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Member states of GOIC



The United Arab Emirates

The Kingdom of Bahrain

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Sultanate of Oman

The State of Qatar

The State of Kuwait

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The State of Kuwait**



The General Secretariat of GOIC



**H.E. Dr.
Lulwa Bint Abdullah Al Misnad,
Acting Secretary General**



**H.E. Mr.
Ahmed Hassan Dhalf,
Assistant Secretary General for
Information Sector**

Foreword: by the Secretary General

The year 2008 witnessed the overwhelming spread of the global economic crisis, with its impacts still affecting all the countries particularly the USA, wherein the gross local product recessed, while the average rate of unemployment hiked to an unprecedented degree since 1980's. The economies of the other capitalist countries witnessed a great set back reaching in some countries to 12%. The crisis had its severe impact on the real estate, banks and financial institution sectors. Later it expanded to other sectors, which governments try with all means to salvage or reduce its impact on them, through ways of pumping more governmental funds, or through merging processes. The GCC states are not exemption; they affect and get affected with what happens. The global crisis negatively affected the GCC economies, particularly in banking and real estate sectors and consequently the other sectors linked to them, such as the industrial sector. Efforts are still made in the GCC states to review the strategies of industrialization, in order to surpass the impacts of the crisis. It is anticipated that the XIth, Conference of the Industrialists to be held by GOIC in November 2009 will be an inclusive gathering for discussion and presentation of effective initiatives.



Setting off with intentions to establish contacts between the industrialists at both regional and international levels, GOIC on its part, held during the year 2008, four meetings, namely, the XIth, Conference of Industrialists held in Abu-Dhabi, Doha, Gathering on Knowledge based Industries held in Doha, Dubai Gathering for Industrial Partnership and Handling. Gulf – European Gathering held in Barcelona, in order to meet, discuss, exchange views with the decision makers in the GCC and with the leading global industrial investors, as well as to promote industrial cooperation between the European and the Gulf regions, as well as to promote Subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange between the two regions, to act for technology transference from Europe to the GCC countries, to pool the inquiries raised by the two parties and to harmonize between the reciprocal needs. Industrial handling is regarded as an effective mechanism to establish relations of cooperation and coordination among the production establishments in all production fields and to increase competitive capabilities of the industrial firms.

The year 2008 witnessed the bolstering of relations with the General Secretariat of the GCC, wherein work continued on the Unified GCC Industrial Strategy, on the current GCC map of industries and the ones required in future, on updating of the documents on means of development and encouragement of investment and on project of principles of encouragement of investment in the joint ventures in the GCC. Also the year 2008 witnessed signing of two cooperative agreements with Barcelona Commerce and Industry Chamber on the Outcomes of the GCC – European Industrial Gathering, and with

Dubai Corporation for Development of Exports on the II Phase of the Database Project on Industrial Handing and Partnership held in Dubai. Four memorandums of understanding were also signed during the year with the Indian MECON Co, Gulf Constructions Co, with the Federation of GCCC Chambers of Commerce and Industries and with the Gulf Researches Center, which respectively aimed to exchange expertise, conduct studies, enhance joint cooperation and to raise industrial development awareness in the region.

Numbers of services were catered for the GCC member states, particularly in areas of industrial evaluation. They included evaluation of 14 factories in 5 countries, so as to help reduce the cost of production through minimizing usage of electricity and water, reduction of industrial waste and to increase productivity, held a program on evaluation of projects, risk management in two countries, in cooperation with Duke Center for International Development, also four workshops were held along with one training, seven symposia, four of which were on subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange, two on reduction of operations cost and increase of productivity and efficiency of small and medium industries and a single symposium on the context of the program on promising industrial investment held annually by GOIC in one of the member states. It was the case since its inception in 1987.

In the field of the services provided to the private sector in the GCC three feasibility studies were conducted on petrochemical sectors for the First Gulf Bank in Bahrain, a program on subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange (database project) for Dubai Export Development Corporation, in addition to accomplishment of the First Phase of Impact of Duty Free Market at Dubai Airport on Dubai Economy in 2008.

In support of the leading role of GOIC in information field, a program on information sources was developed to provide industrial information for industrial community in the region by way of collection and analyses of data and information for use in all aspect of knowledge, also the existing database was updated and the interactive portals gate was supplied with new tables. Similarly the main website of GOIC was enriched for effective knowledge interaction with the end users

We are confident that these achievements were not to be realized had Allah not graced us
We are confident that these achievements were not to be realized had Allah not graced us with His part of endless bounties. They also not attainable had not there were care and concern by their Excellencies Ministers of Industry in the GCC member states and by the members of the Council of GOIC, which were mustered with the dedication and sincerity of the experts and employees of GOIC.

Allah is the Lord of Grating Success.

Dr. Lulwa Bint Abdulla Al-Misnad
Acting Secretary General

Economic Performance

Gulf economy witnessed in the mid of 2008's the peak of its activity and development for the past of many years. However, since August 2008 the impacts of the economic crisis affected the economic groups. Hence, the process of development of Gulf economy slowed down and the inflation rates receded, despite their relative height in 2008.



In harmony with the general economic situation in the GCC countries the industrial sector registered noticeable increase in 2008 compared to the situation in 2007 from either the perspective of the number of existing industries in the region or the volume of utilized investments or the number of the works. The number of the existing factories in the region grew by 739 factories, i.e. by 6.4%. Therefore, the total number of factories existing in the region reached 12316 factories by the end of 2008 and the number of employees in those factories increased by 87,523 employees i.e. by 9.9% leading the total number to 971,100 employees. From among these new companies there were some large factories. The volume of the industrial investment too was high and increased by \$ 23.1 billion dollars or 18.2% to reach \$ 150 billion dollars.

Gulf industry was divided into eight sectors, the most important of which were the chemical and plastic industries which accounted for 20.6% from among the factories 54.9% of the investment and 20.7% of the employees.

