More German companies seen exploring Qatar market

By Peter Alipes 
Business Reporter

There has been growing interest among German companies to explore a wide range of sectors in the Qatar market, industry experts revealed during the digital business presentation event hosted by the German-Arabian Business Council (GABC) yesterday.

"This is the beginning of the year, we are seeing an increased interest of German companies in the Qatar market, not only in the sport sector, particularly in the organization of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, as it is also supported by the government," said Khadija Lebrak, ambassador of Germany to Qatar.

The German Chamber is doing a great job in promoting German businesses to both countries with events like this," she said.

According to Mahita Zabel, the CEO of Moza Business (MBS), the German sports industry "is very close" to the German market; "not only for the money to the World Cup and the World Cup Final, but also for the money to come in the future." She added.

Al-Kuwait receives Tunisian minister of economy, finance

Webinar focuses on collaboration between Qatar, India firms in engineering manufacturing

Indian ambassador Dr. Neelam Italia highlighted the major projects executed by Indian engineering companies in Qatar during the webinar. The webinar was organized by BEC, Indian Engineering Construction Company, and EPCQ Qatar, along with the embassy of India in Qatar.

The webinar was initiated by the Indian Embassy, as part of an initiative to strengthen the bond between India and Qatar. Indian companies presented their projects in various sectors such as oil and gas, power, infrastructure, and construction.

Ooredoo promotes business broadband paired with cloud backup

Ooredoo Qatar has announced a new promotion for business customers, offering them the opportunity to explore the Cloud Bundles service of the Ooredoo Business Broadband 4G solution. The new promotion is designed to help businesses achieve greater productivity, efficiency, and flexibility by pairing their broadband internet service with Cloud Bundles, a comprehensive cloud solution for businesses.

The Cloud Bundles service is a cloud-based network that offers businesses the convenience of cloud computing without the need for hardware investments. The Cloud Bundles service provides businesses with a range of cloud-based services, including email, file sharing, and collaboration tools.

Ooredoo’s Cloud Bundles offer a simple, reliable, and secure way to manage data and customer service requests.

To learn more about Ooredoo’s Cloud Bundles and Business Broadband 4G solutions, visit the Ooredoo website or contact your local Ooredoo representative.
EgyptAir to seek up to $447mn in state support: CEO

Egypt will seek $447mn in state support to pay off its foreign creditors, cover leasing costs and attract rental fees, its chief executive said on Monday.

Governments around the world have stepped up to help airlines face the pandemic and avoid defaults on large lease payments.

"We are working with all of them and it is our job to keep growing and to keep our companies in the air," said Hany Adel, the airline's chief executive.

"We are diametrically opposed to any state support in order to keep our business up and running," he said. "It is in the airline's best interest to sell tickets and keep its customers happy."

Adel said EgyptAir was in discussions with责令 it about potential state aid but that it had not yet received any commitment.

The airline has been hit hard by the pandemic, with flying restrictions put in place worldwide.

"We are facing tough times, and we are trying to keep growing, and the state support is really important for us to continue running the airline," he said.

Adel said the airline was working with several governments to look at potential state support.

"We are in talks with several countries to see how we can support the airline, but we are not yet at the point of having any committed state support," he said.

EgyptAir, which is one of the airline operators in the Middle East, said it would be difficult to survive without state support.

Aramco aims to partner with China on blue hydrogen: CEO

Saudi Aramco's chief executive officer, Yasser Al-Rumayyan, said the country aims to partner with China on blue hydrogen projects to help meet global demand.

Al-Rumayyan told a conference that blue hydrogen is a key technology in the transition to a low-carbon future.

"We are in discussions with China on blue hydrogen projects, we believe this is the right thing to do," he said.

Al-Rumayyan said the company is working on the development of blue hydrogen projects in China.

Aramco has invested in hydrogen projects in regions including Europe, the United States and China.

