



December 10 at 4 PM GST

# Transforming our Region: Middle East Climate Tech & COP16 Insights

Welcome

# Stephen Anderson

**Strategy Leader**  
PwC Middle East

01



# Welcome

## Economic Updates

## 2024 Middle East Climate Tech report

## UNCCD COP16

**Stephen Anderson**

Strategy Leader  
PwC Middle East

**Jing Teow**

Director, Economics and  
Sustainability  
PwC Middle East

**Patricia Keating**

Senior Manager  
PwC Middle East

**Lola Fernandez**

Principal  
VentureSouq

**Samer Al Chikhani**

Partner  
Strategy& Middle East



# Economic Updates

**Jing Teow**

**Director, Economics and Sustainability**

PwC Middle East

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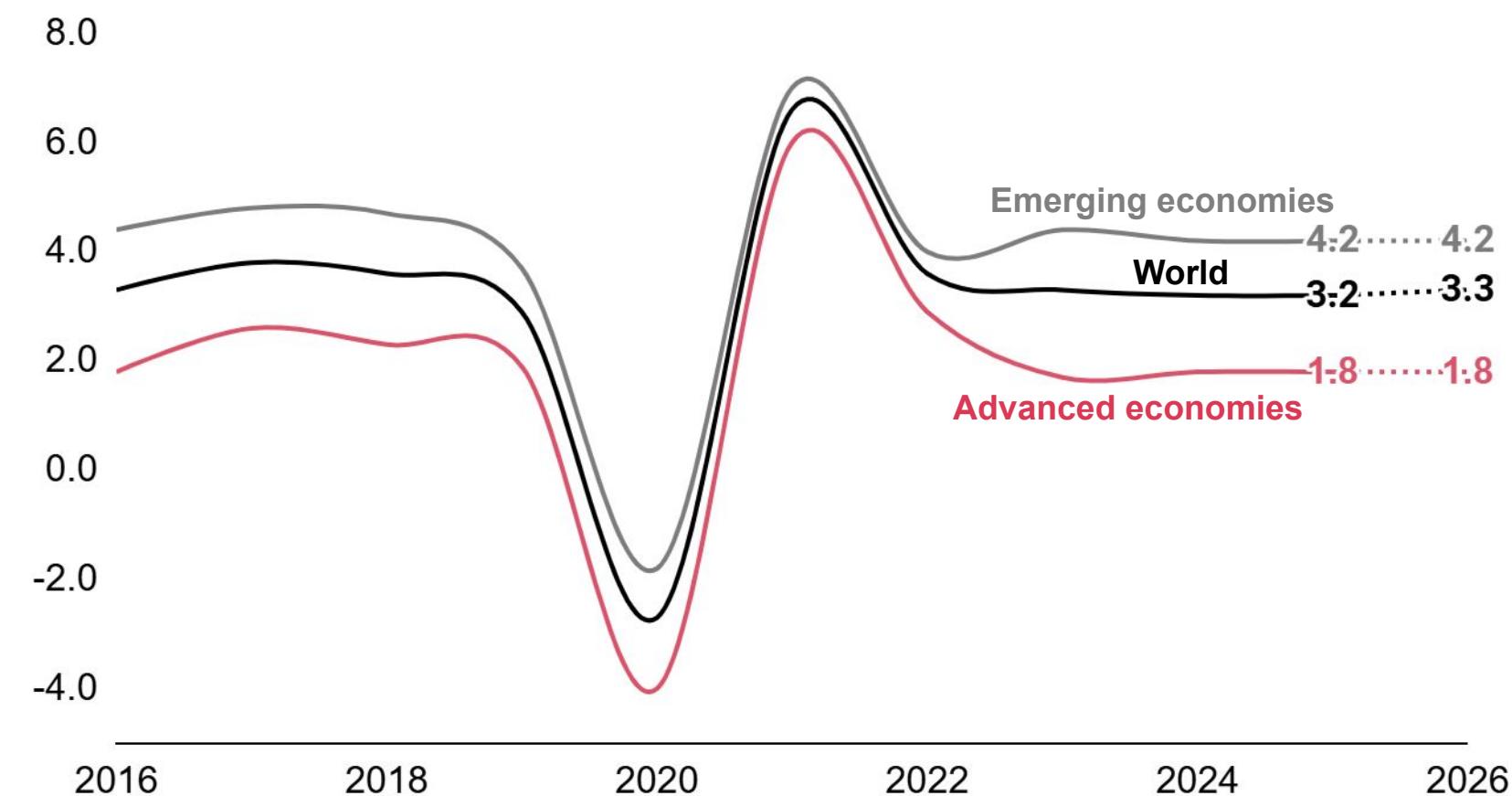


