BUSINESS

Quarterly newsletter issued by
The Saudi Business Center
The third quarter of the year 2024



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince:

"Today, as a result of its achievements and vision, the Kingdom enjoys global confidence that has made it one of the first destinations for global centers and major companies".

In the Publication:

01 **Al- Kassabi interacts with the business owners in Medina & Qassim.**

02 **SBC adds 120 licenses to the QR-Code document.**

03 **SBC has offered more than 4.5 services to the business sector since its incorporation.**

رؤية VISION 2030
المملكة العربية السعودية
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

المركز السعودي للأعمال
Saudi Business Center



"Today, as a result of its achievements and vision, the Kingdom enjoys global confidence that has made it one of the first destinations for global centers and major companies, most notably the opening of the International Monetary Fund's regional office, and a center for multiple international activities in sports, investment, and culture".

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister
Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

Royal Speech for the First Year Works of
Ninth Session of Shura Council
18 September 2024

The Publication Statement:

The Saudi Business Center's newest newsletter highlights the key efforts that were implemented in the third quarter of 2024 to facilitate the start and operate businesses in Saudi Arabia. This entails raising awareness of the business sector-focused services and programs offered by SBC, assisting business owners and investors in overcoming obstacles, and re-engineering processes to ease the investor's journey.

The newsletter reviews the meeting of H.E. the Minister of Commerce and SBC's Chairman, Dr. Majed bin Abdullah Al-Kassabi, with businessmen and women in Madinah and Qassim.

The discussion focused on their challenges, opinions, and the SBC's participation in the Saudi-Korean Business Forum, to raise awareness among the Korean business sector and highlight the roles and services delivered to the business sector. Additionally, it covered the addition of 120 licenses to the QR-Code document to enhance the attractiveness of the business environment in Saudi Arabia by improving data transparency and accuracy. As well as the newsletter also refers to the visits from various officials to explore SBC's business model and the services it provides to the business sector in Saudi Arabia.



Saudi Business Center

SBC is a center that aims to facilitate procedures for starting, operating, and dissolving the business, and provide all related services and business under the best international practice.

Saudi Business Center was established by the Council of Ministers' Decree No. 456 on 11 Sha'ban 1440 A.H, and it is organizationally related to the Council of Economic and Development Affairs.



SBC's Vision

For Saudi Arabia to become one of the world's top ten leading countries in terms of the quality, ease, and efficiency of governmental services provided to the business sector.



SBC's Mission

Creating an attractive business environment and service delivery model that enhances KSA's competitiveness, attracts investments, and enables the private sector to flourish and grow.

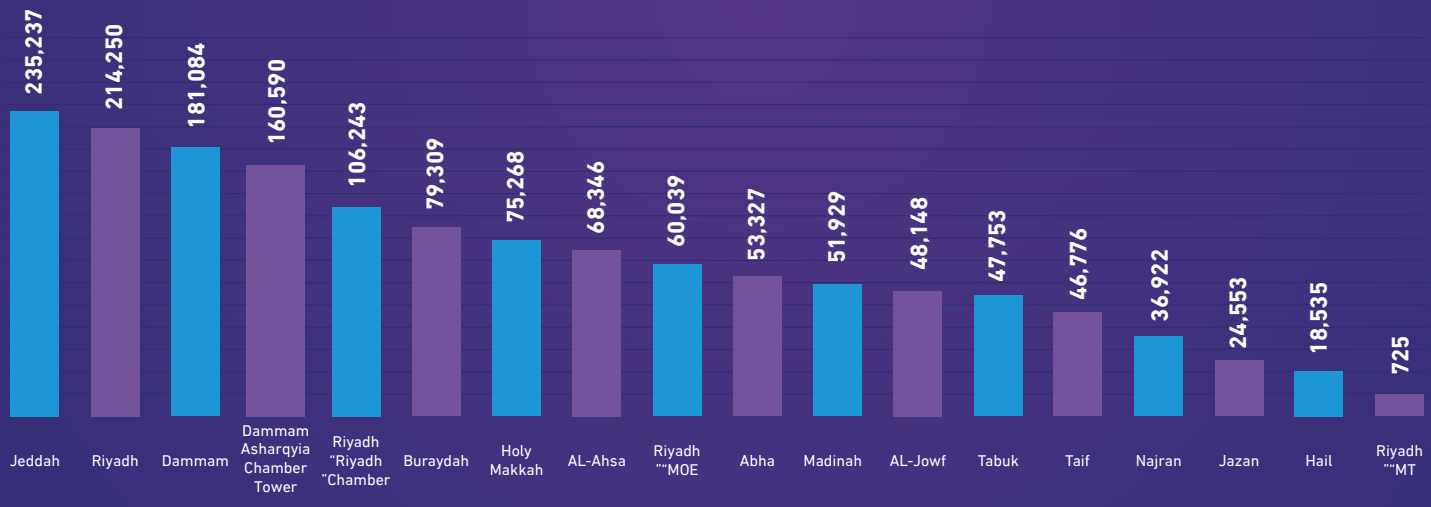
4.5 million services offered to the business sector