"We are looking at hydrogen projects in Europe, the United States and China, and we will continue to invest in these regions," he said. "Blue hydrogen is a key technology in the transition to a low-carbon future and we are committed to playing a role in this transition.

"We are looking at hydrogen projects in Europe, the United States and China, and we will continue to invest in these regions," he said. "Blue hydrogen is a key technology in the transition to a low-carbon future and we are committed to playing a role in this transition.

"We are looking at hydrogen projects in Europe, the United States and China, and we will continue to invest in these regions," he said. "Blue hydrogen is a key technology in the transition to a low-carbon future and we are committed to playing a role in this transition."

Aramco debt-to-equity ratio more than doubles

Saudi Aramco's debt-to-equity ratio more than doubled in 2020, according to the company's latest financial report.

The debt-to-equity ratio rose to 2.46 in the year to June 2020, from 0.89 at the end of 2019, according to the company's annual report.

"The debt-to-equity ratio rose to 2.46 in the year to June 2020, from 0.89 at the end of 2019, according to the company's annual report."

The increase in the debt-to-equity ratio is likely to be seen as a concern by some investors, who may see it as a sign of the company's increased financial risk.

The report also showed that the company's capital expenditure rose to $27.4bn in 2020, from $16.7bn in 2019.

"The report also showed that the company's capital expenditure rose to $27.4bn in 2020, from $16.7bn in 2019."

The company said it is focused on maintaining a strong financial position and continues to invest in its business.

"We are focused on maintaining a strong financial position and continuing to invest in our business," the report said. "We remain committed to delivering value to our stakeholders."
CBFS: ‘Your Brokerage House of Choice’

"CBFS provides secure platforms to trade on Qatar Stock Exchange listed stocks, bonds & treasury bills. Customers can also trade directly through our numerous channels - online & mobile trading applications from anywhere during market trading hours. Clients can also call directly at our dealing room phone lines to place their trades.”

Shahnawaz Rashid, GM CBFS

Keen to attract young investors

Currently the age group of clients in this market hover from 60-70 years. CBFS strongly believes that it is never too early to start investing. Our aim is to expand into a younger domestic client base of 25-45 years by offering them best in class technology driven products and services. And we will be aiming to specifically tailor special packages for that promising under-utilised segment. By doing so, CBFS will become the first brokerage house in Qatar to take this step forward towards the youth of this country. Additionally we will also be launching our revamped mobile application which has certain features added for educating this young generation in the form of simulations and games to familiarize the audience with the dynamics of real live-feed market.

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Engaging clients digitally

COVID-19 has fast-tracked the digital adoption in our client base at a much more rapid pace and clients are now more comfortable engaging with us digitally. We have been investing in upskilling our mobile and web architecture for the past 18-24 months or so and when the pandemic hit we were ready to offer our full suite of products digitally to our client base. Last year we became the first brokerage house to offer clients fully digitized onboarding & trading experience that led to reduction in account opening time from 5-6 days to within the same day. With our Margin Trading facility launched last year that offered clients flexibility of increased buying powers using their existing portfolio as collateral to take advantage of market opportunities. We are working on complete refresh & upgrade of our mobile trading platforms leveraging in some new and exciting tools like offering trade attention to help familiarize clients with QSE and how to use our trading platforms.

Our strategy is to continue to promote our products and services and QSE market potential regionally - capital growth (consistently outperformed regional & global indices) & high dividend yields. Currently almost half of our trade volumes come from international and regional institutions. There are several market leading technology developments in the pipeline for these group of clients to substantially raise the bar of services offered leveraging on our digital technology platform.

