



# Infrastructure Insider

July 2025

KPMG in Qatar

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# Urban Development

## Ashghal Unveils QAR 81 Bn Five-Year Infrastructure Development Strategy

The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has announced a comprehensive QAR 81 bn strategic plan spanning the next five years. This major initiative includes infrastructure development for both existing and newly allocated residential plots for Qatari citizens, aiming to support population growth and urban expansion. The plan also covers the construction of essential public facilities such as schools, healthcare centers, and various government buildings to enhance public services. Additionally, the strategy prioritizes sustainability and resilience through key drainage projects, including two major rainwater tunnels in northern and southern Doha to improve flood management and stormwater infrastructure across the city.

## National Beach Development Project Across Qatar

The Ministry of Municipality has launched a national initiative to upgrade 18 public beaches across Qatar, aiming to enhance visitor experience and accessibility. The first phase includes enhancements at eight key beaches: Simaisma, Al Wakra, Sealine, Al Farkia, Al Ghariyah, Safa Al Touq, and Al Kharaij. Upgrades feature over 300 shaded seating areas, wooden umbrellas (including accessible options), soft-sand playgrounds, and designated zones for restaurants and food trucks. The project also includes landscaping, new walkways, and improved beach access, developed in collaboration with Ashghal, local municipalities, and private partners.

## Road Maintenance Project Enhances Connectivity in Al Wakra

Ashghal has successfully completed a road maintenance project in parts of Al Wakra, aimed at upgrading the local road network and improving transportation infrastructure. The work involved repaving and maintaining over 60 km of roads, in addition to installing approximately 840 lighting poles to improve nighttime visibility across main streets and residential zones. The project also included road markings on 56 km of newly resurfaced roads, along with new directional and ground signs, and pedestrian crossings to boost safety. Eng. Khalid Al-Naimi, Head of the South Zone Roads Operation & Maintenance Section, emphasized that the improvements have significantly enhanced road connectivity and service quality for residents, ensuring safer and more seamless travel throughout the area.



# Transport Infrastructure

## Ashghal Awards QAR 3.3 Bn Contracts for Long-Term Road Maintenance in Qatar

Ashghal's Roads Operation and Maintenance Department awarded two contracts totaling QAR 3.3 bn for the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of Qatar's road network. The Qatar South contract (QAR 1.75 bn) was awarded to China Harbor Engineering Co. – Alcat Contracting Co., while the Qatar North contract (QAR 1.63 bn) went to Al Mohannadi – Aktor Qatar joint venture. These 10-year framework contracts cover pavements, tunnels, structures, beautification, safety devices, streetlighting, and ITS equipment.

## Qatar Ratifies GCC Railway Deal

On July 2, 2025, Qatar's Cabinet, led by Sheikh Saoud bin Abdulrahman bin Hassan Al-Thani, approved a draft agreement for the country to join the ambitious GCC Railway project. The planned railway will span approximately 2,117 kilometers, connecting Kuwait City to Dammam, then branching via maritime bridges to Bahrain and Qatar, continuing through Abu Dhabi and ending in Muscat, Oman. Designed to accommodate both high-speed passenger trains and freight services, the project aims to boost regional connectivity, enhance trade and tourism, and support sustainable development in line with Qatar's long-term national goals.



# Social Infrastructure

## **Qatar Central Bank Issues Guidelines to Enhance Financial Inclusion for Disabled and Elderly Customers**

In line with the Third Financial Sector Strategy and the ESG and Sustainability Strategy aimed at enhancing financial inclusion, Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has issued new instructions to improve financial services for customers with disabilities and elderly individuals. The guidelines specifically focus on supporting customers who are capable of making their own financial decisions, ensuring they receive equal access to banking services. The circular requires banks to implement accessibility measures across all branches and ATM locations. These measures include installing ramps, electronic doors, and tactile floor signs to facilitate easier and safer access for the targeted groups. This initiative reflects QCB's commitment to creating a more inclusive financial environment that accommodates the needs of all customers.





# Telecommunication Infrastructure

## PSA launches second edition of Qatar Open Data portal

The Planning and Statistics Authority (PSA) has unveiled the second edition of the Qatar Open Data Portal, a national platform designed to provide open data and information following international standards. Originally launched in 2019 by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), the portal's management was transferred to PSA in early 2023. Since then, PSA has been developing an enhanced platform that covers a wide range of topics through collaboration with various ministries and government agencies. The portal offers data in user-friendly formats, tailored to meet the diverse needs of its users.

