Hilal Al Hinai
The Research Council
Oman on the Map
## Development in Oman since 1970

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>1970</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP (Billion US$)</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>78.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP / Capita (US$)</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>24,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population (Millions)</td>
<td>0.654</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>schools</td>
<td>3 (Elementary)</td>
<td>1529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School students</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>563,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Inst.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>65 + 1217 Health Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Expectancy at Birth</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>76.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>km of Asphalted Roads</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>31,365</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Planning

• First 5 year plan was 1976-1980
• First long-term Development Plan (Vision 2020) was adopted in 1996.
• The planning process for the 2nd long-term Development Plan 2040 has started in 2014 and several sectorial long-term strategies are to be developed within this framework including, Education, Health, Tourism, Transportation and Innovation.
... the “Vision 2020” involves long-term prosperity for Oman driven by economic diversification, private-sector leadership and human resources development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic diversification</th>
<th>Private sector development</th>
<th>Human resource development</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Strive toward the optimal use of natural resources and the geo-strategic location of the Sultanate</td>
<td>• Encourage an effective and competitive private sector</td>
<td>• Upgrade skills of Omanis to keep abreast of technological change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide appropriate conditions for the realisation of economic diversification</td>
<td>• Consolidate mechanisms and institutions to foster shared visions, strategies and policies between private sector and government</td>
<td>• develop a large body of world class human resources in broad areas of science and humanities</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Leverage advanced technology</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stable macroeconomic environment</th>
<th>Enhanced living standards</th>
<th>Preserve achievements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Financial stability</td>
<td>• Enhance the standard of living</td>
<td>• Preserve past achievements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fiscal responsibility</td>
<td>• Reduce inequality among regions and among income levels of various groups</td>
<td>• Safeguard and develop past achievements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Integration into the global economic framework (WTO, etc.)</td>
<td>• Ensure that the fruits of development are shared by all citizens</td>
<td>• Complete the necessary basic services to preserve achievements</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Double the current level of per capita income by 2020
The National Research Strategy was developed in 2008 to support research and knowledge generation activities.

### Mission
- Create an innovation ecology that is responsive to local needs and international trends, fosters social harmony, and leads to creativity and excellence!

### Vision
- Regional hub of innovation – leader in producing new ideas, products and services
- Significant research capacity
- Research excellence in selected areas
- Receptive to local social and economic needs – with alacrity!

### Goals

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<tr>
<td>a. Develop graduate programs in broad areas of science and humanities</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Create specialized grad. programs in oil &amp; gas, soc. sciences and policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. Build large body of world class faculty, graduate students and engineers</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. Encourage research in emerging platforms of knowledge that cut across disciplines/ fields of study</td>
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<td>e. Track local &amp; international scientific / social trends, and respond to them by adapting areas of research excellence</td>
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<td>f. Develop excellence in oil and gas related fields</td>
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<td>g. Strengthen research in additional diverse areas of national interest / strategy</td>
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<td>h. Build strength in policy research for informed decision making</td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Diffuse knowledge between academia, local industries, government, and other publics</td>
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<td>j. Align research with local social, economic and developmental issues</td>
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<td>k. Embed Oman in the global web of research to collaborate on top ideas</td>
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<td>l. Foster innovation across society, specially among entrepreneurs &amp; SMEs</td>
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<td>m. Position Oman as a place of choice in the GCC for leading international scholars, scientists and corporations to conduct research</td>
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<td>n. Improve research environment for Oman-based researchers</td>
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<tr>
<td>o. Create an environment to attract Omani expatriate researchers and scholars</td>
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National Innovation System

- Education
- R&D
- Standards & Legislation
- Manufacturing & Services
- Media & Publication
- ICT
- Consultancy Services
- Marketing

Fragmented & Non Effective
National Innovation System

Linked and Effective

Goals

R&D

Standards & Legislation

Manufacturing & Services

Education

Marketing

Media & Publication

ICT

Consulting Services
The 5-Pillars of National Innovation Strategy

Leadership
Administer – Govern - Link

- Knowledge Base
  Proximity between Public Private Academic

- IPR & TT
  Reforms to support Other pillars

- HR & Talents Manag.t
  Education Development & Retention

- Diversification & SMEs
  Innovation Driven Priority sectors & FDIs

STIP Review
Inclusiveness
National Context
Nationally-Oriented, Effective, Viable & Sustainable NIS

Pillar 1
Phase I: Selection of Stakeholders, reps. & experts & benchmarking

Pillar 2:
Phase II: Development of NIS strategy consisting of 5 pillars

Pillar 3:
Phase III: Implementation of NIS and progress monitoring based on KPIs and benchmarking

Pillar 4:

Pillar 5:
Phase IV: Continuous updating of NIS through feedback
STIP REVIEW & INNOVATION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

- Customization
- A self-assessment made by The Research Council
- UNCTAD requested an alignment document for STIP report to National Innovation Strategy
- STIP Review – inclusiveness
CONSENSUS BUILDING THROUGH AN INCLUSIVE METHODOLOGY

- Grand Committee
  - 7 Ministers
- National STIP Group
  - 10 Members
- Key Stakeholders
  - 30 potential innovation champions
- Interviews
  - 100 stakeholder interviews
- National Open Workshop
  - With 120 participants to discuss STIP draft report
INITIATIVES UNDERWAY

• Education reforms, scholarships for tertiary education abroad

• National Business Centre to support entrepreneurship

• Public Authority of SME Development established

• In-country value Program

• Sustainable Technology utilization
  • Solar energy for Enhanced Oil Recovery by Petroleum Development Oman
  • Eco-house initiative by Research Council
OMAN IS KEEN

- To tap into existing global knowledge through international STI collaborations and technology transfer
- To Participate in the global value chain and greater value addition within its national boundaries
- On Greener growth
- On Guidance from CSTD and UNCTAD for identifying mutually beneficial bilateral STI collaborations and technology transfer
IN CONCLUSION

STIP Process

- A valuable and transparent report
- Open and Inclusive Methodology novel to Oman and highly appreciated by stakeholders

Immediate Actions:

- National dissemination of STIP report
- Adoption of recommendations in development and implementation of National Innovation Strategy