

EU - Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Dialogue on Economic Diversification

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Abbreviations

Bn billion

GCC Gulf Cooperation Council

GDP Gross Domestic Product

GERD Gross domestic expenditure on research and development

GII Global Innovation Index

GWh Gigawatt hours

ICT information and communication technologies

IP Intellectual Property

Mn million

PPP\$ GDP purchasing power parity GDP in international dollars

Pop population

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

R&D research and development

S&T science and technology

th thousand

UAE United Arab Emirates

VC venture capital

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization

1 The Global Innovation Index - Role in policymaking

Innovation is widely recognized as a central driver of economic growth and development. The Global Innovation Index (GII) was created in 2007 with the aim of identifying and determining metrics and methods that could capture a picture of innovation in society that is as complete as possible.

There were several motivations for setting this goal. First, innovation is important for driving economic progress and competitiveness – for both developed and developing economies. Many governments are putting innovation at the center of their growth strategies. Second, the definition of innovation has broadened – it is no longer restricted to research and development (R&D) laboratories and published scientific papers. The concept of innovation has become more general and horizontal in nature, and now includes social, business model and technical aspects. Last, but not least, recognizing and celebrating innovation in emerging markets is critical for inspiring people – especially the next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators.

The GII adopts a broad notion of innovation, originally elaborated in the *Oslo Manual* developed by the European Communities and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). In its fourth edition, the Oslo Manual 2018 introduces a more general definition of innovation: *An innovation is a new or improved product or process (or combination thereof) that differs significantly from the unit's previous products or processes and that has been made available to potential users (product) or brought into use by the unit (process).* it is important to highlight how these definitions capture the evolution of the way innovation has been perceived and understood over the last two decades.

Now in its 15th edition, the GII helps create an environment in which innovation factors are subject to continual evaluation. It provides a key tool for decision-makers and a rich database of detailed metrics, offering a convenient source of information for refining innovation policies.

The index has an important role in the design of economic policy strategies. The aim of the GII is to provide insightful data on innovation, to track major innovation developments at the country and regional level and, in turn, to assist policymakers in evaluating their innovation performance and making informed innovation policy decisions.

The 2022 edition of the GII continues to use the GII Global Innovation Tracker introduced in 2021, to advance a data-based understanding of innovation.

The GII 2022 report is published by WIPO in partnership with the Portulans Institute, with the support of corporate network partners, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI), Ecopetrol (Colombia) and the Turkish Exporters Assembly (TIM).

The GII 2022 tracks global innovation trends against the background of an ongoing pandemic, a slowing of productivity growth and other evolving challenges.

Historic data, plus the global economic recession, would have led one to expect a prompt cutback in research and development (R&D), intellectual property (IP) filings and venture capital in 2020 and 2021. However, the opposite happened.

Government budget allocations for the top R&D spending economies showed strong growth in 2020, as governments vigorously sought to mitigate the economic effects of the crisis on the future of

innovation. For 2021 R&D budgets, the picture is more varied, with government spending having continued to grow in the Republic of Korea and Germany, but being cut by Japan and the United States.

Investments in global R&D in 2020 grew at a rate of 3.3 percent, not falling, but slowing from the historically high 6.1 percent R&D growth rate recorded in 2019.

Top corporate R&D spenders increased their R&D expenditure by more than 11 percent in 2020, and by almost 10 percent to over USD 900 billion in 2021, which is higher than in 2019 before the pandemic. This increase was primarily driven by four industries: ICT hardware and electrical equipment; Software and ICT services; Pharmaceuticals and biotechnology; and Construction and industrial metals. Firms that cut R&D in 2020, including in sectors such as Automobiles; Industrial engineering and transportation; and Travel, generally – but not always – returned to R&D growth in 2021.

International trademark filings – a good proxy for entrepreneurship – saw particularly strong growth in 2021, up by 15 percent.

The biggest boom was in venture capital (VC). VC deals grew by 46 percent in 2021, recording levels comparable to the internet boom years of the late 1990s.

