

**Project Title:** Access to Finance for SME and Entrepreneurs in the OIC region; Opportunities and Challenges for the Entrepreneurs

Project Owner Country: Qatar

Project Owner Institution: Ministry of Business and Trade

Cooperation Area: Trade

Partner Countries: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain

**Project Purpose:** The objective of the project is to make comparative analysis of the access to finance to SMEs and entrepreneurs in the OIC countries, increase the awareness of benefits of access to finance in the OIC countries and encourage policy makers to review and revise the current rules and practices that govern the access to finance to SME's and entrepreneurs.

**Project Activities:** Reviewing literature and relevant sources, designing a structured interview and a new survey to collect primary data across GCC countries, conducting structured interviews and survey and collect responses, data cleansing, verification and extensive analysis (for both primary and secondary data), conducting comparative analyses, publication of the reports and papers, organizing and running a workshop in Doha, Qatar.