TOP 100 MIDDLE EAST PROJECTS VALUE UP 5 PER CENT AS TRANSPORT AWARDS DOMINATE THE LISTING

The MEED Top 100 Middle East Projects quarterly index rose by 5 per cent in the third quarter, its first increase in a year, largely because of governments around the region pushing ahead with multibillion-dollar transport spending programmes. Now at $275.7bn, the Top 100 Index, a measure of the largest projects currently under development, is also at its highest point for more than a year.

Twelve projects are new to this quarter's Top 100, with 10, worth $23.8bn, being completed and so falling out of the table. The index was pushed higher chiefly because of the $22.5bn Riyadh Metro project in Saudi Arabia. In total, there is $38.8bn-worth of projects in the Top 100 for the first time.

This "top 10 projects in the middle east" report provides data and analysis on the top 10 projects, their owners and main contractors over four core industries in the middle east:

- Construction
- Transport
- Power
- Oil & Gas

To access the full top 100 report complete with tables, data and interactive dashboard, kindly get in touch with us by e-mail: **Ajay.george@meed.com**

TOP 10 TRANSPORT PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST Q3 2013 (PROJECTS ALREADY AWARDED)

Q3 Rank	Project	Project Owner	Country	Contract Value ($m)	Main Contractors	Main Contract Completion
1	Riyadh Light Rail Transit (Riyadh Metro): Lines 1 & 2	Arriyadh Development Authority	Saudi Arabia	9,450	Bechtel / Siemens / Almabani / Consolidated Contractors Company JV	Q4 2018
2	Haramain High-Speed Rail Network: Phase 2	Saudi Railways Organisation	Saudi Arabia	8,216	Al-Shoula Group Lead Consortium	Q4 2014
3	Riyadh Light Rail Transit (Riyadh Metro): Lines 4, 5 & 6	Arriyadh Development Authority	Saudi Arabia	7,820	FCC / Freyssinet / Alstom / Samsung / Strukton / Setec / Typsa JV	Q4 2018
4	Riyadh Light Rail Transit (Riyadh Metro): Line 3	Arriyadh Development Authority	Saudi Arabia	5,942	Ansaldo STS / Impregilo / L&T / Nesma & Partners / Bombardier JV	Q4 2018
5	East-West Motorway Highway: Package 3	Agence Nationale des Autoroutes	Algeria	5,340	Taisei Corporation / Nishimatsu Construction Company Limited / Itochu Corporation / Kajima Corporation / Hazama Corporation JV	Q4 2016
6	King Abdulaziz International Airport: Phase 1: New Terminal: Package 1	Saudi Arabia General Authority for Civil Aviation	Saudi Arabia	4,034	Saudi Binladin Group	Q4 2014
7	Tehran Metro: Line 6	Tehran Urban & Suburban Railway Company	Iran	4,000	Ahab Construction Company	Q4 2015
7	Tehran Metro: Line 7	Tehran Urban & Suburban Railway Company	Iran	4,000	Sepasad Engineering Company	Q4 2016
9	King Abdulaziz International Airport: Phase 1: New Terminal: Package 2	Saudi Arabia General Authority for Civil Aviation	Saudi Arabia	3,194	Saudi Binladin Group	Q4 2014
10	Abu Dhabi Airport Expansion: Midfield Terminal Complex	Abu Dhabi Airports Company	UAE	2,960	Consolidated Contractors Company / TAV / Arabtec Construction JV	Q4 2017

TRANSPORT

Middle East governments are planning to invest billions of dollars over the coming few years to develop their transport infrastructure. Rail and metro schemes are a particular focus at the moment, with more than $35bn-worth of contracts awarded this year, as governments look to ease road congestions and improve transport links. Aviation and roads projects are also receiving heavy investment. Dubai is pushing to become a major regional hub via its new Al Maktoum International Airport, which recently opened for passenger flights. Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Oman are also upgrading their airport infrastructure in anticipation of increased passenger footfall. Oman and Qatar both have ambitious road developments, with more than $23bn-worth of schemes to improve infrastructure and connect the country either underway or planned for the next few years.

