

Political and economic trends in the GCC

The challenges of managing change

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Association of Corporate Counsel Europe meeting

London, 11th December 2012

Key topics

Domestic politics

- Multi-dimensional change
- Social, cultural and political diversity

International context

- Eastward tilt?
- The GCC as a regional superpower?

Economic trends

- Long term visions (diversification, private sector)
- Short term policies (up with jobs and salaries!)

Multi-dimensional change

- Change is a certainty
 - Demographic and generational change
 - Liberalisation of information (ICT, education, social media)
 - Economic growth/development
 - Long term fiscal challenges
 - Youth expectations and aspirations
- But what kind of change? How? And when?



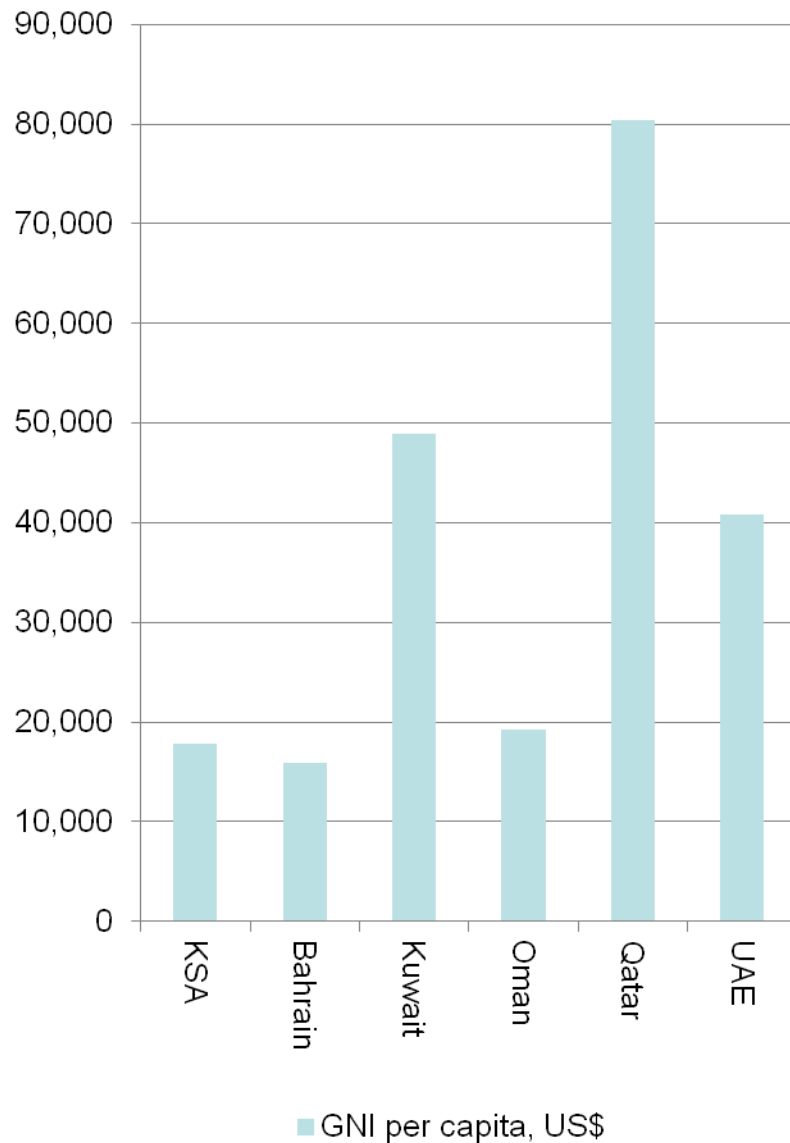
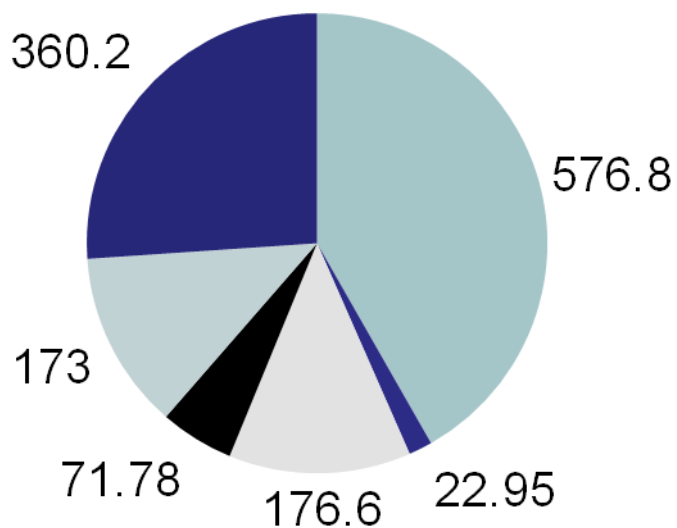




Differences in income

GDP (2011, nominal, US\$)

■ KSA ■ Bahrain ■ Kuwait
■ Oman ■ Qatar ■ UAE



No politics-free zones...