## GCC Wireless Telecom Market Set for Rapid Growth Driven by 5G and Digital Transformation

The wireless telecommunication services market in the GCC is experiencing strong growth, projected to reach USD 85.7 bn by 2025

and nearly USD 189.2 bn by 2035, with a CAGR of 8.3%. This expansion is fueled by the widespread deployment of 5G networks, rising smartphone usage, and ambitious national digital transformation initiatives. GCC countries are reshaping their telecom sectors through accelerated 5G rollout, increased cloud adoption, and extensive IoT integration. Key projects like smart cities in Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Qatar are boosting demand for advanced wireless connectivity, while investments in rural networks aim to ensure inclusive access across both urban and remote areas.



# Power and Energy Infrastructure (1/2)

## **bNovate Technologies Partners with HBKU to Improve Qatar's Water Distribution Resilience**

bNovate Technologies, a leader in advanced microbial water quality monitoring, is partnering with Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) on the SMART-Distribution project. This innovative initiative aims to tackle key challenges in Qatar's water distribution networks by enhancing infrastructure resilience against climate-related risks. The project focuses on implementing real-time water quality monitoring and advanced risk assessment tools to safeguard Qatar's water systems.

## **Qatar Advances LNG Expansion Amid Regional Energy Boom**

Qatar is rapidly expanding its Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) production to meet growing global demand, with Qatar Energy investing over USD 30 bn in its North Field expansion projects. During the recent MEED webinar "MENA Oil & Gas Projects Market 2025–26," Qatar was highlighted as the region's third-largest energy spender, following Saudi Arabia and the UAE. The North Field East and South phases aim to boost LNG capacity from 77.5 mn to 126 mn tons per year (t/y) by 2028, with major contracts awarded to global firms such as Chiyoda and Technip Energies. A newly announced third phase, North Field West, will raise capacity further to 142 mn t/y by 2030, reinforcing Qatar's position as a key player in the global LNG market.

## **Al Mahhar Holding Acquires 90% Stake in Gulf Automation System**

Al Mahhar Holding Company, a leading provider of services and specialized products to the energy and infrastructure sectors, has completed the acquisition of a 90% stake in Gulf Automation System (GAS). The purchase was made through its wholly owned subsidiary, Petroleum Technology Company (Petrotec), following approval from Al Mahhar's shareholders at an extraordinary general assembly on May 28. Petrotec acquired the stake for a nominal consideration of QAR 196,000, reflecting the commercial agreement between the parties and Al Mahhar's broader strategic objectives.

## **Contractors Bid for Qatar Energy's USD 2.5 bn Fifth NGL Train Project**

Contractors have submitted commercial bids to Qatar Energy for a project to add a fifth natural gas liquids (NGL) train at its NGL complex in Mesaieed Industrial City. Valued at an estimated USD 2.5 bn, the project aims to build the NGL-5 train with the capacity to process up to 350 mn cubic feet per day of rich associated gas from Qatar Energy's offshore and onshore oil fields.

# Power and Energy Infrastructure (2/2)

## Qatar Accelerates Solar Energy Push to Power a Sustainable Future

Qatar is rapidly ramping up its solar energy capacity, aggressively driving toward its goal of 20% renewable electricity by 2030 and slashing greenhouse gas emissions by 25%. Massive projects like the 800 MW Al Kharsaah plant and the Ras Laffan and Mesaieed solar facilities have already pushed total solar capacity to 1,675 MW, powering 15% of peak demand and cutting millions of tons of CO<sub>2</sub>. Qatar Energy leads the charge with bold investments nearing QR 4 billion, relying heavily on national expertise and cutting-edge tech to overcome challenges like high costs and harsh conditions. The government is pushing hard for private sector involvement and rapid expansion, cementing Qatar's role as a regional powerhouse in clean energy. With global clean energy spending hitting USD 2 tn in 2024, Qatar is aggressively securing its spot at the forefront of the renewable revolution, driving sustainability and economic diversification at full throttle.







