



# Al-Sharif Law

*An international firm with Saudi roots.*

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## Introduction

Data privacy is not only an important right under traditional Islamic shari'a principles, but also the subject of statutory protections in Europe and elsewhere to address the risks entailed by digitization and electronic portability.

Saudi Arabia is no exception, issuing a Personal Data Protection Law last September requiring compliance by September 14, 2024.

A presentation to U.S. trade groups on issues faced by companies active in the Saudi market in which I participated may be found [here](#).

Chris

**Below are updates from June and July, 2024:**

*Upcoming Saudi Holidays, Events, Webinars, and Conferences*

- GAIN AI Summit (Riyadh): [September 10-12](#)
- Saudi National Day: September 23
- USSBC Advanced Technology BD Mission: [November 11-13](#)
- For Riyadh-based business events, see:
  - [U.S.-Saudi Business Council \(USSBC\)](#)
  - [U.S. International Trade Administration \(ITA\)](#)
  - [Saudi British Joint Business Council \(SBJBC\)](#)

*Public Sector and Significant Updates*

- **2034 World Cup Bid:** Saudi Arabia has officially submitted its bid to host the [2034 FIFA World Cup](#).
- **Neom Magna Development:** Neom has announced the development of Magna, a [luxury lifestyle coastal destination](#). [Equinox](#) and [Capella](#) have announced plans to construct resorts in this development.
- **Aramco Stock Sale:** Aramco sold \$12.35 billion of its shares [to help pay for Vision 2030](#).

*Corporate / Labor*

- **Daytime Physical Labor Ban:** Saudi Arabia is enforcing a ban on working under direct sunlight for private sector companies from 12 PM to 3 PM, lasting [from June 15 to September 15, 2024](#).
- **Saudization of Engineering:** The Kingdom has begun the process of localizing engineering jobs, starting with a [25% Saudization rate](#).
- **Pension Reform:** Saudi Arabia has implemented a number of reforms [to its pension system](#).

## Analysis

- **CMA Book:** The Capital Market Authority (CMA) has released the book “The Market Story: Documenting the History of the Saudi Capital Market 1926-2020,” pdf versions of which can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- **IMF Reports:** The IMF has released an analysis covering Saudi Arabia’s economic [growth and diversification trajectories](#), as well as [findings from a recent mission](#) to the Kingdom.
- **Vision 2030 Impacts:** For an overview of the social transformations brought about by Vision 2030 so far, see [here](#).
- **Gas Ambitions:** For an analysis of Saudi Arabia’s progress and efforts to become a major gas exporter by 2030, see [here](#).
- **Petrodollar Prospects:** For an analysis by the Atlantic Council on the perceived decline of the petrodollar, see [here](#).

## Legal

- **Saudi Updates:**
  - **E-Invoicing Updates:** The Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) announced the criteria for the Electronic invoicing (E-invoicing) [Integration Phase Wave 13 participants](#).
  - **Tax Extensions:** ZATCA has extended the fines and financial penalties waiver initiative from July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 and made this available for taxpayers who wish to submit a [voluntary disclosure](#).
  - **New Nazaha Law:** The cabinet has approved a new law specifying the structure, powers, and purview of the Kingdom’s anti-corruption authority, [Nazaha](#). The authority continues its stringent enforcement, [conducting numerous arrests](#).
  - **Tax Amnesty Extension:** The Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) has extended its tax amnesty period until [December 31, 2024](#).
- **GCC Updates:**
  - **Qatar-UAE-Saudi Tax Treaties:** Qatar has signed double tax treaties with Saudi Arabia and the UAE [for businesses and individuals](#).
  - **Dubai Customs Voluntary Disclosure:** Dubai Customs has updated its [Voluntary Disclosure System](#).

- **UAE Free Zone Taxation:** For a report by PWC on the UAE's new guide for free zone taxation on individuals, see [here](#).
- **Bahrain Corporate Income Tax:** For an analysis of Bahrain's upcoming corporate income tax by PWC, see [here](#).

