



# **Energy Sector Diversification**

**Meeting Demographic Challenges in MENA** 

Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economies need to diversify beyond the energy and public sectors amid a population boom in the coming three decades to create employment opportunities for youth



Over 300 million jobs required by 2050 in the region



Arab Spring, 2019 protests in Iraq and Lebanon

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates GDP per capita would rise significantly if female employment rate brought to same level as male employment rate



Algeria



Over-reliance on expatriates: more than half of entire population of UAE and Kuwait



High unemployment rate: in Algeria and Saudi Arabia c. 12% of workforce



Low standard of living and lack of work opportunities



Majority of unemployed are women

#### Percentage of workforce employed in public sector:



## The MENA Youth Bulge



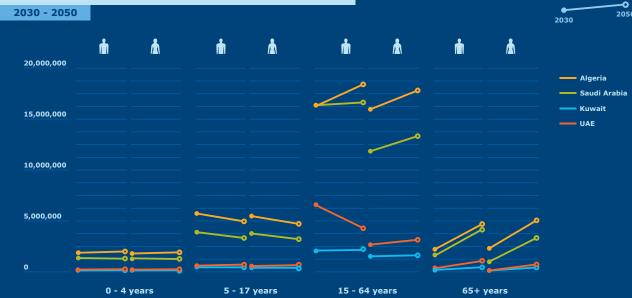




Saudi Arabia 2018: 33,699,947 2030: 39,480,000



## **Projected Population Growth by Age**



#### **National Development Plans and Sovereign Funds**

## **Pragmatic Recommendations**



Strengthen private sector through increased foreign investment and incentivizing entrepreneurship by implementing economic reforms



Create laws and support structures encouraging women to work



Teach skills and knowledge relevant to current and future job market



Leverage lessons learnt from energy sector to achieve other successes

**Example**: oil & gas companies that set up structure to invest in employees and look after community with health care & education services etc.



Saudi Arabia Vision 2030



**Public Investment** Fund (PIF)



**UAE Vision 2021** 



Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)



**Kuwait National** Development Plan



Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA)



Revenue Regulation Fund (RRF)

Planned investments in new industries, such as tourism, technology, education and renewable energy can strengthen existing industries and help create new ones