Technological progress, adoption and innovation's socioeconomic impact all show signs of weakness – the future of innovation-driven growth is at stake. Largely due to COVID-19's short-term influence, the socioeconomic impact of innovation seems to be at a low point. All proxies for innovation impact are experiencing a significant slowdown. Today, productivity growth – the metric used by economists to gauge whether living standards can be improved over time – is at its lowest level ever. What has been called the period of Great Stagnation brings into question the ability of innovation to create future growth.

The thematic focus of this year's 2022 report considers this sober outlook and asks: "What is the future of innovation-driven growth?" and "Who is right?". The innovation pessimists argue that low productivity is here to stay, that those innovations that are emerging will not have the same transformative impact on productivity as did past technologies. The innovation optimists predict a new economic and social era where innovation will increase productivity.

The GII 2022 puts its hopes in two novel innovation waves:

- an upcoming Digital Age innovation wave built on supercomputing, artificial intelligence and automation that is on the verge of making ample productivity impacts across all sectors – including services – and helping to achieve scientific breakthroughs in basic sciences of all fields; and
- 2. a Deep Science innovation wave built on breakthroughs in biotechnologies, nanotechnologies, new materials and other sciences that is revolutionizing innovations in four fields of key importance to society: health, food, environment, and mobility.

That said, the positive effects of these two novel waves will take a long time to materialize. Many obstacles, particularly in the area of technology adoption and diffusion, have to be overcome first.

1.1 Global Innovation Index Methodology

A key challenge is to find metrics that capture innovation as it actually happens in the world today. Direct official measures that quantify innovation outputs remain extremely scarce. For example, there

are no official statistics on the amount of innovative activity – defined as the number of new products, processes or other innovations – for any given innovation actor, let alone for any given country.

Most measurements also struggle to appropriately capture the innovation outputs of a wider spectrum of innovation actors, such as the services sector or public sector entities. This includes innovation surveys, which have contributed greatly to the measurement of innovation activities but fail to provide a good and reliable sense of cross-economy innovation output performance and are often not applicable to developing economies, where innovation is often informal.

1.2 Framework of the Global Innovation Index 2022

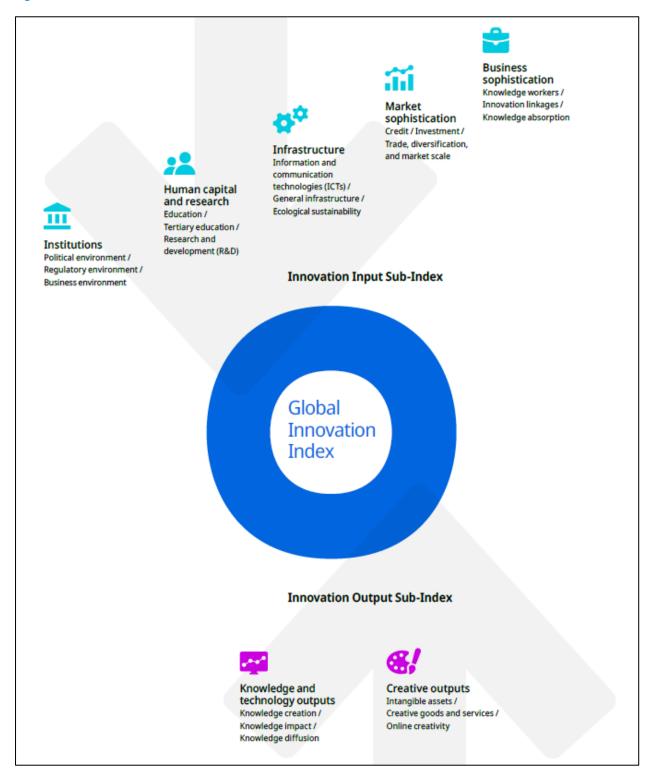
The GII relies on two sub-indices—the Innovation Input Sub-Index and the Innovation Output Sub-Index—each built around pillars. Three indices are calculated:

- Innovation Input Sub-Index: Five input pillars capture elements of the national economy that enable and facilitate innovative activities.
- Innovation Output Sub-Index: Innovation outputs are the result of innovative activities within the economy. Although the Output Sub-Index includes only two pillars, it has the same weight in calculating the overall GII scores as the Input Sub-Index.
- The overall GII score is the average of the Input and Output Sub-Indices, on which the GII economy rankings are then produced.