Metallic manufactured industries, tools and equipments, accounted for 27% of the number of factories, 24.9% of the employees and only 9% of the volume of the investments. This indicates that the cost of establishment of metallic industries is very less compared to chemical and plastic industries.

The metallic products accounted for 16.1% of the total existing Gulf industries from the perspective of the existing factories; 15.5% of the total employees and 12.5% of the total investments. Food and beverages came in the fourth rank by 12.6% of the number of factories; 14.4% of the employees and 7.6% of the volume of investments.

As regard to distribution of the factories among the GCC countries, the UAE was the first with 4510 of factories. i.e. 36.6% of the total number of factories; Saudi Arabia in the second rank with 4437 factories. i.e. 36%. The remaining numbers of the factories were divided by the rest of the GCC countries with Oman having 8.4%, Kuwait 7.1%, Bahrain 7% and Qatar 4.9%.

Distribution of factories according to the volume of the existing investments in these countries indicates that Saudi Arabia accounted for 61.3% of the total industrial investments in the countries of the region with US \$ 92 billion dollars, whereas the UAE occupied the second rank and accounted for 10.5%, Qatar in the third rank with 6.9%, Kuwait with 6.8% and Bahrain with 5.8%.



The year 2008 was a distinguished year as regard to enhancement of industrial sectors in the GCC countries. However, review of the annual progress standards in implementation of the unified industrial strategies showed apparent disorder in achievement of the targeted objectives, thereby necessitated revision of such strategies. GOIC set this issue as one of its priorities of activities in 2009, particularly for department of assessment of objectives and for search for new standards for measurement of the unified strategic performance as well as search for possibilities of drafting development strategies for certain countries. GOIC took interest in putting this issue on the top priorities of its agenda so as to be discussed by the Conference of Industrialists to be held in Doha in November 2009.

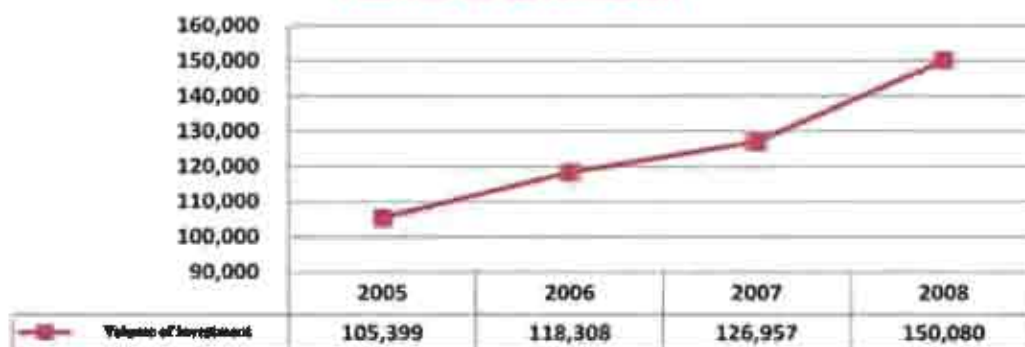
Development of Manufacturing Industries in the GCC States 2005 – 2008

Year	No of Companies	Million	Employees
2005	9,861	105,399	773,786
2006	10,367	118,308	815,744
2007	11,577	126,957	883,594
2008	12,316	150,080	971,117