In collaboration with the public and private sectors through its dispersed branches around Saudi Arabia, in addition to the digital Business Platform, more than 2.5 million beneficiaries have been served.

The total number of services offered by our partners

Ministry of Commerce	768,261	Ministry of Municipalities and Housing	45,271
Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development	162,363	Ministry of Investment	16,499
Zakat, Tax, and Customs Authority	165,380	Small & Medium Enterprises General Authority	694
General Organization for Social Insurance	133,006	Ministry of Tourism	6,699
Federation Saudi Chamber	84,323	Ministry of Education	33,443

Since 2019 the total number of services offered by entities' representatives to the business sector is **1,509,034** services



The total number of beneficiaries **1,078,324**



Saudi	973,014
Foreign	89,532
GCC	15,778

The number of provided services via social media channels and contact center is **2,877,706**

The number of notices on the Unified Registry of Rights on Movable Assets is **40,781**



3 million services offered by the Unified Digital Platform for Business Sector

The Business Platform offered 3,005,895 services to the business sector at the end of the third quarter of 2024 to 1,495,080 investors, in addition to the new services that the platform provided in order to facilitate starting and operating the business in Saudi Arabia.

Most prominent accomplishments witnessed by the Business Platform during the third quarter of 2024:

01 Adding the following services:

- Nitaqat Calculator.
- Issuance of licenses for activities related to the tourism sector.
- Commercial Registration Update in National Information Center.

02 Adding the following sections on the website:

- Contacting Page with the Investors.
- Open Data Page.
- Careers Page.
- SBC Identity Page.

03 Providing a clear and comprehensive "Image and Video" instruction that explains how to grant the service.

04 Offering a survey on everything related to the cost calculator to get beneficiaries' opinions and suggestions.

05 Updating FAQs for some business-related services.

وزارة السياحة Ministry of Tourism | وزارة الاستثمار Ministry of Investment | هيئة الزكاة والضريبة والجمارك Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority | المركز الوطني للتعليم الإلكتروني National eLearning Center

Follows-up

Al- Kassabi interacts with the business owners in Medina & Qassim



H.E. the Minister of Commerce and SBC's Chairman, Dr. Majed bin Abdullah Al-Kassabi, met with businessmen and women in Medina and Qassim during business sector meetings held at the Chambers of Commerce in both regions. The discussions focused on their obstacles, and His Excellency listened to their opinions and feedback.

During the meetings, His Excellency reported that the number of branches of the Saudi Business Center has reached 18 in 14 cities, providing high-quality and seamless governmental services to the business sector in collaboration with 74 governmental partners. His Excellency also noted that the Business platform has delivered over 3 million services to the business sector.

Dr. Al-Kassabi emphasized the contribution of the process re-engineering project, which has resulted in 622 updates to the requirements for economic activities across 18 vital sectors. His Excellency encouraged business owners to obtain their unified electronic QR- Codes through the Business platform electronically and instantly.

During a visit to Qassim,His Excellency met with beneficiaries of the SBC's services in the region, assessed the provision of governmental services to investors and business owners at the branch, and visited the SBC's booth at the third stop of the Franchising Tour in Qassim.

