

Interview with Dubai TV (Arabic) on Adnoc's USD 20.7bn deal, 23 Jun 2020

Dr. Nasser Saidi appeared in an interview with Dubai TV, broadcast on 23rd June 2020, discussing an agreement to invest in Abu Dhabi's natural gas pipelines infrastructure.

The agreement worth USD 20.7bn is the largest single global energy infrastructure deal in 2020 – and the region's biggest. This is significant at time of global recession & capital outflows from Emerging Markets.

The Adnoc deal will attract more than \$10bn in FDI into the #UAE; part-privatisation signals openness to PPP & greater private sector involvement in energy development. Adnoc has also taken advantage of investor appetite by monetising its gas pipeline network. Is privatisation further upstream next? The video can be viewed below from 42:14 onwards.

Panelist at the launch of IMF's MENA Regional Economic Outlook, 27 Apr 2020

Dr. Nasser Saidi participated as a panelist at the IMF's launch of the Regional Economic Outlook report for the Middle East and North Africa region on 27th April, 2020.

The panel discussion covered the macro outlook for the region given the inter-twined effects of Covid19, fall in oil prices

and financial shocks.

The IMF report can be accessed at <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/REO/MECA/Issues/2020/04/15/regional-economic-outlook-middle-east-central-asia-report>

Watch the video of the webinar below (link to the IMF: <https://www.imf.org/external/mmedia/view.aspx?vid=6152433693001>)

Comments on Surviving the Covid-19 economic crisis in MEED, 24 Mar 2020

Dr. Nasser Saidi's comments appeared an article titled "Surviving the Covid-19 economic crisis" that appeared in MEED on 24th Mar 2020.

Comments from the article are posted below. The full article can be accessed [here](#).

"It looks like the oil price war that is now launched is a strategic move by Saudi Arabia to weaken or destroy shale oil," says economist Nasser Saidi, founder and president of Nasser Saidi & Associates.

"It was bound to happen. There are two factors negatively effecting oil – renewables and shale. Shale was eating into the Opec plus share. They either wait and continue to lose market share or they act. They could choose now or later. They chose now."

"I estimate that because of the losses, the GCC needs to raise \$160bn-180bn in 2020 to maintain current spending deficits and provide financial support to some industries such as aviation," says Saidi.

No significant announcements have been made about projects being delayed or cancelled in the region, but the projects

sector will be significantly affected by cuts to capital spending. *“The likelihood is that many will be delayed or postponed,” says Saidi. “And the net result is that structural adjustment, in terms of diversification, will be more difficult unless they bite the bullet and open up privatisation and public-private partnerships (PPPs). To me, this is the time to provide incentives.”*

Panelist at the launch of IMF’s MENA Regional Economic Outlook, 28 Oct 2019

Dr. Nasser Saidi participated as a panelist at the IMF’s launch of the Regional Economic Outlook report for the Middle East and North Africa region, which took place at the Dubai International Financial Centre on 28th October, 2019.

The panel discussion covered many aspects including the economic outlook for UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and other nations while also addressing the issues of geopolitical risks, job creation and climate change among others.

The IMF report can be accessed at <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/REO/MECA/Issues/2019/10/19/reo-menap-cca-1019>

Watch the video of the panel discussion below: