



# EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification

A project funded by the European Union



## THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE EU-GCC DIALOGUE ON ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION PROJECT

This month features an interview with **HE. Dr. Cristian Tudor, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to the state of Qatar** who shares his wealth of experience and insight into the deepening ties between the EU and Qatar, playing a pivotal role in fostering collaboration and understanding across economic, cultural, and political spheres.

This month in the Knowledge Hub, we introduce the briefing on **Bahrain's Foreign Direct Investment with world partners and EU27**.

Reports on our **recent events hosted and upcoming events** planned can be found under the Events tab.

In selecting and preparing the content for upcoming editions of the newsletter, we would welcome your feedback on the topics and sectors that interest you most. Please feel free to send your suggestions to our editor Rania Nseir at [rnseir@eugcc.eu](mailto:rnseir@eugcc.eu).

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

[In dialogue with HE. Dr. Cristian Tudor, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to the state of Qatar. pp.2-4](#)

[Top Headlines pp. 5-13](#)

[The Knowledge Hub pp.14-15](#)

[Events p.16-17](#)

[About Us p.18](#)





## IN DIALOGUE WITH HE. DR CRISTIAN TUDOR, AMBASSADOR, DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO THE STATE OF QATAR



Q

**As the first European Union resident Ambassador to the State of Qatar, you have held a number of senior diplomatic posts in various policy areas. How has your experience contributed to the role you now play?**

A

In my years of diplomatic service, I've had the privilege of getting to know the Middle East well, thanks to my studies and work. Since 2015, I've been working closely with Qatar. I started as Romania's Ambassador to Qatar, and then in 2019, I became the EU's non-resident Ambassador to Qatar while I was based in Kuwait. And now, since 2022, I have the honour of being the first EU Ambassador living in Qatar.

I've had the unique opportunity to present my credentials to His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Amir of Qatar, three different times. This has allowed me to build a strong and lasting relationship with the leaders, businesses, and people of Qatar. I understand what makes this country tick and the best ways for us and them to work together, both politically and in business.

Sometimes we have different views, but because of the trust and friendships I've formed here, we can talk things through and find common ground. I care deeply about the bond between the EU and Qatar and use that to help both sides benefit and grow together.

Q

**As global issues such as climate change, and technological leaps demand collaborative international action, what opportunities do you envisage for strengthened cooperation between the EU and Qatar?**

A

The EU and Qatar have their perspectives on how energy can play a part in fighting climate change. Despite these differences, we're always looking for new ways to work together. A big part of this collaboration is finding the best technology to lower or capture CO2 emissions, which helps us take care of our environment.

It's key to mention that Qatar's major energy partners are European companies like TotalEnergies, ENI, and Shell. These companies are focused on facing these global challenges. With their help, and through our joint efforts in technology, science, and education, I'm positive that we're creating strong partnerships. These will not only help the EU and Qatar but also make a real difference for our planet.

Q

**What role do sporting events such as the recent 2022 Football World Cup play in Qatar's economic diversification programme and how can they be leveraged to attract both direct visitors and indirect visitors to the country based on its raised international profile?**

A

It has been a truly distinguished honour to serve as the first resident EU Ambassador to Qatar, a role I stepped into after three years as the EU Ambassador to Qatar while based in Kuwait. Arriving in Doha just two months before the FIFA 2022 World Cup afforded me a unique vantage point to appreciate the fervour and grand plans the Qatari leadership had for this world-class event.

My interactions with the upper strata of Qatar's leaders and key players in the business sector reinforced my view that the World Cup marked not a culmination but a springboard for a much broader and deeper transformation of the country's economic landscape. The strides toward realizing Vision 2030, particularly through the third National Development Strategy, are commendable. This strategic blueprint spotlights fostering the private sector's organic growth as a pivotal objective.

We're already seeing the fruits of Qatar's ambitious agenda, notably in the tourism sector's sustained expansion. The region is fiercely competitive, yet Qatar's seasoned expertise in orchestrating large-scale sporting events, coupled with the exemplary services of Qatar Airways, have become instrumental to its economic vitality.

During the World Cup, visitors from Europe and beyond were enthralled by the exceptional standards of service, robust security measures, and the overall ease of their stay. This event was more than just a tournament; it was a celebration of Qatari hospitality and a showcase of the country's rich cultural tapestry, which resonated widely with the international community. This success, I believe, is only the beginning, setting the stage for Qatar to emerge as an increasingly coveted destination on the global stage.