Adding 120 licenses to the QR-Code Document



120
Commercial Licenses

9
Governmental partners

With the goal of enhancing the level of impartiality and reliability of data, the Saudi Business Center launched the second phase of the Unified QR-Code service for enterprises, involving 120 licenses linked to the QR-Code document affiliated with nine governmental partners.

As part of the initiative that the SBC launched last January, In the second phase of the initiative, enterprises can collect all the licenses and certificates that have been issued on behalf of the governmental partners in one unified online document. This will help to improve data accuracy and reliability, support future updates, and eliminate visual distortion that may arise from a facility's requirement to display documents that have been issued by governmental partners in each of its branches.

Clients will be able to easily check and verify primary data and operation licenses with the launch of the second phase of the service, which will also reduce the amount of time spent on inspection and supervision rounds and the manipulation and fabrication of data.

Saudi Business Center launched the first phase of the service in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Municipalities and Housing, Zakat, Tax, and Customs Authority, and General Directorate of Civil Defense.

Saudi Business Center launches the second phase of the service by developing the electronic system and collaborating & associating with the following partners:

The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Hajj & Omra, General Authority of Media Regulation, Saudi Food and Drug Authority, Red Sea Authority, General Food Security Authority, Small & Medium Enterprises General Authority, and General Organization for Social Insurance.

Follows-up

SBC has concluded its participation in the Saudi-South Korea Business Forum



Saudi Business Center has participated in the Saudi-South Korea Business Forum which was organized by the National Competitiveness Center, Federation of Saudi Chambers, and Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Seoul. The forum was attended by H.E. Dr. Majed Al-Kassabi, the Minister of Commerce and Chairman of SBC, Korean Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Inkyo Cheong, and governmental officials & leaders from the business sector of major companies from the two sides. The main aim of the forum is to strengthen the economic partnership between the two friendly countries.

The Saudi Business Center has actively participated in the forum, aiming to raise awareness about the business-oriented model of governmental services and advance the goals of Saudi Vision 2030 in facilitating business operations in Saudi Arabia.

During the participation, SBC reviewed its role in enhancing the attractiveness of the business environment in Saudi Arabia by suggesting the development of laws, regulations, and procedures related to starting and running a business. This involves reviewing and re-engineering them to be more streamlined and cost-saving, in line with the best international practices.

The SBC's representatives, on the other hand, discussed the collaboration of the SBC with 74 governmental partners in the business sector. This collaboration aims to provide their services through an in-person one-stop shop interface, represented by the SBC's 18 branches spread across 14 cities in Saudi Arabia, as well as its digital Business platform.

Most prominent completed initiatives

to enhance the investor's journey:



وزارة السياحة
Ministry of Tourism

Provide precise coordinates for destinations via the Zawil platform to improve the sailing locations' accuracy.

وزارة الثقافة
Ministry of Culture

Review the licensing fees for cultural sector activities in light of international best practices. For example, reduce the 1,850 Saudi Riyals in licensing fees for performing artists to 300 Saudi Riyals.

وزارة الرياضة
Ministry of Sport

- Investors interested in the sports sector have the option of selecting the appropriate legal entity based on the size and nature of their activities.
- Delete the gender selection from the sports enterprise establishment procedures.

المركز الوطني لتنمية الغطاء النباتي ومكافحة التصحر

مـوان MWAN
المركز الوطني لإدارة النفايات
National Center for Waste Management

وزارة البيئة والمياه والزراعة
Ministry of Environment Water & Agriculture

- Eliminate the requirement for an initial permit for licenses related to fish and plant resources, including the requirements for a construction license, and give investors the option to provide it when needed.
- **Revise the requirements for licenses related to the collection and transportation of hazardous waste by:**
  - Eliminate the obligation to "Attach the commercial registration or investment license with the added activity", in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce.
  - Eliminate the obligation to "Attach the Zakat and Income Certificate", in collaboration with the Zakat, Tax, and Customs Authority.
- **Automate licenses for the National Center for Vegetation Cover Development & Combating Desertification:**
  - License for the sale of firewood and imported charcoal.
  - License for mobile sales of firewood and imported charcoal.
  - License for the collection and cutting of tree waste.