# Environmental Infrastructure (1/2)

## **Qatar Strengthens Environmental Efforts to Combat Desertification and Drought**

Qatar is advancing sustainable environmental policies to protect natural resources, improve land management, and strengthen resilience against desertification and drought. Initiatives include regulating land use, expanding afforestation, using native plants to improve soil and reduce erosion, and adopting water-efficient agricultural practices. With the UN warning that drought could affect over 75% of the global population by 2050, Qatar is stepping up efforts through agricultural reclamation projects aimed at transforming deserts into green spaces, enhancing biodiversity, using treated water for irrigation, and reducing emissions.

## **MECC Launches Campaign to Monitor Dust Pollution and Enforce Environmental Compliance**

As part of its efforts to preserve air quality and reduce dust-related pollution, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MECC), through the Wildlife Development Department, has launched a campaign to monitor environmental violations related to dust emissions across various regions. The initiative targets illegal practices that negatively impact the environment and public health. Several non-compliant sites were identified for failing to control airborne dust and lacking proper mitigation measures—violations that breach Environmental Protection Law No. (30) of 2002.

## **Qatar's Veterinary Quarantine Facilities Earn GSAS 3-Star Certification**

Qatar's veterinary quarantine facilities at Al Ruwais Port and near Hamad Port have received the GSAS 3-Star certification, highlighting a significant step in the nation's sustainability journey under Qatar National Vision 2030. The GSAS system, tailored for the MENA region and applied to major projects like Lusail City and World Cup stadiums, evaluates environmental performance. This recognition underscores the Ministry of Municipality's commitment to sustainable facility design, construction, and operation—enhancing environmental infrastructure, food security, and protection against transboundary animal diseases.

## **MECC Highlights Environmental Sector Achievements in Q2 2025**

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MECC) has released its Q2 2025 report outlining key achievements across the environmental sector, with a focus on monitoring, inspection, and service activities. A total of 1,486 field inspections were carried out, including 783 by the Environmental Monitoring and Inspection Department, 97 by the Radiation Protection Department, 239 by the Chemicals and Hazardous Waste Department, and 367 by the Environmental Assessment and Permits Department. Additionally, MECC received 138 environmental reports during the same period, with the majority—106—related to chemicals and hazardous waste management.



# Environmental Infrastructure (2/2)

## Al Shamal Municipality Launches Clean-Up Campaign for Construction Sites

Al Shamal Municipality, through the General Control Section of the Municipal Control Department, has launched a public clean-up campaign targeting buildings and roads under construction. The initiative aims to combat visual pollution and improve the city's urban appearance. As part of the campaign, inspection tours were conducted to ensure construction sites comply with safety and cleanliness regulations.

## Ashghal's D-Line Project to Advance Wastewater Reuse

Ashghal's Treated Sewage Effluent (TSE) D-Line project is set to significantly boost wastewater reuse in South Doha by transferring 22.5 mn cubic meter of treated sewage annually from the Doha South Sewage Treatment Works to Seasonal Storage Lagoons via a 65 km pipeline. The project, which includes a high-capacity 120,000 cubic meter/day pumping station, will support irrigation for feed farms—particularly in the Rakhiya area—helping to conserve groundwater resources. Targeted for completion by the end of 2025, the initiative aligns with Qatar's National Environment and Climate Change Strategy, which aims to achieve 100% reuse of treated wastewater by 2030.



# Digital Infrastructure (1/2)

## Qatar Launches World's Largest 3D Printed School Project

In a global milestone for digital construction, UCC Holding and Ashghal have begun the printing phase of Qatar's groundbreaking 3D Printed Schools Project—the largest of its kind worldwide. The initiative includes the construction of 14 public schools, with two being fully 3D printed, each spanning 20,000 square meters. Together, these schools represent a total built-up area of 40,000 square meters—40 times larger than any existing 3D printed structure globally. Designed as two-storey buildings on 100x100 meter plots, this project sets a new benchmark for innovative, future-ready educational infrastructure in Qatar and the region.

## Supreme Judiciary Council Launches Integrated E-Payment Services in Partnership with QNB

In collaboration with Qatar National Bank (QNB), the Supreme Judiciary Council (SJC) has introduced the first set of E-payment services via an integrated E-payment gateway. This initiative aims to streamline judicial procedures by allowing parties to pay deposits and court fees digitally in a secure, fast, and convenient way. The new system supports multiple payment methods, including MasterCard, Visa, Himyan cards, and Apple Pay, enhancing accessibility and efficiency in court transactions.