Q

**What emerging trade and investment opportunities are enhancing the EU-Qatar bilateral relationship following the release of the EU's vision for a Strategic Partnership with the Gulf?**

A

Some believe the EU hasn't given the Gulf region the attention it deserves. However, the EU's Joint Communication for a Strategic Partnership with the Gulf has changed that perception by outlining a clear and ambitious vision for our engagement with this vibrant area. This strategy recognizes the region's importance on multiple fronts, including geopolitics and economy.

A key part of our strategy aligns with the Gulf states' own plans to diversify their economies. Take Qatar, for instance, where the government is investing in culture, tourism, education, science, and supporting local businesses. These are sectors where EU states excel and can offer valuable expertise and investment.

As Qatar rolls out its third National Development Strategy, I'm confident that European companies will become even more involved, strengthening EU-Qatar economic ties.

Q

**The establishment of the EU Delegation in Doha in 2022 marked a significant moment for EU-Qatar relations. In your view, how will the Delegation continue to contribute to shaping policies that enhance the business environment in Qatar, and what impact do you foresee on the broader EU business community?**

A

The opening of the EU Delegation in Doha in 2022 has deeply enriched our engagement with Qatar's vibrant business community. My presence at numerous local events has underscored the value of having EU representation directly involved in policy and partnership discussions.

While we're thankful for the assistance from our colleagues in Riyadh who oversee EU-Qatar trade relations, the consensus among EU member state embassies in Doha is clear: we need to step up our economic game. Establishing a dedicated trade office in Doha is essential. It will not only benefit the EU and its member states but also empower European businesses eager to engage with Qatar's diversifying and expanding market.

Furthermore, Qatar's current role as the GCC chair opens the door for Doha to host significant EU-GCC economic and trade events, boosting the EU's profile in the country and showcasing the reciprocal advantages of our cooperation.

Q

**How has the EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification project supported the EU Delegation in Qatar specifically in fostering climate-friendly trade and investment initiatives, considering the project's focus on promoting sustainable economic practices?**

A

Despite being the smallest team in the EU's External Action Service network, our delegation has achieved significant milestones with essential support from the EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification. Our inaugural year saw a highly successful collaboration with M7 on monetising cultural and creative products—a key interest for Qatar's government and business sectors. The EU-GCC project's backing was vital.

Now, we are eagerly anticipating an upcoming event focused on food security and the sustainability of the food chain. This is not just a global concern but a shared priority for both the EU and Qatar.

In addition, the EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification project is planning to organise its yearly flagship event, the 8th EU-GCC Business Forum in Qatar scheduled for November this year. I am enthusiastic about the promising opportunities that will arise from these events and deeply grateful for the EU-GCC Dialogue project's unwavering commitment and efforts in bringing it to fruition.

## COMMISSION SUPPORTS 170 NEW PROJECTS TO HELP MEMBER STATES TRANSLATE THEIR REFORM AGENDA INTO CONCRETE ACTIONS ON THE GROUND



- The EU Commission has selected 170 projects under the Technical Support Instrument (TSI) for 2024, aiming to support 307 reforms across Member States to boost competitiveness, resilience, and modernisation.
- These reforms span various areas including the application of AI in businesses and public administrations, the Green Deal Industrial Plan for a net-zero economy transition, gender equality, brain drain prevention, and mental health care for the youth.
- Building on four years of progress, the TSI has facilitated approximately 780 projects leading to about 1,200 reforms, offering customized technical support to Member States.
- Key focus areas for 2024 include modernising public administrations, with 200 civil servants from 12 Member States participating in exchanges to enhance skills in sustainable finance, digitalisation, EU funds, and data literacy.
- 31% of the reforms target the transition to a net-zero economy, focusing on the Green Deal, biodiversity, and green transport, while 27% address the digital transition, including AI integration in social security, welfare, employment, and advancing digital financial literacy.
- The TSI also aims to tackle demographic changes, emphasizing the mental health and well-being of children and young people with 31 dedicated reforms.
- Efforts will continue to strengthen inter-country and regional collaboration, with 43 multi-country and 38 regional projects planned, alongside 13 flagship projects addressing shared reform needs like skill development and public finance quality improvement.