SBC holds several meetings and workshops

The Saudi Business Center, in collaboration with the Saudi Bar Association, held a workshop at its branch in Jeddah, attended by His Excellency Assistant Minister of Commerce Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Duhaim, to discuss the latest developments regarding the challenges faced by lawyers in the business sector.

Additionally, SBC, in collaboration with the SME's Support Center in Riyadh, organized a workshop titled "Technological Innovation and Industrial Investment". During this session, Dr. Ahmad Al-Qusair, CEO of Autonomous Technologies, spoke about ways to leverage modern technology to capitalize on promising industrial investment opportunities.

Furthermore, SBC, in collaboration with the Abha Chamber and the SME's Support Center in Khobar, conducted two introductory meetings aimed at raising awareness in the business sector about the roles and services provided by SBC.



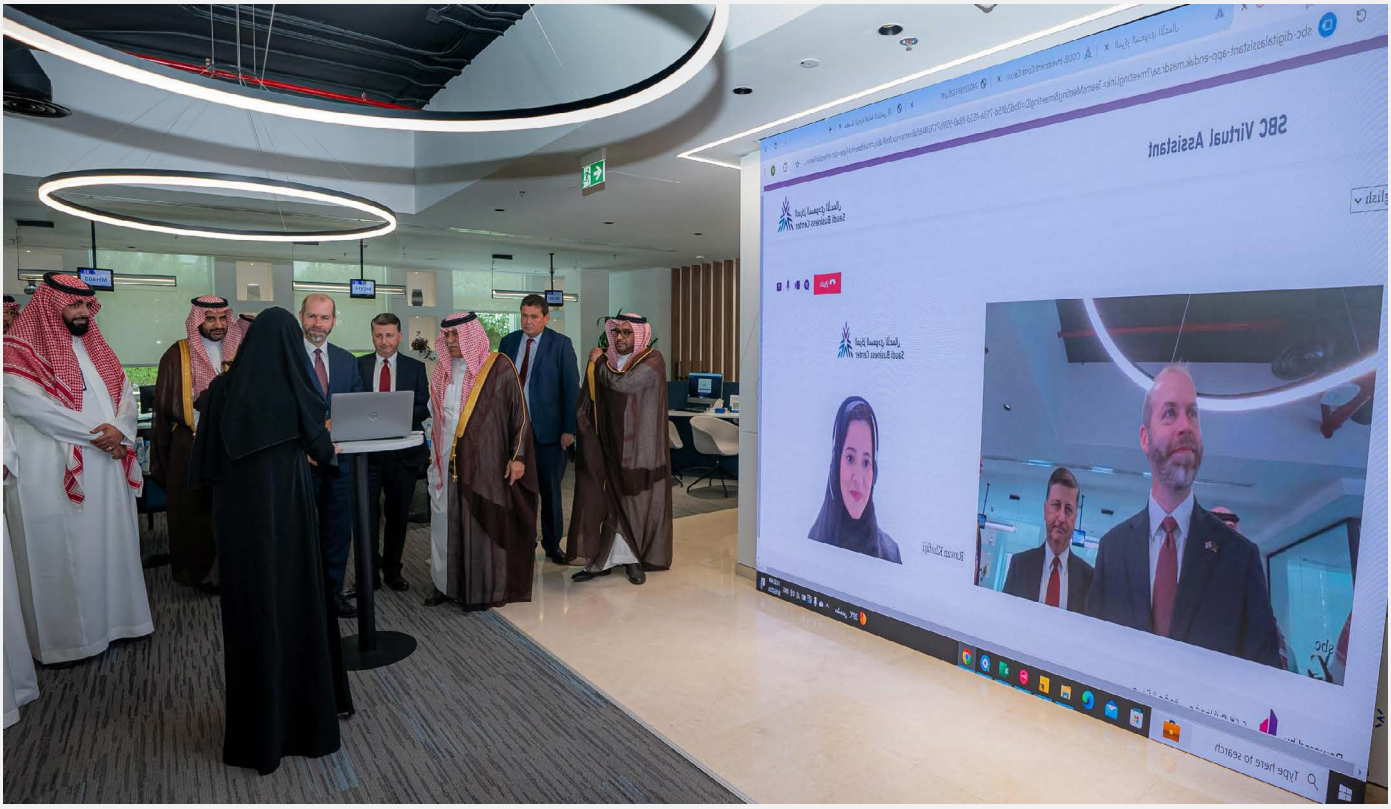
SBC participates in several business-related conferences

