Infrastructure Insider

December 2024

KPMG in Qatar

—

Issued in February 2025

Urban Development:

Ashghal Announces Public Auction for Cabins and Artificial Grass from FIFA World Cup 2022

Ashghal has announced a public auction to sell 105 furnished cabins and large quantities of artificial grass used during the FIFA World Cup 2022.
The auction, organized by the General Services Department, will begin on Sunday, December 8, 2024, at the Abu Fontas area (Free Zone - FIFA World Cup 2022 Fan Accommodation) near Hamad International, and will continue until stock is sold out.

Polymer concrete: The future of urban development

Polymer concrete is developing as a transformative material in urban development, providing increased durability, sustainability, and cost efficiency. Its use in infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and building structures, is gaining traction due to its resistance to extreme weather and chemical exposure. This breakthrough is consistent with global trends toward the use of sophisticated materials to support smart cities and sustainable urban growth, opening up chances to revolutionize construction processes around the world.

Sources: Ashghal Website, Khaleej Times

Road Development:

Southern Area Road Improvements to Boost Local Infrastructure

The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) is improving the road network in Al Wakra and Al Meshaf with a project aimed at boosting local connectivity. The works include constructing roads, installing traffic signals and lighting, and laying utility lines for water, electricity, and communications. Additionally, surface water and foul sewer drainage systems are being built. The project, estimated at QR195.9 million, also involves creating access roads to key locations such as Al Wakra central market and Hassad Foods. Completion is expected by Q2 2025, with enhancements like pedestrian/cycling paths, beautification, afforestation, and additional parking.

Sources: Gulf Times

Transport Infrastructure :

New plant to help MoT achieve its strategy of 100% public bus system electrification by 2030

Qatar has launched a new electric bus facility to meet the Ministry of Transport's goal of fully electrifying its public bus system by 2030. The factory will manufacture eco-friendly buses with innovative energy-efficient technologies, helping to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable urban mobility. This effort is consistent with Qatar's National Vision 2030, highlighting the country's commitment to environmental sustainability and the renovation of public transportation infrastructure.

Transport strategies solidify Qatar’s global position

Qatar's comprehensive transportation initiatives, as defined in its Transportation Master Plan, continue to strengthen its global position. To improve efficiency and connection, initiatives such as expanding road networks, establishing cutting-edge public transportation systems, and updating port facilities are being implemented. These activities are consistent with Qatar's National Vision 2030, which aims to strengthen the country's status as a major regional and worldwide logistics and transit hub.

Sources: Zawya, The Peninsula Qatar

Transport Infrastructure :

Qatar's Transportation Master Plan 2050: A Sustainable Vision for Growth

The Transportation Master Plan for Qatar 2050 (TMPQ) prioritizes sustainability to balance economic growth and environmental protection while addressing climate change through long-term initiatives. Developed by the Ministry of Transport (MoT), it aims to create a safe, eco-friendly, and integrated transportation system that supports urban growth, enhances well-being, and boosts economic development, positioning Qatar as a global leader in sustainable transportation by 2050.

Qatar participates in extraordinary Arab Civil Aviation Organization session

The Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) represented the State of Qatar at the extraordinary session of the Executive Council of the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO) held in Rabat, Morocco. Mohamed bin Faleh Al Hajri, In Charge of Managing QCAA, led Qatar's delegation and emphasized the importance of Arab cooperation to advance the civil aviation sector. Al Hajri highlighted the need to enhance air safety, develop aviation infrastructure, and boost regional and international integration. He also addressed challenges faced by the sector, stressing the importance of sustainable policies to ensure a promising future for aviation.

Sources: Gulf Times, The Peninsula Qatar

Transport Infrastructure :

Qatar Rail announces new service hours for Doha Metro, Lusail Tram

Qatar Rail Updates Service Hours for Metro and Tram Networks Effective January 1, 2025, Qatar Rail has revised service hours for the Doha Metro and Lusail Tram to meet growing demand. The Doha Metro will run from 5am to 1am (Saturday to Thursday) and 9am to 1am on Fridays, while the Lusail Tram operates from 5am to 1.30am (Saturday to Thursday) and 2pm to 1.30am on Fridays. Metrolink and Metroexpress services will follow the same hours. These changes reflect Qatar Rail's commitment to enhancing customer experience and supporting sustainable, reliable transportation across Doha and Lusail. Customers can access schedules and updates via the website and mobile app.