# Economic Updates

Global growth continues to be steady

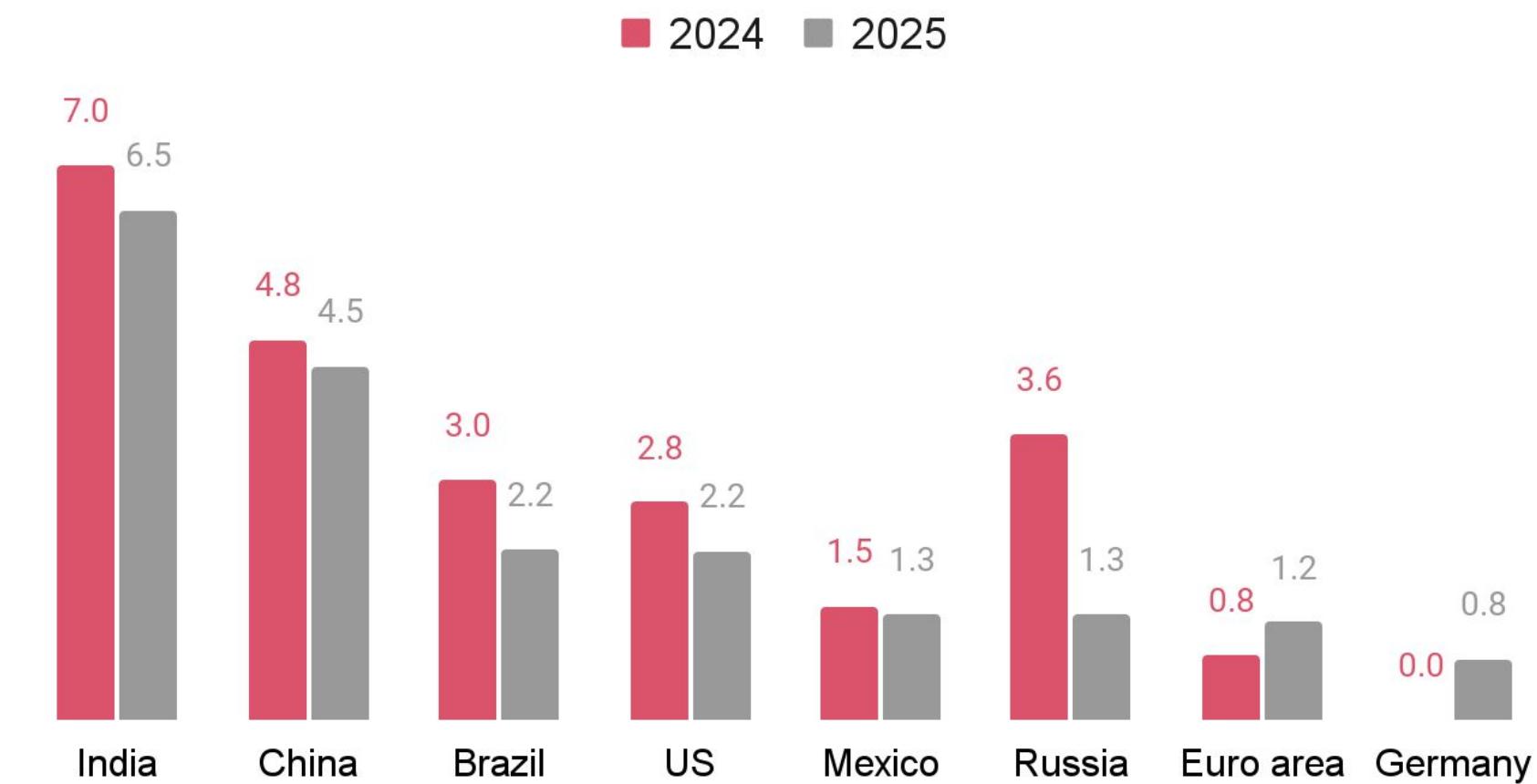
## Real GDP Growth by country group

Annual % Chg, 2016 - 2029



## Real GDP Growth for major economies

Annual % Chg, 2024 - 2025



## Key risks

➤ Geopolitical tensions

➤ Economic and trade fragmentation

➤ Inflation and pace of monetary easing

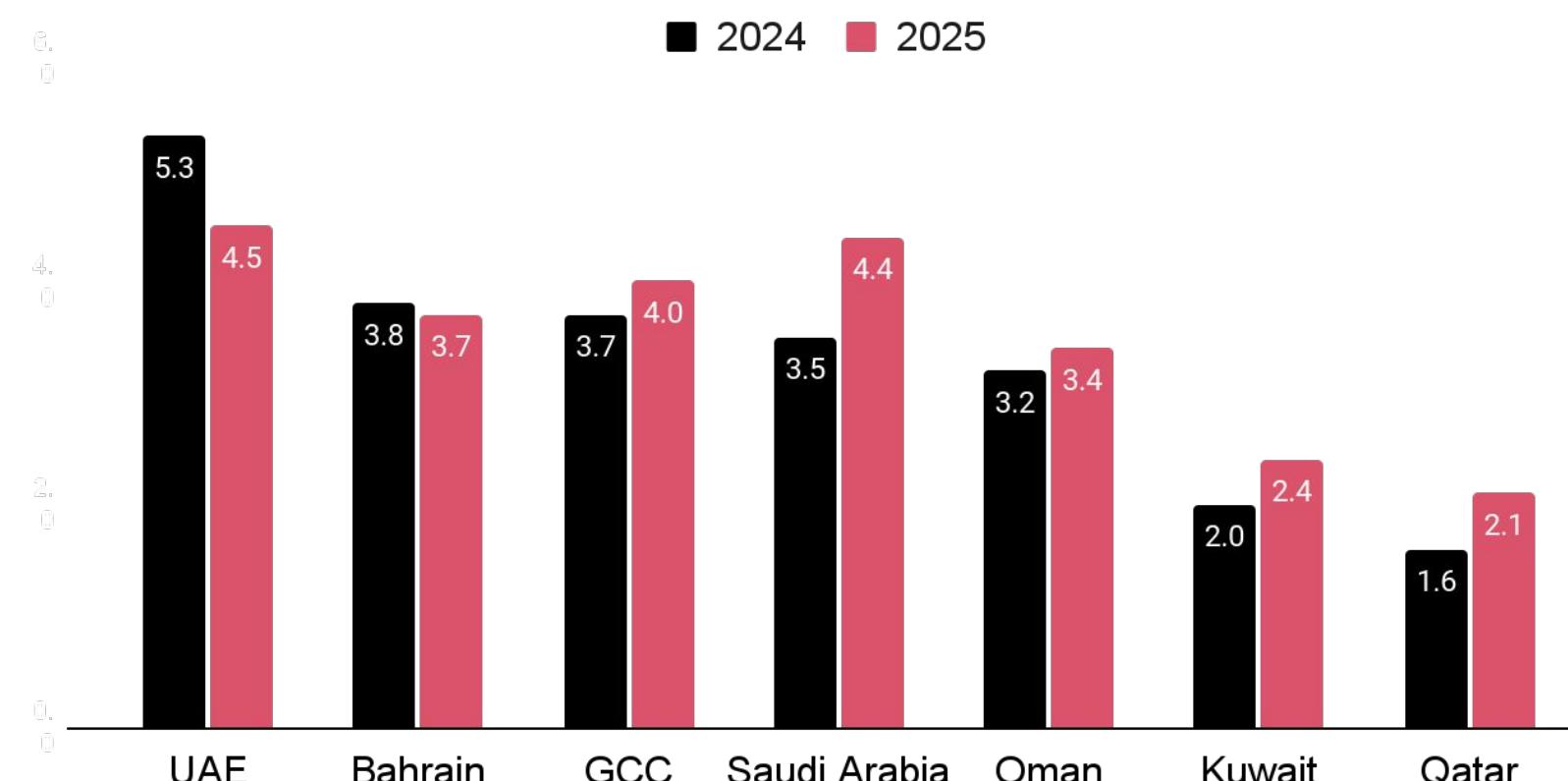
➤ Demographic challenges

# Economic Updates

## GCC growth remains strong amid diversification reforms

### GCC non-oil GDP Growth

Annual % Chg, 2024 - 2025