## Qatar Ranks Among Top Digital Economies in Global ICT Index

Qatar has reinforced its position as one of the world's leading digital economies through the continuous development of its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector. In the 2025 ICT Development Index (IDI) by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Qatar achieved a high score of 98.4 points, reflecting major progress in digital infrastructure, communication quality, and usage efficiency. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology noted that this strong performance underscores the vital link between digital advancement and economic growth.

## Hamad Medical Corporation Launches 'Lbaih' App to Enhance Digital Health Access

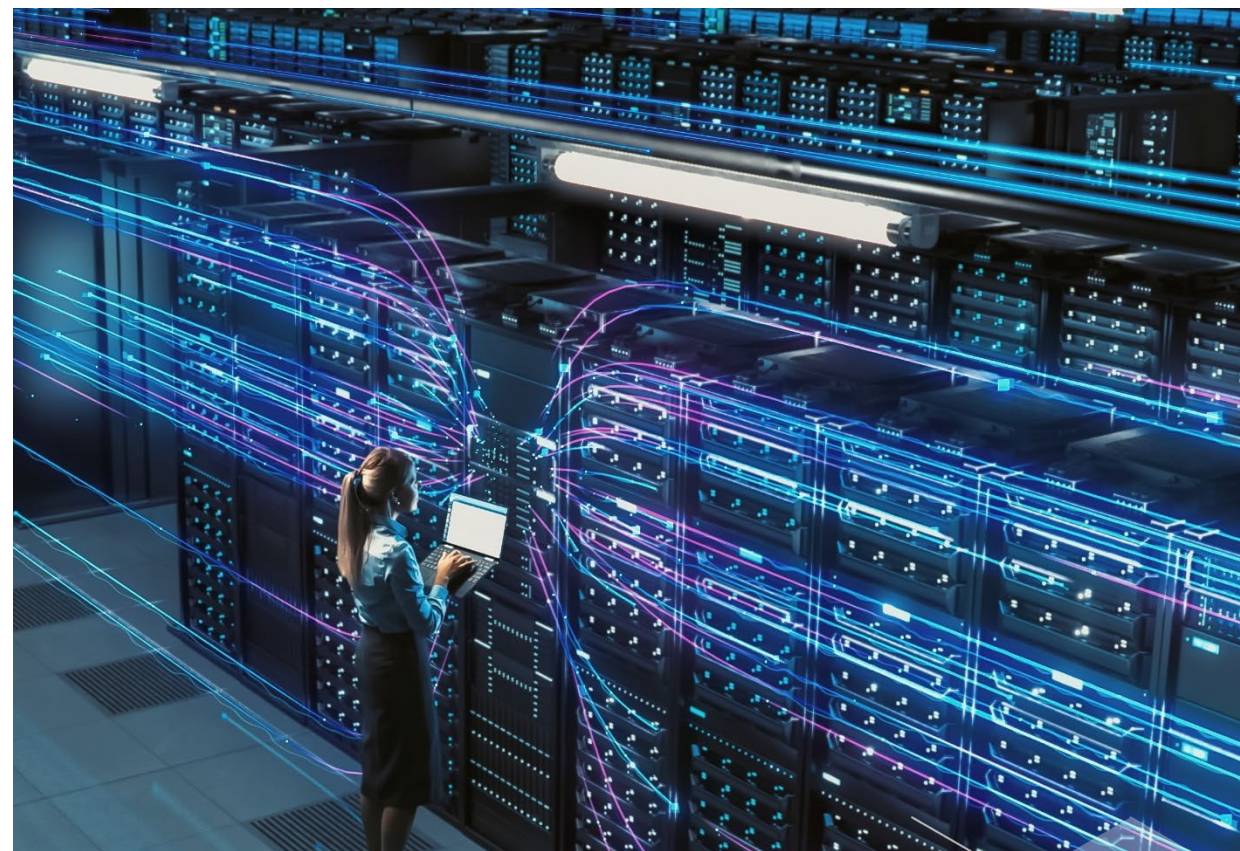
Hamad Medical Corporation has introduced the 'Lbaih' mobile app to improve patient access to medical services and support Qatar's digital health goals under National Vision 2030. The app enables users to view, reschedule, or cancel appointments, access medical records, lab results, and prescriptions, and receive important notifications. Designed for easy use across HMC facilities, it offers secure login through Qatar National Authentication ID and optional biometric access. Officials highlight that Lbaih empowers patients to actively participate in their care, enhancing convenience, privacy, and overall treatment efficiency.



