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MENA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MENA RESEARCH PARTNERS IS A PROVIDER OF ANALYTICS AND RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES IN THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA REGION AND EXPANDING BEYOND. OUR VISION IS TO BECOME THE LEADING PROVIDER OF CUSTOMIZED BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE AND KNOWLEDGE SOLUTIONS TO A RENOWNED GROUP OF CORPORATIONS. OUR ECONOMIC, SECTOR, MARKET AND FINANCIAL RESEARCH ARE DELIVERED TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL COMPANIES.

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GCC: Budget deficits seen crossing \$153bn this year *(Muscat Daily)*

(Report from KAMCO... Read more)

UAE: Dubai's Sheikh Mohammed unveils UAE Strategy for the Future *(Gulf Business)*

(Release by Dubai Media Office... Read more)

Oman: Budget deficit hits \$10.38 bn in 1H2016 *(Muscat Daily)*

(Data from National Centre for Statistics and Information... Read more)

Egypt: Large financing needs, but economy & fiscal conditions gradually improving *(Moody's)*

(Release from Moody's... Read more)

Lebanon: S&P revises outlook to stable from negative *(The Daily Star)*

(Release from S&P... Read more)

KSA: Reduces ministers' pay, cuts public sector bonuses *(Gulf Business)*

(Statement by Cabinet... Read more)

Kuwait: The country may issue up to \$16.5bn debt to cover 2016/17 deficit *(Arabian Business)*

(Statement by Finance Minister... Read more)

Qatar: Sell of \$1.26 bn in local bonds as it wrestles deficit *(Bloomberg)*

(Data from Bloomberg... Read more)

Algeria: Plans for bank privatizations as oil money dries up fast *(The Daily Star)*

(Statement as per senior official... Read more)

ECONOMIC UPDATES

SECTOR NEWS

Healthcare: Projects underway in GCC to be worth \$65 bn *(Arabian Business)*

(Report from BNC... Read more)

Hospitality: Mideast hotel occupancy rate rises to 65.2% in August *(Saudi Gazette)*

(Report from STR... Read more)

Media: MENA advertisement revenues hit \$5.5bn in 2015 *(The Peninsula)*

(Report from Northwestern University in Qatar... Read More)

Food & Beverage: Global Halal industry to reach \$2.6tr by 2020 *(Gulf Today)*

(Report from Thomson Reuters... Read more)

Tourism: Dubai ranks world's top in visitor spending at \$31.3 bn *(Khaleej Times)*

(Data from Mastercard Global Destinations Cities Index... Read more)

Telecoms: UAE ranks third most connected country globally *(Gulf News)*

(Report from GfK... Read more)

Banking: Gulf loan growth projected to decline to 6% in 2016 *(Gulf News)*

(Insights from S&P... Read more)

Healthcare: Mideast \$2.67bn optical industry to grow as population increases *(Saudi Gazette)*

(Report by GfK... Read more)

Renewables: Egypt negotiates \$4bn loan from China for renewable strategy *(Amwal Al Ghad)*

(Release from International Cooperation Ministry... Read more)

COMPANY DEVELOPMENTS

Saudi Aramco plans to spend \$334 bln by 2025 *(Reuters)*

(Statement by senior official... Read more)

Alabbar-led vehicle closes in on \$2.4bn takeover of Americana *(Arabian Business)*

(Statement by the company... Read more)

Investcorp to distribute over \$700 million to investors *(Arab News)*

(Statement by the company... Read more)

SEC inks SR5b funding deal with 3 local banks *(Saudi Gazette)*

(Statement by the company... Read more)

Egypt prepares ground for \$10bn share sales in state energy companies *(The National)*

(Statement by the Minister of Investment... Read more)

Kuwait's KIPCO says building starts at \$2.5bn real estate project *(Gulf Business)*

(Statement by the company... Read more)

UAE: Gulf Navigation looks to end creditor woes with debt cut *(AMEInfo)*

(Statement by Chief Executive... Read more)

