

Qoyod Reports

AI Adoption in Saudi Arabia: From Strategy to Infrastructure and Compute Power

A data-driven report on AI adoption in Saudi Arabia: the national strategy and its targets, advanced global rankings, AI factories and compute power, and the sovereign Arabic language model ALLaM.

2026

In just a few years, the Kingdom has moved from adopting artificial intelligence as an aspiration to building it as an industry: a national strategy with clear numeric targets, advanced positions in global indices, AI factories rising on its soil, and a sovereign Arabic language model. This report reads, by the numbers, where the Kingdom stands in the AI race and what this wave means for businesses.



From aspiration to strategy

The Kingdom placed AI at the heart of Vision 2030 through the National Strategy for Data and AI, led by the Saudi Data and AI Authority (SDAIA). The strategy does not stop at slogans; it sets numeric targets: to rank among the top 15 AI nations by 2030, and for the sector to contribute more than \$135.2 billion to GDP, about 12.4% of it.

AI contribution to the economy by 2030

\$135.2 billion

Projected AI contribution to Saudi GDP by 2030, about 12.4% of it.

Goal: among the top 15 AI nations

Source: Saudi Data and AI Authority (SDAIA) + the National Strategy for Data and AI.

When ambition is translated into measurable numeric targets, AI shifts from a technology to an economic pillar within Vision 2030.

The Kingdom on the global map

This commitment is reflected in international indices. According to the Government AI Readiness Index 2025 by Oxford Insights, the Kingdom ranked first across the Middle East and North Africa and seventh globally, with advanced positions in governance and public-sector AI adoption.

#7

globally

#1

in MENA

Saudi Arabia ranks first in MENA and seventh globally in the Government AI Readiness Index, with advanced positions in governance and public-sector adoption.

Source: Oxford Insights, Government AI Readiness Index 2025, via Economy Middle East and Arab News.

Compute infrastructure: AI factories on Saudi soil

AI needs vast compute power, and here the Kingdom is moving fast. In May 2025, the Public Investment Fund launched "HUMAIN," dedicated to the full AI value chain. The company announced a partnership with NVIDIA to build "AI factories" with capacity of up to 500 megawatts, powered by hundreds of thousands of GPUs over five years, starting with a first phase of 18,000 NVIDIA GB300 chips. It is also working with xAI to build a 500 MW+ data center (its first outside the United States), and with AWS to run up to 150,000 GPUs in an "AI Zone" in Riyadh.

Compute infrastructure: AI factories on Saudi soil

500 MW

AI-factory capacity (HUMAIN + NVIDIA)

18,000

NVIDIA GB300 chips in phase one
(hundreds of thousands to follow)

xAI: 500 MW+ data center (its first outside the US)

AWS: up to 150,000 GPUs in Riyadh

Source: NVIDIA Newsroom + HUMAIN + SPA + Arabian Business, 2025.

Sovereign Arabic AI

Ambitions are not limited to infrastructure; they extend to sovereignty over the technology itself. The National Center for AI at SDAIA developed "ALLaM," one of the most prominent Arabic language models, which powers the "HUMAIN Chat" Arabic conversational AI app. This direction ensures AI is built in the region's language and culture, not imported ready-made.

Investment, talent and the innovation environment

Behind this shift stands a massive investment: the "Project Transcendence" initiative worth about \$100 billion, alongside the National Strategy's target of attracting around SAR 75 billion in investment. This is complemented by building human capital: developing 20,000 data and AI specialists, training 40% of the workforce in basic skills, and supporting more than 300 startups in the sector.

AI investment scale

\$100 bn

Project Transcendence AI initiative

SAR 75 bn

targeted investment under the National Strategy (SDAIA)

Source: 2025 market coverage + Saudi Data and AI Authority (SDAIA).

20,000 data and AI specialists

train 40% of the workforce in basic skills

support 300+ startups

ALLaM: a leading Arabic LLM + HUMAIN Chat

Source: National Strategy for Data and AI (SDAIA) + the National Center for AI (NCAI).

What does this mean for businesses?

The AI wave is not only for large corporations; it reshapes how every business operates. The common denominator across all AI applications is that they need one fuel: clean, structured, digital data. A business still running on paper or scattered spreadsheets stays outside this wave, no matter what tools are available.

| Readiness | Why it matters in the age of AI |
|------------------------------|---|
| Cloud, not paper, accounting | Structured digital data is the fuel for any later analysis or automation |
| Cleared e-invoicing | Unified, machine-readable sales data instead of scattered invoices |
| Real-time financial reports | Faster, sharper decisions and a ready base for any future AI layer |
| System integration | Smooth data flow between accounting, sales and resources opens the door to automation |

This is where a business's digital backbone matters: Qoyod, an Arabic cloud accounting system, turns a business's financial operations into structured data compliant with e-invoicing, making the business "digitally ready" to benefit from the AI wave rather than fall behind it.

Outlook to 2030 and recommendations

As compute infrastructure expands and Arabic models mature, AI in the Kingdom is expected to move from a building phase to widespread use across sectors. Practical recommendations for businesses:

- Digitize your financial operations first; clean data is a prerequisite for benefiting from any AI tool.
- Adopt e-invoicing and real-time reporting so your data is ready for analysis and automation.
- Invest in your team's digital skills; the National Strategy offers broad training programs.
- Watch emerging Arabic solutions (such as the "ALLaM" models) that understand the local market context.

The Kingdom is not just using AI, it is building it. A business that builds a clean digital foundation today places itself at the heart of this wave, not on its margins.

Sources

- 1 Saudi Data and AI Authority (SDAIA) — National Strategy for Data and AI and its 2030 targets.
- 2 Oxford Insights — Government AI Readiness Index 2025 (1st in MENA, 7th globally).
- 3 NVIDIA Newsroom + HUMAIN + SPA + Arabian Business — AI factories and compute partnerships (2025).
- 4 National Center for AI (SDAIA) — the Arabic ALLaM model and HUMAIN Chat.
- 5 2025 market coverage — Project Transcendence AI investment initiative.

Get your business digitally ready with Qoyod

An Arabic cloud accounting system that turns your financial operations into structured, e-invoicing-compliant data so your business is ready for the AI wave.

qoyod.com