The GII 2022 model includes 81 indicators for 132 economies, which represent 94.1 percent of the world's population and 98.5 percent of the world's GDP in purchasing power parity current international dollars. The data used for each country are the most recent available. For some economies data are from 2022, while for others the GII index used data from 2021, 2020 and for a small percentage of countries, data from earlier years.

The framework of the GII 2022 is presented in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Framework of the Global Innovation Index 2022



Source: Global Innovation Index 2022 Report, WIPO

2 Key findings

Top 3 innovative economies in Europe are Switzerland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. In Northern Africa and Western Asia the top 3 are Israel, the United Arab Emirates and Turkey.

Europe still hosts the largest number of innovation leaders – 15 in total – that rank among the top 25. Out of the 39 European economies covered, 12 move up the rankings this year: the Netherlands (5th), Germany (8th), Austria (17th), Estonia (18th), Luxembourg (19th), Malta (21st), Italy (28th), Spain (29th), Poland (38th), Greece (44th), the Republic of Moldova (56th) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (70th).

Switzerland has the most high-performing Institutions in the region (2nd worldwide), and is the regional and global leader in innovation outputs, ranking 1st in both Knowledge and technology outputs and Creative outputs. Germany leads in Human capital and research (2nd), while Sweden comes top in Infrastructure and Business sophistication worldwide (1st in both pillars).

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) takes a big leap forward this year reaching 31^{st} place, bringing it closer to the top 30. Other economies within the region move up the rankings, including notable improvers Saudi Arabia (51^{st}), Qatar (52^{nd}), Kuwait (62^{nd}) and Bahrain (72^{nd}).

<u>Creating balanced and efficient innovation ecosystems</u>

Several economies are still struggling to translate innovation inputs into outputs efficiently.

Some economies are very efficient at converting innovation inputs into outputs. Among the high-income group (Annex Table A 1), Switzerland (1st) produces considerably higher levels of outputs than other high-income economies, such as the United States (2nd), Sweden (3rd) and Singapore (7th), at comparable levels of innovation inputs. Germany (8th) produces the same levels of outputs as the United States and the Netherlands (5th), at lower levels of innovation inputs.

However, several high-income economies struggle to obtain a better balance between level of investment and results, often to the detriment of their overall innovation performance. This group of economies includes, notably, oil and natural gas producers and exporters Norway (22nd), the United Arab Emirates (31st), Saudi Arabia (51st), Bahrain (72nd).

Asia as a region is catching up rapidly on Northern America and Europe. The global innovation landscape is changing – both within the top 25 leading innovation economies, as well as more generally within the overall rankings and the league tables by income group or region. The most notable of these changes are: (i) a significant shift within this year's top 15 innovators, with the United States, Singapore, Germany and China moving up the ranking, the latter overtaking France.

Science and Technology (S&T) clusters

GII presents the innovation output at local level by providing the list of the world's largest top 100 science and technology (S&T) clusters, defined as the geographical areas around the world with the highest density of inventors and scientific authors.

China is now on a par with the United States in terms of the number of top 100 S&T clusters. In 2022, as in previous years, the top 100 S&T clusters are highly concentrated in three regions, Northern America, Europe and Asia and, especially, in two countries: the United States and China. For the first time, China hosts as many clusters as the United States, with 21 each. Germany follows, with 10 clusters in the top 100, with Cologne and Munich as the two largest clusters.