TOP 10 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST Q3 2013 (PROJECTS ALREADY AWARDED)

Q3 Rank	Project	Project Owner	Country	Contract Value ($m)	Main Contractors	Main Contract Completion
1	Housing Complex in Basmaya	Iraq National Investment Commission	Iraq	8,000	Hanwha	Q4 2019
2	Basra New City: Phase 1	Trac Development Group	Iraq	3,750	Hyundai Development Company, Posco	Q2 2016
3	Abraj Kudai in Mecca	Saudi Arabia Ministry of Finance	Saudi Arabia	3,500	Saudi Binladin Group	Q4 2018
4	Rehabilitation Centres for Prisoners	Saudi Arabia Ministry of Interior	Saudi Arabia	3,400	Saudi Binladin Group	Q4 2013
5	King Abdulla bin Abdulaziz Project: Riyadh Security Forces Medical Complex	Saudi Arabia Ministry of Interior	Saudi Arabia	3,350	ABV Rock Group	Q3 2017
6	Ch'Rafate City	Al Omrane Chrafate	Morocco	3,000		Q4 2020
7	National Housing Scheme Project	Engineer's Office	UAE	2,950	China National Chemical Engineering / China State Construction International JV	Q4 2017
8	Grand Mosque Expansion in Mecca	General Presidency for Grand Mosque and Prophet Mosque Affairs	Saudi Arabia	2,500	Saudi Binladin Group	Q2 2016
9	Dubai Pearl: Towers	Pearl Dubai	UAE	2,400	Habtoor Leighton Group	Q4 2015
10	Education City: Research Institute (QEERI) Sidra Medical & Research Center	Qatar Foundation	Qatar	2,300	Contrack International / OHL JV	Q1 2014
10	Ghanfuda Housing Complex in Benghazi	Housing and Infrastructure Board	Libya	2,300	China State Construction International Holdings	Q4 2016

CONSTRUCTION

Big real estate schemes are back in the Middle East construction sector, as economies improve and governments build for their growing populations and increasing tourism numbers. Dubai has grabbed many of the headlines for its grand schemes, but governments around the region are pushing developments of new communities. And one of the key changes between the larger schemes announced over the past few years and what MEED now sees happening now is that the private-sector real estate market is once more picking up. The construction drive also means public infrastructure projects are on the rise, such as the building of hospitals and schools, to cope with increased demand for larger populations.

TOP 10 POWER PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST Q3 2013 (PROJECTS ALREADY AWARDED)

Q3 Rank	Project	Project Owner	Country	Contract Value ($m)	Main Contractors	Main Contract Completion
1	Barakah Nuclear Power Plant 3	Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation	UAE	4,000	Doosan Heavy Industries & Construction	Q2 2019
2	Rabigh Power Plant Extension: Phase 6	Saudi Electricity Company	Saudi Arabia	3,400	Doosan Heavy Industries & Construction	Q1 2014
3	Shuqaiq Steam Power Plant	Saudi Electricity Company	Saudi Arabia	3,300	Hyundai Heavy Industries	Q4 2017
4	Jeddah South Thermal Power Plant	Saudi Electricity Company	Saudi Arabia	3,120	Mitsubishi Heavy Industries / Hyundai Heavy Industries JV	Q1 2017
5	Barakah Nuclear Power Plant 1	Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation	UAE	3,100	Hyundai E&C	Q2 2017
6	Qurayyah IPP 1 & 2	Hajr Electricity Production Company	Saudi Arabia	2,850	Samsung C&T	Q3 2014
7	Barakah Nuclear Power Plant 2	Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation	UAE	2,500	Samsung C&T	Q2 2018
8	Ras Al-Khair Power Plant	Saline Water Conversion Corporation / Maaden JV	Saudi Arabia	2,420	SepcoIII Electric Power Construction Corporation / Al Arrab Contracting JV	Q4 2015
9	Al Zour North IWPP: Phase 1	Kuwait Partnerships Technical Bureau	Kuwait	2,000	Hyundai Heavy Industries, Sidem	Q2 2015
10	Barakah Nuclear Power Plant 4	Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation	UAE	2,000	Westinghouse	Q2 2020

POWER & WATER

The Mena power and water sectors will continue to experience robust growth in demand in the coming years as a result of expanding populations and economies and very little prospect of tariff reform. The challenge of providing adequate power for local people has been given fresh impetus following the political uprisings that swept across the region in 2011, with governments under increasing pressure to meet the needs of their people.

