



Decide with Confidence

Dun & Bradstreet INSIGHT: GCC Stock Markets

December 2008

Investors welcome new Treasury move

The southward journey of stock markets across the globe continues amid concerns over gloomy outlook of the world economy. Lack of confidence is severely discouraging investments in equity, as investors prefer to stay in cash rather than putting money in any risky asset.

It is now official that the credit disease has sent many of European economies and Japan into a recessionary state. The industrial productivity has hit multi year low as business units increasingly face difficult times due to ongoing credit crunch. The much anticipated G20 summit also failed to provide clear roadmap in terms of coordinated measures by the member nations to combat deteriorating state of the world economy. The negative news of Citigroup and troubling auto sector of the U.S. further pushed sentiments down as investors fear that the crisis is looking nowhere to end soon.

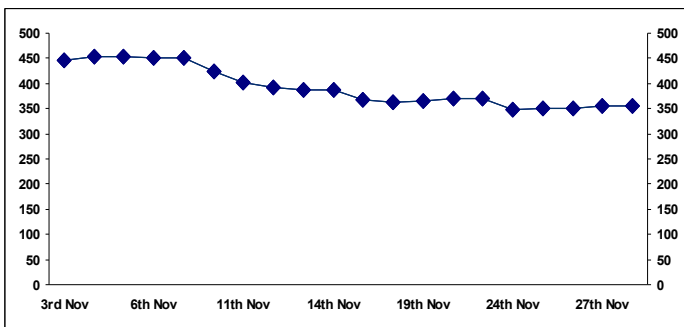
The situation for GCC region is looking equally grim as tumbling oil prices over the past couple of months has raised concerns over the future growth of the energy rich region. Banks have started applying prudent measures to check the credit growth as GCC nations are slowly

getting affected by the worsening global financial situation. The tight credit markets have severely affected the Real Estate sector which up till now has enjoyed tremendous growth from the time the region started attracting foreign money.

In a turnaround, the U.S. Treasury department is revamping how it uses the US\$ 700 bn financial bailout fund, focusing on relatively healthy debt rather than the toxic mortgages that triggered the crisis. The treasury will support consumer debt with the intention to help unfreezing those markets where interest rates have soared and consumers often are unable to get credit for purchases. Further, the Fed has announced a new stimulus of US\$ 800 bn to help strengthen the U.S. economy. Further the European Central Bank has unveiled a € 200 bn package aimed to bring the Euro-zone out of recession.

The investors seemed to welcome the recent move by the Central Banks as buying spree was witnessed across all major world stock markets, with the rally led by "Dow Jones Industrial Average" which registered record gains of over 1,000 points in just five trading sessions.

MSCI GCC Index



GCC Indices

Market	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	Mkt Cap (US\$bn)*
ADXGI	2,775.85	3,326.10	-16.54	71
BASI	1,949.20	2,220.17	-12.20	22
DFMGI	1,964.66	2,942.03	-33.22	43
DSM20	6,071.39	6,928.00	-12.36	68
KSEMI	8,875.20	9,789.30	-9.34	130
MSM30	6,263.86	6,209.96	0.87	17
TASI	4,738.14	5,537.82	-14.44	244

* - As on 30 November 2008

Commodities

US\$ per barrel	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
OPEC Basket	47.38	59.92	-20.93	-47.83
US\$ per ounce			%MTD	%YTD
Gold	815.50	737.20	10.62	-2.32
US\$ per tonne			%MTD	%YTD
Aluminium	1,756	2,094	-16.15	-29.55
Copper	3,623	4,498	-19.46	-48.77
Steel	290	260	11.54	NA

World Indices

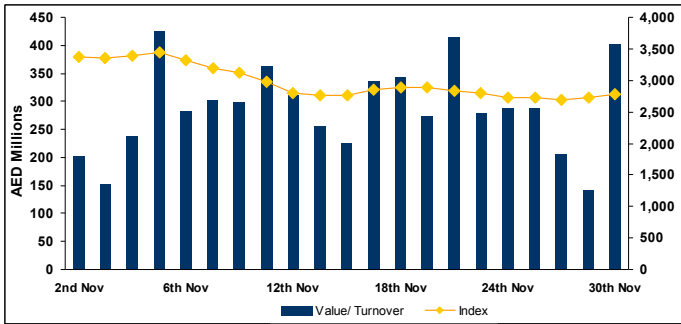
Market	30 Nov	31 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
DJIA	8,829.04	9,325.01	-5.32	-33.44
FTSE	4,288.00	4,377.34	-2.04	-33.59
KOSPI	1,076.07	1,113.06	-3.32	-43.28
NASDAQ	1,535.57	1,720.95	-10.77	-42.10
NIFTY	2,755.10	2,885.60	-4.52	-55.12
NIKKEI	8,512.27	8,576.98	-0.75	-44.39
SSE	1,871.16	1,728.79	8.24	-64.44



Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX)

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ADX General Index



Insight

The Abu Dhabi general index fell 16.54% during the month due to continuous flow of negative news from the global markets. In order to improve the sentiments due to reeling financial crisis, the Abu Dhabi government launched a mortgage lender backing the finances of top real estate developers in the state. The move led to a brief revival of the real estate sector on the exchange which has been under selling pressure for last few months. The optimism was supported by a general perception that the oil rich state would be able to better withstand the financial crisis with its deep pockets.