## COMMISSION AND THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON RESPONSIBLE USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN RESEARCH



- The Commission and European Research Area countries and stakeholders have developed guidelines for the responsible use of generative AI in research.
- These guidelines address the benefits and challenges of using generative AI, including issues of plagiarism, revealing sensitive data, and model biases.
- Executive Vice-President Margrethe Vestager emphasizes the commitment to fostering a thriving AI ecosystem in Europe to enhance science and societal benefits.
- Commissioner Iliana Ivanova highlights the need for transparency and responsibility in generative AI use to maintain public trust in science and uphold scientific integrity.
- The guidelines aim for a joint approach across Europe, reflecting principles of research integrity and will be updated with feedback from the scientific community.
- The EU's new AI Act introduces specific rules for general-purpose AI models to ensure transparency and will be supported by the new AI Office.
- An AI innovation package launched in January 2024 includes financial support for Generative AI and initiatives to attract and retain AI specialists.

[Source: Click here.](#)

# HORIZON EUROPE STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2027 FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION TO UNDERPIN JOURNEY TO A GREEN, DIGITAL AND RESILIENT FUTURE

- The Commission announces the second strategic plan for Horizon Europe for 2025-2027, focusing on green transition, digital transition, and fostering a more resilient, competitive, inclusive, and democratic Europe.
- Key strategic orientations are designed to tackle global challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, digital transformation, and an ageing population.
- The plan emphasizes open strategic autonomy and Europe's leadership in critical technologies across all strategic areas.
- A commitment is made to allocate 10% of Horizon Europe's total budget for 2025-2027 to biodiversity-related topics, supplementing existing climate (35%) and digital (€13 billion) expenditure targets.
- Nine new European partnerships are introduced, including Brain Health, Sustainable Forests and Forestry, Innovative Materials, and more, to drive research and innovation.
- The New European Bauhaus (NEB) Facility is introduced, aiming for sustainable, inclusive living across Europe, implemented as a cross-cluster issue in Horizon Europe work programmes for 2025-2027.
- The strategic plan emphasizes a balance of research and innovation across all technology readiness levels and the integration of social sciences and humanities into all projects, enhancing societal impact assessment.
- Horizon Europe's work programmes for 2025, outlining funding opportunities and calls for proposals, will be developed in alignment with this strategic plan.
- In April 2024, the Commission will seek feedback from all stakeholders for the Work Programme 2025, ensuring broad participation in shaping Horizon Europe's direction.



## OPEC SECRETARY GENERAL: OIL INDUSTRY CALLS FOR \$11.1 TRILLION IN INVESTMENTS BY 2045



- OPEC Secretary General Haitham Al Ghais announces the oil sector will need about \$11.1 trillion in investments by 2045 to meet global energy demand.
- Investments breakdown: \$11.1 trillion for upstream, \$1.7 trillion for downstream, and \$1.2 trillion for midstream sectors.
- Al Ghais emphasizes these investments will enhance the sustainability of the global energy sector, ensure reliable energy supplies, and contribute to reducing emissions.
- OPEC plays a proactive role in climate change negotiations, focusing on emission reduction and environmentally friendly practices within the oil industry.
- OPEC members are committed to ambitious climate goals, investing in carbon capture, utilization, and storage technologies, and supporting renewable energy sources.
- Al Ghais highlights the critical role of oil in the production of renewables, such as wind turbines, solar panels, and batteries for electric vehicles, underscoring its continued importance in the energy landscape.

Source: [Click here.](#)



## ABU DHABI TO CREATE 178,000 NEW JOBS IN TOURISM SECTOR



- Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan chaired the Abu Dhabi Executive Council meeting to review government work and initiatives.
- Approved the Abu Dhabi Tourism Sector Strategy 2030 aiming to attract 39.3 million visitors and create 178,000 new jobs by 2030.
- The strategy seeks to boost the tourism sector's contribution to the non-oil GDP to AED90 billion (\$24.51 billion) annually by 2030.
- 2023 saw exceptional performance with over 24 million visitors, a 30% increase from 2022, contributing AED49 billion to GDP, up by 22%.
- The hotel sector alone added AED6.4 billion to the economy in 2023.
- The strategy aligns with Abu Dhabi's Economic Vision 2030 for sustainable development and economic transformation.
- It includes talent development in tourism and enhanced support for private sector investments through incentives and streamlined regulations.
- Focus on sustainable tourism, innovation, technology integration, and development of unique attractions and experiences.
- Sheikh Khaled emphasized strategic partnerships with the private sector to develop infrastructure projects that improve quality of life and economic growth in Abu Dhabi.

