The Saudi Ministry of Investment revealed that it issued more than 500 licenses for foreign investment in various economic sectors and activities inside the Kingdom during the first half of this year, despite the repercussions of the emerging "Coronavirus".
The Ministry of Investment issued 506 investment licenses during the first half, after recording a 20 percent growth in foreign investments in the Kingdom during the first quarter, while it recorded a decrease of 47 percent in the second quarter as a result of the global economy being affected by the Coronavirus pandemic, according to the investment developments for the second quarter.
According to the report, the month of June accounted for half of the licenses issued during the second quarter, despite the decline in the growth in licenses during the months of April and May, representing an increase of 23 percent compared to the same period in 2019; The data shows the recovery of economic activity at the end of the second quarter, coinciding with the measures to ease the closure taken by the Kingdom and the cautious return to economic activities.
In this context, the Saudi Minister of Investment, Eng. Khalid bin Abdulaziz Al-Falih, affirmed that the resilience demonstrated by the Saudi economy during the first half of 2020 confirms the strength of the investment environment in the Kingdom and its safety for the investor, despite the exceptional circumstance that the world went through this year, considering that the current year has witnessed unprecedented challenges as the pandemic (Coronavirus) will determine the course of the global economy for the coming period.
Source (Asharq Al-Awsat Newspaper, Edited)
Mauritania Approves a Recovery Plan to Speed Up the Economic Recovery

The Mauritanian President approved a new plan to stimulate the economy, with the aim of accelerating economic recovery and expelling the devastating effects of the epidemic by making use of local resources and enhancing their contributions to achieving growth.

Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Cheikh Al-Ghazwani unveiled a self-financing economic growth plan of more than $650 million.

Al-Ghazwani stressed in a speech that the plan extends over a period of thirty months and aims to address the negative effects and overcome the challenges of the post-Corona pandemic, explaining that the plan also revealed the urgent need to strengthen the role of the state, in organizing the economy, directing investment, developing productive sectors, and working to achieve the highest possible level of food self-sufficiency.

The Mauritanian president pointed out that this program includes basic axes, most notably strengthening the infrastructure supporting growth, enhancing the capacities of social sectors, supporting demand, promoting and supporting productive sectors to achieve self-sufficiency, support the private sector, combat desertification and drought, and support job opportunities.

Source (Arab Newspaper-London, Edited)
Jordan advanced in the Global Innovation Index by 5 points out of 131 countries included in the report, as Jordan made progress on the GII output axis from 86th in 2019 to 81st this year.

According to the report issued by the World Intellectual Property Organization under the title (Regional Innovation Pioneers), Jordan is one of the economies whose rank has greatly improved this year, supported by the progress of 4 axes, which are the institutions axis, market development, business environment development and knowledge outputs out of the 7 main axes that form the global innovation index as a result of performance improvements and model changes.

Jordan’s performance has improved in the variables related to the quality of its credit market, especially in terms of easy access to loans and domestic credit to the private sector and investment capital deals. This success comes within the context of the work of the committee formed under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply in (10/2019) and representatives from the Ministries of Education, Higher Education, Digital Economy, the National Center for Creativity and the Center for Innovation Index) where the results of 2019 were studied and analyzed and ways to improve the ranking of Jordan. Meetings were held with the chief economist of the World Intellectual Property Organization, which resulted in a marked improvement in Jordan’s ranking for this year.

The Global Innovation Index 2020, which will be issued in its thirteenth edition this year, is a report jointly published by Cornell University, the European Institute of Business Administration (INSEAD) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO, which is one of the United Nations specialized agencies).