Recent News

- The government of Abu Dhabi has agreed to the takeover of Amlak Finance and Tamweel by Emirates Development Bank which is a newly formed entity by the merger of state controlled Real Estate Bank and Emirates Industrial Bank.
- Aabar Investments, the Abu Dhabi listed oil and gas firm has entered into an agreement with Tasameem Real Estate Co, for the acquisition of two plots of land at the Al Raha beach for AED 500.88 mn with an aim to build residential towers.
- Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, Aldar Properties, Tourism Development & Investment Co. and Mubadala Development Company have formed a new financing joint venture company under the name of Abu Dhabi Finance with a capital base of AED 500 mn.
- The Board of Directors of First Gulf Bank has approved an issuance of AED 120 mn worth of convertible bonds to the employees of the bank and its affiliates.
- Abu Dhabi Ship Building Co has announced earnings of AED 27.99 mn for Q3 2008 compared to AED 10.47 mn for Q3 2007, representing a 167.34% rise.
- Dana Gas has reported an 18.18% rise in net profit for Q3 2008 at AED 26 mn as compared to of AED 22 mn in Q3 2007.

Sectoral Trends

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
General Index	2,775.85	3,326.10	-16.54	-39.02
Bankg & Fin Svcs	3,675.07	4,224.71	-13.01	-38.91
Real Estate	634.44	669.20	-5.19	-58.42
Consumer	1,373.36	1,634.25	-15.96	-28.84
Construction	4,327.00	5,060.67	-14.50	-16.07
Industrial	2,049.73	2,533.18	-19.08	-26.78
Telecom	2,123.59	2,729.10	-22.19	415.63
Health Care	1,399.06	1,790.35	-21.86	-11.94
Energy	151.58	225.51	-32.78	-95.37
Insurance	3,402.38	3,715.75	-8.43	4.22

- The National Bank of Fujairah has reported a loss of AED 86.53 mn in Q3 2008 as against a profit of AED 76.25 mn in Q3 2007.
- Al Khazna Insurance Co has announced net loss of AED 29.13 mn for the third quarter of 2008 as against an AED 11.93 mn profit in the corresponding period of the previous year.
- Foodco Holdings has reported earnings of AED 14.56 mn in Q3 2008 representing a quantum leap of 1166% over the Q3 2007 figure of AED 1.15 mn.

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Int Fish Farming	29.40	27.05	2.35	8.69
Sharjah Insurance	6.25	5.81	0.44	7.57
Abu Dhabi Nat Tkfl	8.70	8.10	0.60	7.41
ALDAR Properties	5.49	5.22	0.27	5.17
Oman & Emirts Inv	3.08	2.98	0.10	3.36

Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Methaq Takfl Ins	3.45	6.94	-3.49	-50.29
Emirates Driving Co	2.68	4.86	-2.18	-44.86
Invest Bank	2.04	3.40	-1.36	-40.00
Gulf Cement Co.	2.47	3.90	-1.43	-36.67
RAK Properties	0.67	1.05	-0.38	-36.19

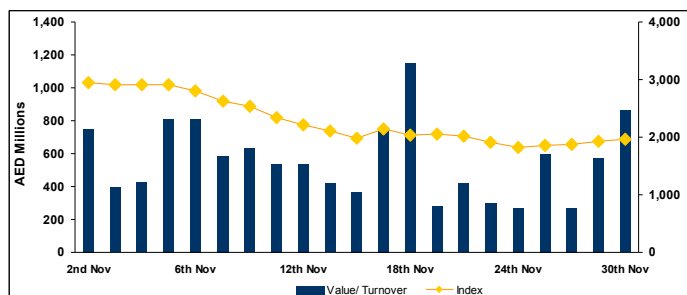
Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP (AED)	%Chg
ALDAR Properties	879,574,370	5.49	5.17
Dana Gas	779,969,146	0.73	-30.48
RAK Properties	761,982,858	0.67	-36.19
Sorouh Real Estate	673,051,552	3.40	-12.82
Waha Capital	174,184,388	0.81	-27.03