Sources: Gulf Times

Social Infrastructure:

Ministry opens Al Themaid, Al Sudan parks in Al Rayyan area

The Ministry of Municipality and Ashghal inaugurated Al Themaid and Al Sudan parks in Al Rayyan as part of National Day celebrations, enhancing Qatar’s green spaces and recreational facilities. Al Themaid spans 15,747 sq m, featuring walking, jogging, and cycling tracks, children's play areas, and green landscapes, while Al Sudan covers 2,303 sq m with similar amenities. These additions contribute to Qatar’s 149 parks, supporting sustainability and community well-being in line with the National Vision 2030.`

Number of public parks in Qatar rises to 147 in 2024

Qatar's urban landscape has been considerably enhanced by the expansion of its public park network, which will number 147 parks by 2024. These developments incorporate green spaces into urban planning, promoting sustainable city expansion and providing inhabitants with easily accessible recreational areas. The initiative represents Qatar's dedication to modern urban development, emphasizing environmental sustainability, improved air quality, and higher urban living standards. The new parks, which are part of Qatar's National Vision 2030, are intended to strike a balance between growing development and natural preservation, bolstering the country's status as a sustainable urban planning pioneer.

Sources: Gulf Times, Zawya

Social Infrastructure:

WISE Report Urges Enhancements in Inclusive Education and Employment Policies in Qatar

The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) has released a report with recommendations to improve inclusive education and employment for persons with disabilities in Qatar. Key areas of focus include policy harmonization, educator training, public awareness, assistive technology in schools, and monitoring of policies' effectiveness. While Qatar has made progress, the report highlights gaps in policy implementation and awareness among educators and employers. It calls for stronger collaboration, more comprehensive policies, and targeted investments to create greater opportunities for persons with disabilities.

UDST Launches 7 New Programs for Fall 2025, Focused on Practical Learning

The University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) has announced the launch of seven new programs for Fall 2025, offering bachelor's and master's degrees focused on practical learning. The new programs, developed through strategic partnerships, include a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Engineering, a Master of Science in Telecommunication and Network Engineering, and a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management, among others. The programs aim to equip students with hands-on experience, preparing them for leadership roles in key sectors like aviation, data science, and STEM education. Admissions open in January 2025 for the 2025-2026 academic year.

Sources: The Peninsula Qatar, Gulf Times

Power & Energy Infrastructure

Qatar Energy signs long-term LNG deal with Shell for delivery to China

Qatar Energy has strengthened its position in the global energy market by entering into a long-term contract with Shell to deliver 3 million metric tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to China annually, beginning in January 2025.

Qatar agrees five-year LNG supply deal with India's GAIL

Qatar has signed a five-year LNG supply agreement with India's state-run GAIL, securing the delivery of around 1 million metric tons of liquefied natural gas (LNG) per year. This agreement enhances energy links between the two countries and highlights Qatar's position as a prominent LNG provider in the world market. The arrangement addresses India's expanding energy demands while also fitting with Qatar's plan to increase its LNG export markets.

Sources: Reuters, The Economic Times

Power & Energy Infrastructure

Qatar's Domestic Gas Consumption Steady at 43.2 bcm in 2023

Qatar's domestic gas consumption held steady at 43.2 bcm in 2023, while its marketed natural gas production rose slightly to 170.9 bcm, according to the latest GECF annual statistical bulletin. The country continues to lead in LNG exports, contributing over 107 bcm to global demand, primarily in Asia and Europe. Qatar operates seven LNG plants with a capacity of 106 bcm/year, all managed by Qatargas. GECF countries remain dominant in the natural gas sector, holding over 69% of the world's proven reserves and accounting for 49% of global LNG exports. The report highlights GECF's expanding LNG infrastructure, including 37 liquefaction plants and 155 LNG carriers, which ensure the delivery of natural gas to global markets.

Qatar's energy sector takes giant strides in 2024

Qatar's energy sector saw exceptional progress in 2024, with large increases in LNG production capacity and investments in renewable energy projects. Collaborations on green hydrogen development, solar power projects, and growing QatarEnergy's global LNG presence were among the most significant endeavors. These improvements are consistent with Qatar's objective of diversifying its energy portfolio and strengthening its position as a global energy market leader. The accomplishments demonstrate the country's dedication to sustainability and economic resilience under the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Sources: Zawya, Gulf Times

Telecommunication Infrastructure

Qatar to Merge Telecom Firms, Creating Digital Infrastructure Giant

Qatar has announced that it will combine its telecom corporations in order to create a digital infrastructure powerhouse, with the goal of accelerating the country's digital transformation. The merger will streamline operations, improve connectivity, and enable upcoming technologies like AI, IoT, and 5G networks. This effort is consistent with Qatar's aim to become a regional leader in digital infrastructure and innovation.