### *Visas, Travel, and Airline Industry*

- **Reference:**
  - **Travel Guidance:** For up-to-date travel information, visit the U.S. State Department's Saudi-specific [alerts and messages](#), [travel info](#), [travel advisory](#), and [security report](#) pages. For the UK's travel advice, see [here](#). For Ministry of Health's guidance, see [here](#). For Saudia's travel guidelines, see [here](#).
- **Visa and Travel Policy Updates:**
  - **Syria Flights Resume:** Regular flights between Damascus and Saudi Arabia resumed Wednesday for the first time in over a decade as part of a [thaw in relations](#).
- **Industry Updates:**
  - **Electric Aircraft Purchase:** Saudi Arabian Airlines Group (SAG) has agreed to purchase 100 electric aircraft from the German Lilium Air Mobility for use [during the Hajj and Umrah pilgrimage](#).
  - **Neom Airlines on Hold:** Neom Airlines is reportedly on hold due to [spending constraints](#).
  - **Delta-Riyadh Air Partnership:** Delta Air Lines has entered a partnership with Riyadh Air with the goal of operating flights [between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia](#).
  - **Air Samarkand Flights:** Air Samarkand has successfully operated an inaugural passenger flight [from Samarkand to Jeddah](#).

### *Business / Economy*

- **General Economic:**
  - **Dashboards (for reference):** [GASTAT](#), [SAMA](#), [AGSIW Economic Barometer](#), [S&P](#), [Moody's](#), [IMF](#), [World Bank](#), [EIU](#), [Argaam](#). Macroeconomic summaries at the [U.S.-Saudi Business Council](#).

- **Growth Prospects:** The IMF revised downwards Saudi Arabia's economic growth by nearly one percentage point to 1.7%, mainly due to [oil production cuts](#). Meanwhile, economic data from the General Authority of Statistics showed that real GDP contracted by 1.7% in Q1 2024 [compared to Q1 2023](#). Saudi Arabia's non-oil activities currently contribute 51% to the total real GDP, with expectations to reach [65% by 2030](#). For a more comprehensive analysis of the state of the Saudi economy by Strategic Gears, see [here](#).
- **Cash Requirements:** Saudi Arabia is reportedly behind in meeting its funding targets for megaprojects, despite raising \$54 billion this year from debt and equity sales from Aramco and [U.S. tech giants](#).
- **FDI Growth:** Net FDI inflows to Saudi Arabia rose 5.6% to 2.53 billion [in Q1 2024](#).
- **Borrowing Growth:** Saudi Arabia has displaced China as the most prolific issuer of international debt among emerging markets, driven by [Vision 2030 goals](#).
- **Debt Market Growth:** MENA's debt market grew 60% to \$73.4 billion in H1 2024, with Saudi Arabia accounting for [49% of bond proceeds](#).
- **U.S. Treasury Holdings Growth:** Saudi Arabia's holdings of U.S. Treasuries rose to \$136.3 billion in May 2024, a 0.66% rise from April's \$135.4 billion, making it the [17th largest foreign holder](#).
- **Unemployment Decline:** The unemployment rate for Saudi nationals fell from 7.8% in Q4 2023 [to 7.6% in Q1 2024](#).
- **Competitiveness:** Saudi Arabia advanced to 16th place in the IMD's [World Competitiveness Ranking 2024](#).
- **Chinese Currency Project:** Saudi Arabia has joined a China-dominated central bank digital currency cross-border trial, in what could be another step towards less of the world's oil trade being conducted [in U.S. dollars](#).
- **World Bank Meeting:** The Minister of Economy and Planning met with the World Bank Group president [to discuss cooperation](#).
- **General Business:**
  - **ACWA Power Stock Issuance:** ACWA Power is planning to raise \$1.9 billion by issuing stock [to existing shareholders](#).