[Source: Click here.](#)

## SAUDI CUSTOMS EXEMPTION ON SELECTED GOODS NOW EFFECTIVE

- Saudi Arabia enacts customs duty exemptions for a range of manufacturing products to stimulate the industrial sector.
- Exempted items include raw materials, semi-processed goods, packaging materials, machinery, equipment, and spare parts.
- The Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources introduced this measure in March to reduce financial strain and operational costs for businesses with valid import licenses, effective April 1.
- The initiative aims to enhance the competitiveness and profitability of firms, allowing for increased operational investment and production expansion.
- Customs exemption extension includes fully manufactured products and materials essential for production processes.
- Certain domestically manufactured items or necessary materials could be considered for customs duty exemption, supporting domestic industrial capacities.
- This move aligns with Saudi Vision 2030 and the National Industrial Strategy, aiming to stimulate growth within the Kingdom's industrial sector.
- In 2023, the number of industrial units in Saudi Arabia increased by 10% year-on-year to 11,549, with a total investment of SR1.54 trillion (\$48.4 billion).
- The Kingdom plans to enhance industrialization, targeting 36,000 plants by 2035, and in 2023, issued 1,379 new licenses with investments over SR81 billion.
- Since the start of Vision 2030 in 2016, the cumulative manufacturing assets have reached \$132 billion, highlighting the sustained growth of the Kingdom's industrial sector.



Source: [Click here.](#)

## CARBON MARKETS TO PLAY CRUCIAL ROLE IN ENERGY TRANSITION: IEF

- Carbon markets are increasingly recognized as essential for achieving global climate goals, with Saudi Arabia and the UAE leading the way in energy transition efforts.
- The International Energy Forum (IEF) reports that carbon markets can lower the cost of greenhouse gas removal by facilitating trade in carbon credits across borders.



- Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund and Tadawul Group have established the Regional Voluntary Carbon Market Co., conducting two auctions and selling 3.6 million tonnes of carbon credits.
- The UAE launched the Carbon Alliance to develop its carbon market ecosystem, involving key domestic and international entities, aiming to enhance net-zero efforts.
- The IEF's report, "The Role of Carbon Markets in Transitions," emphasizes the role of carbon markets in securing universal access to affordable, reliable energy and achieving net-zero emissions under the Paris Agreement.
- Carbon markets are at a turning point, with potential to generate significant investment in clean energy projects, particularly in developing countries.
- Voluntary carbon markets are seen as a step towards stronger global energy and climate policy coherence, with potential for transition into compliance markets.
- Investment in carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) technologies is highlighted as crucial, though currently outside the main scope of carbon market incentives.
- The IEF underscores the importance of digitalization for transparency in carbon markets and the alignment of regulatory frameworks to enhance policy predictability.
- The report calls for governments to foster cohesive policy approaches to carbon markets, addressing market fragmentation and carbon credit risk.
- It also urges governments to finalize the agreement on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement for international carbon credit trading, seen as key to national emissions targets.
- Saudi Arabia is positioned as a potential leader in CCUS technology, planning the world's largest carbon capture hub in Jubail, aiming for a storage capacity of up to 9 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually by 2027.

## S&P REVISES OMAN'S OUTLOOK TO POSITIVE; AFFIRMS CREDIT RATING 'BB+/B'



- S&P Global upgrades Oman's outlook from stable to positive, affirming the sovereign credit ratings at "BB+/B".
- The upgrade reflects ongoing fiscal and economic reforms in Oman, aimed at enhancing operational efficiencies and financial profiles of state-owned enterprises.
- S&P expects these reforms to bolster Oman's economy against adverse oil price shocks and potentially lead to faster-than-expected deleveraging among state-owned enterprises.
- The agency projects Oman's real GDP to grow by an average of 2% annually from 2024 to 2027.
- Oman's foreign policy, expected to remain broadly neutral, is seen as minimizing regional geopolitical spillovers.
- Despite forecasting a budget deficit for 2024 due to lower oil production and prices, Oman continues efforts to diversify its economy beyond hydrocarbons.
- Moody's Investors Service upgraded Oman's credit rating from "Ba2" to "Ba1" in December 2023, citing improved debt affordability.
- The series of upgrades reflect a positive trend in Oman's economic management and macroeconomic stability.