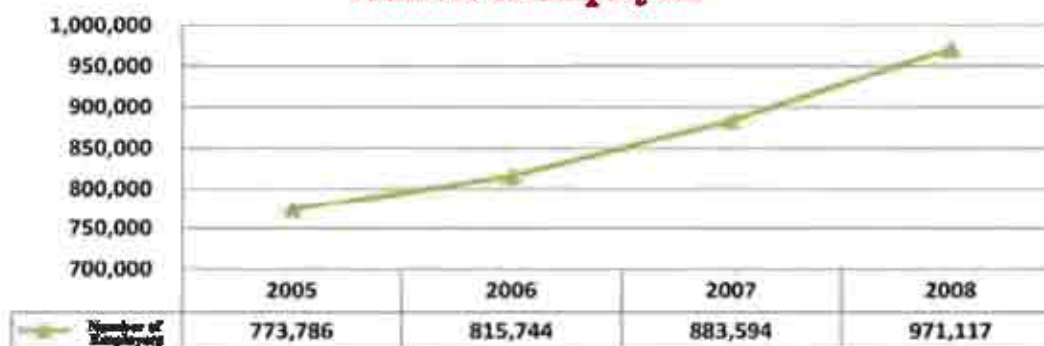
No. of Factories



Volume of Investment



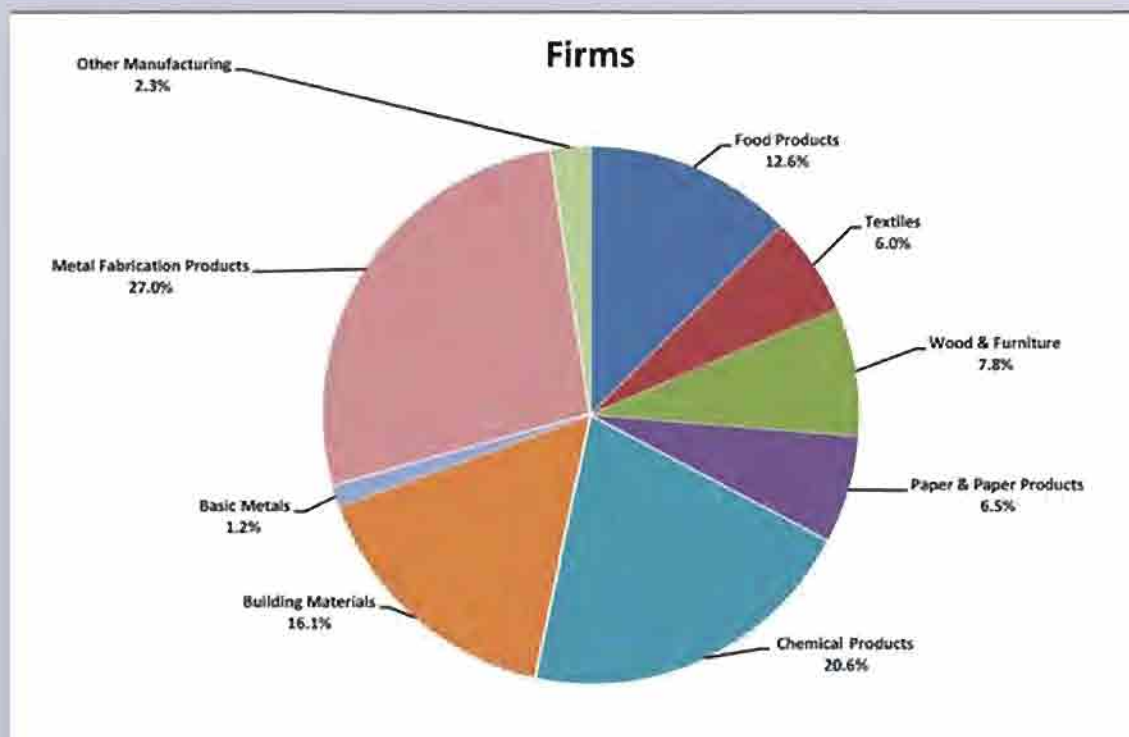
Number of Employees



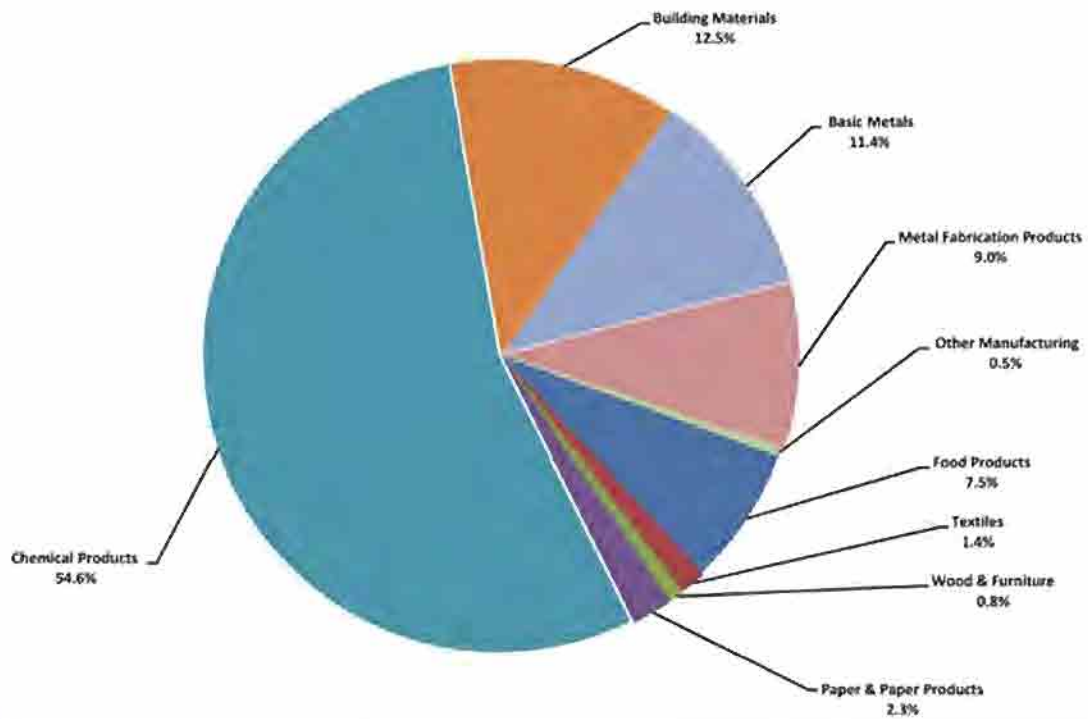


Hierarchical structure of the processing industries in GCC states in 2008

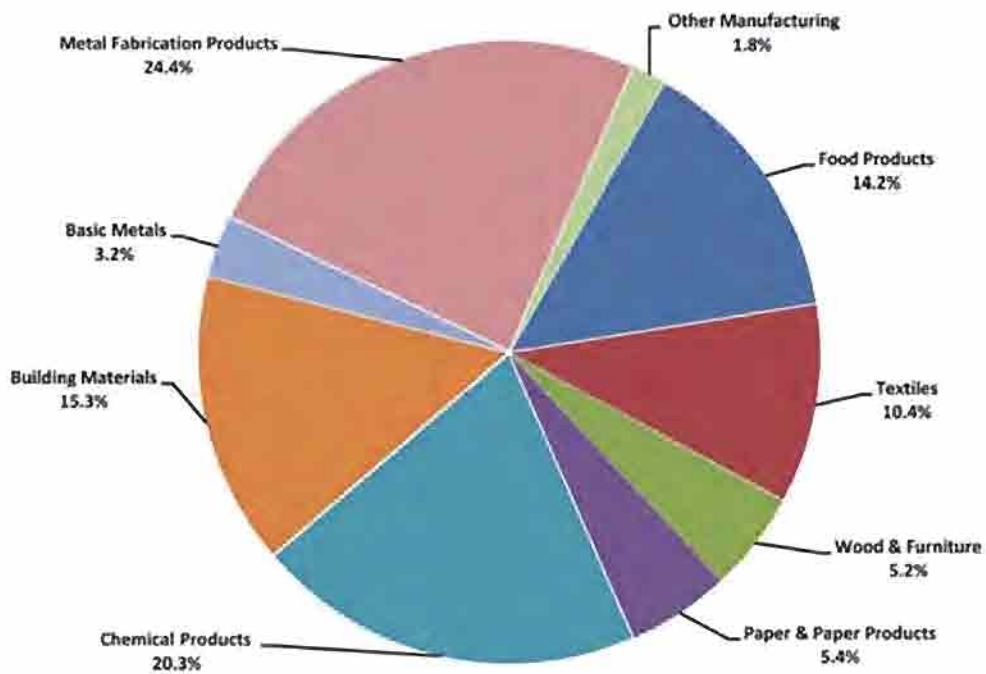
Years	No. of Factories		Investment / Million \$		No. of Labour	
	Firms	%	Investment	%	Labour	%
Food, beverages & tobacco	1,548	12.6	11,310	7.5	137,534	14.2
Textiles, clothes & leathers	735	6.0	2,161	1.4	100,792	10.4
Wood, wooden products & furniture	955	7.8	1,219	0.8	50,514	5.2
Paper, printing & publishing	796	6.5	3,391	2.3	51,961	5.4
Chemical & plastic products	2,532	20.6	81,969	54.6	197,071	20.3
Non metallic mineral products	1,987	16.1	18,730	12.5	148,113	15.3
Basic mineral industries	150	1.2	17,084	11.4	30,815	3.2
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	3,326	27.0	13,519	9.0	237,246	24.4
Other manufactured industries	287	2.3	697	0.5	17,071	1.8
General Total	12,316	100	150,080	100	971,117	100



