

# Qatar's National Manufacturing Strategy

.....and Its Impact on the Infrastructure & Real Estate Sectors

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## Foreword

As Qatar accelerates its journey toward economic diversification, the manufacturing sector has emerged as a cornerstone of long-term resilience, competitiveness, and innovation.

The National Manufacturing Strategy plays a pivotal role in translating this vision into action by identifying high-potential sectors, fostering advanced technologies, and empowering both private enterprise and national talent. Aligned with the broader objectives of the Third National Development Strategy and Qatar National Vision 2030, it charts a clear path toward a more dynamic, sustainable, and inclusive industrial future.



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## Toward an Industrialized Future - Qatar's National Manufacturing Strategy

### **Driving Progress: Qatar's Three Phase National Development Strategy (NDS)**

NDS3

2024 - 2030

NDS 2

2018 - 2022

NDS1

2011 - 2016

Qatar's Third National Development Strategy outlines a comprehensive framework to achieve the goals of Qatar National Vision 2030 through parallel efforts across key national priorities.

It includes the Higher Education Strategy, aims to develop globally competitive citizens, increase women's workforce participation, and attract and retain high-skilled expatriate talent. It also advances personalized healthcare and seeks to position Qatar as a regional hub for research and innovation, with a focus on sustainability, artificial intelligence, and biotechnology.

### **National Manufacturing Strategy**

In parallel, the National Manufacturing Strategy, part of the broader National Development Strategy, aims to build a high-value, diversified industrial sector driven by technology and innovation, while stimulating private sector growth and contributing to a more competitive and sustainable economy.

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Pillar 1	Pillar 2	Pillar 3	Pillar 4
<b>-</b>	e <b>il</b> Île	<b>**</b>	
Human Development	Social Development	Economic Development	Environmental Development

The strategy aims to support economic diversification by focusing on private sector development and environmental sustainability under Qatar's economic and environmental development pillars, respectively

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Qatar National Manufacturing Strategy



## **An Overview of the Implementation Plan**

### **Phased Implementation**

The implementation of Qatar's National Manufacturing Strategy will be spearheaded by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, with the support of other government entities and strategic partners in three phases

O1 Quick Wins

- This phase focuses on quick-win projects that are low in cost and limited in scope
- These projects are designed for implementation within relatively short time frames
- Each project is intended to generate a clear and measurable impact within a specific area
- Such initiatives are prioritized at the start of the strategy to help catalyze long-term performance

02
Major Projects

- These are high-cost initiatives with impact across multiple activities and industrial sectors
- These projects are long-term in nature, with results that will take time to materialize
- The overall success of the strategy will largely depend on the outcomes of these projects
- These projects are expected to lay the foundation for future developments

O3
Complementary Projects

- This phase is designed to be a continuation of the earlier stages of the strategy
- It will bring together any new projects introduced during the previous stages
- It will also serve to address and recover from delays in implementing original projects
- The phase ensures continuity and flexibility in achieving the overall strategic objectives

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Qatar National Manufacturing Strategy



## **Ready for Effective Execution**

Initiatives **Projects Programs Industrial Clusters** The Fourth Industrial Revolution International Trade Workforce Development Research, Development, and Innovation **Development of Government Operations** Investment and Financing **Environmental Sustainability** Localization Programs

### **Execution Partners**

Lead



#### Strategy & Implementation Partners











#### **Main Partners**









Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Qatar National Manufacturing Strategy



## **Defined Strategic Goals**



Diversify and enhance the added value of the manufacturing sector



Increase annual investment in the manufacturing sector



Expand non-hydrocarbon exports



Improve industrial competitiveness and elevate Qatar's position in the Competitive Industrial Performance Index (CIP)



Strengthen the contribution of the private sector

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Qatar National Manufacturing Strategy







Promote the transition to circular economy practices





Advance Qatarization within the manufacturing sector





Accelerate the transformation of Qatari factories toward smart industry adoption





Increase added value generated per worker





Raise the proportion of highly skilled manpower in the sector

## **Unlocking Economic Potential**

### **Priority Industrial Sectors**



**Pharmaceuticals** 



Chemicals & Petrochemicals



**Plastics** 



Food & Beverage



Metals & Fabricated Metals



**Construction Materials** 

## 01

#### **Pharmaceuticals**

- Enhances national health security through local production of essential medicines
- Offers high value-added potential and opportunities for skilled employment

## 02

#### **Plastics**

- Utilizes petrochemical outputs to create highdemand consumer and industrial products
- Encourages innovation in packaging, construction, and manufacturing applications

## 03

#### **Metals & Fabricated Metals**

- Facilitates infrastructure and industrial development through critical inputs
- Promotes higher value-added activities in metalworking and product assembly

## 04

#### Chemicals & Petrochemicals

- Leverages Qatar's abundant hydrocarbon resources for downstream diversification
- Supports export growth and global competitiveness in industrial chemicals

## 05

#### Food & Beverage

- Strengthens food security and reduces reliance on imports
- Supports small and medium sized enterprises development and local agri-food value chains

## 06

#### **Construction Materials**

- Supports national infrastructure and real estate projects with local supply
- Reduces import dependence and stabilizes costs for major development plans

Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Qatar National Manufacturing Strategy, KPMG Research & Analysis



## Ripple Effect - Expanding Industrial Strategy into the Built Environment (1/2)

As Qatar advances its National Manufacturing Strategy, the ripple effects will extend beyond industry, shaping the country's infrastructure and real estate landscape in critical ways.

