

# Comments on Saudi Arabia's Shareek investment package in Arab News, Mar 31 2021

Dr. Nasser Saidi's comments appeared in an Arab News article titled "[Markets jump on Shareek investment package](#)" on 31st March 2021.

The comments are posted below.

*Nasser Saidi, a Middle East economics expert, said the intention was to "jump start" the Saudi economy in the wake of the recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*"This would be a massive increase in investment that will likely modernize and upscale infrastructure, including digital. As proposed, it should be strongly supportive of non-oil growth, increase overall productivity and lead to job creation for Saudi's young population," he added.*

*Saidi added that the move from dividends to investment could be a positive one: "This switch is likely to increase the efficiency of investment since SABIC, Aramco and other entities would aim to earn a market return on their investment. This would cut waste and inefficiencies, an overall gain to the economy."*

*He also highlighted the impact the Shakeel strategy could have on persuading Saudi citizens to invest directly at home. "This revival of investment and successful program would attract back a fraction of the Saudi private wealth held offshore."*