To cope with the additional demand most utilities across the region will have to embark on an extensive capacity building programme in the period up to 2020. The largest newbuild requirement will be required in Egypt, with Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait also requiring significant expansion of their power and water infrastructure due to rapidly growing populations.

The increasingly tight gas market will lead to a raft of alternative energy projects, with a focus on nuclear and renewables. With construction work on Abu Dhabi's nuclear project under way, Jordan and Saudi Arabia are both moving ahead with nuclear plans. Saudi Arabia is planning the region's most ambitious renewable energy programme, targeting 54,000MW of renewable energy by 2032. The UAE, Jordan and Morocco are also all pushing ahead with ambitious renewable energy schemes.

TOP 10 OIL & GAS PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST Q3 2013 (PROJECTS ALREADY AWARDED)

Q3 Rank	Project	Project Owner	Country	Contract Value ($m)	Main Contractors	Main Contract Completion
1	South Pars Gas Field Development: Phases 19 to 21	Pars Oil & Gas Company	Iran	9,000	Energy Industries Engineering and Design, Nargan Consulting Engineers, Posco, Sazeh Consultants	Q2 2014
2	South Pars Gas Field Development: Phases 17 & 18: Offshore	Pars Oil & Gas Company	Iran	7,000	Iran Marine Industrial Company, Namvaran Engineering and Management, Offshore Design Engineering, Salzgitter Mannesmann, ThyssenKrupp, WorleyParsons	Q1 2014
3	West Ethylene Pipeline	Petrochemical Industries Development Management Company	Iran	5,501	Oil Turbo Compressor Company / Siemens JV	Q3 2013
4	Upper Zakum Full Field: Early Production Facility: Offshore: EPC 2	Zakum Development Company	UAE	3,790	Petrofac / Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering JV	Q2 2016
5	South Pars Gas Field Development: Phases 22 to 24	Pars Oil & Gas Company	Iran	3,500	Farab Company, Nardis Energy Projects, Nargan Consulting Engineers, Sazeh Consultants	Q1 2014
6	Neka to Jask Pipeline	National Iranian Oil Engineering & Construction Company	Iran	3,300	Khatam Al Anbiya	Q4 2015
7	Ruwais Refinery Expansion Project: Process Package 2 (RFCC)	Abu Dhabi Oil Refining Company (Takreer)	UAE	3,109	GS E&C	Q1 2014
8	Ruwais Refinery Expansion Project: Package 3: Offsites & Utilities	Abu Dhabi Oil Refining Company (Takreer)	UAE	2,700	Samsung Engineering	Q1 2014
9	Bandar Abbas Condensate Refinery	Persian Gulf Star Oil Company	Iran	2,500	Deep Offshore Technology/ Bina Consulting Engineers/ Golden Group/ Tehran Jonoob JV	Q1 2014
9	South Pars Gas Field Development: Phases 13 & 14: Offshore	Pars Oil & Gas Company	Iran	2,500	Iran Shipbuilding & Offshore Industries Complex Company, Panah Saz Iran Engineering Company, Rozhin Sanat Company, Tehran Raymand Company	Q4 2015
9	South Pars Gas Field Development: Phases 13 & 14: Onshore	Pars Oil & Gas Company	Iran	2,500	Panah Saz Iran Engineering Company / Tehran Raymand Company / Rozhin-Sanat / Tajhiz Sanat-e Alghadir Company / Iran Shipbuilding & Offshore Industries Complex Company JV	Q4 2015
9	South Pars Gas Field Development: Phases 17 & 18: Onshore	Pars Oil & Gas Company	Iran	2,500	Azarab Industries Company, Energy Development Pioneer Company, Jahanpars E&C, Navrood, Neyrperse Company, Oil Turbo Compressor Company, Panah Saz Iran Engineering Company, Tehran Raymand Company	Q1 2014

OIL & GAS

While the Middle East has traditionally focused on oil production and exports, over the last decade it has shifted focus towards diversifying its revenues and satisfying the region's rapidly increasing domestic demand for energy. Attention is now turning to increasing gas production to feed an expanding network of power and petrochemical plants, as well as the construction of new downstream industries. More than $1 trillion in investments will be needed over the next two decades to meet demand for gas and electricity in the Middle East and North Africa. Nevertheless, oil production will remain critical component of future project plans, led by new upstream developments in Iraq, and widespread efforts to maintain production levels at existing fields across the region.