Most Active by Value

Company	Value (AED)	CMP (AED)	%Chg
ALDAR Properties	4,380,866,386	5.49	5.17
Sorouh Real Estate	2,136,172,940	3.40	-12.82
First Gulf Bank	778,697,801	9.18	-23.18
Etisalat	768,261,217	12.45	-22.19
RAK Properties	647,428,006	0.67	-36.19

DFM General Index



Insight

Amid concerns over the downturn in the real estate sector, the DFM general index tumbled below 2,000 level, a territory last seen in year 2006. The continuous outflow of money from the real estate sector has hampered investors' spirits who have remained quite optimistic over its growth prospects. The damage continued with many of the big real estate players laying off their staff and scaling down investments into new projects. The shares of Arabtec Holdings soared 71% from its 52 week low of AED 2.83, as the management proposed distribution of bonus shares in the ratio of 1:1 to its BoD.

Recent News

- The Emirates Islamic Bank has signed a MoU with Dubai's Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) for RERA's customers to get access to the bank's products and services.
- Air Arabia has entered into an agreement with Regional Air Lines; the Moroccan private airlines company to set up a carrier in Rabat (Morocco) in which Ithmaar Bank (Bahrain) will also infuse capital.
- Nakheel Developments has issued Sukuk worth US\$ 27.10 mn in which Methaq Takaful Insurance Co has invested for a semi-annual return of 3.1725% and a conversion option limited to 30% of the issued value.
- Arabtec Holding's subsidiary Target Engineering Construction has been awarded projects in Qatar and Abu Dhabi to the tune of AED 272 mn. The projects involve electrical erection, instrumentation, control, testing and commissioning works at various sites in both the countries.
- National Cement Co. has announced a net profit of AED 35.32 mn for Q3 2008 which is 21.65% lower than the Q3 2007 figure of AED 45.08 mn.
- The Q3 2008 net profit of AED 10.49 mn for Dubai National Insurance & Reinsurance has witnessed a

Sectoral Trends

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
General Index	1,964.44	2,942.03	-33.23	-66.88
Banking	1,277.67	1,874.11	-31.83	-62.58
Insurance	3,526.12	3,760.88	-6.24	-23.84
Investment	2,847.18	4,230.60	-32.70	-64.68
Real Estate	3,068.95	5,339.56	-42.52	-77.57
Transportation	453.35	548.43	-17.34	-51.53
Materials	287.39	296.45	-3.06	-17.51
Telecom	449.84	669.90	-32.85	-62.48
Utilities	1,406.25	2,037.26	-30.97	-75.49
C Staples	396.00	396.00	0.00	-40.36

10.45% rise as compared to the Q3 2007 figure of AED 9.49 mn.

- Emirates Securities and Commodities Authority has approved the 5% cash dividend of Gulf Navigation Holding for H1 2008, which now awaits the general assembly approval.
- Alliance Insurance has announced losses of AED 1.79 mn for the three month period ended September 2008 as against a net profit of AED 10.27 mn for Q3 2007.

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Gulf Finance House	12.05	8.00	4.05	50.63
Al Madina Fin & Inv	6.00	5.40	0.60	11.11
Ekttitab Holding Co	1.87	1.70	0.17	10.00
Kuwait Fin & Inv	3.80	3.60	0.20	5.56
GULFA Min Water	2.21	2.11	0.10	4.74

Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
TAMWEEL	0.99	1.99	-1.00	-50.25
Amlak Finance	1.02	1.96	-0.94	-47.96
Ajman Bank	1.03	1.94	-0.91	-46.91
Union Properties	1.09	2.02	-0.93	-46.04
EMAAR Properties	2.93	5.34	-2.41	-45.13

Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP (AED)	%Chg
EMAAR Properties	1,223,805,377	2.93	-45.13
Air Arabia	899,432,937	0.98	-19.01
Dubai Fin Market	714,668,465	1.31	-40.99
DEYAAR	553,588,222	0.71	-38.26
Gulf Navigation	442,208,056	0.94	-14.55

Most Active by Value

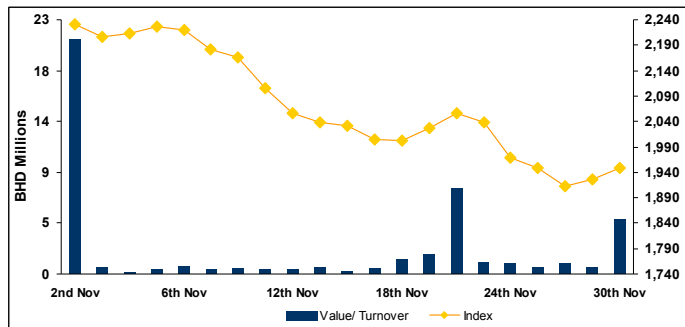
Company	Value (AED)	CMP (AED)	%Chg
EMAAR Properties	4,457,083,558	2.93	-45.13
Arabtec Holding Co	1,228,430,972	4.55	-22.22
Dubai Fin Market	1,165,085,311	1.31	-40.99
Air Arabia	935,336,497	0.98	-19.01
Dubai Islamic Bank	453,513,596	2.54	-38.05