Investment



Labour



Hierarchical structure of the manufacturing industries in UAE in 2008

	No. of Factories		Investment / Million \$		No. of Labour	
	Firms	%	Investment	%	Labour	%
Food, beverages & Tobacco	409	9,1	1,532	9,7	28,845	10,2
Textiles, clothes & leathers	361	8,0	343	2,2	41,253	14,5
Wood , wooden products& Furniture	484	10,7	193	1,2	23,342	8,2
Paper, printing & publishing	356	7,9	446	2,8	18,323	6,5
Chemical & plastic products	1,014	25,5	6,499	41,2	50,570	17,8
Non metallic mineral prod. Except oil	215	11,4	2,804	17,8	40,040	14,1
Basic mineral industries	61	1,4	2,384	14,9	7,814	2,8
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	1,183	26,2	1,543	9,8	68,973	24,3
Other manufactured industries	130	2,9	72	0,5	4,785	1,7
General Total	4,510	100	15,781	100	283,927	100

Source: Industrial Information Unit -- GOIC

Hierarchical structure of the manufacturing industries in Kingdom of Bahrain in 2008

	No. of Factories		Investment / Million \$		No. of Labour	
	Firms	%	Investment	%	Labour	%
Food, beverages & Tobacco	119	13.9	208	2.4	3,966	6.8
Textiles, clothes & leathers	51	6.0	148	1.7	14,346	24.6
Food, beverages & Tobacco	119	13.9	208	2.4	3,966	6.8
Textiles, clothes & leathers	51	6.0	148	1.7	14,346	24.6
Wood , wooden products& Furniture	67	7.8	154	1.8	3,521	6.0
Paper, printing & publishing	38	4.4	39	0.4	1,838	3.2
Chemical & plastic products	122	14.3	3,172	36.4	8,245	14.1
Non metallic mineral prod. Except oil	97	11.3	261	3.0	6,724	11.5
Basic mineral industries	20	2.3	3,744	43.0	5,257	9.0
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	327	38.2	976	11.2	13,766	23.6
Other manufactured industries	15	1.8	12	0.1	633	1.1
General Total	856	100	8,715	100	58,296	100

Source: Industrial Information Unit -- GOIC

Hierarchical structure of the manufacturing industries in Saudi Arabia in 2008

	No. of Factories		Investment / Million \$		No. of Labour	
	Firms	%	Investment	%	Labour	%
Food, beverages & Tobacco	666	15.0	7,794	8.5	80,086	17.0
Textiles, clothes & leathers	207	4.7	1,467	1.6	25,979	5.5
Wood , wooden products& Furniture	191	4.3	697	0.8	15,690	3.3
Paper, printing & publishing	236	5.3	2,405	2.6	23,941	5.1
Chemical & plastic products	1,011	22.8	49,736	54.1	106,176	22.5
Non metallic mineral prod. Except oil	771	17.4	12,886	14.0	75,492	16.0
Basic mineral industries	48	1.1	7,247	7.9	11,920	2.5
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	1,216	27.4	9,171	10.0	122,745	26.0
Other manufactured industries	91	2.1	561	0.6	10,019	2.1
General Total	4,431	100	91,962	100	472,048	100

Source: Industrial Information Unit -- GOIC

Hierarchical structure of the manufacturing industries in Sultanate of Oman in 2008

	عدد المصانع No. of Factories		الاستثمار-مليون دولار Investment / Million \$		عدد العاملين No. of Labour	
	عدد المصانع Firms	%	الاستثمارات Investment	%	العاملين Labour	%
Food, beverages & Tobacco	212	20.5	842	8.2	8,839	18.2
Textiles, clothes & leathers	58	5.6	94	0.9	10,568	21.7
Textiles, clothes & leathers	58	5.6	94	0.9	10,568	21.7
Wood , wooden products& Furniture	74	7.1	65	0.6	2,777	5.7
Paper, printing & publishing	61	5.9	116	1.1	2,132	4.4
Chemical & plastic products	150	14.5	4,901	47.4	5,702	11.7
Non metallic mineral prod. Except oil	250	24.2	1,002	9.7	8,392	17.3
Basic mineral industries	11	1.1	2,708	26.2	2,647	5.4
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	198	19.1	583	5.6	7,094	14.6
Other manufactured industries	21	2.0	20	0.2	441	0.9
General Total	1,035	100	10,330	100	48,592	100