[Source: Click here.](#)

## FITCH UPGRADES QIIB RATING TO 'A' WITH STABLE OUTLOOK



- Fitch Ratings upgraded QIIB's credit rating to "A" from "A-", following an upgrade of Qatar's sovereign rating to "AA" with a stable outlook on March 20, 2024.
- The upgrade reflects Fitch's confidence in the Qatari Government's ability to support QIIB if needed, highlighting the government's strong inclination to support all local banks.
- Fitch notes QIIB's financial strengths: strong market position, sufficient core capital, good asset quality, strong profitability, and stable funding primarily through customer deposits.
- QIIB's profitability surpasses direct peers due to better profit margins and cost management, with a lower reliance on external funding and a strong liquidity position.
- CEO Dr Abdulbasit Ahmad Al Shaibei credits the upgrade to QIIB's resilience and the robust Qatari economy, aligning with Qatar Central Bank's Third Financial Sector Strategy and Qatar National Vision 2030.
- QIIB's market-focused strategy includes partnerships with local businesses and leveraging growth opportunities in the national economy for stable growth.
- The bank is committed to sustaining growth, enhancing performance, increasing competitiveness, and turning challenges into opportunities as part of its continuous pursuit of excellence and contribution to the nation and society.
- Recent achievements include significant progress in its digital transformation plan, operational efficiency, and growth rates among the best in the sector, with ongoing efforts to achieve optimal results.

Source: [Click here.](#)

## GCC – EU27 FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT REPORTS

The project team has prepared the Foreign Direct Investment reports for the GCC countries. The reports provide the analysis of the FDI between each of the GCC country and the EU27, as well as each GCC country and the EU Member States for 2018-2022.

In addition, the reports provide the details of FDI stocks for 2013-2022 (the latest data available) between the GCC countries and the world partners, including EU27 ranking for the specified 10-year period.

The most updated FDI reports will be published on our website by the end of April 2024.

### Bahrain Foreign Direct Investment with world partners and EU27

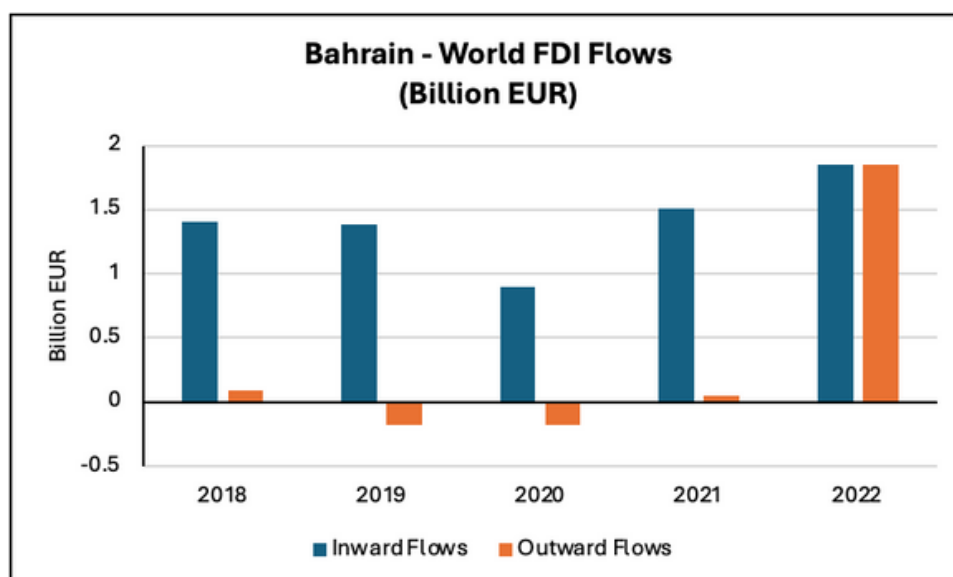
In 2022, Bahrain inward FDI flows from all world partners reached 1.852 billion EUR, while outward FDI flows were 1.850 billion EUR. FDI stocks in Bahrain from all world partners reached 33.2 billion EUR and Bahrain outward FDI stocks to all partners were 19.6 billion EUR.

In 2022, EU27 FDI flows to world partners reached 2.5 billion EUR and FDI flows to EU27 from world partners -323 billion EUR. EU27 FDI stocks to world partners were 17,160 billion EUR and world partners' FDI stocks into EU27 reached 14,623 billion EUR. EU27 FDI flows to Bahrain increased in 2022 to 350 million EUR from 110 million EUR in 2021. EU27 inward FDI flows from Bahrain increased in 2022 to 100 million EUR from -860 million EUR in 2021.