### **Industrial Zone Expansion**

- Increased manufacturing activity will drive demand for purpose-built industrial zones, logistics hubs, and warehousing facilities
- Developments such as Ras Bufontas and Umm Alhoul Free Zones are already attracting industrial and logistics tenants through their strategic locations, advanced infrastructure, and direct access to Hamad International Airport and Hamad Port

### **Real Estate Expansion**

- Demand for accommodation, office space, and complementary developments such as retail and food and beverage outlets is likely to increase around emerging manufacturing clusters, supporting broader patterns of urban expansion
- Residential developments near the Industrial Area, such as Labor City, are already responding to the needs of the growing industrial workforce

### **Supportive Infrastructure Needs**

- Growth in manufacturing will require robust transportation networks, utilities, sustainable, Eco-friendly, digital infrastructure to ensure seamless operations and connectivity
- Ongoing investments in Hamad Port and Ashghal's expressway program are enhancing logistical efficiency and supporting industrial mobility across the country

#### **Strategic Land Use Planning**

- Coordinated planning will be essential to balance industrial growth with sustainability, zoning efficiency, and urban livability
- The Qatar National Master Plan addresses this by guiding industrial development toward areas such as Mesaieed and Al Wakrah while preserving land use efficiency and environmental balance

As industrial activities grow, prioritizing sustainability is essential across manufacturing, infrastructure, and real estate sectors. This involves incorporating energy-efficient construction, eco-friendly logistics, and mindful land use, all while supporting Qatar's wider environmental objectives to promote growth that is sustainable both economically and ecologically.

Source: KPMG Research & Analysis



## Ripple Effect - Expanding Industrial Strategy into the Built Environment (2/2)

Qatar already has a well-established built environment, comprising extensive infrastructure and real estate developments distributed across various zones. Further expansion of these sectors is expected to generate significant trickle-down effects across other areas of the economy.

## Built Environment Set to Benefit



**Transport** 





Office



Retail and F&B



Construction Materials



**Support Services** 

The evolution of these sectors has been shaped by a series of economic, geopolitical, and global events over the past decade, each influencing demand patterns and driving shifts in growth and investment across the broader landscape.

### **Blockade-Induced Disruption**

- The 2017 blockade initially restricted economic activity and disrupted supply chains across key sectors.
- However, it also prompted a strategic pivot toward self-reliance, accelerating domestic investment and local sourcing, which gradually revitalized demand for accommodation, construction materials, and support services.

### **Recovery and Market Opening**

- The lifting of the blockade in early 2021 re-opened regional trade routes and improved investor confidence, enabling a rebound in economic activity.
- This shift supported renewed investment in commercial real estate and economic and social infrastructure, while also reinforcing domestic value chains that had been strengthened during the period of economic isolation.

#### Pandemic Shock and World Cup Surge

- The COVID-19 pandemic temporarily disrupted economic activity and reduced demand across most sectors, leading to a period of stagnation and uncertainty.
- This was followed by a sharp recovery driven by the FIFA World Cup 2022, which significantly boosted demand for accommodation, office space, transport infrastructure, and consumer-facing sectors such as F&B and retail.

#### Slowdown & Strategic Revitalization

- Following the World Cup, demand in many of these sectors plateaued, reflecting the natural post-event slowdown in economic activity.
- However, the launch of the National Manufacturing Strategy is expected to reinvigorate momentum, with planned industrial expansion likely to drive renewed demand across sectors.

Source: KPMG Research & Analysis



## **Key Takeaways**

## **01** Strategic Anchor for Economic Diversification

The National Manufacturing Strategy serves as a central pillar within the Third National Development Strategy, reinforcing Qatar's broader diversification agenda by targeting high-value, innovation-driven industrial growth, and positioning manufacturing as a core engine for building long-term economic resilience

## **02** Balanced Implementation Approach

Combining short-term, low-cost quick-win projects with longer-term, high-impact investments reflects a dual-track strategy that builds early momentum, lays the groundwork for systemic transformation, manages risk, and sustains stakeholder engagement through visible progress

## **O3** Empowered Execution Through Cohesive Partnerships

Effective implementation hinges not only on the right strategy but also on the right actors, with the emphasis on cohesive, capable partnerships reflecting the recognition that policy ambition must be matched by public and private institutional capacity to drive results at scale

## **Q4** Priority Sectors as Growth Catalysts

The targeted sectors are not only economically viable but are strategically selected to build competitive advantage by aligning with Qatar's natural strengths, while the increased focus on industrialization is expected to drive growth in the infrastructure and real estate sectors alongside the priority sectors outlined in the strategy

Source: KPMG Research & Analysis



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