Mirroring last year's results, with the exception of China, only five middle-income economies have clusters in the top 100: Brazil, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey and the Russian Federation.

GII use in policymaking

A survey carried out by WIPO in early 2022 shows that 70 percent of WIPO member states use the Global Innovation Index (GII). Out of the 110 responses received (one response per country), 68 countries had used the GII during the period 2020–2021 to improve their innovation ecosystems and policymaking, while 37 went so far as to use the GII as a specific reference in economic plans or policies.

While there is no recipe for moving up the GII rankings, the GII could be used to improve an economy's innovation performance.

A chief benefit of the GII is that it puts data-based evidence and metrics at the core of evaluating, crafting and deploying innovation policies. As a first step, countries begin by bringing together statisticians and decision-makers in order to understand the country's innovation performance, based on the GII metrics. In a second step, the policy discussion turns to leveraging domestic innovation opportunities, while at the same time overcoming country-specific weaknesses. Both steps are an exercise in careful coordination among different public and private innovation actors, as well as between government entities at the local, regional and national levels. Ideally, the GII becomes a tool for such coordination.

Recommendations on using GII to improve an economy's performance:

- Ensure innovation is embedded as a key priority in the country's pathway to national development and progress, possibly formulated within a clear innovation policy.
- Establish a cross-ministerial task force to pursue innovation policy and GII matters through a "whole of government approach," ideally reporting to the top tier of government, for instance, the Prime Minister's Office.
- Ensure any innovation policy task force interacts and consults with innovation actors from both the private and public sectors, including start-ups, deans of research universities and relevant innovation clusters.
- Ensure any national intellectual property (IP) policy is aligned with or even integrated into the above innovation policy.
- Ensure the targets or actions of innovation policy are quantifiable, and that they are regularly revisited and evaluated.
- Do not set over-ambitious and therefore unrealistic GII ranking targets for example, by aiming
 to enter the top 20 by next year when the economy's ranking would suggest it is still far from
 achieving that goal. GII rankings rarely increase in large leaps from one year to the next,
 particularly at the top.
- Do not expect policy changes to result in improved GII indicator performance instantaneously.
 There are important lags between innovation policy formulation, execution and impact. The latest available innovation data is also rarely current, often lagging by a few years.
- Do not treat the GII as a mathematical exercise that is, by attempting to collect or focus on specific indicators in order to climb the rankings. GII rank alone is only a partial reflection of national development and progress.
- Do not over focus on year-on-year changes to the GII alone. These are influenced by relative performance vis-à-vis other countries and other methodological considerations, many of which lie outside the control of the economy in question. Setting objectives over a multi-year period for example, three to five years and looking at combined progress over several years is a more fitting use of the GII.

3 GII 2022 Pillars ranking comparison across GCC countries

Highlighted in green are the highest rankings across GCC countries for each pillar (out of 132 countries). In red are the rankings for each area where EU can assist the GCC countries in improving their innovation capabilities.

Table 1. GCC Global Innovation Index performance by pillar, 2022

| GII Pillars | Bahrain | Kuwait | Oman | Qatar | Saudi Arabia | United Arab Emirates |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------|------|-------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Institutions | 27 | 86 | 57 | 25 | 50 | 6 |
| Human capital and research | 78 | 55 | 40 | 56 | 30 | 17 |
| Infrastructure | 32 | 36 | 56 | 29 | 53 | 7 |
| Market sophistication | 75 | 73 | 71 | 47 | 22 | 23 |
| Business sophistication | 93 | 101 | 97 | 73 | 53 | 26 |
| Knowledge and technology outputs | 73 | 68 | 94 | 69 | 65 | 59 |
| Creative outputs | 98 | 60 | 80 | 59 | 66 | 45 |

Source: Analysis based on GII 2022 data

All GCC countries except Oman improved their rankings (Table 2) compared to the 2021 assessment. Highest change was registered in Kuwait, who improved its ranking by 10 places. Oman ranks lower by 3 places compared to 2021.