- **Public Investment Fund (PIF):**
  - **London Heathrow Stake:** The PIF and private equity group Ardian have agreed to buy a 38 per cent stake in Heathrow [for £3.3 billion](#).
  - **Silicon Valley Activities:** For an overview of the PIF's activities in Silicon Valley, see [here](#).
  - **Boxing Ambitions:** For an analysis of the PIF's reported ambitions to take over the boxing industry, see [here](#).
  - **Renewable Energy JVs:** The PIF signed three new agreements to localize the manufacturing and assembly of equipment and components [needed for solar and wind power](#). Meanwhile, the PIF participated in a consortium to sign for three new solar photovoltaic (PV) projects [in the Kingdom](#).
  - **Naqd Banking Platform:** The Saudi Central Bank (SAMA) has launched "Naqd," a platform for government entities to access [their SAMA accounts](#).
- **Finance, Insurance, VC, and Investment:**
  - **SAMA Performance Report:** The Saudi Central Bank (SAMA) has published its Annual Performance Report of the Saudi finance sector [for 2023](#).
  - **Capital Market Momentum:** According to HSBC, the Saudi capital market is expected to see continued momentum in H2 2024, backed by a strong pipeline of initial public offerings (IPOs), announced projects, [and investment opportunities](#).
  - **VC Report:** According to VC data firm Magnitt, Saudi Arabia ranked second across the emerging-market venture capital space in H1 2024, [following only Singapore](#).
  - **Chinese Investment:** Chinese investors are piling into [Saudi equities](#).
  - **CMA Academia Program:** The Capital Market Authority (CMA) has formed the Scientific Committee for the Research Agenda Program to work with academia to [advance CMA objectives](#).
- **Real Estate, Construction, Infrastructure, and Megaprojects:**
  - **Real Estate Sector Growth:** Real estate transactions have reportedly risen by 17%, [amounting to \\$161 billion](#). The Kingdom plans to boost real estate financing with new financing deals [for off-plan developments](#). Meanwhile, Saudi home ownership [has passed 63.5%](#).

- **Neom Budget Cuts:** Neom is reportedly cutting back its spending on Neom [by 20% this year](#).
- **Construction Industry Strategy:** The Saudi Contractors Authority has launched the National Strategy Study Project for the Contracting Sector [to develop the sector](#). The Kingdom is set to be the [world's largest construction market](#).
- **Trump Tower Jeddah:** The Trump Organization revealed plans to develop a luxury Trump Tower [in Jeddah](#).
- **King Salman Stadium:** Authorities have unveiled plans to construct King Salman Stadium by 2029; the stadium will have a [seating capacity of 92,000](#).
- **Housing Construction Requirements:** The Saudi Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Housing has issued updated requirements for the [construction of residential buildings](#).
- **Chinese Housing Contract:** The National Housing Company (NHC) has signed an agreement with China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC) to build [20,000 housing units](#).
- **Diriyah Contract:** Diriyah Company has awarded a \$2 billion contract to build a mixed-use district in the development's [northern area](#).
- **Jeddah Tower:** Kingdom Holding Company has signed an agreement with Sumou Holding to acquire Jeddah Tower, which is set to be the [world's tallest skyscraper](#).
- **Industry, Utilities, Transportation, Logistics, and Non-Oil Energy:**
  - **Traffic Fatality Decline:** Authorities have reported a 54% decrease in the traffic accident death rate [in 2023](#).
  - **Renewables Spending:** Saudi Arabia and the UAE are leading the region [in renewable energy projects](#).
  - **Neom Water Plant Contract:** NEOM has awarded a \$84.3mn EPC contract for its [Al Badaa water recycling plant](#).
  - **Car Import Growth:** Saudi Arabia's car imports grew to 93,300 vehicles in 2023, [up from 66,900 in 2022](#).
- **Tourism, Hospitality, Culture, Sports, and Entertainment:**
  - **Olympic Esports:** The International Olympic Committee (IOC) announced that Saudi Arabia will host the inaugural Olympic Esports Games 2025 [in the Kingdom](#).

