

Highlights from His Excellency  
the Minister of Finance  
**on the Issuance of the  
Pre-budget Statement  
for 2023**



The government succeeded in achieving the main objective of the financial reforms in its first phase within the Fiscal Balance Program, which aimed to control high deficit rates to reach fiscal balance in the medium term. The second phase of financial reform was launched under the name of the fiscal Sustainability Program, which aims, in the medium and long term, to maintain sustainable financial indicators

Despite the fears and crises, the world is witnessing and the challenges accompanying them and their impact on the global economic slowdown affected by the increasing inflationary pressures resulting from the repercussions of the Corona pandemic and geopolitical tensions that cast a negative shadow on global supply chains, the strength and durability of the Saudi economy enabled the Kingdom to confront these crises

The noticeable and expected recovery in the Kingdom's economy and the continuation of the implementation of the initiatives and structural reforms that have been implemented during the past years will lead to an improvement in economic activity and ensure its sustainability in the medium term

Surpluses will be directed to enhancing government reserves and supporting national funds, with consideration of the possibility of accelerating the implementation of some strategic programs and projects with economic and social dimensions.

The government will continue its domestic and international borrowing operations with the aim of paying the principal debt due in 2023, and in the medium term. And taking advantage of the available opportunities according to market conditions to proactively implement additional financing operations to refinance the principal's dues for the coming years and to finance some strategic, capital and infrastructure projects, by implementing alternative government financing operations

# Figures from the Pre-budget Statement for 2023

## Total revenue

2022 >> 2023

SAR  
**1,222**  
billion

SAR  
**1,123**  
billion

## Total expenses

2022 >> 2023

SAR  
**1,132**  
billion

SAR  
**1,114**  
billion

## Budget surplus

2022 >> 2023

SAR  
**90**  
billion

SAR  
**9**  
billion

## The expected growth rate of real GDP

2022 >> 2023

**8%**

**3.1%**

# The Most Important Strategies and Projects in the Medium Term

- » **National Tourism Development Strategy**  
It was launched in 2019 with the aim of developing the tourism sector in the Kingdom. Among its most prominent achievements during 2021, it achieved 64 million tourist visits, and created approximately 848,000 jobs
- » **Fintech Strategy**  
It is one of the pillars of the Financial Sector Development Program, which aims to make the Kingdom a home for financial technology. Among its most prominent goals is to increase the number of financial technology companies to 250 by 2025 and 525 by 2030
- » **National Investment Strategy**  
It was launched in 2021, with the aim of increasing the quality and volume of investments in the Kingdom. Among its most prominent goals for 2030 is to achieve cumulative investments of more than SAR12.4 trillion, and to increase foreign direct investment flows to 5.7% of GDP
- » **The strategy of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Program for Foreign Scholarships**  
It is a new stage for scholarships, as it contributes to enhancing the competitiveness of citizens to raise the efficiency of human capital by developing the Kingdom's capabilities in research, development, innovation, and entrepreneurship in priority areas
- » **National Strategy for Culture**  
It is based on strengthening the identity of the Saudi culture, preserving its cultural heritage, and developing the cultural sector. Its most important achievements are the registration of 253 new archaeological and historical sites in the National Antiquities Register
- » **The Strategy of the Gaming and Esports Sector**  
It was launched as a new step towards leadership and making the Kingdom a global center in this sector by 2030, this leads to achieving an economic impact by contributing to the GDP by about SAR50 billion directly and indirectly, and creating more than 39,000 direct and indirect job opportunities by 2030
- » **National Transport and Logistics Strategy**  
It aims to consolidate the Kingdom's position and make it a global logistics center linking the three continents, and to upgrade all services and means of transportation. Among its achievements is the localization of the vehicle steering sector by 100%, and the entry of three ports into the top 100 ports in the world
- » **NEOM project**  
It is a futuristic global center for trade, innovation, and knowledge. It aims to enable leading companies to change the future of sectors. The project will achieve three main goals, which are, achieving exceptional living, a thriving business environment, and reinventing the concept of sustainability
- » **The Red Sea Project**  
It is considered the most ambitious tourism and hospitality project in the world, through the establishment of a super-luxury tourist destination to be developed around one of the hidden treasures of nature in the world, as it will put the Kingdom on the map of global tourism
- » **Qiddiya Project**  
It is one of the Public Investment Fund projects inspired by the Kingdom's Vision 2030, and it is the future capital of entertainment, sports, and the arts, as it will become a unique global destination that offers innovative and immersive experiences in the fields of entertainment, sports, and the arts
- » **Green Riyadh Project**  
It is one of the largest ambitious afforestation projects in the world, which aims to raise the per capita green area in the city from 1.7 m<sup>2</sup> to 28 m<sup>2</sup>, in addition to planting more than 7.5 million trees throughout Riyadh
- » **Riyadh Art Project**  
One of the four major projects being developed by the Royal Commission for Riyadh City to transform the capital into an environmentally friendly and sustainable city. It aims to attract more than two million tourists annually, in addition to providing 24 thousand job opportunities
- » **King Salman Park Project**  
It is in a pivotal center in the city of Riyadh, and its area exceeds 16 km<sup>2</sup> to become the largest city park in the world. The park will contribute significantly to increasing the vegetation cover in the area



# 2023 Budget Objectives

- » **Continuing** to maintain high positive rates of economic growth during 2023 and in the medium term through two main factors for economic growth, namely investment and consumption.
- » **Completing** the process of economic and fiscal reforms carried out by the government under the umbrella of the Kingdom's Vision 2030 and maintaining fiscal sustainability
- » **Maintaining** the gains and achieving a budget surplus of about 0.2% of GDP, with the expectation that surpluses will continue in the medium term.
- » **Strengthening** the Kingdom's financial position to face external shocks by maintaining the levels of government reserves at appropriate levels, and the sustainability of public debt indicators.
- » **Diversifying** sources of financing between local and foreign, and accessing global debt markets to enhance the Kingdom's position in international markets.
- » **Continuing** to empower the private sector, stimulate the investment environment, and implement major projects and programs that achieve the goals of Vision 2030