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Bahrain Stock Exchange (BSE)

BSE General Index



Insight

The benchmark Bahraini index shrugged 12.20% amid concerns over the outlook of world economy with the financial crisis starting to affect liquidity in the region. The downtrend continued despite the country registering GDP growth of 8.10% in year 2007, which is fastest in last five years. Market breadth remained sluggish as the number of losers outnumbered that of the gainers in the ratio of 26 to 3 and the share prices of 23 companies remained unchanged. All the sectoral indices suffered losses in the range of 0.40% to 15%, with exception of service sector which climbed marginally by 0.05%.

Recent News

- Seef Properties earnings for Q3 2008 rose to BHD 2.15 mn compared to earnings of BHD 2.09 mn for Q3 2007.
- A consortium led by Ithmaar Bank, including Al Safat Investment Company, Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, Eskan Bank, Palm Capital Company, Venture Capital Bank, Global Investment House, Shamil Bank and Ithmar Development Company, has launched Naseej Company with an authorized capital of BHD 2 bn and a paid up capital of BHD 300 mn. The new venture will specialize in real estate and infrastructure development to provide services to the real estate sector.
- Investcorp Bank along with Barclays Private Equity has completed the acquisition of N&W Global Vending, in which the bank and Barclays Private Equity will hold an equal stake.
- Arab Banking Corporation along with Commerzbank, HSBC Bank plc, and Landesbank Baden-Württemberg, has closed a US\$ 65 mn and EUR 31 mn Dual Tranche Syndicated Term Loan Facility for African Export-Import Bank (Egypt).
- Albaraka Banking Group exited from the AED 300 mn Dubai Real Estate Project with a gross return up to 35.52% to the bank's investors.

Sectoral Trends

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
General Index	1,949.20	2,220.17	-12.20	-29.26
Commercial Banks	2,382.00	2,810.98	-15.26	-31.53
Investment	1,727.70	2,021.89	-14.55	-32.16
Insurance	2,275.97	2,301.49	-1.11	-1.73
Services	1,626.00	1,625.19	0.05	-19.96
Industrial	1,304.78	1,376.77	-5.23	-9.29
Hotels & Tourism	2,717.10	2,727.78	-0.39	17.36

- Takaful International Company earnings for Q3 2008 increased to BHD 43,369 as compared to earnings of BHD 11,895 for the third quarter of 2007
- Bahrain Car Parks Company announced earnings of BHD 0.14 mn for the Q3 2008 as compared to earnings of BHD 0.30 mn for Q3 2007.
- Arab Insurance Group announced losses of US\$ 22.27 mn for Q3 2008 compared to US\$ 8.305 mn for the third quarter of 2007.
- The Central Bank of Bahrain has put on hold an IPO to raise US\$ 265.30 mn for newly set-up developer Naseej due to adverse market conditions

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Bahrain Maritime	0.74	0.65	0.09	13.85
National Hotels Co.	0.40	0.36	0.04	10.00
Bahrain Telecomms	0.61	0.60	0.01	1.67

Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Investcorp Bank	\$1,488.56	\$2,250.00	-761.44	-33.84
Bah Islamic Bnk	0.32	0.48	-0.16	-33.33
Al Salam Bank	0.12	0.15	-0.04	-24.68
United Gulf Bank	0.54	0.69	-0.16	-23.02
Bnk of Bah & Kuw	0.50	0.64	-0.14	-22.34

Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP (BHD)	%Chg
Bahrain Telecomms	34,134,440	0.61	1.67
United Gulf Bank	22,354,433	0.54	-23.02
Ithmaar Bank	21,636,423	\$0.35	-22.22
Al Salam Bank	17,552,447	0.12	-24.68
Gulf Finance House	6,801,726	\$1.60	-17.53

Most Active by Value

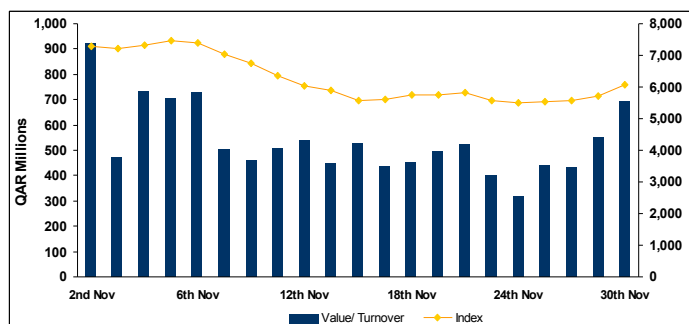
Company	Value (BHD)	CMP (BHD)	%Chg
Bahrain Telecomms	21,928,395	0.61	1.67
United Gulf Bank	10,793,197	0.54	-23.02
Gulf Finance House	3,898,008	\$1.60	-17.53
Ithmaar Bank	3,067,178	\$0.35	-22.22
Al Salam Bank	2,104,879	0.12	-24.68