Source: Industrial Information Unit -- GOIC

Hierarchical structure of the manufacturing industries in Sate of Qatar in 2008

	No. of Factories		Investment / Million \$		No. of Labour	
	Firms	%	Investment	%	Labour	%
Food, beverages & Tobacco	62	10.2	210	1.6	2,363	6.7
Textiles, clothes & leathers	32	5.3	45	0.3	5,979	17.1
Wood , wooden products& Furniture	58	9.5	33	0.3	2,115	6.0
Paper, printing & publishing	34	5.6	85	0.6	912	2.6
Chemical & plastic products	103	16.9	10,873	82.8	9,648	27.5
Non metallic mineral prod. Except oil	169	27.8	663	5.0	6,810	19.4
Basic mineral industries	5	0.8	906	6.9	2,379	6.8
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	133	21.8	303	2.3	4,457	12.7
Other manufactured industries	13	2.1	7	0.1	357	1.0
General Total	609	100	13,124	100	35,020	100

Source: Industrial Information Unit -- GOIC

Hierarchical structure of the manufacturing industries in Kuwait in 2008

	No. of Factories		Investment / Million \$		No. of Labour	
	Firms	%	Investment	%	Labour	%
Food, beverages & Tobacco	80	9.2	724	7.1	13,435	18.3
Textiles, clothes & leathers	26	3.0	63	0.6	2,685	3.7
Textiles, clothes & leathers	26	3.0	63	0.6	2,685	3.7
Wood , wooden products& Furniture	81	9.3	77	0.8	3,069	4.2
Paper, printing & publishing	71	8.2	301	3.0	4,815	6.6
Chemical & plastic products	132	15.2	6,787	6,787	16,730	22.8
Non metallic mineral prod. Except oil	188	21.6	1,115	1,115	10,655	14.5
Basic mineral industries	5	0.6	131	131	798	1.1
Manufactured metallic products, tool, and equipments	269	31.0	943	943	21,211	27.6
Other manufactured industries	17	2.0	25	25	836	1.1
General Total	869	100	10,168	100	73,234	100

Source: Industrial Information Unit -- GOIC

Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting (GOIC)

Overview :

The Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting (GOIC) was established in 1976, by a decision made by the ministers of industry in the GCC states in order to realize industrial cooperation and coordination among the member states, namely UAE, Kingdom of Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman, the State of Qatar and the State of Kuwait.



GOIC acts as a pundit and a consulting apparatus based on knowledge in order to provide data, information, specialized researches, technical consultations and services for both private and public sectors in the GCC states. GOIC is considered as a leading expertise source in the field of industrial consultations, enhancement of industrial integration and coordination among the member states. Its reason d'etre or existence has become an essential link for ensuring speed and order of the pattern of industrial development in the region.

GOIC has important contributions in formation of industrial policies in the region, particularly in connection to unified industrial strategy adopted by the GCC member states. GOIC provides comprehensive social and economic data, introduces the new industrial products and supplies the suitable ones to the region. It determines the aspects of integration between the existing industries, provides technical and economic consultations; conducts market surveys, feasibility studies, economic and legal studies for governments, public sector authorities, private sector establishments, investors and business representatives.

GOIC is governed by its Council and the Technical General Secretariat. The Council of GOIC represents the highest authority in GOIC. It is composed of representatives of the six GCC member states. It annually holds four ordinary sessions. It deals with everything that helps realize the objectives of GOIC. The Technical General Secretariat of GOIC has established multi industrial economic and social databases for member states in order to develop the information sector. These included external trade database; petrochemical database; cement database; and plastic industries database. GOIC has become a basic source for markets' information in the region, for monitoring their trends and for sensing their needs. Through issue of monthly reports, books, electronic news, and the industrial directory, GOIC has provided a considerable data, knowledge, statistics and the important and rich data which constituted a strong contribution to scientific and economic researches. In addition it promoted information contacts with experts and with economic researchers concerned with industrial development in the region.

In the context of alliances and cooperation agreements GOIC established links with number of international and local organizations and establishments in both public and private sectors in order to diversify knowledge, exchange of expertise and realize the strategic alliances concluded with reputed organizations, such as World Trade Organization (WTO) UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCWA); Organization of Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD); Japanese Cooperation Center for the Middle East (JCCME) and etc. Some non governmental organizations (NGOs) and consultants of main various specializations from different parts of the world all worked for industrial development of the GCC states. A host of partnerships and cooperation contracts with the pioneering research centers, and reputed expertise firms in different industrial fields, such as petrochemicals, metals, building materials, solar energy, nanotechnology and others in educational and ideological fields were concluded and developed.

Since its establishment, GOIC held number of coordination meetings between the similar industries. Specialized meetings and symposia were held, in addition to eleven Gulf Industrialists Conferences where Their Excellencies the Industrial Ministers, participated. Preparations are now underway to hold the twelfth conference of the Gulf Industrialists by the end of 2009. GOIC actively participated in the specialized fairs held in concurrence with the conferences and symposia. The latest technologies, innovations and services of the leading industrial countries are exhibited in such fairs. GOIC also took interest in organization of training course and workshops in order to qualify the young national cadre and to provide them specialized knowledge.

As an industrial publication house GOIC played an active role. It translated and well established the technical industrial terminologies and disseminated them in its various publications which exceeded 500 periodicals, special and monthly news publications, books, summaries, industrial manuals, directories, reports, booklets pamphlets and CDs. It also issued industrial series that included, among the most important ones, series of features of Industrial Economy in the GCC States, series of Basic Industries in the GCC States, series of Industrial Directories, series of Gulf Statistics File and ... etc.

Programs and Activities during 2008

GOIC continued its efforts to promote the development in the GCC member states, enhancement of requirements for establishment of integrated and comprehensive Gulf industries. Striving for this end GOIC set out number of programs and activities during the year 2008 as follows:

First: Services provided to the General Secretariat of the GCC

Work continued throughout of the year 2008 on the Unified Gulf Industrial Strategy and the Industrial Indicators. By a request made by the General Secretariat of the GCC assessment of the Unified Gulf Industrial Strategy is taking place during the current year 2009. The assessment will be based on the upcoming visit of the UNIDO delegation to the GCC countries. GOIC had sent its work plan for the year 2009 to the General Secretariat of the GCC on annual reports of the Unified Strategy which will immediately be tackled after the completion of the assessment of the current strategy and after the submission of proposals of new industrial indicators.