Sources: The Arabian Post

Environmental Infrastructure

Qatar's £1bn green investment in UK hedges Doha's bets and boosts Starmer

Qatar pledged a £1 billion investment in climate innovations during a state visit to the UK, with an emphasis on initiatives that promote environmental sustainability and aid in the UK's energy transition.

Qatar’s $500 Billion Investment Strategy and Growth in One-Door Freezers

Qatar's $500 billion investment strategy is centered on economic diversification and worldwide market expansion, with significant growth in specialized industries such as cold storage solutions. The increasing demand for one-door freezers in logistics and food supply chains indicates Qatar's commitment to improving its warehousing and cold chain infrastructure. These investments benefit both local and international markets, and are in line with Qatar's National Vision 2030, which aims to increase economic resilience and innovation.

Sources: Middle East Eye, Fox 4

Environmental Infrastructure

[Qatar Credit Bureau Launches Strategy To Achieve Sustainable Credit Environment]

The Qatar Credit Bureau has launched a new strategy aimed at fostering a long-term credit climate to promote economic growth and financial stability. Key goals include improving credit reporting systems, encouraging responsible lending, and implementing advanced data analytics and AI technology. This strategy intends to improve credit risk assessment, boost transparency, and foster confidence in Qatar's financial ecosystem, in line with the country's economic diversification goals under the Qatar National Vision 2030.

[Shura Council reviews Ministry of Municipality's strategy 2024-2030]

The Shura Council evaluated the Ministry of Municipality's 2024-2030 Strategy, which focuses on sustainable urban development, environmental protection, and improved municipal services. The strategy covers essential activities such as optimizing waste management, expanding urban green spaces, and improving infrastructure. These efforts aim to connect with Qatar's National Vision 2030, assuring cities' long-term growth and an enhanced quality of life for citizens.

Sources: The Peninsula Qatar, Gulf Times

Environmental Infrastructure

Environment minister inauguratesRadiation Data Monitoring and Analysis Unit

Qatar's Minister of Environment and Climate Change has established a Radiation Data Monitoring and Analysis Unit, which will strengthen the country's environmental and public safety capacities. The new unit is intended to monitor radiation levels in real time, evaluate data, and help formulate policies to maintain environmental sustainability. This endeavor is consistent with Qatar's efforts to strengthen its environmental infrastructure as part of the Qatar National Vision 2030, which emphasizes sophisticated technology to protect natural resources and public health.

Qatar University Hosts Qatari-Korean Climate Change Seminar

Qatar University (QU) recently held the "Qatari-Korean Seminar on Climate Change Counteraction and Carbon Reduction," focusing on joint efforts between Qatar and Korea to combat climate change and reduce carbon emissions. The event brought together experts from both countries to discuss innovative solutions and strategies for sustainable development. Key sessions included discussions on carbon reduction technologies, environmental governance, and the role of the private sector. Prof. Ahmad al-Own from QU and Korea's ambassador to Qatar, Yun Hyunsoo, emphasized the importance of cooperation. The seminar concluded with a commitment to continued collaboration in renewable energy and nature-based solutions. The event was co-organized by QU, KOTRA, and other key institutions.

Sources: Zawya, Gulf Times

Environmental Infrastructure

Ashghal's Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant to Boost Qatar's Environmental Infrastructure

The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) is advancing the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant Project (Phase 1), a state-of-the-art facility set to treat industrial wastewater in Qatar. Located southwest of the Doha Industrial Area, the plant will process wastewater from local industrial facilities, with a capacity of 10,000 cubic metres per day, expandable for future needs. The project, valued at QR692,952,097, is on track for completion by the third quarter of 2025. It has already achieved 3.5 million man-hours without injuries and received ISO certifications for environmental and health standards.

Sources: Gulf times

Sectorial Updates

Sectorial Updates

IMF's Positive Outlook on Qatar's Economy

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Qatar's economy is progressively recovering from the economic deceleration that followed the World Cup. Real GDP growth is predicted to reach 2% in the near future, and structural reforms and an increase in LNG output will support a positive medium-term outlook.

Qatar Central Bank launches new Real-Time Gross Settlement System

The Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has announced a Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system that would improve the efficiency and security of financial transactions. The new mechanism allows for the immediate settlement of high-value payments while also strengthening the nation's financial infrastructure. This effort corresponds with Qatar's strategic focus on digital transformation, establishing the country as a regional leader in modern financial systems.