Table 2. GCC Global Innovation Index rankings, 2018-2022

| Country | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| United Arab Emirates | 38 | 36 | 34 | 33 | 31 |
| Saudi Arabia | 61 | 68 | 66 | 66 | 51 |
| Qatar | 51 | 65 | 70 | 68 | 52 |
| Kuwait | 60 | 60 | 78 | 72 | 62 |
| Bahrain | 72 | 78 | 79 | 78 | 72 |
| Oman | 69 | 80 | 84 | 76 | 79 |

Source: Analysis based on GII data

4 GCC strengths and key areas where EU can support the GCC economic diversification processes

This chapter provides details on each GCC country's strengths in regards to innovation, as assessed by the GII 2022, as well as areas where EU can support the GCC countries in improving their innovation ecosystems and supporting legal and regulatory frameworks.

4.1 Bahrain

Bahrain ranks:

- 72nd among the 132 economies featured in the GII 2022
- 45th among the 48 high-income group economies (Annex Table A 1)
- 9th among the 19 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Annex Table A 2).

Table 3. Bahrain strengths and key areas for improvement based on GII 2022

| | Strengths | | | Areas for improvement | |
|-------------------|---|------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------|
| Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank | Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank |
| IN.1 | Institutions | 27 | IN.2.1.1 | Expenditure on education, % GDP | 123 |
| IN.1.3.1 | Policies for doing business | 8 | IN.2.3.2 | Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP | 105 |
| IN.2.1.3 | School life expectancy, years | 28 | IN.3.3.1 | GDP/unit of energy use | 124 |
| IN.2.2.3 | Tertiary inbound mobility, % | 15 | IN.5.1.3 | GERD performed by business, % GDP | 80 |
| IN.3 | Infrastructure | 32 | IN.5.3 | Knowledge absorption | 131 |
| IN.3.1.1 | ICT access | 16 | IN.5.3.2 | High-tech imports, % total trade | 118 |
| IN.3.1.2 | ICT use | 30 | IN.5.3.3 | ICT services imports, % total trade | 118 |
| IN.3.2 | General infrastructure | 6 | IN.5.3.5 | Research talent, % in businesses | 82 |
| IN.3.2.1 | Electricity output, GWh/mn pop. | 1 | OUT.6.1 | Knowledge creation | 114 |
| IN.3.2.3 | Gross capital formation, % GDP | 9 | OUT.7.1. 1 | Intangible asset intensity, top 15, % | 70 |
| IN.5.2.4 | Joint venture/strategic alliance deals/bn PPP\$ GDP | 16 | OUT.7.1. 2 | Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 119 |
| OUT.6.2.1 | Labor productivity growth, % | 15 | | | |
| OUT.6.2.3 | Software spending, % GDP | 31 | | | |

4.2 Kuwait

Kuwait ranks:

- 62nd among the 132 economies featured in the GII 2022
- 43rd among the 48 high-income group economies (Annex Table A 1)
- 7th among the 19 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Annex Table A 2).

Table 4. Kuwait strengths and key areas for improvement based on GII 2022

| | Strengths | | | Areas for improvement | |
|-------------------|---|------|-------------------|---|------|
| Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank | Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank |
| IN.2.1.1 | Expenditure on education, % GDP | 11 | IN.3.3.1 | GDP/unit of energy use | 123 |
| IN.2.1.5 | Pupil-teacher ratio, secondary | 5 | IN.4.3.2 | Domestic industry diversification | 102 |
| IN.3.1 | Information and communication technologies (ICTs) | 21 | IN.5.1.4 | GERD financed by business, % | 94 |
| IN.3.1.1 | ICT access | 8 | IN.5.2.3 | GERD financed by abroad, % GDP | 97 |
| IN.3.1.4 | E-participation | 18 | IN.5.3.3 | ICT services imports, % total trade | 122 |
| IN.3.2 | General infrastructure | 15 | IN.5.3.4 | FDI net inflows, % GDP | 121 |
| IN.3.2.1 | Electricity output, GWh/mn pop. | 4 | OUT.6.1.1 | Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 118 |
| IN.3.2.3 | Gross capital formation, % GDP | 29 | OUT.6.2.1 | Labor productivity growth, % | 113 |
| IN.4.2.1 | Market capitalization, % GDP | 17 | OUT.7.2.4 | Printing and other media, % manufacturing | 91 |
| OUT.6.2.3 | Software spending, % GDP | 26 | | | |
| OUT.6.3.4 | ICT services exports, % total trade | 6 | | | |
| OUT.7.1.3 | Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP | 22 | | | |