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Doha Securities Market (DSM)

DSM General Index



Insight

The benchmark DSM20 index retreated by 12.36% during the month following the footsteps of regional and global peers. In a major step to calm the markets from further denting the investors' sentiments, the Qatar Investment Authority (Qatar's SWF) announced that it is willing to buy stake in listed companies in order to boost confidence in the market. The Central Bank also assured investors that it is ready to use further measures to help stabilize the financial system. Despite such assurances the selling pressure on the bourse continued with all the sectors ending in negative territory.

Recent News

- Qatar Gas Transport Company has with Qatar Shipping Company Q.S.C entered into a 50:50 joint venture under the name of Gulf LPG Transport Company W.L.L to own and operate Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) carriers. On 23 November 2008 the company announced that it has named its third Very Large Gas Carriers (VLGC) as "Al Wukir".
- Qatar Islamic Bank plans to buy back 10% of its shares, which still awaits the Qatar Financial Markets Authority and Qatar Central Bank's approvals.
- The Commercial Bank of Qatar has agreed to obtain a one-year US\$ 380 mn term loan facility with BNP Paribas, The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd., Commerzbank Aktiengesellschaft, HSBC Bank Middle East Limited, Intesa Sanpaolo SpA, and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Europe Limited are to finance general activities for the bank. The international banks will also act as arrangers to the loan facility.
- Qatar Telecom's subsidiary, Omani Qatari Telecommunications Company (Nawras), has received the license for the Class One Full Fixed Public Telecommunications Services in Oman, by the Omani Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) on 18 November 2008.

Sectoral Trends

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
General Index	6,071.39	6,928.00	-12.36	-36.63
Banking	8,553.53	9,650.52	-11.37	-36.22
Industry	5,099.31	6,596.15	-22.69	-41.64
Insurance	4,517.97	6,126.76	-26.26	-59.05
Services	4,874.90	5,314.28	-8.27	-34.40

- Masraf Al Rayan's, board of directors have met and approved the distribution of 15% of its cash dividends. The cash dividends are distributed on the paid portion of the par value which is QAR 5.5 per share.
- Mannai Corporation's, board of directors has proposed the distribution of 10% of its bonus shares, awaiting the general assembly's approval.
- Al Khalij Commercial Bank has signed a distribution contract with Kuwait Financial Centre (Markaz) to act as selling and marketing agent for the latter's funds across the GCC region.
- Qatar Company for Meat and Livestock Trading's, board of directors have approved the 10% cash dividends (QAR 1 per share) for the year ended 31 December 2008, which awaits the general assembly's approval.

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Qatar Elec & Water	100.60	79.50	21.10	26.54
Al Ahli Bank QSC	46.00	40.40	5.60	13.86
MAWASHI	9.00	8.30	0.70	8.43
Qatar Gen Ins&Rei	99.00	92.80	6.20	6.68
DOHI	23.20	21.90	1.30	5.94

Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Ezdan Real Estate	21.40	36.20	-14.80	-40.88
Barwa Real Estate	21.50	35.40	-13.90	-39.27
Islamic Fin Sec	42.50	59.80	-17.30	-28.93
Medicare Group	9.05	12.40	-3.35	-27.02
Industries Qatar	78.10	107.00	-28.90	-27.01

Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP (QAR)	%Chg
Masraf Al Rayan	205,764,964	11.00	-8.33
Barwa Real Estate	37,674,024	21.50	-39.27
Qatar Gas Trans	34,063,800	22.50	-5.06
Al Khalij Comm Bnk	33,601,736	7.80	-22.00
Qatar Islamic Bank	16,966,174	75.30	-19.47