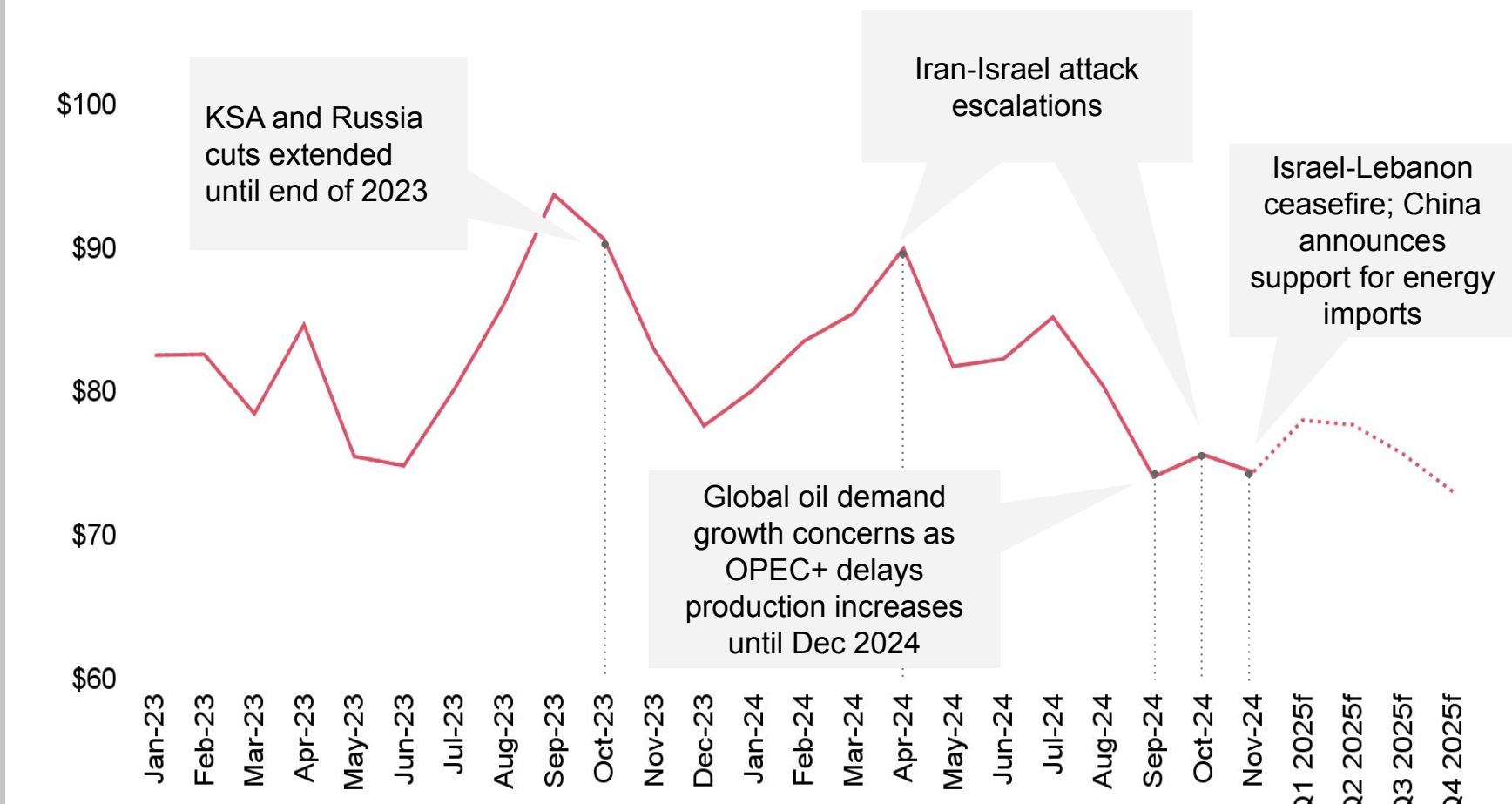


### Total GDP growth (incl. hydrocarbons sector)

2024	4.0%	3.0%	1.8%	1.5%	1.0%	-2.7%	1.5%
2025	5.1%	3.2%	4.2%	4.6%	3.1%	3.3%	1.9%

### Brent crude prices

US\$ per barrel



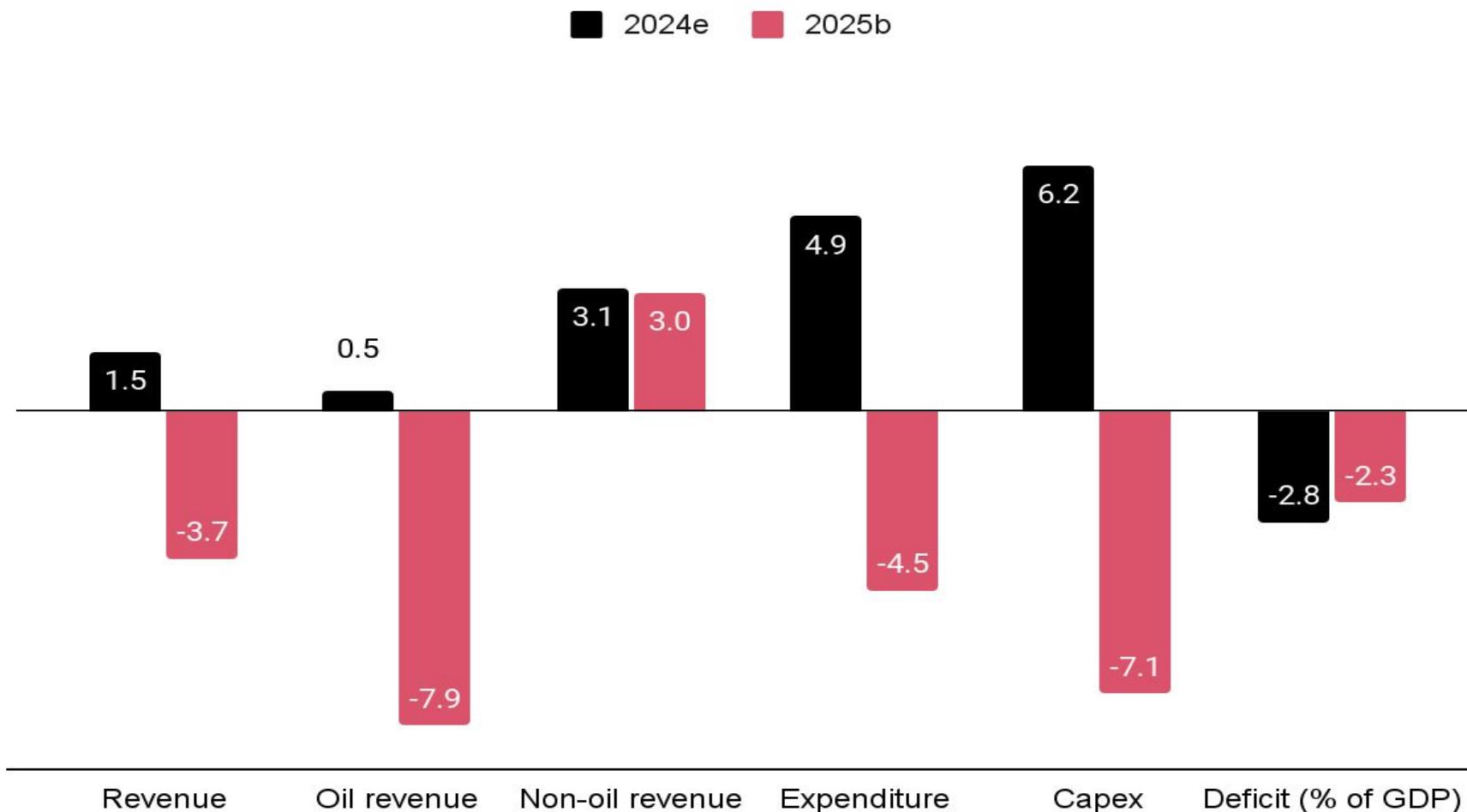
- Strong non-oil growth forecast in 2025 driven by diversification reforms
- Despite gradual decoupling, the oil sector remains a critical economic driver.
- Fiscal surpluses expected across GCC, except for Bahrain and KSA

# Economic Updates

## KSA maintains expansionary fiscal stance for the medium term with a cautious 2025 budget

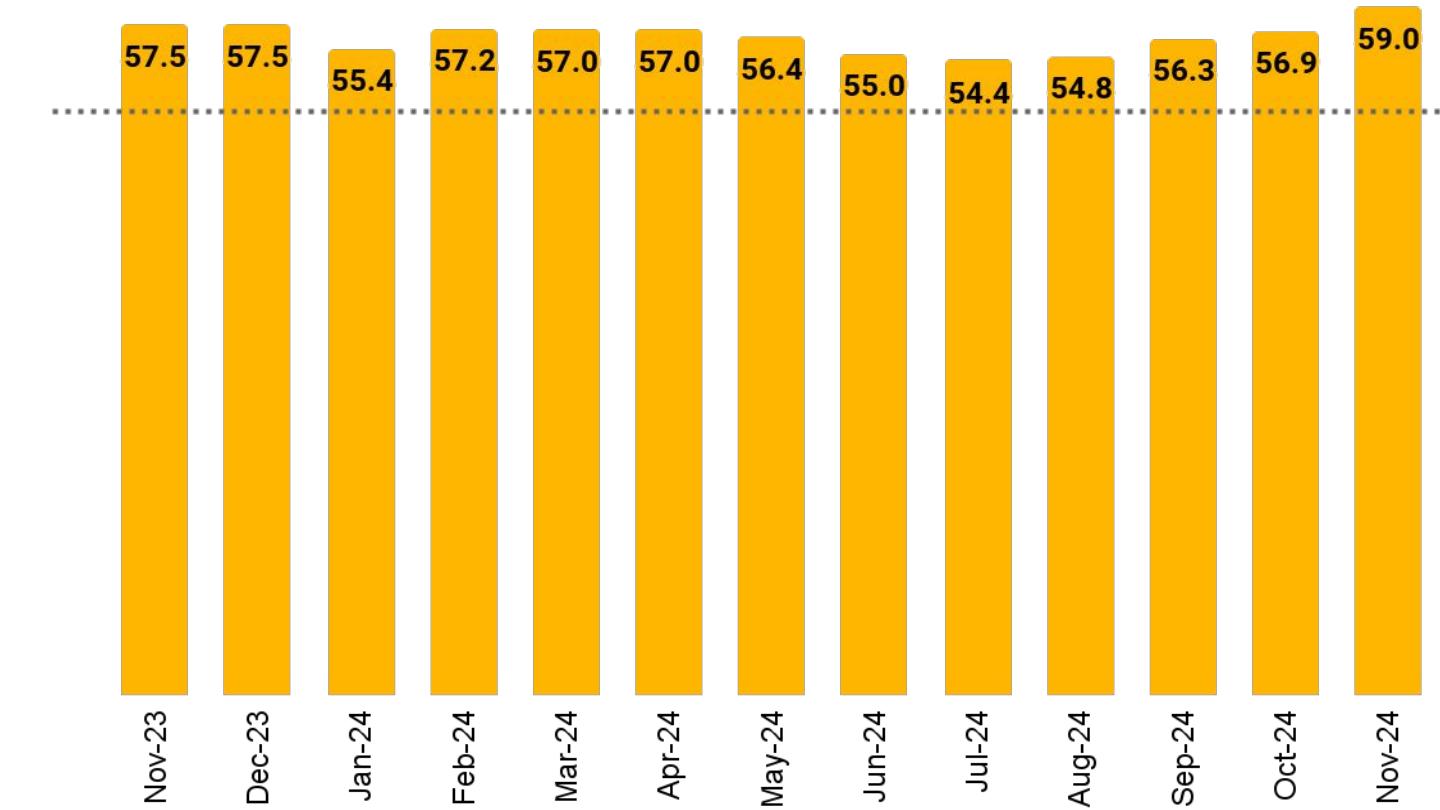
### KSA Budget Trends

Annual % Chg, 2024 -2025



### Purchasing Managers' Index

KSA, Nov'23 - Nov'24



A reading above 50 indicates an expansion of the non-oil private sector compared with the previous month; below 50 represents a contraction; and 50 indicates no change.

- Improving deficit in line with "deficit by design" strategy to prioritize sectoral investments
- Decline in revenues driven by reduction in oil revenues
- Decline in spending, in particular capital expenditure

- KSA's PMI continues its **four-month growth streak**, with foreign sales rebounding sharply after a modest dip in October and **employment growth reaching the second-fastest pace** in over a decade

# 2024 Middle East Climate Tech report

**Patricia Keating**

**Senior Manager**  
PwC Middle East

**Lola Fernandez**

**Principal**  
VentureSouq

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**LAUNCHED TODAY:** 2024 Middle East Climate Tech report, our regional take on the global analysis of the climate tech investment ecosystem.

**A comprehensive analysis of climate tech investment:** Exploring opportunities to accelerate net zero ambitions

**Key themes from the report:**

**01**

Regional capital powers global climate tech innovation

**02**

Funding gaps and shortfalls remain in high-emission sectors

**03**

Cautious global engagement in Middle East investment

**04**

Opportunities rise to support homegrown enterprise



**2024 Middle East Climate Tech report**  
scan to read the report



# Where is the **money** going?

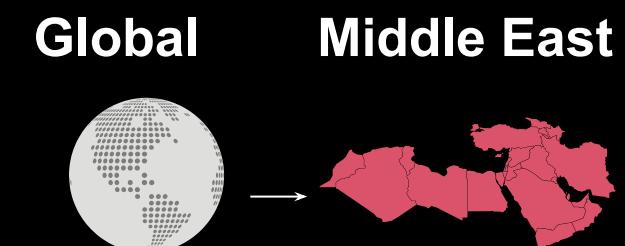
This year's climate tech regional findings reflect continued investor appetite in decarbonisation solutions globally, with particular investments directed to China and North America, led by the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

This report follows regional investment across **three** distinct directions:



**\$3.6bn**

**Middle East** investors funding climate tech **outside** the region



**\$114m**

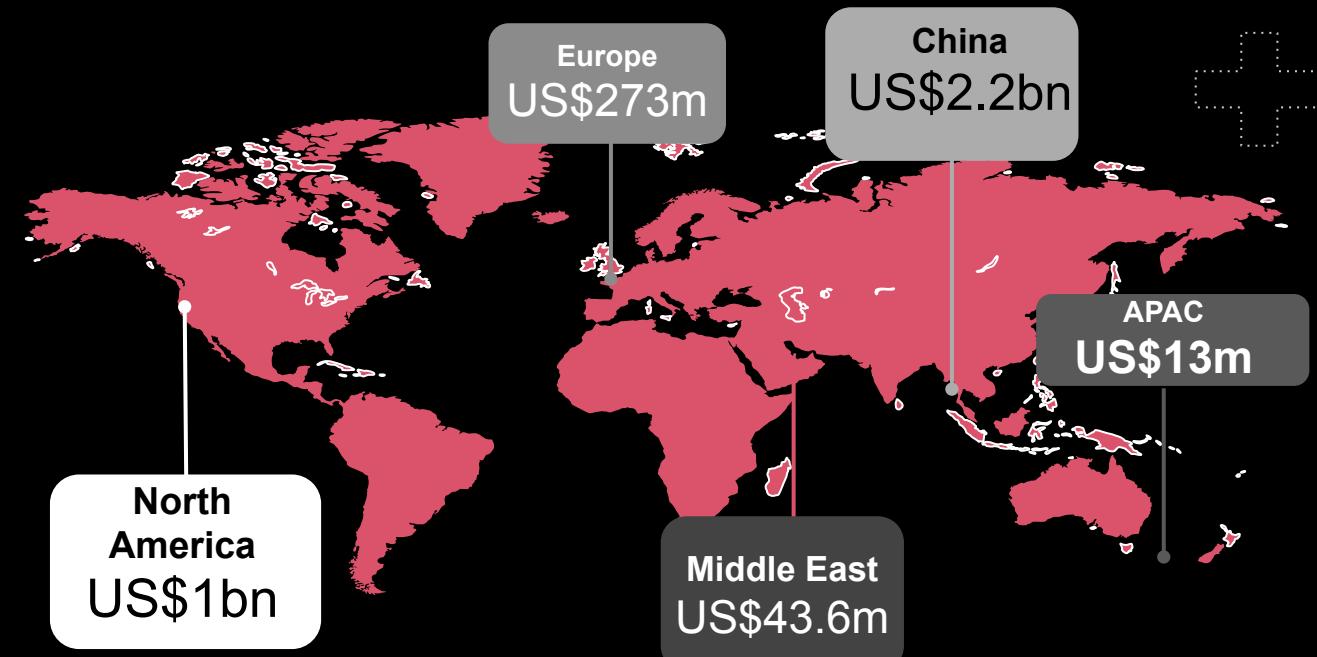
**Global** investors funding climate tech **inside** the region



**\$43.6m**

**Middle East** investors funding home grown climate tech within the **region**

An overall look into where Middle East investors are investing in climate technology by region in the last 12 months:



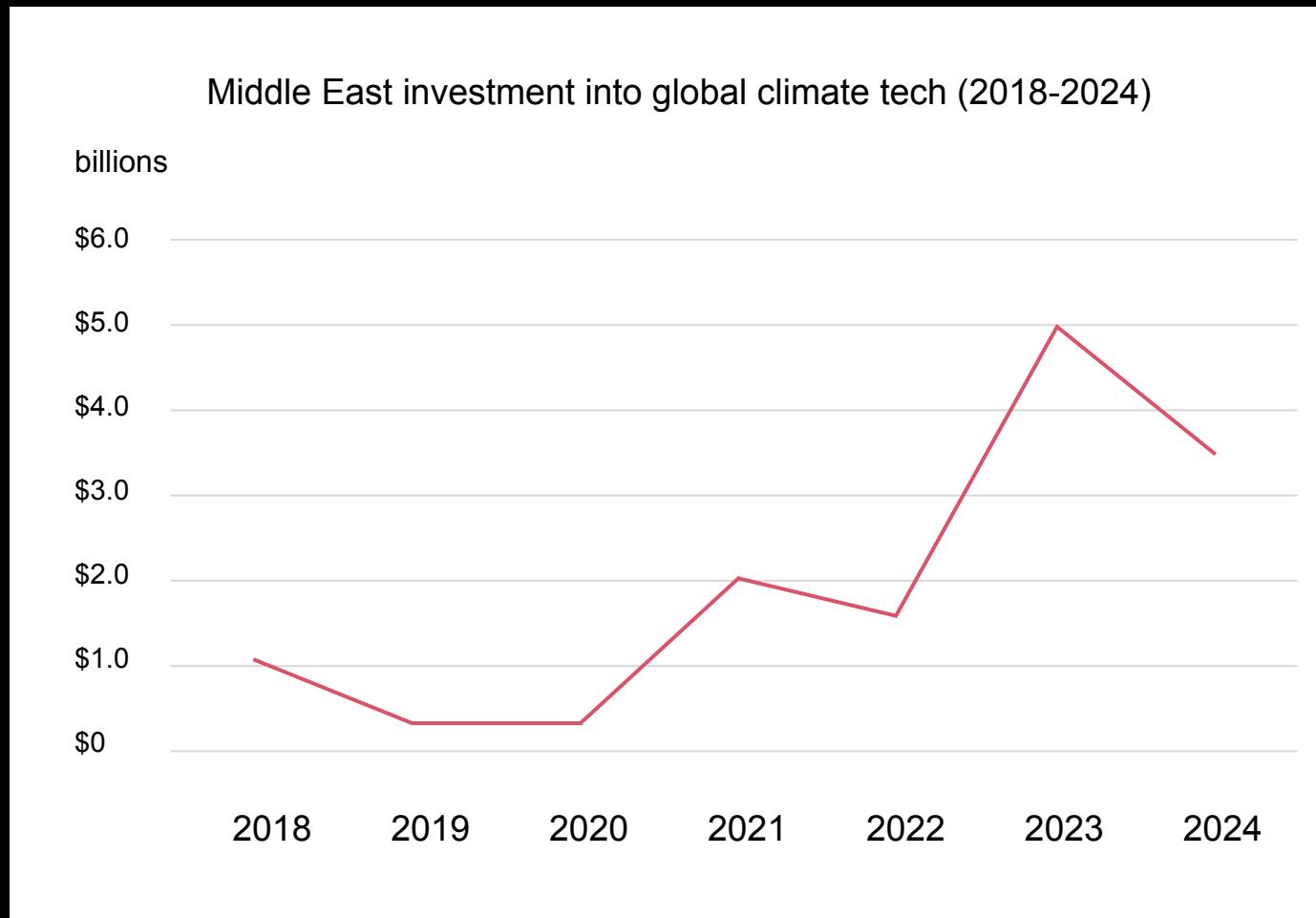
Most active Middle East countries investing globally in the last 12 months:

1	UAE	US\$2.3bn
2	KSA	US\$981m
3	Qatar	US\$225m



## Significant capital from the region powers global climate tech innovation

Middle East investment into global climate tech follows an upward trajectory within the past 6 years, but has decreased between the period of 2023 to 2024.



**US\$3.6bn**

flows outward into global climate tech from Middle East investors - dropping by **28%** from last year.

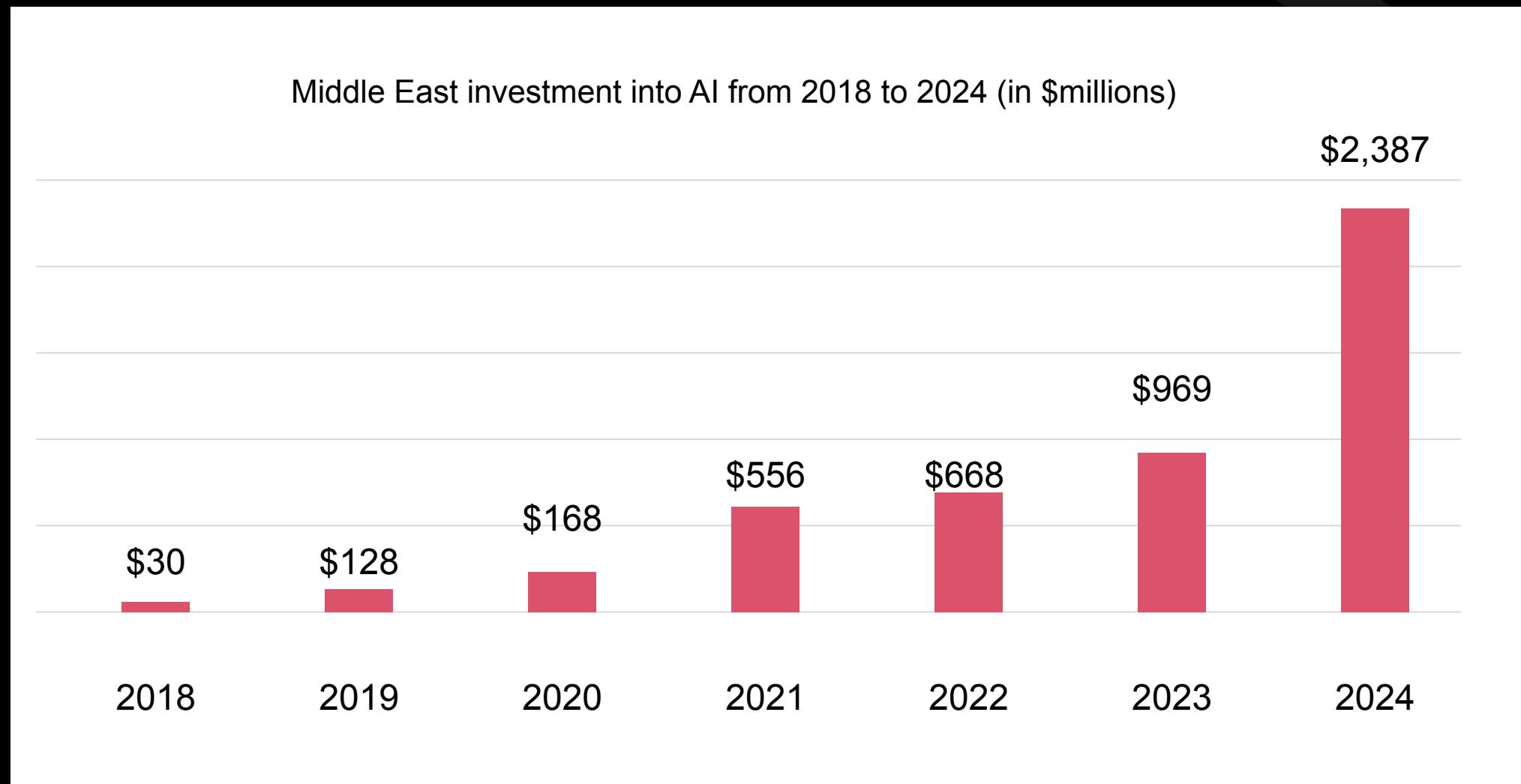


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## Significant capital from the region powers global climate tech innovation

AI investment in the Middle East has expanded dramatically, underlining the region's critical role in scaling climate tech solutions worldwide.



**Middle East investment into AI from 2018 to 2024 follows a path of growth year on year.**

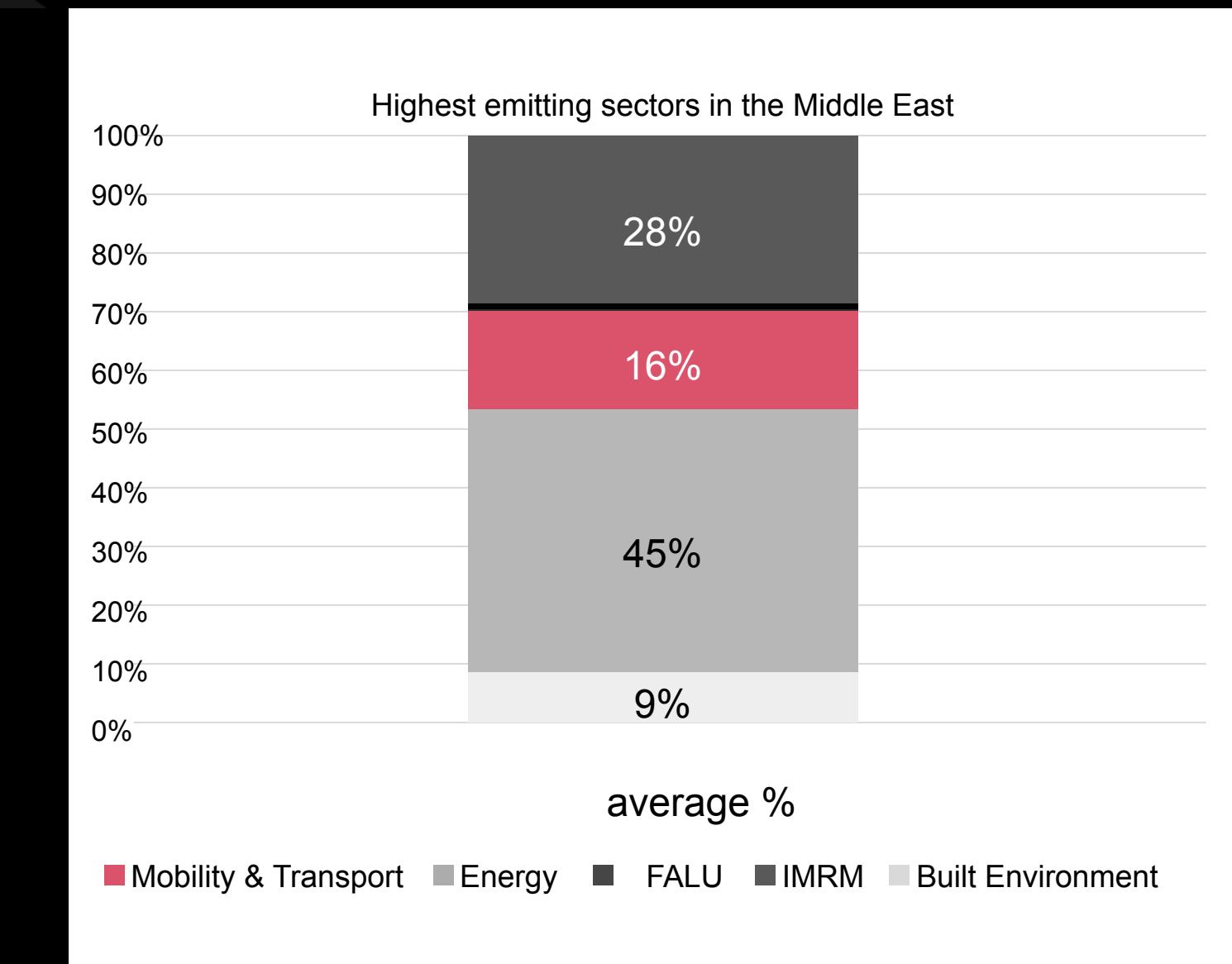
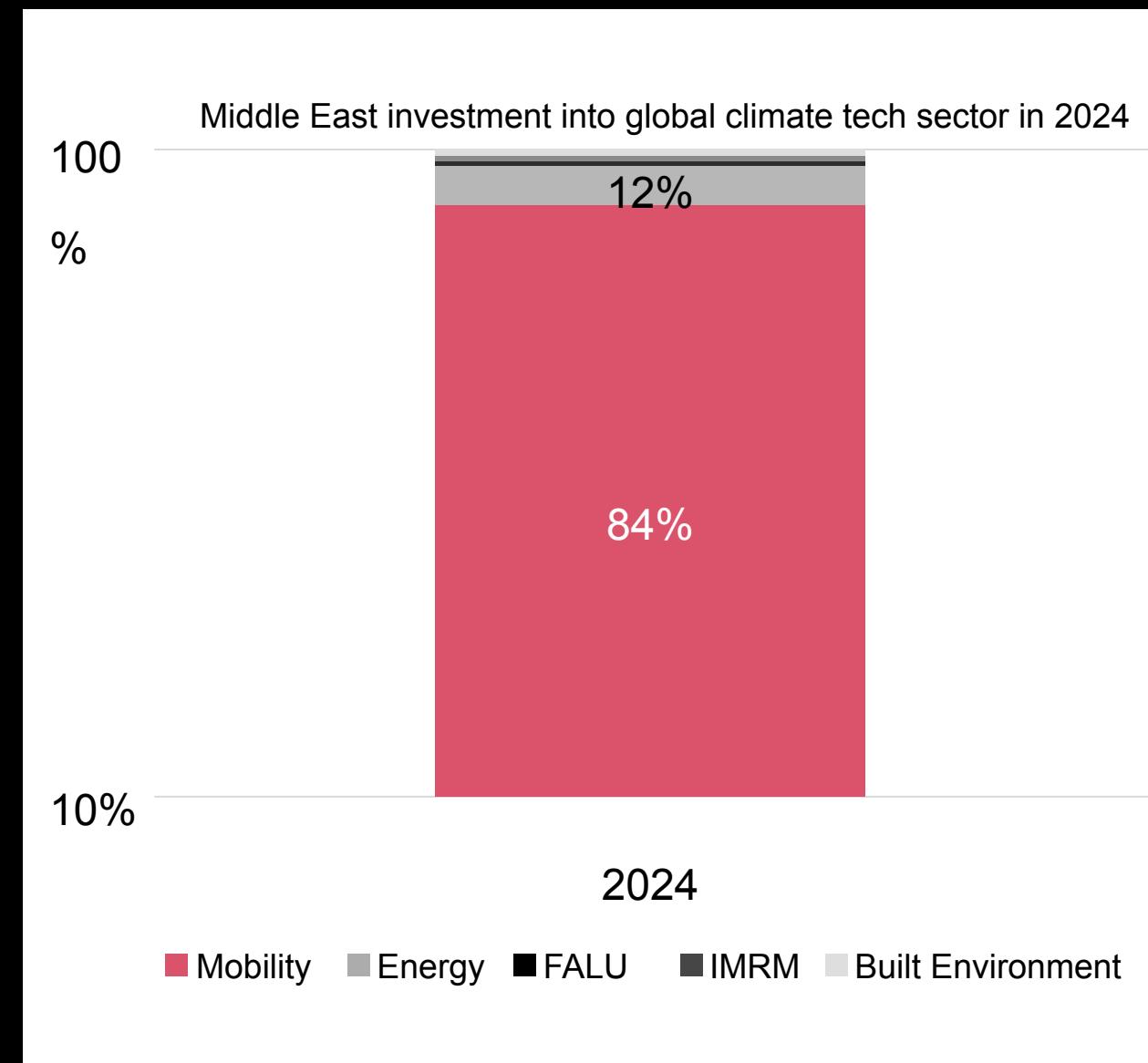