Also by a request made by the General Secretariat of the GCC reference framework for study of Map of the Future Required and Current Existing Gulf Industries was prepared, to be adopted and to review its financing sources. GOIC submitted its views on modernization of Instrument on Ways to Develop and Encourage Joint Investments, and on Principles of Encouragement of Investment in Joint Ventures in the GCC States.

In its efforts to develop the electronic website of GOIC Data on Economic Indicators were added to the website such as the economic indicators for measurement of the dimensions of the Gulf markets. It also continues its efforts to obtain from industrial ministries more data, such as the incentives provided for the investors, procedures of industrial licenses and registrations. GOIC worked to provide periodical information for the General Secretariat of the GCC on national products through an interactive database on its website. GOIC is also ready to prepare a published directory and CDs.

In the context of cooeration with similar external organizations discussions were held

In the context of cooperation with similar external organizations discussions were held with UNIDO on Assessment of the Strategy and the Industrial Indicators. The assessment will be made during the stipulated tour of UNIDO in the region in June 2009. It was also proposed that cooperation will be engaged with ESCWA in the area of water desalination, during the 8th meeting of the experts of water desalination, counting on the expertise of previous ESCWA experience in this field.

Upon request by the General Secretariat of the GCC general framework for Establishment of Federation of Export Development Centers in the GCC states project was also considered. Similarly revision and checking of translation of the Unified Industrial Organization Law for the GCC states was carried out. GOIC presented its views on the Unified Principles to Grant Priority to Government Procurements of the National Products in the GCC states project.

Second: Services provided for the member states

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia:

- ★ Within the work plan of 2008, industrial assessments of two plants in metallic and packing sectors were made, so as to help the two plants to reduce the production cost, control electricity and water consumption, reduce waste and to increase production.

United Arab Emirates:

- ★ Industrial assessments of three dairy milk factories were carried out in March 2008 in order plants to reduce the production cost, control electricity and water consumption, reduce waste and to increase production.

State of Kuwait:

- ★ Symposium on reduction of operation cost and up gradation of capabilities of small and medium industries was held on December 18th, 2008, in order to provide opinions to industrialists and decision makers in governments on benefits of preservation of resources (energy and water) in addition to lessening of wastage and promotion of productivity, causing of positive impacts of these factors on industrial development and on local and international environment.
- ★ Two industrial assessments were made in November 2008 on two factories in food and plastic sectors, in order reduce the production cost, control electricity and water consumption, reduce waste and to increase production.
- ★ Held from November 2nd, to 6th, 2008 a workshop on export skills and promotion of exports. The workshop aimed to train the participants on exporting, introducing them to its procedures and certificates, in addition to facilitate creation of international networks, dissemination of marketing and exporting skills, strengthening contacts between exporters, service providers and policy makers, in order to expand the cooperation horizon in order to develop further the exports of the GCC states.
- ★ Held from November 10th, to 12th, 2008 a workshop on determination and selection of new industrial projects, with the aim to develop capabilities of individuals in the process of determination of industrial investment opportunities, from among those who have project initiatives and investment companies.
- ★ Held from June 1st, to 3rd, 2008 a workshop on system of a special coordinator on classification and listing of goods in order to introduce the concept of the system, its use in classification and listing of goods, in addition to its complexities in relation with other specified international systems.

- ★ Held from March 15th to 20th, 2008 a program on project of assessment and risk management in cooperation with Duke Center for International Development, in order to enlighten the participants about the background and the content, which are necessary for project assessment and risk management.

Sate of Qatar:

- ★ Held a symposium on industrial investment in May, 2008 in order to assess the industrial sector in Qatar, its developmental requirements, in addition to determination of current investment opportunities and promotion of promising projects at local and regional levels.
- ★ Held a symposium on international experiments in development of industrial groupings on June 1st, 2008. Under the slogan "Industrial Groupings: The best way to competitiveness" in order to provide opportunity to industrialists in the GCC states to gain from the experience on the other countries in the field of development of industrial groupings, provision of background and understanding of the two necessary issues in the field of development of industrial groupings, promotion and bolstering of development of these groupings in the GCC states.
- ★ Presentation of a program on assessment of project and risk management in cooperation with Duke International Center for Development from March 8th to 13th, 2008 in order to provide the participants with the necessary bases for assessment of project and risk management.
- ★ Conduct of study on establishment of a center for services so as to submit a proposal on establishment of a unified center for all procedures, as a separate unit, under the Ministry of Energy & Industry with the aim to satisfy the organizational needs, enhancement of the competitive capabilities for the industrial base in Qatar. The study was submitted in April, 2009.

Kingdom of Bahrain:

- ★ Holding of an awareness symposium on reduction of operational cost, up gradation
- ★ Holding of an awareness symposium on reduction of operational cost, up gradation of production capabilities of small and medium industries on December 22nd, 2008 which aimed to increase the awareness of industrialists and decision makers in governments on benefits of control of consumption of resources (energy and water), reduction of industrial wastes; promotion of productivity and the negative impacts of these factors on industrial developments and on regional and local environments.
- ★ Conduct of industrial assessments for two factories in the mineral and plastic industries in November, 2008, to help them reduce production cost through control of consumption of energy and water, reduction of industrial wastes and through increase of production.

- ★ A training course was held on economical and industrial predictions in November, 2008. The course aimed to introduce the bases and the concept of economic predictions and their importance in planning the work and budgeting.

Sultanate of Oman:

- ★ Held four symposia on subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange in the main industrial areas in the Sultanate of Oman in October, 2008, in order to introduce the concept of subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange in addition to the service provided by the program in this field.
- ★ Conducted industrial assessment for five factories in mineral, food stuff, packing and paints factories in October, 2008, in order to help these factories to reduce production cost through control of consumption of energy and water, reduction of industrial wastes and through increase of production.
- ★ Held a workshop on financial qualification of industrial projects facing difficulties from November 22nd to 24th, 2008, in order to develop the capabilities to predict difficulties and to take necessary corrective procedures in case of industrial difficulties.

