









9TH 2025 EU GC BUSINESS FORUM

TOGETHER IN ANEW ERAFOR PARTNERSHIP

- 5-6 NOVEMBER 2025
- SHEIKH ABDULLAH AL SALEM CULTURAL CENTRE, KUWAIT





TOGETHER
IN A NEW
ERA FOR
PARTNERSHIP











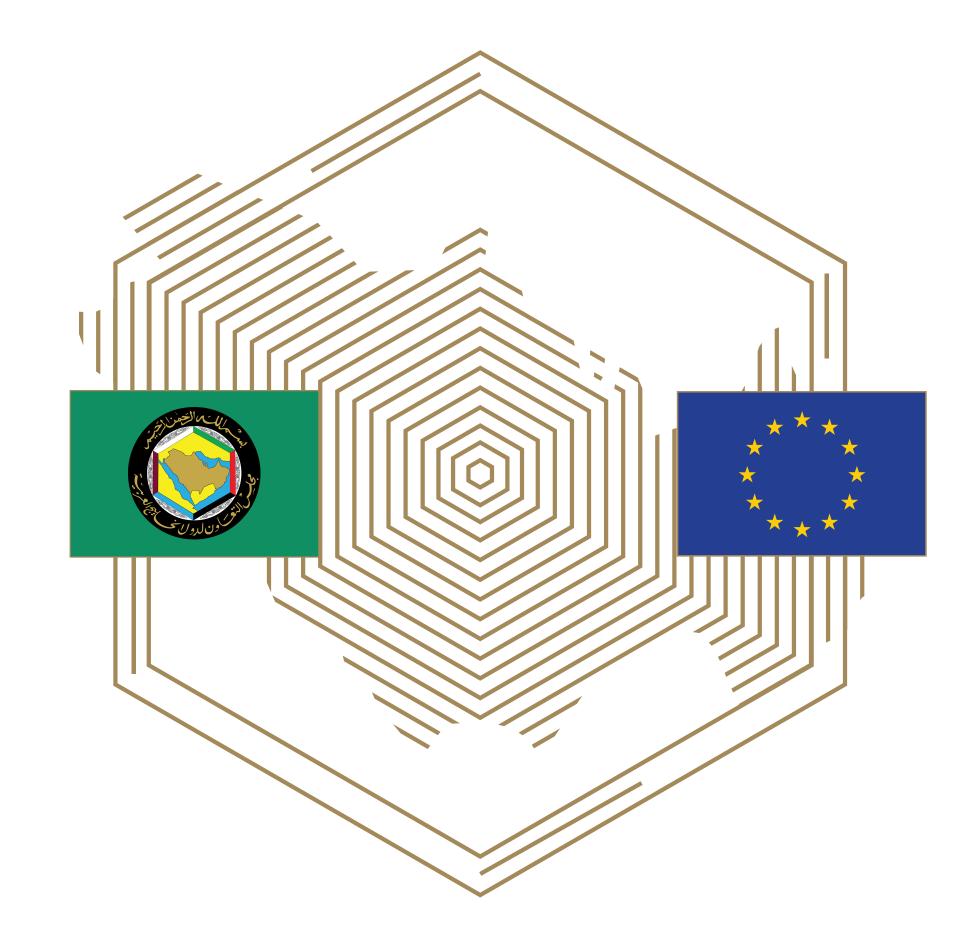


Background & Context

EU-GCC relations are built on the 1988 Cooperation Agreement, which established regular dialogues on cooperation in economic relations, energy, environment, and research. The 2022–2027 Joint Action Programme further strengthened this partnership, endorsed in February 2022.

The EU-GCC Dialogue on Economic Diversification project was launched in 2018 to support the Gulf's drive to diversify away from oil and gas. Its **Phase II (2025–2027)** continues this work, focusing on innovation, trade, and investment.

The 9th EU-GCC Business Forum is organized within this framework. Under the theme "Together in a New Era for Partnership," it will convene in Kuwait on 5–6 November 2025, alongside the 29th EU-GCC Joint Council Meeting.







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About the Forum



Dates: 5-6 November 2025



Venue: Sheikh Abdullah Al Salem Cultural Centre



Contracting Authority:

European Commission,
 Brussels – Service for Foreign Policy
 Instruments (FPI)



Implementation Partners:









Why the Forum Matters

- The EU is one of the GCC's largest trading and investment partners.
- Both regions are prioritizing **economic diversification**, digital transformation, and clean technologies.
- Kuwait, as 2025 GCC Chair and host, plays a pivotal role in advancing Vision 2035 goals of private sector expansion and knowledge-based growth.
- The Forum strengthens EU-GCC ties through high-level exchanges, business networking, and policy dialogue.





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5-6 NOVEMBER 2025











Overall Objectives

Enhance EU-GCC Trade and Investment - foster partnerships and joint ventures in diversification sectors. Market Expansion - enable SMEs and entrepreneurs to access new industries. Knowledge Exchange - share best practices in innovation and regulatory reforms. **Promote CleanTech in Motion - showcase** cooperation in smart infrastructure and transport. **Empower SMEs and Entrepreneurs** strengthen youth and women participation. **Build Sustainable Networks -** reinforce lasting 6 EU-GCC business linkages.











Focus Areas



Dialogue forEconomic
Diversification

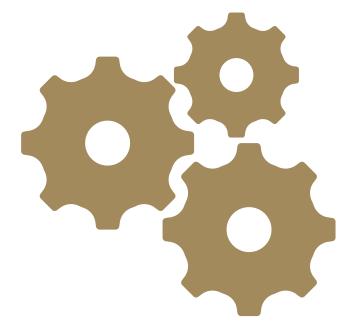
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Trade,
Connectivity
& Investment
Facilitation



Digital
Economy, AI
& Emerging
Technologies



SMEs & Skills Development

Businesses,



Healthcare,
Food
Security
& Tourism











Stakeholders & Target Audience



Dialogue forEconomic
Diversification

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SHEIKH
ABDULLAH AL
SALEM CULTURAL
CENTRE, KUWAIT

EU Institutions & Member States

GCC Governments & Officials

Business Leaders & Chambers of Commerce

SMEs, Entrepreneurs, Startups

9TH 2025 IEU ECC

BUSINESS

FORUM

Financial Institutions & Investors

Academia, Researchers, Civil Society

Youth & Women Entrepreneurs

Media & Communications
Outlets





TOGETHER IN A NEW ERA FOR PARTNERSHIP













Forum Structure

Day 1

- Opening & High-Level Plenary: **EU-GCC** Economic Outlook.
- **Thematic Sessions:**
 - **→** Trade & Investment
 - ➡ Digital Economy & Al
 - **⇒** Businesses, SMEs & Skills
 - **→** New Avenues of Cooperation
- Showroom: Runs in parallel all day (B2B, G2B, G2G).
- Facilities: Six dedicated rooms, hybrid-ready, each accommodating up to 50 participants.



Day 2 6 November (Investment Focus)

- Showroom (all day, parallel): Bilateral and multilateral meetings continue.
- Facilities: Six dedicated rooms, hybrid-ready, each accommodating up to 50 participants.
- Two concentrated investment sessions:
 - ➡ Investment Facilitation & Market Access dialogue with GCC investment authorities
 - **→** Direct Investment & Co-Investment Opportunities – EU investors/EIB with GCC sovereign funds and state holdings
- Closing Segment: Forum outcomes presentation and exchange of MoUs/agreements.



















Country Showroom

An exhibition space will be organized at the Forum, where Member States are invited to showcase **2–3 priority sectors or notable success stories.**

Booth Materials & Branding may include:

- Country brochures
- Investment opportunity profiles
- Sector fact sheets
- Audio-visual presentations
- Promotional giveaways

Exhibition Setup

- Backdrop or banners
- National staff to support the exhibition
- Standard booth furniture (table, chairs, and pin boards for posters) will be provided by the Forum organizers

Offered by the Government of Kuwait





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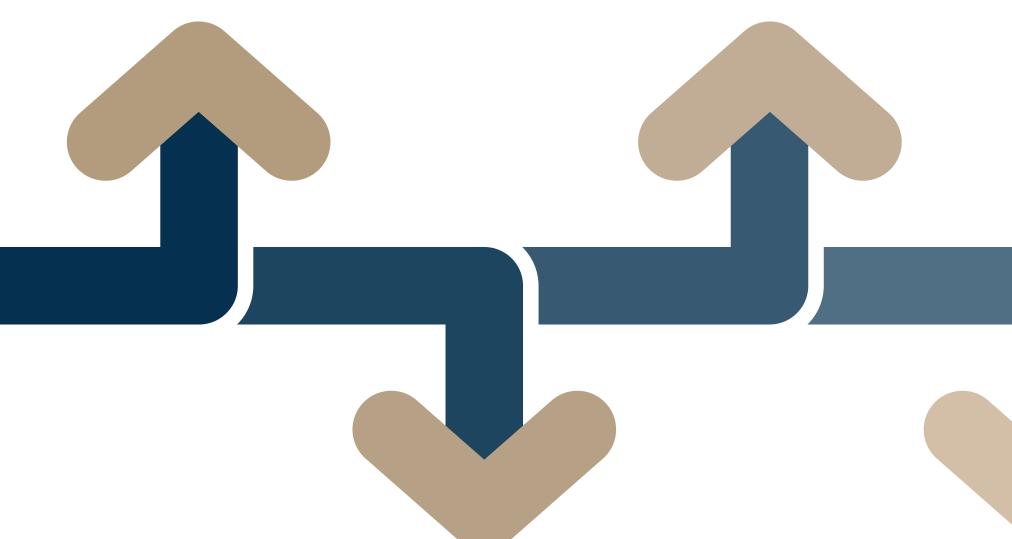


Expected Outputs

Strengthened EU-GCC strategic alignment Business deals, MoUs, and partnerships through B2B matchmaking.

Enhanced EU-GCC **networks** in innovation, finance, and entrepreneurship.

A comprehensive
Forum Report
capturing session
outcomes and
knowledge products.





in trade, investments, and business environment Launch of working groups and initiatives (e.g., SME cooperation, Digital Economy Taskforce).





