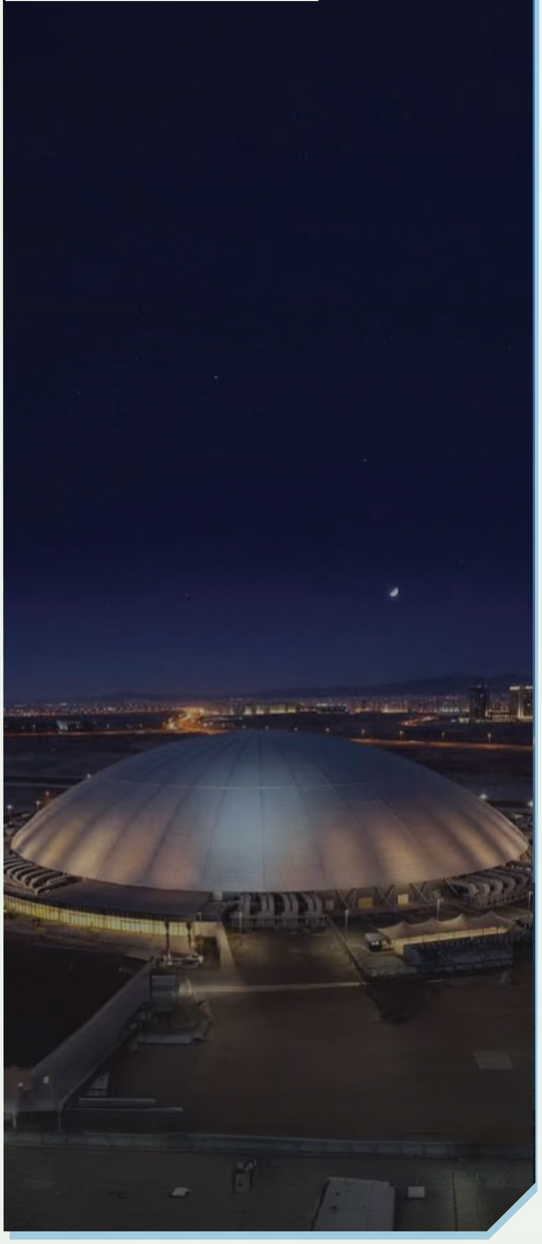
For more information and program registration, **Click here**

07
Industry Events Calendar

Saudi Industry Forum

14 - 16 September

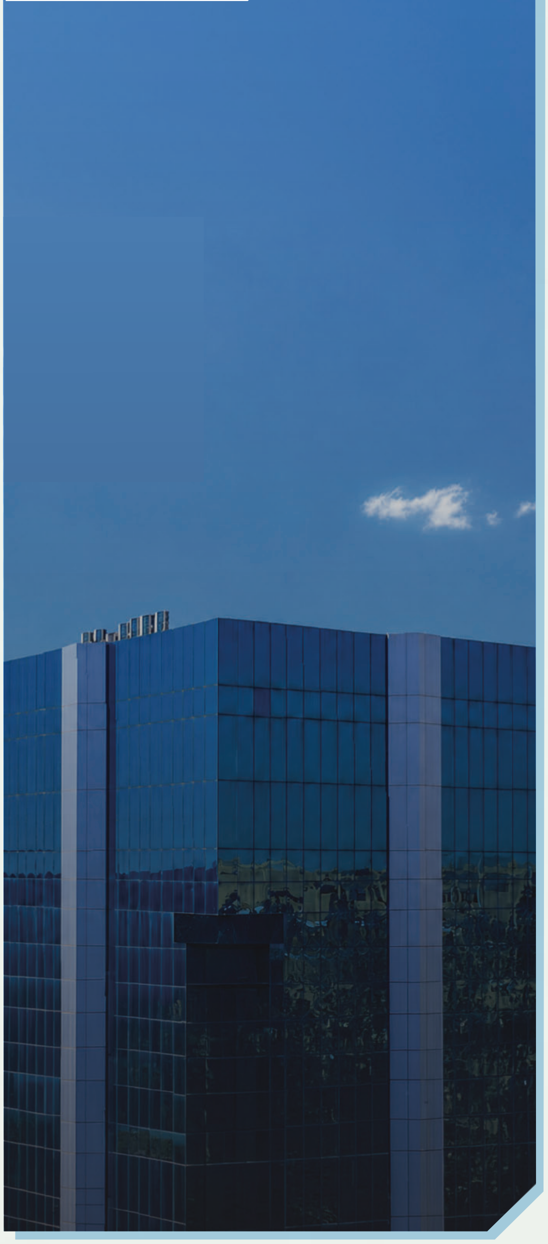
Jeddah Super Dome, Jeddah



Al Majma'ah Economic Forum

15 - 16 September

Majmaah Chamber



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