4.3 Oman

Oman ranks:

- 79th among the 132 economies featured in the GII 2022
- 46th among the 48 high-income group economies (Annex Table A 1)
- 13th among the 19 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Annex Table A 2).

Table 5. Oman strengths and key areas for improvement based on GII 2022

| | Strengths | | | Areas for improvement | |
|-------------------|--|------|-------------------|--|------|
| Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank | Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank |
| IN.1.3.1 | Policies for doing business | 19 | IN.3.3.1 | GDP/unit of energy use | 111 |
| IN.2.1 | Education | 10 | IN.4.2.3 | Venture capital recipients, deals/bn PPP\$ GDP | 91 |
| IN.2.1.1 | Expenditure on education, % GDP | 29 | IN.5.1.5 | Females employed w/advanced degrees, % | 118 |
| IN.2.1.2 | Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap | 3 | IN.5.2.3 | GERD financed by abroad, % GDP | 86 |
| IN.2.2 | Tertiary education | 23 | IN.5.3 | Knowledge absorption | 113 |
| IN.2.2.2 | Graduates in science and engineering, % | 1 | IN.5.3.2 | High-tech imports, % total trade | 115 |
| IN.3.1.1 | ICT access | 15 | IN.5.3.5 | Research talent, % in businesses | 83 |
| IN.3.1.3 | Government's online service | 24 | OUT.6.2.1 | Labor productivity growth, % | 112 |
| IN.3.2.1 | Electricity output, GWh/mn pop. | 23 | OUT.7.1.4 | Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 111 |
| IN.5.2.2 | State of cluster development and depth | 21 | OUT.7.2.4 | Printing and other media, % manufacturing | 85 |
| IN.5.3.4 | FDI net inflows, % GDP | 19 | | | |
| OUT.7.3.4 | Mobile app creation/bn PPP\$ GDP | 16 | | | |

4.4 Qatar

Qatar ranks:

- 52nd among the 132 economies featured in the GII 2022
- 42nd among the 48 high-income group economies (Annex Table A 1)
- 6th among the 19 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Annex Table A 2).

Table 6. Qatar strengths and key areas for improvement based on GII 2022

| | Strengths | | | Areas for improvement | |
|-------------------|--|------|-------------------|--|------|
| Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank | Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank |
| IN.1.3 | Business environment | 7 | IN.3.3.1 | GDP/unit of energy use | 112 |
| IN.1.3.1 | Policies for doing business | 12 | IN.4.2.3 | Venture capital recipients, deals/bn PPP\$ GDP | 98 |
| IN.1.3.2 | Entrepreneurship policies and culture | 5 | IN.4.2.4 | Venture capital received, value, % GDP | 96 |
| IN.2.2 | Tertiary education | 10 | IN.5.2.3 | GERD financed by abroad, % GDP | 90 |
| IN.2.2.3 | Tertiary inbound mobility, % | 1 | IN.5.3.1 | Intellectual property payments, % total trade | 122 |
| IN.3.1.1 | ICT access | 11 | IN.5.3.4 | FDI net inflows, % GDP | 125 |
| IN.3.2 | General infrastructure | 1 | OUT.6.3.1 | Intellectual property receipts, % total trade | 113 |
| IN.3.2.1 | Electricity output, GWh/mn pop. | 5 | OUT.7.1.2 | Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 118 |
| IN.4.1 | Credit | 19 | OUT.7.2.5 | Creative goods exports, % total trade | 112 |
| IN.4.1.2 | Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP | 15 | | | |
| IN.5.2.1 | University-industry R&D collaboration | 12 | | | |
| IN.5.3.3 | ICT services imports, % total trade | 8 | | | |
| OUT.6.2.2 | New businesses/th pop. 15–64 | 23 | | | |
| OUT.7.1.3 | Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP | 19 | | | |