Third: Services provided for the private sector

- ★ Held a program on subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange -databases project- for Dubai Exports Development Corporation. The first phase was in April, 2008, and the second phase will be in December, 2009. The program aims to develop the electronic website of the Corporation on subject of subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange.
- ★ Submitted three feasibility studies on petrochemicals sector to First Gulf Bank in Bahrain.
- ★ Accomplished the first phase of the project on impacts of the Free Market at Dubai Airport on the Economy of Dubai During the year 2008. The second phase was underway during the first half of the year 2009.
Airport on the Economy of Dubai During the year 2008. The second phase was underway during the first half of the year 2009.

Fourth: Conferences held during the year 2008

The XI Conference of the Industrialists:

The XI Conference of Industrialists was held under the title "Petrochemical's Sector: Future Vision for the year 2020" was held in Abu Dhabi from January 20th to 21st, 2008 under the patronage H.H. Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Heir Apparent of Abu Dhabi. GOIC organized the conference in cooperation with Ministry of Finance & Industry in the UAE, Chamber of Commerce & Industry in Abu Dhabi, The General Secretariat of the GCC Council, Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry in the GCC states and the Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry in the UAE.

Conference of Knowledge Industries

Conference of knowledge industries and Nanotechnologies was held in Doha from February 11th and 12th, 2008 under the Logo "Towards Arab Developed Economy based on Knowledge Industries" under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, whereat the GCC States Strategic Plan for Knowledge Industries was launched.

GOIC undertook organization of the conference in cooperation with the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining and with Arab Institute for Science & Technology. The conference was focused on number of issues, such the followings:

- ★ Knowledge industries in the GCC states, future expectations and the challenges that face the knowledge industries.
- ★ Strategies and the supporting policies on the strategic plan for knowledge industries.

Dubai Gathering for Investment and Industrial Partnership

Dubai Gathering for Investment and Industrial Partnership was held at Dubai Commercial Exhibitions Center from February 4th to 6th, 2008, under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Governor of Emirate of Dubai and Minister of Finance & Industry in the UAE. The gathering aimed to promote industrial investment in general and industrials partnerships and contracts in particular. It also aimed to help buyers to expand their range of the suppliers, reduction of costs and provision of opportunities for small and medium industries to expand their stake in the market. Ten industrial investment opportunities were presented in the gathering for the participants. They were varied from drug, plastic industries to electronic and chemical materials.

The gathering contained the followings:

- ★ Workshop on system of subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange.
- ★ Workshop on promotion of investment opportunities whereat 10 industrial projects
- ★ Workshop on promotion of investment opportunities whereat 10 industrial projects were introduced.
- ★ Bilateral meetings between the corporate business peremptory companies and the business executors.
- ★ Specialized industrial fair for companies to present services and requirements.

Barcelona Gulf – European Meeting

The First Industrial Gulf European Forum was held on July 3rd and 4th, 2008 in Barcelona in Spain, under the auspices of H.E. Mr. Abdulla Bin Hamad Al Attiya, Deputy Premier and Minister of Energy and Industry in Qatar, with the participation of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Barcelona Navigation. The forum aimed

to promote industrial promotion between European region and the GCC States, and to promote subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange between the two regions. It also aimed to transfer technology from European region to the region of the GCC member states as well as to gather inquiries raised by the two parties and to hold bilateral meetings in order to harmonize between the reciprocal requirements.

Fifth: Publication and Books

- ★ Gulf Statistics File for the year 2007. This publication contains the social and economic indicators for the year 2006; national accounts data, data on external trade; data on energy and industry; data on population and manpower, various social data, in addition to set of indicators in form of percentages, number of shapes and diagrams. All these help conduct different analyses.
- ★ Manufacturing and Sale of Plastic in the GCC States. The publication contains the technical and economic features of manufacturing plastic products, the reality of manufacturing plastic products, external trade, the apparent consumption for plastic products in the GCC states and manufacturing, trade and consumption of plastic products in Qatar in addition to conclusions and number of tables and shapes.

Sixth: Memorandums and agreements

- ★ Cooperation agreement was concluded with Barcelona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in July 2008, on Gulf European Gathering.
- ★ Cooperation agreement was concluded with Dubai Exports Development Corporation in May 2008, on the second phase of Database Project on Subcontracting and industrial partnership exchange in Dubai.
- ★ Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian MECON Company in April 2008, on Exchange of Expertise and Studies.
- ★ MoU was concluded with Gulf Development Company in December 2008, on GOIC conducting feasibility studies for the company.
- ★ MoU was concluded with the Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industries
- ★ MoU was concluded with the Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industries of the GCC States in February 2008, on Enhancement of Mutual Cooperation.
- ★ MoU was concluded with Gulf Research Center in May 2008, on Raising Awareness about Industrial Development in the region.