- **NYT Tourism Feature:** New York Times has released a feature on [tourism in Saudi Arabia](#).
- **Neom Broadcasting Partnership:** Neom Media Industries Sector and the Saudi Broadcasting Authority (SBA) have announced strategic partnership to produce [local content](#).
- **Neom Football Partnership:** Neom and the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) have agreed to an extended multi-year partnership, which will run [from 2024 to 2029](#).
- **Film Ambitions:** For an analysis of Saudi Arabia's efforts to attract foreign filmmakers and build a film industry, see [here](#).
- **Palace Tourism:** A luxury tourism company plans to offer stays in Saudi [palaces-turned resorts](#).
- **Museum of World Cultures:** The former director of the British Museum has been named as the founding director of Saudi Arabia's new Museum of World Cultures, which will [open in Riyadh in 2026](#).
- **Retail, Luxury, and E-Commerce:**
  - **Fashion Industry Plans:** The Kingdom's Fashion Commission has released a report outlining its [plans for the industry](#).
  - **E-Commerce Agreement:** Saudi Arabia has joined 80 countries who have agreed to rules for governing global digital commerce (e-commerce) at a [WTO meeting in Geneva](#).
- **Religion:**
  - **Pilgrimage Investments:** Saudi Arabia is investing heavily in infrastructure to accommodate [greater religious tourism](#).
  - **Hajj Fatalities:** Over 1,300 people reportedly died during this year's Hajj pilgrimage due to [heat and sun exposure](#).
- **Science and Education:**
  - *No significant recent developments.*
- **Healthcare:**
  - **Vision 2030 Healthcare Investments:** For an overview of the Kingdom's recent investments in healthcare and the impact on the economy, see [here](#).



- **Improved Health Metrics:** Saudi Arabia has seen improvements in a number of its health metrics, including an increase in its life expectancy [to 77.6 years](#).
- **Technology and Telecom:**
  - **GAIN AI Summit:** The Saudi Data and AI Authority (SDAIA) is hosting a major AI summit in Riyadh [on September 10-12](#).
  - **Data Center Projects:** The SDAIA has announced major data center expansion projects [near Riyadh](#).
  - **Semiconductor Ambitions:** Saudi Arabia launched a new strategy aimed at making itself a hub [for semiconductor design](#).
- **Defense:**
  - **U.S. Defense Sale Approved:** The U.S. State Department approved a potential \$2.8 billion system logistics and sustainment contract for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, including support for Joint Mission Planning Software, cryptographic devices, and work on [U.S.-made aircraft](#).
  - **C-130 Maintenance Agreement:** Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI) has secured a role in the global C-130 Hercules support network, becoming one of 14 nations capable of [maintaining such aircraft](#).
- **Food and Agriculture:**
  - **Coffee City:** Saudi Arabia is positioning Al Bahah as a [“coffee city.”](#)
  - **Chicken Plant:** JBS, one of the world’s largest food companies, is set to quadruple its production capacity in Saudi Arabia with the opening of a [\\$50 million chicken plant in Jeddah](#).
- **Natural Resources, Mining, and Environment:**
  - **New Mining Opportunities:** The Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources has unveiled its largest mineralized belts to date, spanning 4,788 square kilometers and including [five new exploration licenses](#).
- **Oil, Hydrocarbons, and Aramco:** *Oil prices most recently [stood](#) on July 31, 2024 at \$79.48 pbb for Saudi oil (Arab Light) and \$76.35 pbb for West Texas Intermediate (WTI).*
  - **Industry Outlook:** OPEC kept its bullish outlook for oil-demand growth unchanged and raised its economic-growth forecast [for this year](#). Meanwhile, the U.S. produced 15.6% of

the world's oil in 2023, extending its lead over Russia and Saudi Arabia, which produced [12.8% and 11.6% respectively](#).