In 2022, FDI stocks from EU27 into Bahrain amounted to 1,250 million EUR, a slight decrease from 1,274 million EUR in 2021. The FDI stocks from Bahrain into the EU27 increased from 617 million EUR in 2021 to 722 million EUR in 2022.

Figure 1 provides Bahrain inward FDI flows from all Bahrain partners (inward flows) and outward FDI flows to all partners (outward flows) in billions of EUR.

**Figure 1 Bahrain Inward and Outward FDI Flows (Billion EUR), 2018-2022**



Source: UNCTAD data

Figure 2 Bahrain Inward and Outward FDI Stocks (Billion EUR), 2018-2022

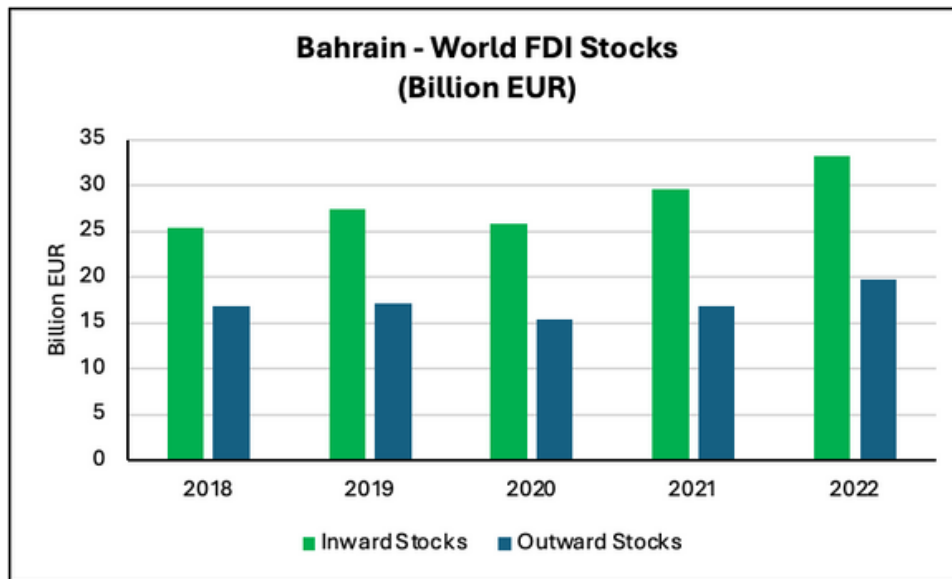


Figure 3 EU27 - Bahrain Inward and Outward FDI Flows, 2018-2022

Figure 3 provides EU27 inward FDI flows from Bahrain (inward flows) and outward FDI flows to Bahrain (outward flows).

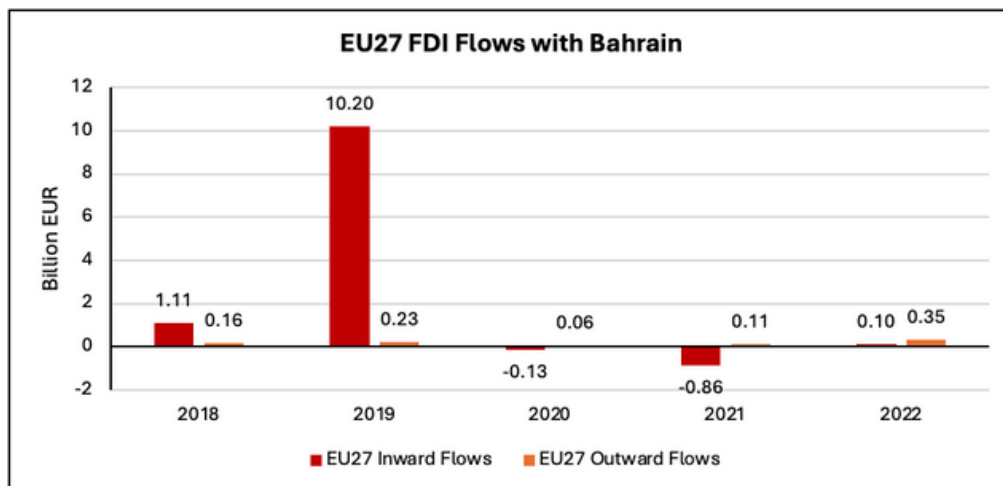
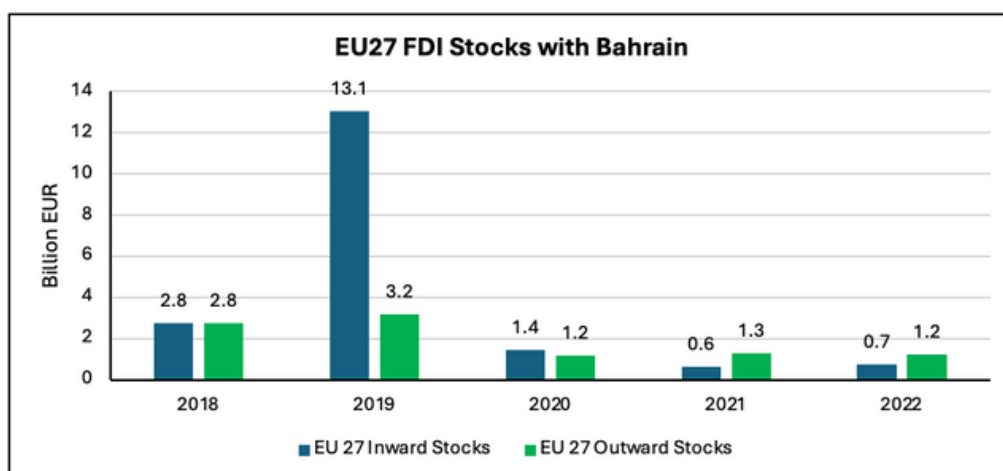


