The Arab Investment and Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (Daman) revealed that the number of foreign direct investment projects incoming to the Arab region increased by 37% in 2021 on an annual basis to reach 862 projects, with an investment cost of $32.8 billion, an increase of 1% over 2020. According to a statement by the Corporation on the occasion of the launch of its annual report on the investment climate in the Arab countries for the year 2022, the position of the Arab countries in the majority of international indicators related to the investment climate improved in 2021.

The statement showed that the total number of foreign direct investment projects in the Arab region rose during the period between 2003 and 2021 to 14,443 projects at an investment cost estimated at $1.3 trillion, indicating that these projects provided nearly two million job opportunities.

The Director General of the Corporation, Abdullah Ahmed Al-Sabeeh, expected continued growth in 2022, especially after the value of foreign projects imported to the region increased by 86%. To reach $21 billion during the first third of 2022 compared to the same period in 2021, especially if the negative repercussions of the Russian-Ukrainian war recede.

According to the report, Western Europe came at the forefront of investors in the region for the year 2021 in terms of the investment cost of projects, led by the United Kingdom, which contributed about 7.5% of the cost, on the other hand, Saudi Arabia was the most important destination for foreign projects in the region in terms of investment cost of $9.3 billion.

Source (Al-Arabiya.net Website, Edited)
The International Monetary Fund report showed strong indicators for the Saudi economy, as it expected a 7.6 percent GDP growth this year, and the growth of the non-oil sector rose to 4.2 percent, with the current account surplus increasing by 17.4 percent of the total output, indicating Saudi Arabia's ability to contain overall inflation at 2.8 percent.

Indicators of the International Monetary Fund showed the strength of the Kingdom's economy and the strength of its financial position, indicating that the economic prospects for Saudi Arabia are positive in the short and medium terms, with the continued recovery of growth rates and the containment of inflation, in addition to the increasing strength of its external economic position.

The Fund indicated that the Kingdom has succeeded in dealing with the Corona virus pandemic, and that it is in a favorable position to overcome the risks posed by the war in Ukraine and the monetary policy tightening cycle in advanced economies. According to the IMF, economic activity is witnessing a strong improvement, supported by the rise in oil prices, the reforms undertaken by the government within the framework of "Vision 2030", and the limited impact of tightening global conditions thanks to the strong levels of capitalization enjoyed by the banking sector.

Source (Al-Sharq Al-Awsat Newspaper, Edited)
The United Arab Emirates ranked first in the Arab world and 19 globally, in terms of its ability to attract foreign direct investment, according to the World Foreign Direct Investment Report 2022 issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

The country also ranked 17th globally in outward investment flows to countries of the world, with a total of $22.5 billion, with a growth rate of 19 percent over the year 2020.

The Minister of Economy, Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri, pointed out that the positive results and indicators mentioned in the report confirm that the UAE is moving steadily towards achieving its ambitious goals of strengthening the national economy and ensuring its global competitiveness, in light of the support and directives of the wise leadership, and in line with the objectives and principles of the fifties and the determinants of the UAE Centennial 2071. He stressed that the national efforts to develop the attractiveness of the investment environment in the country and to create potentials for growth for investment inside and outside the country are continuous efforts in accordance with integrated national plans aimed at consolidating the country’s position on the global investment map.

He added, “The progress documented in the report is added to the series of achievements that the UAE has achieved recently, thanks to the vision and directives of its wise leadership, starting with its rapid recovery from the effects of the "Covid-19" pandemic, and its achievement of the highest growth in the region in terms of gross domestic product, at a rate of 3.8%, in addition to the launch of fifty projects and integrated strategic initiatives aimed at advancing the internal and external growth process of the state. In accordance with ambitious goals and a long-term development path, all of which aim to increase the attractiveness of the investment environment in the country, while at the same time enabling and developing Emirati investments issued to all markets of the world, among them is the Investopia Global Investment Summit, which aims to consolidate the position of the UAE in the world of future investments and the new economy, and aims to attract 550 billion dirhams of foreign investment until 2030.”

Source (Emirati Gulf Newspaper, Edited)