- **Shale Gas Ambitions:** Saudi Arabia plans to invest over \$100 billion to become the world's third-largest shale gas producer [after the U.S. and Russia](#).
- **Oil and Gas Discoveries:** The Minister of Energy has announced the discovery of seven oil and gas deposits in the [Eastern Province and Empty Quarter](#).
- **Regional Drilling Demand Scaled Back:** Maritime Strategies International (MSI) has scaled back growth projections for jackup drilling demand in the Middle East Gulf region to 1% from 4%, with Aramco suspending contracts [for over 20 jackups](#).
- **Aramco Financial Results:** Aramco has announced its financial results [for Q1 2024](#).
- **Aramco Blue Hydrogen Investment:** Aramco has signed agreements to acquire an equity stake in the Jubail-based [Blue Hydrogen Industrial Gases Company \(BHIG\)](#).
- **Aramco Bond Issuance:** Aramco completed a bond issuance [of \\$6 billion](#).
- **Aramco Gas Contracts:** Aramco has awarded contracts worth more than \$25 billion to progress its [strategic gas expansion](#).
- **Aramco Powertrain Investment:** Aramco has acquired a 10% equity interest [in HORSE Powertrain Limited](#).

### *Geopolitical*

- **South Korea Free Trade Pact:** Saudi Arabia and South Korea are exploring a [free trade deal](#).
- **Chile and Brazil Trade Visit:** The Minister of Industry is visiting Brazil to discuss expanding the Kingdom's mining capacity, food processing, and aviation, while in Chile he will explore [lithium production](#).
- **Latin America and Caribbean Engagement:** Saudi Arabia is engaging heavily in diplomatic and economic initiatives with [Latin American and Caribbean countries](#).
- **Sudan Peace Talks:** Saudi Arabia and the U.S. having arranged peace talks in Switzerland [between Sudanese factions](#).
- **Turkey Bank Deposit Return:** Turkey's central bank returned a \$5 billion deposit from Saudi Arabia, signaling authorities' confidence in their ability to restore foreign-exchange reserves without taking on debt [from wealthy allies](#).

- **Russia Anti-Corruption Cooperation:** Officials from the Kingdom’s ant-corruption authority, Nazaha, met with the head of the Russian Federal Financial Monitoring Service [to discuss cooperation](#).
- **Zelensky Visit:** Ukrainian President Zelensky met with Saudi officials in Jeddah during a [recent visit](#).
- **Syria Captagon Trade:** The trade of the drug Captagon in Saudi Arabia is reportedly being used by the Syrian regime [as strategic leverage](#).
- **U.S.:**
  - **Biden Administration Reconciliation:** For an overview of the reconciliation between Saudi Arabia and the Biden administration, see [here](#).
  - **NASA Collaboration:** The U.S. and Saudi Arabia have signed a framework agreement that opens new possibilities for cooperation with NASA in areas such as space science, exploration, aeronautics, space operations, education, [and Earth science](#).
- **Yemen:**
  - **U.S. Talks:** American and Saudi officials recently met to discuss the situation in Yemen amidst rising tensions [between Houthi forces and Israel](#).

## *Gulf*

- **GCC:**
  - **Asia Strategic Ties:** For a compilation of analyses on the Gulf’s strategic and economic initiatives with Asia, see [here](#).
  - **McKinsey GCC Banking Report:** McKinsey has released a report on the state of the [GCC banking industry](#).
  - **Moody’s GCC Investment Analysis:** Moody’s has released an analysis (free with registration) on the state of international investment [in the GCC](#).
  - **Turkey Free Trade Agreements:** The first round of free trade agreement negotiations between the GCC countries and Turkey will take place from July 29–31 [in Ankara](#).
  - **African Mining Interests:** For an analysis of growing Saudi and UAE activities in African mining, see [here](#).