Figure 4 EU27 - Bahrain Inward and Outward FDI Stocks, 2018-2022

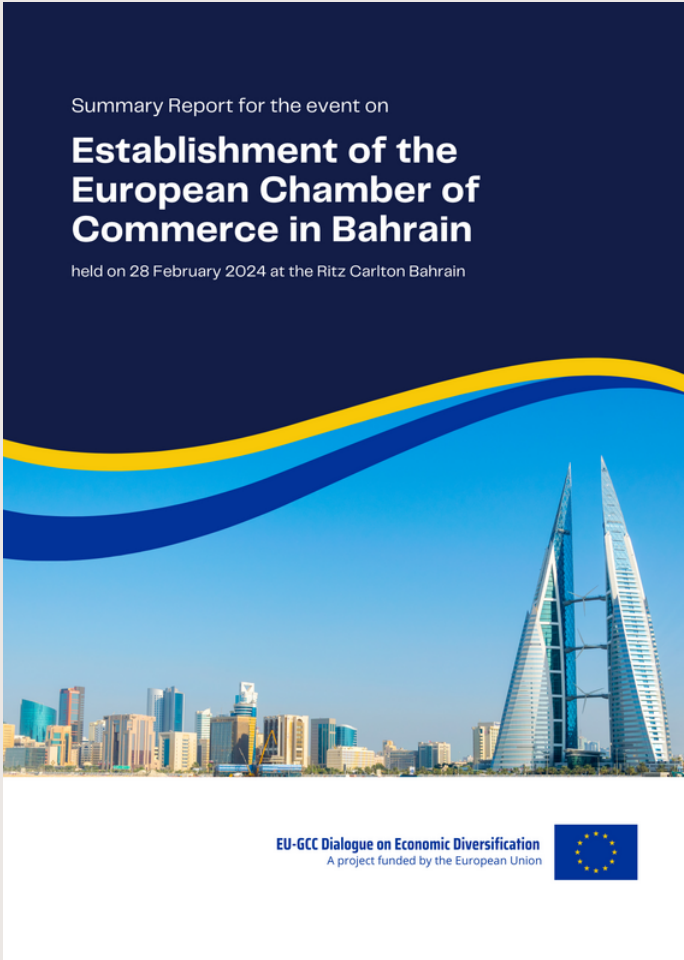
Figure 4 provides EU27 inward FDI stocks from Bahrain (inward stocks) and outward FDI stocks in Bahrain (outward stocks).



Source: UNCTAD data

## EVENTS: RECENT

The project team hosted the below recent events for which summary reports are now available:




Summary Report for the event on

### Establishment of the European Chamber of Commerce in Bahrain

held on 28 February 2024 at the Ritz Carlton Bahrain

EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification  
A project funded by the European Union



[Download the report](#)



### SUMMARY REPORT

## BUILDING SUSTAINABLE FUTURES IN THE EU & KSA - SMART BUILDINGS & SMART TECHNOLOGIES

held on 6 March 2024, Riyadh, KSA



EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification  
A project funded by the European Union



[Download the report](#)



## EVENTS: UPCOMING

The project team is planning to host the below events, to which more information will be circulated in due course.