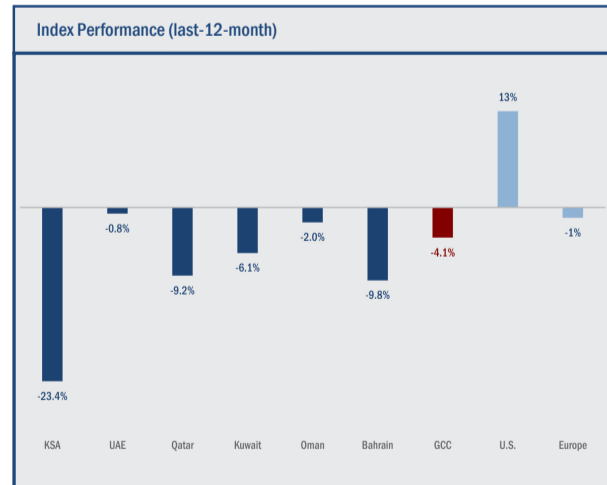
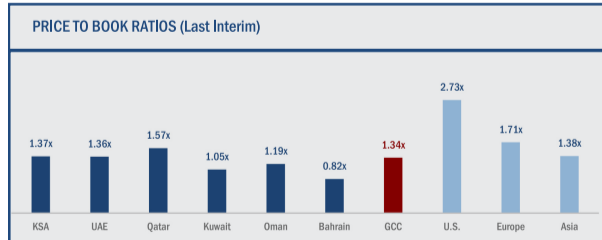
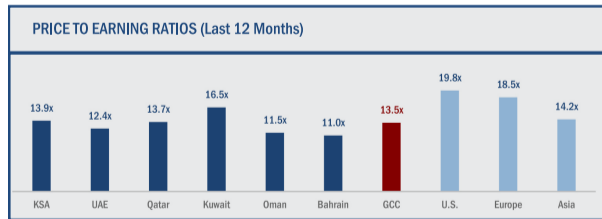
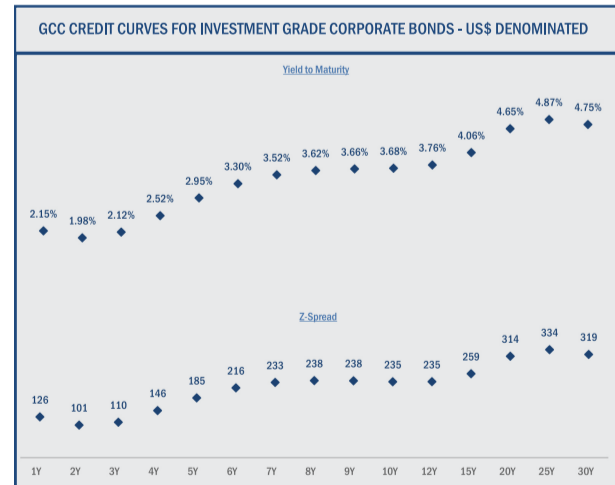
Aster DM buys 60% into Abu Dhabi's day care clinical services *(The National)*

(Statement by the company... Read more)

UAE AI-Futtaim's investments in Egypt currently exceed \$1 billion *(Amwal Al Ghad)*

(Statement by the country head... Read more)

FINANCIAL MARKETS



VIEWS & SURVEYS

UAE, Oman lead the world in well-being scores *(TradeArabia)*

(Report by The Boston Consulting Group... Read more)

Expats prefer UAE for its economic and political stability *(Gulf Business)*

(Survey by HSBC... Read more)

Middle East cities score poorly on sustainable city rankings *(AMEInfo)*

(Survey by Centre for Economic and Business Research... Read more)

UAE tops Arab world in global competitiveness ranking *(Gulf Business)*

(Report by The Boston Consulting Group ... Read more)

Low salary a major stress factor in MENA *(The Peninsula)*

(Survey by Bayt.com... Read more)

Singapore, Dubai NEXT financial hubs *(Khaleej Times)*

(Survey by PwC... Read more)