Most Active by Value

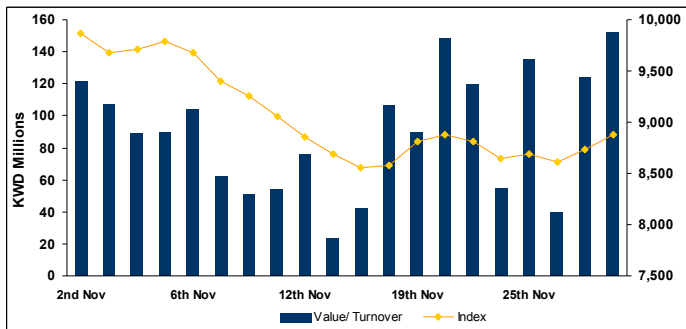
Company	Value (QAR)	CMP (QAR)	%Chg
Masraf Al Rayan	2,178,212,648	11.00	-8.33
Industries Qatar	1,347,404,968	78.10	-27.01
Qatar Islamic Bank	1,259,344,810	75.30	-19.47
Comm Bnk of Qatar	944,332,137	62.50	-5.87
Barwa Real Estate	934,649,653	21.50	-39.27



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Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE)

KSE General Index



Insight

The KSE dipped 9.34% during the month amid concerns over political instability caused by the accusations regarding the lack of government actions to ward off the crisis. In an unprecedented move, a Kuwaiti Court ordered suspension of trading on the Exchange to help investors stop losing more money who have been protesting for government intervention to support local markets. In an effort to prop up the ailing market the government has approved a stabilization fund worth US\$ 7.26 bn. The investors seem to rejoice the move as some stock select bargain buying is witnessed.

Recent News

- Gulf Rocks Company has sold 5% stake in its subsidiary, Gulf Rocks Company - Qatar, for a total price of KWD 0.30 mn and realized a profit of KWD 0.22 mn which will be reflected in the company's financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2008.
- Abyaar Real Estate Development Company's, board of members met and proposed a 100% rights issue at a price of KWD 0.125 per share, which awaits the general assembly's approval. On 27 November 2008 the AGM and EGM will be held to approve the 100% rights issue at a price of KWD 0.125 per share. The unsubscribed portion of the rights issue is to be allocated to strategic investors.
- The Kuwait Central Bank has approved Industrial and Financial Investments Company's request to buy back a maximum of 10% of its outstanding shares, for a six months period starting 26 November 2008.
- The Investment Dar Company has received the Ministry of Trade and Industry's approval to set up an investment portfolio with Commercial Bank of Kuwait.
- Future Communications Company Global's subsidiary, Future Technology International for Telecommunication Equipment, has signed a US\$

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
General Index	8,875.20	9,789.30	-9.34	-29.33
Banking	11,216.00	11,487.70	-2.37	-22.46
Insurance	3,224.80	3,382.80	-4.67	-6.30
Investment	9,138.20	10,501.40	-12.98	-42.78
Real Estate	3,901.20	4,596.80	-15.13	-33.17
Industrial	5,912.70	6,849.50	-13.68	-28.41
Services	17,218.60	17,828.60	-3.42	-18.97
Food	4,045.90	4,321.70	-6.38	-38.72
Non Kuwaities	8,635.80	9,543.70	-9.51	-21.15

- 5.06 mn contract with Mobile Telecommunications Company, for the latter to provide logistics and maintenance services for the subsidiary's telecommunication network. On 26 November 2008 Future Technology International for Telecommunication Equipment signed a 6 month US\$ 2.54 mn purchase order with Zain Telecommunications Company.
- Mena Holding announced earnings of KWD 3.51 mn for Q3 2008 as compared to losses of KWD 0.06 mn for the third quarter of 2007.

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Jazeera Airways	0.340	0.216	0.124	57.41
Hits Telecom	0.340	0.230	0.110	47.83
Haj & Umrah Srvcs	0.200	0.146	0.054	36.99
Kuwait Comm Mrkt	0.325	0.240	0.085	35.42
Kuwait Hotels Co	0.240	0.186	0.054	29.03

Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Damac Kuwaiti	0.062	0.202	-0.140	-69.31
Investment Dar Co	0.212	0.560	-0.348	-62.14
Al Abraj Holding Co	0.114	0.260	-0.146	-56.15
Int Leasing & Inv	0.094	0.210	-0.116	-55.24
Network Holding	0.126	0.255	-0.129	-50.59

Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP(KWD)	%Chg
Al Safwa Group Co	498,720,000	0.073	7.35
Ekttitab Holding Co	366,460,000	0.066	-29.03
Gulf Finance House	306,020,000	0.440	-12.00
Al Madina Fin & Inv	247,320,000	0.130	-30.85
Abyaar Real Estate	197,120,000	0.190	-21.49