- **UAE:**

- **Travel Information (reference):** For current information from the U.S. Embassy in the UAE, see [here](#) and for travel information see [here](#).
- **Cabinet Reshuffle:** Dubai's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed has been appointed [Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of UAE](#).
- **Gambling Law:** The UAE has issued a license for its first authorized lottery and published [casino and gambling regulations](#).
- **Masdar Bond Sale:** Masdar has announced it has successfully raised \$1bn through its [second green bond issuance](#).
- **Hospital Construction:** The UAE has unveiled plans to build [ten hospitals](#).
- **Nuclear Expansion:** The UAE is considering building a second nuclear power plant to meet [growing demand for electricity](#).
- **Abu Dhabi LNG Foreign Investors:** Shell, BP, and TotalEnergies have signed deals to invest in Abu Dhabi's vast [Ruwais liquefied natural-gas project](#).
- **Trump Tower Plans:** The Trump Organization is planning to launch a luxury tower in Dubai in partnership [with a Saudi builder](#).
- **Food Self Sufficiency:** For an overview of the UAE's efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in food production, see [here](#).
- **Franklin Templeton Funds:** Franklin Templeton is launching seven feeder funds in the United Arab Emirates [targeted at retail investors](#).

- **Qatar:**

- **Travel Information (reference):** For current information from the U.S. Embassy in Qatar, see [here](#) and for travel information see [here](#).
- **Population Growth:** Qatar's population has risen to 2.85 million, an 85.4% increase [since 2008](#).
- **Post-World Economy:** Qatar's banking industry is reportedly facing heavy loan losses following the [2022 World Cup](#). For an analysis of the prospects and diversification of the Qatari economy following the world cup, see [here](#).
- **Non-Oil Growth:** According to an assessment from Oxford Economics, Qatar's non-oil economy remains robust in the face of [oil production cuts](#).

- **Turkey Drilling Tensions:** Tensions have flared between Qatar and Turkey over offshore gas drilling [near Cyprus](#).
- **Tourism Expansion:** Qatar is expected to attract 4.9 million visitors [by 2025](#).
- **Qatar Airways Status:** Qatar Airways posted a 39% jump in annual net profit [to a record \\$1.67 billion](#). Meanwhile, the company has ordered an additional 20 Boeing 777-9 [passenger jets](#).
- **Kuwait:**
  - **Travel Information (reference):** For current information from the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait, see [here](#) and for travel information see [here](#).
  - **Visa Rules Adjusted:** Kuwait has lowered salary requirements for expats and revised its [family visa rules](#).
  - **Budget Deficit:** Kuwait's budget is projected to show a deficit of \$18.33 billion [for the 2024-2025 fiscal year](#).
  - **Non-Oil Economic Growth:** The non-oil sector in Kuwait witnessed solid growth in Q1 2024 with the non-oil GDP growing [4.7% year-on-year](#).
  - **Turkey Relations:** For an analysis of the strengthening relationship between Kuwait and Turkey, see [here](#).
  - **Offshore Oil and Gas Discovery:** Kuwait has announced the discovery of a massive offshore [oil and gas field](#).
- **Bahrain:**
  - **Travel Information (reference):** For current information from the U.S. Embassy in Bahrain, see [here](#) and for travel information see [here](#).
  - **Economic Strategy:** For an analysis of Bahrain's economic strategy going forward, see [here](#).
  - **Military Status:** For an analysis of the state and capabilities of Bahrain's military, see [here](#).
  - **Gulf Air MRO Facility:** Gulf Air has announced plans to build a state-of-the-art maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) facility at the [Bahrain International Airport](#).
  - **Iranian Rapprochement:** For an overview of Bahraini and Iranian attempts at a rapprochement, see [here](#).