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## Funding gaps in high-emission sectors remain

In 2024, Middle East climate tech investment focused on Mobility and Energy, with Mobility comprising 84%, while these sectors, along with IMRM, account for 89% of regional emissions.



2024 Middle East  
Climate Tech report  
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## A cautious global engagement

Global investment in Middle East climate tech has dropped, with Mobility declining sharply while AI gains investor interest.

**41%**

drop in global investment to the region, falling from US\$193m in 2023 to US\$114m in 2024.

**59**

in Middle East climate tech were made in 2024, down from 95 in 2023, while the number of funded companies dropped from 75 to 49.

**\$47.3m**

invested by global investors in Middle East AI-related climate-tech companies, compared to US\$5.4m in funding for AI startups in 2023.

**77%**

drop in global appetite in the region's mobility sector, falling sharply between 2023 and 2024.

Global investment in Middle East climate tech has fallen sharply, driven by steep declines in mobility funding, **while AI emerges as a key area of growing interest for investors.**



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## Opportunities rise to support homegrown enterprise

Significant global investments from key GCC countries reveal missed opportunities to foster local innovation and drive regional impact.

# \$3.49bn

combined investment by the UAE, KSA and Qatar into climate tech globally, but only US\$35.67 million was directed at home, **missing a chance to scale local innovation.**

### How can we align ambition and scale impact?

Address the carbon funding gap in critical sectors

Continue to be bold in leveraging the momentum in electric mobility and AI

Support homegrown talent and accelerate local innovation



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# Samer Al Chikhani

**Partner, Strategy& Middle East**

Government and Public Sector Practice  
Partner,  
Strategy& Middle East  
Government and Public Sector Practice

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# For a post-2030 global ambition on land stewardship

**“** We depend on land for our survival. Yet, we treat it like dirt.  
UN Secretary-General António Guterres **”**

**16-40%**

of the world's land is currently degraded

**100Mn ha**

of healthy and productive land is degraded every year

Land degradation impacts wellbeing and livelihoods of

**~3.2 Bn people,  
40% of world's population**

Global food crisis

Biodiversity loss

Forced migration

Increased environmental disasters

Increased conflicts

Global GDP and ESV loss



2 - 13 Dec 2024

The three key objectives of COP16 UNCCD are:

1. Raise awareness on the importance of land and engaging in land degradation neutrality and drought mitigation efforts
2. Encourage international collaboration supporting Saudi Arabia's action agenda, proposing new agendas and participation in other countries agendas
3. Identify and present efforts by the public and private sectors relating to land degradation and drought





# Q&A



Thank you