**SAVE THE DATE**

**6 JUNE 2024**  
08:30 - 13:30

**ABU DHABI,**  
VENUE TBC

**REGISTER HERE**

**EU CAPITAL MARKETS UNION (CMU) & OPPORTUNITIES FOR UAE INVESTORS**

**DISCUSSIONS AND INSIGHTS**

- **Unveiling the Capital Markets Union (CMU):** Explore the impact and progress of the CMU, its significance for the EU's economic integration, and its potential to redefine investment landscapes in Europe and beyond, with a special focus on opportunities for the UAE and GCC investors.
- **Investment Opportunities in EU Bonds:** Gain insights into the EU Bonds as a growing global benchmark, offering attractive returns and diversification options, especially in green bonds and sovereign-style debt, and understand how these instruments can contribute to your investment strategy.
- **Harnessing the Power of EU Startups:** Discover the burgeoning potential of European startups in various sectors such as technology, healthcare, and fintech, and learn how UAE and GCC investors can tap into these innovative ventures for substantial returns and diversification.
- **Navigating the Integrated European Capital Markets:** Learn about the strategies for navigating the increasingly integrated and efficient European capital markets, including regulatory harmonization and reduction of cross-border investment barriers, to maximize investment potential.
- **Strategic Partnerships and Diversification:** Explore the strategic importance of fostering partnerships between the EU and UAE, highlighting the role of sovereign wealth funds and private sector investments in driving economic diversification and sustainable development through engagement in European capital markets.

EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification  
A project funded by the European Union



Delegation of the European Union  
to the United Arab Emirates



**SAVE THE DATE**

**25 JUNE 2024**  
08:30 - 14:00

**QATAR, VENUE TBC**

**REGISTER HERE**

**FORGING QATARI-EU PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY**

**DISCUSSIONS AND INSIGHTS**

- Discover the transformative strategies fueling Qatar's leap towards food security and self-sufficiency, and how the EU's expertise in sustainable practices can bolster this journey.
- Delve into how EU businesses can tap into Qatar's growing food production sector, highlighting agritech innovations and investment prospects in a rapidly expanding market.
- Engage with thought leaders on diversifying food import sources and strengthening international trade frameworks, a critical discussion for EU entities aiming to partner with Qatari agricultural advancements.
- Explore joint investment opportunities in Qatar's sustainable agriculture infrastructure, focusing on advanced technologies, renewable energy integration, and data-driven farming solutions.

EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification  
A project funded by the European Union



Delegation of the European Union  
to Qatar

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE EU-GCC DIALOGUE PROJECT, AND TO DOWNLOAD RESEARCH REPORTS, NEWSLETTERS & OTHER PUBLICATIONS, PLEASE VISIT:**

[https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/EUintheGCC\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/EUintheGCC_en)

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROJECTS, FORTHCOMING EVENTS, WEBINARS AND RECENT UPDATES, PLEASE FOLLOW US ON:**



<https://twitter.com/DialogueEu>



<https://www.instagram.com/eugccdialogue/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/eu-gcc-dialogue-on-economic-diversification>

## YOUR FEEDBACK COUNTS

As always, we welcome your feedback on the topics and sectors that interest you most and you would like to see covered in future editions of the newsletter. Please contact Rania Nseir, Events & Communications Expert at [rseir@eugcc.eu](mailto:rseir@eugcc.eu) for any suggestions and to subscribe or unsubscribe to any of our publications.

## ABOUT US

The EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification is a project funded by the European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments under the Partnership Instrument.

The project contributes to stronger EU-GCC relations by supporting the GCC countries in the ongoing process of economic diversification away from hydrocarbon-dependent sectors, including by funding regular EU-GCC Business Fora.

The purpose of this project is to promote climate-friendly trade, investment and economic affairs-related policy analysis, dialogue, and cooperation between stakeholders from the EU and GCC at both regional and country levels in the context of the GCC economic diversification process.

## THE TEAM

Team Leader: [Douglas Aitkenhead](#)

Events & Communications Expert: [Rania Nseir](#)



**EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification**

A project funded by the European Union



**SCAN ME**

to learn more about the project