4.5 Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia ranks:

- 51st among the 132 economies featured in the GII 2022
- 41st among the 48 high-income group economies (Annex Table A 1)
- 5th among the 19 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Annex Table A 2).

Table 7. Saudi Arabia strengths and key areas for improvement based on GII 2022

| | Strengths | | | Areas for improvement | |
|-------------------|---|------|-------------------|---|------|
| Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank | Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank |
| IN.1.3.1 | Policies for doing business | 15 | IN.1.1.1 | Political and operational stability | 120 |
| IN.2.1.1 | Expenditure on education, % GDP | 3 | IN.1.2.3 | Cost of redundancy dismissal | 103 |
| IN.2.3.3 | Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD | 18 | IN.2.1.4 | PISA scales in reading, maths and science | 71 |
| IN.3.1.1 | ICT access | 6 | IN.3.3 | Ecological sustainability | 99 |
| IN.3.1.2 | ICT use | 13 | IN.3.3.1 | GDP/unit of energy use | 99 |
| IN.3.2.1 | Electricity output, GWh/mn pop. | 12 | IN.5.3.4 | FDI net inflows, % GDP | 110 |
| IN.4.2 | Investment | 14 | OUT.6.2 | Knowledge impact | 97 |
| IN.4.2.1 | Market capitalization, % GDP | 4 | OUT.6.2.1 | Labor productivity growth, % | 115 |
| IN.4.2.4 | Venture capital received, value, % GDP | 7 | OUT.6.2.2 | New businesses/th pop. 15–64 | 89 |
| IN.4.3.3 | Domestic market scale, bn PPP\$ | 17 | OUT.7.1.2 | Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 103 |
| IN.5.2.2 | State of cluster development and depth | 13 | OUT.7.1.4 | Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 93 |
| | | | OUT.7.2.1 | Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade | 98 |

4.6 United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates ranks:

- 31st among the 132 economies featured in the GII 2022
- 30th among the 48 high-income group economies (Annex Table A 1)
- 3rd among the 19 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia (Annex Table A 2).

Table 8. United Arab Emirates strengths and key areas for improvement based on GII 2022

| | Strengths | | | Areas for improvement | |
|-------------------|--|------|-------------------|--|------|
| Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank | Indicator Code | Indicator Name | Rank |
| IN.1 | Institutions | 6 | IN.2.1.1 | Expenditure on education, % GDP | 84 |
| IN.1.2.3 | Cost of redundancy dismissal | 1 | IN.5.1.5 | Females employed w/advanced degrees, % | 80 |
| IN.1.3 | Business environment | 1 | OUT.6.1 | Knowledge creation | 97 |
| IN.1.3.1 | Policies for doing business | 6 | OUT.6.1.1 | Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 113 |
| IN.1.3.2 | Entrepreneurship policies and culture | 1 | OUT.6.1.3 | Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 76 |
| IN.2.2 | Tertiary education | 1 | OUT.6.1.4 | Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP\$ GDP | 88 |
| IN.2.2.3 | Tertiary inbound mobility, % | 1 | OUT.6.2.1 | Labor productivity growth, % | 71 |
| IN.3 | Infrastructure | 7 | OUT.6.3.2 | Production and export complexity | 80 |
| IN.3.1.1 | ICT access | 3 | OUT.7.1.2 | Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 110 |
| IN.3.2 | General infrastructure | 4 | OUT.7.1.4 | Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP | 115 |
| IN.3.2.1 | Electricity output, GWh/mn pop. | 8 | OUT.7.2.2 | National feature films/mn pop. 15–69 | 63 |
| IN.3.2.2 | Logistics performance | 11 | | | |
| IN.5.1.4 | GERD financed by business, % | 5 | | | |
| IN.5.2.2 | State of cluster development and depth | 5 | | | |
| IN.5.3.5 | Research talent, % in businesses | 2 | | | |
| OUT.7.2.5 | Creative goods exports, % total trade | 11 | | | |