Most Active by Value

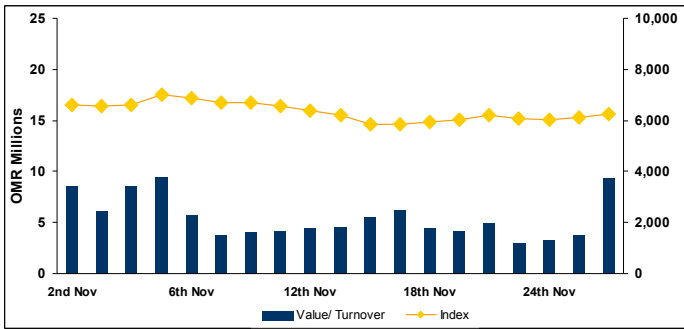
Company	Value (KWD)	CMP(KWD)	%Chg
Kuwait Finance Hse	210,307,300	1.760	-5.38
Nat Bank of Kuwait	207,702,350	1.620	3.85
Mobile Telecomm	192,540,200	1.100	-5.17
Gulf Finance House	127,557,525	0.440	-12.00
The Public Whsing	60,945,950	0.760	5.56



Decide with Confidence

Muscat Stock Market (MSM)

MSM General Index



Insight

In a complete reversal of recent trend witnessed over the last couple of months, the benchmark MSM30 index climbed 0.87% during the month being led by service sector. In an aggressive move, the Central bank slashed its repurchase rate by 220 basis points to 1.96% and allocated US\$ 2 bn to local banks in order to make up for shortages caused by the financial crisis. The uptrend was also partially supported by an optimistic approach by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry which has set aside funds worth OMR 150 mn to be utilized for stabilizing the market.

Recent News

- The Oman government is to set up an RO 150 mn fund to boost sagging equity prices on the Muscat Securities Market. Commerce and Industry Minister Maqbool bin Ali Sultan said the government would contribute 60% (RO 90 mn) of the capital, while the rest (RO 60 mn) will be provided by the private sector and pension funds.
- Majan Glass Company has announced that the Omani government is planning to sell its stake in the company by the end of January 2009.
- Oman National Engineering and Investment Company has been awarded an OMR 1.41 mn contract by Salalah Tender Committee for a period of 12 months to construct of Sewage Plant at Hurait.
- Galfar Engineering and Contracting was awarded a 10 month OMR 3.21 mn contract by Muscat Electricity Distribution Company to upgrade the company's primary substations at Walja and Ghala Industrial Area.
- Oman Telecommunications Company has signed an OMR 2.25 mn strategic business agreement with Saud Bahwan Automotive to implement the Multi Protocol Label Switching solution at Saud Bahwan Group.

Sectoral Trends

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
General Index	6,263.86	6,209.96	0.87	-30.67
Banking & Investment	7,470.50	7,675.23	-2.67	-39.33
Industry	5,388.48	5,686.43	-5.24	-33.78
Service & Insurance	2,914.56	2,822.84	3.25	-17.51

- Construction Materials Industries and Contracting held an EGM on 23 November 2008 and approved the 100% rights issue, along with the decision to allocate the unsubscribed shares to Mr. Sulaiman Ahmed Said Al Hoqani.
- Dhofar Insurance Company is to hold an EGM to approve the buy back of 10% of the company's outstanding shares at a maximum price of OMR 0.650 per share.
- The National Finance Company has received approval of shareholders and the Capital Markets Authority for its 43.37% rights issue at a price of OMR 0.14 per share.

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Al Batinah Hotels	4.02	2.60	1.42	54.62
Renaissance Srvc	0.81	0.70	0.11	15.83
Dhofar Insurance	0.40	0.35	0.04	12.68
Oman Inv & Fin	0.16	0.14	0.02	12.32
Bank Dhofar	0.44	0.39	0.04	11.45

Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP(OMR)	%Chg
Galfar Engg&Cntrg	26,107,675	0.68	-9.91
Al Anwar Holding	16,127,545	0.23	-3.00
Bank Muscat	15,176,480	0.86	-4.00
Al Jazeera Services	14,959,635	0.09	-19.66
Dhofar Insurance	14,320,570	0.40	12.68

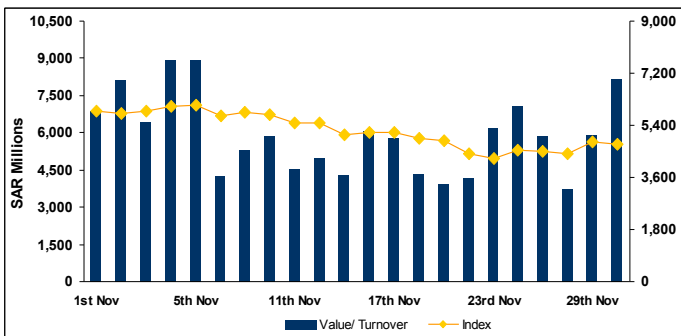
Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Gulf Invstmnt Srv	0.11	0.17	-0.07	-38.37
Al Jazeera Steel Product Co	0.35	0.46	-0.11	-23.41
Al Hassan Engg	0.14	0.17	-0.04	-20.11
Al Jazeera Services	0.09	0.12	-0.02	-19.66
Al Sharqia Inv.	0.12	0.15	-0.03	-18.67