Sources: IMF, Zawya

Sectorial Updates

Sectorial Updates

Meeza strengthens Qatar’s AI readiness at World AI Summit 2024

Meeza, a renowned IT services provider, demonstrated its advances in artificial intelligence (AI) at the World AI Summit 2024, stressing Qatar's commitment to becoming an AI-powered economy. The company presented solutions in smart city technology, data analytics, and cloud-based AI tools, demonstrating the country's willingness to embrace cutting-edge advances. This is consistent with Qatar's strategic aims under the National Vision 2030 to lead in digital transformation and technological excellence.

Qatar National Day opportunity to celebrate achievements across all fields

Qatar National Day (QND) 2024 provided an opportunity to recognize the country's outstanding achievements in a variety of fields, including urban development, education, healthcare, and energy. The festivities showcased Qatar's progress toward the Qatar National Vision 2030, including infrastructural improvements, sustainability efforts, and global collaborations. Cultural exhibits, community activities, and recognition of achievements demonstrated Qatar's commitment to progress and innovation.

Sources: Gulf Times

Sectorial Updates

Qatar's MCIT announces 25 start-ups selected for TASMU Accelerator 2024

The Qatar Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) has announced the selection of 25 startups for the TASMU Accelerator 2024 program. The picked firms are focused on smart city technology, fintech, artificial intelligence, and digital transformation, which aligns with the country's innovation-driven mission. This project intends to promote entrepreneurship, strengthen the digital economy, and position Qatar as a global leader in technology and innovation.

Qatar to Advance Key Infrastructure Projects in 2025 to Enhance Public Services

Qatar will expand infrastructure upgrades in 2025, focusing on roads, sewage systems, and beautification. Central Municipal Council Vice-Chairman Mubarak Freish al-Salem highlighted ongoing projects in Izghawa and Al-Kharaitiyat, including sewage networks, road paving, and a new commercial street in Izghawa. Mohammed Manaa al-Khawar noted 90% completion of services in Umm Al-Saneem, proposing a commercial street to link it with Ain Khaled.Jassim Ali al-Suror confirmed 95% completion of roads in Al Dafna, now focusing on beautification. Abdullah Khalid al-Yafai reported ongoing works in Al-Kharaitiyat, with sewage systems, street upgrades, and gardens, set to finish by early 2025.

Sources: Zawya, Gulf Times

Sectorial Updates

Qatar's QR210bn Budget Allocation to Drive Growth in Infrastructure Projects

Qatar has allocated a QR210.2bn budget for 2025, a 4.6% increase from the previous year, aimed at driving economic growth across multiple sectors. Analysts from Verified Market Research indicate significant expansion in the construction and infrastructure sectors, with government expenditure, bolstered by strong reserves and surpluses, enabling direct funding of large-scale projects and reducing dependence on public-private partnerships. The focus will be on improving high-quality road networks, constructing state-of-the-art facilities, and advancing large-scale projects that attract both tourists and investors.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Launches New Online Service for Overseas Document Attestation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has introduced a new online service for completing document attestation abroad. This initiative supports Qatar National Vision 2030 by simplifying services and digitizing processes. The service allows legal recognition for foreign-issued documents, such as educational certificates and judicial papers, by sending them to Qatar's diplomatic missions abroad for attestation. For educational certificates, the university degree must be accredited by Qatar's Ministry of Education and Higher Education to be attested.

Sources: The Peninsula Qatar, Zawya

KPMG

Contact us

Venkat Krishnaswamy
Partner,
Head of Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

kvenkatesh@kpmg.com
M : +974 5554 1024

Sayantan Pande
Director,
Head of Infrastructure & Real Estate Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

sayantanpande@kpmg.com
M : +974 3330 9793

Rishu Gupta
Manager,
Infrastructure & Real Estate Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

guptar@kpmg.com
M: +974 6653 7641

Firas Moukhadder
Senior Consultant,
Infrastructure & Real Estate Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

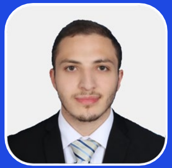
fmoukhadder@kpmg.com
M: +974 7783 8458

Ayman Takkoush
Consultant,
Infrastructure & Real Estate Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

atakoush@kpmg.com
M: +974 5594 1619

Iheb Salhi
Consultant,
Infrastructure & Real Estate Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

ihebs@kpmg.com
M: +974 3348 3571



Feras Abu Ghoush
Consultant,
Infrastructure & Real Estate Advisory
KPMG in Qatar

ferasabughoush@kpmg.com
M: +974 6655 7080

kpmg.com/qa

The information contained herein is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavor to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.