# Digital Infrastructure (2/2)

## Ministry of Transport Advances Digital Transformation with Expanded Smart Services

The Ministry of Transport is driving Qatar's transport sector digital transformation by expanding smart applications like the Darb app, which streamlines licensing for land transport and offers various digital maritime services. Aligned with Qatar's Transportation Master Plan 2050, these efforts aim to boost efficiency, accessibility, and public satisfaction while promoting sustainability and economic growth. In the first half of 2025, over 8,398 maritime and 5,827 land transport transactions were completed, highlighting strong digital adoption and the Ministry's dedication to safe, integrated, and eco-friendly mobility.



# Sectorial Updates (1/2)

## **Qatar's Construction Sector Set to Surpass USD 106 Bn by 2030**

Qatar's construction industry continues to expand robustly, with its market size projected to exceed USD 68.7 bn (approximately QAR 250 bn) in 2025 and rise steeply to over USD 106 bn (around QAR 388 bn) by 2030. This growth trajectory is fueled by sustained investments in liquefied natural gas infrastructure, transportation networks, tourism-linked developments, and major sporting event facilities. Driven by public sector spending aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030 and platforms like the 2030 Asian Games, the sector also faces rising tender prices and imported raw material costs—challenges that are reshaping its competitive dynamics.

## **Qatar Investment and Innovation Conference to Spotlight GCC Entrepreneurial Growth**

Msheireb Properties and The Business Year have announced that the second edition of the Qatar Investment and Innovation Conference will be held on November 3 at Barahat Msheireb, under the theme “Driving GCC Entrepreneurial Growth.” The event will focus on advancing the Gulf region's startup ecosystem and fostering greater regional collaboration. Bringing together senior government officials, investors, and business leaders from Qatar and across the GCC, the conference will also highlight the role of youth and emerging enterprises in shaping the future of economic growth.

## **Labour Sector Reports Strong Digital Progress and Field Oversight in Q2 2025**

Labour sector statistics for Q2 2025 reveal significant advancements in electronic service delivery and field inspections as the Ministry continues its digital transformation efforts to speed up processes, improve service quality, and enhance user experience. The latest bulletin highlighted key figures, including 1,598,159 applications received by the Work Permits Department. These included 1,012,750 renewals of general work permits (Personal Number extensions) and 73,216 special work permit applications (for family sponsorship, GCC nationals, investors, property beneficiaries, etc.).

## **Qatar Highlights GIS Advancements at Esri 2025 International Conference**

As part of its active role in global tech forums, Qatar's Ministry of Municipality, through the Center for Geographic Information Systems (CGIS), delivered a keynote at the Imagery Summit during the Esri 2025 International GIS Conference held in San Diego, USA. This leading event in geographic information systems (GIS) attracts thousands of experts in mapping, aerial imagery, and remote sensing. The keynote showcased Qatar's 35-year journey in GIS adoption, focusing on unifying technical standards and enabling spatial data sharing via a national system. This advanced geospatial infrastructure was instrumental in the successful hosting of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.



# Sectorial Updates (2/2)

## Minister Emphasizes Qatar's Expertise as Foundation for 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games Bid

Minister of Municipality HE Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah Al Attiyah highlighted that Qatar's bid to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games represents the culmination of years of accumulated experience and expertise developed by the country's national talents. Drawing on a strong track record of successfully organizing major global sporting events, Qatar is confident in its ability to deliver an exceptional and memorable Games. The bid reflects the nation's commitment to leveraging its advanced infrastructure, skilled workforce, and passion for sports to create a world-class event that unites people and showcases Qatar on the international stage.



The insights and highlights featured in the July Monthly Insider are captured from a range of credible sources, including The Peninsula Qatar, Saudi Gulf Projects, Ashghal, Gulf Times, Qatar Tribune, Zawya, MEED, Ministry of Labor (MOL)





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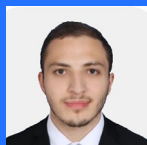
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