Seventh: Information and Publication Activities

Industrial Information, Publication and Information Sources

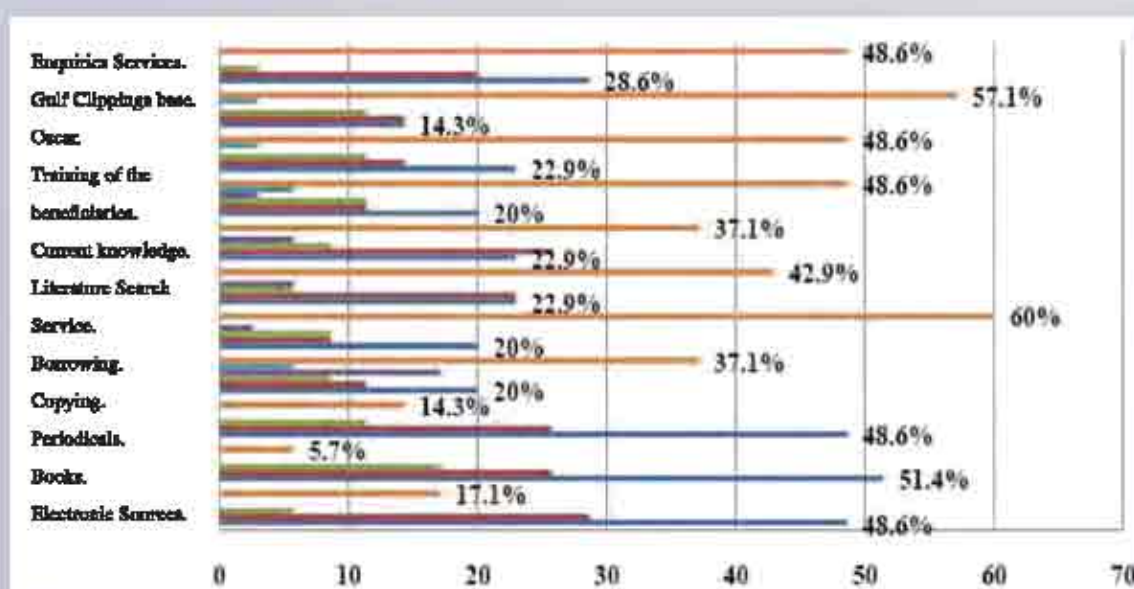
The Interactive portals gate was reprogrammed by use of the GOIC's own resources, reducing there by the cost of annual licenses and maintenance, wherein new set of tables were added to the portals gate. Moreover, new facilities were also added to make it easier

for the users. As well a new database was designed which contained information about experts and an update for its data. It also contained a database for registration and follow up of the enquiries incoming from within or outside of the GOIC. Also designing of specialized segmented reports were started which focused on the strategic industrial sector, wherein work started at food industries sector.

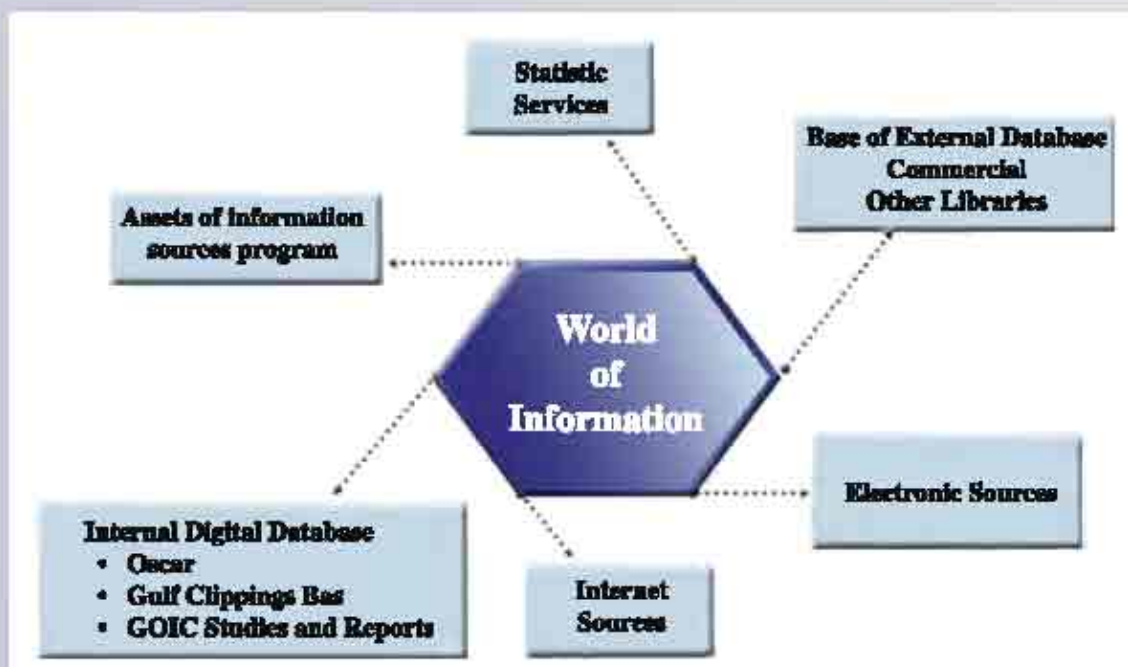
Information Sources:

Regarding the activities of information sources a survey was conducted to know the opinions of the users of the library in the second quarter of 2008. Certain data systems were updated, electronic search services were assessed in comparison to other centers.

Opinions on the services provided:



An information sources program was developed to speed up processes of definition, organization, publication of the industrial information, to control bibliography at international level and for the ideal use of technology and the technological methods. The program works for granting access to electronic periodicals, databases on the internet and CD Rom, and the development of the internal databases. The contents of the library up the end of 2008 reached 15 thousands titles, 2100 documents on Oscar program, more than 8600 extracts from daily papers and more than 400 studies / reports obtained through Polin Drive and / or accounting logic.



Information Technology:

Development and updating functions and activities of information technology in all aspects were carried out in order to increase the operation efficiency and to cope with the works of GOIC. Also the portals witnessed continuous improvement. Similarly the main website of GOIC on the internet witnessed improvement with the use of security certificate, development and application of electronic registration sites for all activities of GOIC, such as conferences and fairs. Internal internet also underwent development, addition and development of security protection systems for systems and software as well as installation of the system of technical assistance of users which contains also control system on store of equipments and tools for information technology in GOIC. New versions of programs and automotive systems were also modernized new servers were installed with the latest technologies and applications of hypothetical servers systems. Also new systems for production of reports from applications forms were applied.

Eighth: The Interaction of GOIC with end users

Data of 2008 point out that tangible improvement took place in coverage of various activities of GOIC by mass media and the internet. The above mentioned coverage reached 616 times in 2006 and increased in 2007 by 39.6% to touch 860 times. The data also increased in 2008 by 40.7% to touch 1210 times.

Incoming external enquiries increased by 23.2% in 2008 to reach 616 contacts in comparison to 500 contacts in 2007.



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