

## **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN SAUDI ARABIA**

Saudi Arabia has the largest telecoms market in the GCC. All telecoms segments are regulated by the Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC), which is responsible for promoting competition and investment in the market. Under CITC's guidance, the telecoms sector has gradually opened up to foreign competition. The STC's monopoly has been broken and the entry of new players into the market has stimulated a greater variety of products and services, and also has exerted a downward pressure on prices over the long term. The liberalization is primarily driven by two factors. First, the Kingdom is looking to develop and diversify its economy away from oil and gas. Second, due to its accession terms to the World Trade Organization, which it joined in 2005, its telecoms market must be opened to competition.



ITC are included in different national planning, such as the National Communications and Information Technology Plan and the National Plan for Science and Technology. The Shura Council has fixed a target that the IT sector should contribute 20% of GDP by 2020.

According to the U.S.-Saudi Arabia Business Council the investment opportunities in Saudi Arabia amount at 149 billions dollars, on an overall total of 1.4 trillion forecast.

### **ACTIVE TENDERS**

#### **❖ Infrastructure**

- Construction of a building at the King Faisal Air Base; Bid closing date 5 February, 2013.
- Medical construction project in Kharj; Bid closing date: 27 January, 2013.
- Digging of five support tube wells (1) at the Busaitaa water field in the Al-Jouf region; Bid closing date: 3 February, 2013.
- Digging of five support tube wells (2) at the Al-Fayad, Tabarjal, Al-Nubaj, Al-Hojaj new city, Al-Lakait and Khawaa water fields in the Al-Jouf region; Bid closing date: 2 February, 2013.
- Maintenance of manual camps and other facilities in Jubail Industrial; Bid closing date 23 February, 2013.
- Carrying out re-asphalting and paving of roads, follow-on no. 7 at Madinat Yanbu al-Sinaiyah; Bid closing date 17 February, 2013.
- Development of the Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz road in Majeela Municipality; Bid closing date 2 February, 2013.
- Development and updating of sterilisation departments at the Twall, Khawba and Mawsem hospitals; Bid closing date 11 February, 2013.

*Elaborazione Ambasciata d'Italia  
Ultimo aggiornamento gennaio 2013*