While on the Franchising Tour, representatives of the Saudi Business Center highlighted the SBC's roles and services to investors and business owners. The tour was organized in collaboration with the Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority to assist the business sector and increase awareness of the SBC's role in streamlining business processes.

Furthermore, SBC participated in the Innovation and Empowerment Forum for Entrepreneurs in the Health Sector held in Taif, in order to support business owners as well as those individuals seeking to start business in this sector.



SBC receives several official delegations



H.E. the Minister of Commerce and Chairman of SBC, Dr. Majed Al-Kassabi, welcomed H.E. the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Engineer Abdullah Al-Swaha, the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, President of the Board of Trade, Jonathan Reynolds, and the Honorable U.S. Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs, Mr. Daleep Singh, at the SBC's headquarters in Riyadh.

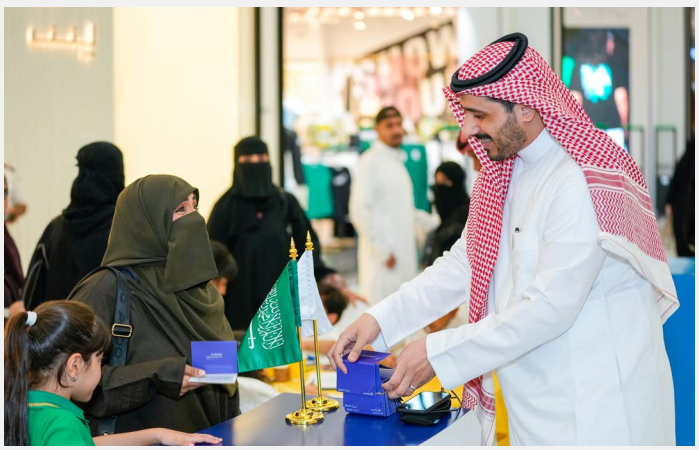
During their visit, Dr. Eiman Al-Mutairi, the Deputy Minister of Commerce and General Supervisor of SBC, guided them through an introductory tour showcasing the SBC's business model and key services aimed at the business sector in the Saudi Arabia, aligning with the objectives of Vision 2030 to facilitate the business procedures.

The Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa to Saudi Arabia, Mr. Mogobo David Makhabey, and the Senior Director of Emerging Markets Division & and Singapore-India Partnership Office Ministry of Trade and Industry, Mr. Francis Chong Fu Shin, also explored the investor's journey and the SBC's key services during their visit to the main headquarters in Riyadh.

Saudi Business Center celebrates the 94th anniversary of the Saudi National Day



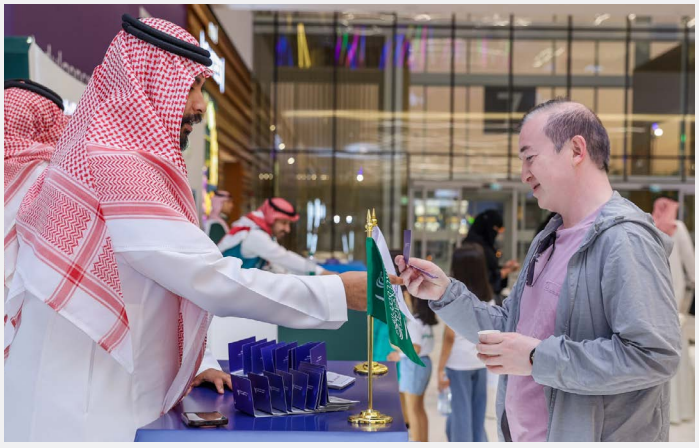














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Saudi Business Center

نحلم ونحقق
اليوم الوطني السعودي 94

Business.sa 199080 +966 11 282 2881

@bcgov_sa @bcgovsa