- **Oman:**
  - **Travel Information (reference):** For current information from the U.S. Embassy in Oman, see [here](#) and for travel information see [here](#).
  - **Income Tax:** Oman has become the first GCC state to implement a [personal income tax](#).
  - **Monetary Policy Transmission:** The IMF has released a report on Oman's [monetary policy transmission](#).
  - **Localization:** Oman has announced a raft of new regulations aimed at boosting [employment of Omanis](#).
  - **Mosque Attack:** ISIS claimed responsibility for the bombing of a Shia mosque [in Muscat](#).
  - **Trump Resort:** The Trump Organization and luxury real estate developer Dar Global have partnered with Omran Group (Oman's state-run tourism-development arm) on a [\\$500 million hospitality project](#).

#### *Regional*

- **Economic Forecast Cuts:** The IMF has cut its expansion forecast for Middle Eastern economies on the back of oil production caps [and the Israel-Gaza war](#).
- **GenAI for MENA CIOs:** BCG has released an article addressing the relevance of generative AI for CIOs [in the Middle East](#).
- **CBDC Status:** The IMF has released an analysis assessing the state of adoption of central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) [in the MENA region](#).
- **MENA Geopolitics:** Geopolitical Futures has released an extensive collection of reports (subscription required) [analyzing the MENA region](#).

#### *Miscellaneous and Interesting*

- **Neolithic Archeological Finds:** Archeologists studying standing stone circles in northwest Saudi Arabia have made breakthroughs in understanding the region's [neolithic life](#).
- **Expatriate Ranking:** According to InterNations' Expat Insider survey, Saudi Arabia now ranks as the 13th best place for expats, [up from 28th place in 2023](#).

- **Contemporary Art in the Gulf:** For a feature on the growth of the Gulf's unique contemporary art scene, see [here](#).
- **Return of Wildlife:** Saudi Arabia has seen success in reintroducing [native wildlife species](#).
- **Mangrove Protection:** The Ministry of Environment is ramping up efforts to protect the Kingdom's [mangrove forests](#).

### **Resources:**

- [Saudi Arabia's Unified National E-Government Platform](#)
- [Saudi Press Agency](#)
- [Vision 2030](#)
- Events:
  - Many Saudi business events are posted on [Meetup](#), [Eventbrite](#), and [PredictHQ](#).
- Trade and business organizations:
  - [U.S. Commercial Service Saudi Arabia \(ITA\)](#)
  - [U.S.-Saudi Business Council \(USSBC\)](#)
  - [Saudi-U.S. Trade Group \(SUSTG\)](#) (see also [The 966 Podcast](#))
  - [AmCham Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [Saudi British Joint Business Council \(SBJBC\)](#)
  - [German-Saudi Arabian Liaison Office for Economic Affairs \(GESALO\)](#)
  - [Federation of Saudi Chambers](#)
  - [Saudi Export Development Authority](#)
- Embassies:
  - [U.S. Embassy in Saudi Arabia](#) ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#))
  - [British Embassy Riyadh](#) ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#))
  - [Saudi Embassy in Washington](#)

- Business intelligence and insights:
  - [Saudi Arabia's General Authority for Statistics](#)
  - [King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center \(KAPSARC\)](#) (data and tools [here](#), research publications [here](#))
  - [USSBC briefs and reports](#)
  - [Saudi Export Development Authority export reports](#)
  - [Saudi Central Bank \(SAMA\) economic reports and statistics](#)
  - [Economist Intelligence Unit \(EIU\): Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [S&P: Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [Moody's: Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [Oxford Business Group: Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [The World Bank: Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [IMF: Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [PwC Middle East](#)
- Travel:
  - U.S. State Department: [alerts and messages](#), [travel info](#), [travel advisory](#), [security report](#)
  - [UK travel advice for Saudi Arabia](#)
  - [Saudia Airlines guidance](#)
- Community:
  - [Diplomatic Quarter Magazine](#)
  - [Internations \(U.S. Expat Networking\): Riyadh, Jeddah, Eastern Province](#)

We will be happy to provide more specific advice in the context of particular circumstances, concerns, and priorities; please let us know.

Christopher H. Johnson, Managing Attorney



*Disclaimer: While the above information was gathered from sources believed to be accurate at the time, we cannot be responsible for errors due to human or technical error.*

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