Most Active by Value

Company	Value (OMR)	CMP(OMR)	%Chg
Galfar Engg&Cntrg	19,476,214	0.68	-9.91
Bank Muscat	14,322,649	0.86	-4.00
Oman Telecomm	13,939,388	1.73	4.15
Renaissance Srvc	7,942,947	0.81	15.83
Raysut Cement	6,801,885	1.33	10.82

SSE General Index



Insight

The largest regional market continued its losing streak registering losses of 14.44% for the month. The bleak outlook for global oil demand in medium term has put further pressure on the petrochemical sector which ended the month down 24.80%. In an effort to improve liquidity in the system, the Central Bank cut its interest rate by 1%, which is the sixth interest rate cut in three weeks. However, the market seemed to ignore the effort by the Central Bank in anticipation of widespread effects of financial crisis hitting the country which could harm its growth prospects.

Recent News

- Jazan Development Co has announced the commissioning of testing operations of the SAR 35.60 mn water bottling plant. The water will be sold under the "Faifa Mountains" trademark and the plant has an annual capacity of 46 million liters.
- The Board of Directors of Saudi Arabian Refineries Company has approved the distribution of 150% bonus shares to the shareholders, but the decision awaits shareholder approval.
- The Board of Saudi Arabian Fertilizer Company has approved a cash dividend of SAR 7 per share for the six month period ending December 2008.
- Saudi Industrial Investment Group has reported a net profit of SAR 187 mn for the ten month period ended October 2008 which is 50.79% lower than the SAR 380 mn figure in the corresponding period of the previous year.
- Saudi Pharmaceutical Industries & Medical Appliances Corporation has signed an agreement with the Saudi Ministry of Health to supply pharmaceutical products to the GCC markets starting from the year 2009.

Sectoral Trends

Sector	30 Nov	30 Oct	%MTD	%YTD
Genl Index / TASI	4,738.14	5,537.82	-14.44	-57.08
Banks & Fin Svcs	13,847.31	16,184.94	-14.44	-54.66
Petrochemical Inds	3,130.02	4,164.74	-24.84	-66.95
Cement	3,348.01	3,588.84	-6.71	-53.77
Retail	3,433.99	3,186.64	7.76	-37.39
Energy & Utilities	3,375.22	3,505.09	-3.71	-39.88
Agri & Food Inds	3,595.74	3,495.82	2.86	-37.28
Telecom & Info Tech	1,494.34	1,802.82	-17.11	-55.25
Insurance	521.41	590.21	-11.66	-77.48
Multi-Investment	2,035.20	2,014.45	1.03	-67.29
Industrial Inv	3,035.21	3,662.87	-17.14	-50.68
Bldg & Constrctn	3,744.41	3,876.77	-3.41	-45.50
Real Estate Dev	3,070.17	3,302.08	-7.02	-54.27
Transport	2,900.38	3,004.52	-3.47	-46.17
Media & Publishg	1,630.16	1,739.27	-6.27	-59.06
Hotel & Tourism	3,389.52	3,713.13	-8.72	-45.28

Gainers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
Filng & Pckg MatrIs	39.30	26.00	13.30	51.15
Red Sea Housing	70.00	51.25	18.75	36.59
Saudi Arabia Refnrs	142.00	110.00	32.00	29.09
Abdullah Al Othaim	37.50	29.20	8.30	28.42
AL Babtain Pwr & T	59.50	53.00	6.50	12.26

Losers

Company	30 Nov	30 Oct	Change	%Chg
National IndztrIn	12.05	18.10	-6.05	-33.43
SABIC	50.00	71.00	-21.00	-29.58
Advanced Polyprop	15.00	21.30	-6.30	-29.58
Samba Fin Group	49.10	69.00	-19.90	-28.84
Rabigh Refg & Petr	16.60	22.85	-6.25	-27.35

Most Active by Volume

Company	Volume	CMP (SAR)	%Chg
Alinma Bank	2,071,502,203	11.80	-1.67
Mobile Tele S Arbia	495,019,188	10.80	-15.29
S Arabian Mining	409,309,911	10.85	-21.09
SABIC	350,610,870	50.00	-29.58
Saudi Kayan Petro	277,634,432	9.50	-20.50

Most Active by Value

Company	Value (SAR)	CMP (SAR)	%Chg
Alinma Bank	25,692,345,048	11.80	-1.67
SABIC	19,947,218,052	50.00	-29.58
Mobile Tele S Arbia	6,218,168,283	10.80	-15.29
S Arabian Mining	5,185,423,411	10.85	-21.09
S Arabia Fertilizers	4,110,799,103	86.00	-7.77

Please send your feedback to:

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