5 Next steps

The EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification Project will follow up on the recommendations above with the European Commission, the EU27 Member States and the project stakeholders to assist them in leveraging these opportunities to contribute to the GCC economic diversification process and to improve the business environment in the GCC countries, which would increase the trade and investment opportunities between EU and GCC countries.

6 Annex

Table A 1. High income economies in the Global Innovation Index 2022

| | Region | Economy name |
|----------|--|--------------------------|
| 1 | Europe | Austria |
| 2 | Europe | Belgium |
| 3 | Europe | Croatia |
| 4 | Europe | Czech Republic |
| 5 | Europe | Denmark |
| 6 | Europe | Estonia |
| 7 | Europe | Finland |
| 8 | Europe | France |
| 9 | Europe | Germany |
| 10 | Europe | Greece |
| 11 | Europe | Hungary |
| 12 | Europe | Iceland |
| 13 | Europe | Ireland |
| 14 | Europe | Italy |
| 15 | Europe | Latvia |
| 16 | Europe | Lithuania |
| 17 | Europe | Luxembourg |
| 18 | Europe | Malta |
| 19 | Europe | Netherlands |
| 20 | Europe | Norway |
| 21 | Europe | Poland |
| 22 | Europe | Portugal |
| 23 | Europe | Slovakia |
| 24 | Europe | Slovenia |
| 25 | Europe | Spain |
| 26 | Europe | Sweden |
| 27 | Europe | Switzerland |
| 28 | Europe | United Kingdom |
| 29 | Latin America and the Caribbean | Chile |
| 30 | Latin America and the Caribbean | Trinidad and Tobago |
| 31 | Latin America and the Caribbean | Uruguay |
| 32 | Northern Africa and Western Asia | Bahrain |
| 33 | Northern Africa and Western Asia | Cyprus |
| 34 | Northern Africa and Western Asia | Israel |
| 35 | Northern Africa and Western Asia Northern Africa and Western Asia | Kuwait |
| 36 | Northern Africa and Western Asia Northern Africa and Western Asia | Ontar |
| 37 38 | Northern Africa and Western Asia | Qatar Saudi Arabia |
| 39 | Northern Africa and Western Asia Northern Africa and Western Asia | United Arab Emirates |
| 40 | Northern America | Canada |
| 41 | Northern America | United States of America |
| 41 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | Australia |
| 42 | Junii East Asia, East Asia, aliu Utedilla | Australia |

| | Region | Economy name |
|----|---|-------------------|
| 43 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | Brunei Darussalam |
| 44 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | Hong Kong, China |
| 45 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | Japan |
| 46 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | New Zealand |
| 47 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | Republic of Korea |
| 48 | South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania | Singapore |

Source: GII 2022 Database

Table A 2. Northern Africa and Western Asia economies in the Global Innovation Index 2022

| | Economy name |
|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Algeria |
| 2 | Armenia |
| 3 | Azerbaijan |
| 4 | Bahrain |
| 5 | Cyprus |
| 6 | Egypt |
| 7 | Georgia |
| 8 | Iraq |
| 9 | Israel |
| 10 | Jordan |
| 11 | Kuwait |
| 12 | Morocco |
| 13 | Oman |
| 14 | Qatar |
| 15 | Saudi Arabia |
| 16 | Tunisia |
| 17 | Türkiye |
| 18 | United Arab Emirates |
| 19 | Yemen |

Source: GII 2022 Database

7 References

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