Focus on growth

For more information, please visit cbfin.qa

Follow cbfon:
BlackRock cuts fees on $7.6bn ETFs to near zero

Deliveroo kicks off $2.5bn IPO, UK’s largest in 2021

China names new PBoC policy panel members focused on jobs
Asian bourses swing as inflation fears temper recovery hope

Hedge funds capitalize on dollar short bets as losses mount

MSCI emerging markets currency index snaps 4-week losing streak

Global hedge fund investors with $812bn prefer Asia

Hedge funds focused on Asia are profiting from a range of macroeconomic trends and geopolitical concerns. These funds, which invest in Asian stocks, bonds, currencies and commodities, are taking advantage of the region's strong economic growth, low inflation rates, and overall market stability. Asia has become a haven for hedge fund managers due to its attractive returns and lower volatility compared to other regions.

The divergent performance of hedge funds in Asia is a reflection of the region's diverse economic landscapes. Some countries, like China, are experiencing robust growth, while others, such as Japan, are struggling with deflation. This dichotomy is creating opportunities for hedge funds to capitalize on the differences in economic performance.

The challenges faced by Asian economies, including population aging, rapid urbanization, and economic transitions, have led investors to reevaluate their portfolio allocations. Hedge funds, with their ability to capitalize on market inefficiencies, are well-positioned to take advantage of these changes and deliver strong returns to investors.

Despite the challenges, Asia remains a promising market for hedge funds. The region's size, diversity, and potential for growth make it an attractive investment destination. Investors continue to seek exposure to Asia, driven by its potential for long-term growth and diversification benefits.
China’s fight against risk is tormenting financial markets

The campaign against risk has accelerated in recent months as Beijing proposed new rules to curb the risk of financial and economic activities. The campaign against risk has accelerated in recent months as Beijing proposed new rules to curb the risk of financial and economic activities. The campaign against risk has accelerated in recent months as Beijing proposed new rules to curb the risk of financial and economic activities. The campaign against risk has accelerated in recent months as Beijing proposed new rules to curb the risk of financial and economic activities. The campaign against risk has accelerated in recent months as Beijing proposed new rules to curb the risk of financial and economic activities. The campaign against risk has accelerated in recent months as Beijing proposed new rules to curb the risk of financial and economic activities. 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### US markets upbeat; dimming prospects of Covid-19 recovery weigh on Europe

**AAPL**

> Apple's stock pushed higher after its fiscal fourth-quarter earnings beat expectations and it pledged more money to its massive share buyback program. The iPhone maker reported an 8% rise in revenue to $75.5 billion on Wednesday. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Apple's shares rose 3.6% to $141.75 in pre-market trading.

**MSFT**

> Microsoft's stock rose 2% to $272.00 in pre-market trading after the software giant reported a 19% rise in revenue to $46.7 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Microsoft's shares rose 2% to $272.00 in pre-market trading.

**AMZN**

> Amazon.com's stock fell 1.4% to $3,000.15 in pre-market trading after the e-commerce giant reported a 37% rise in revenue to $87.1 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Amazon's shares fell 1.4% to $3,000.15 in pre-market trading.

**FANMEXP**

> Fanatics, Inc., the sports apparel and merchandise company, reported a 50% rise in revenue to $2.5 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Fanatics' shares rose 5% to $90.15 in pre-market trading.

**NVIDIA**

> NVIDIA's stock rose 2% to $520.50 in pre-market trading after the chipmaker reported a 27% rise in revenue to $4.7 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. NVIDIA's shares rose 2% to $520.50 in pre-market trading.

**DISNEY**

> The Walt Disney Company reported a 2% rise in revenue to $18.7 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Disney's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**Walmart**

> Walmart reported a 2% rise in revenue to $159.5 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Walmart's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**PPG INDUSTRIES**

> PPG Industries reported a 3% rise in revenue to $3.2 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. PPG's shares rose 3% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**CITIZENS FINANCIAL GROUP**

> Citizens Financial Group reported a 2% rise in revenue to $1.2 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. Citizens Financial's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**FDA INDUSTRIES**

> FDA Industries reported a 1% rise in revenue to $850 million in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. FDA's shares rose 1% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**GTT COMMUNICATIONS**

> GTT Communications reported a 2% rise in revenue to $1.5 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. GTT's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**CHRYSTALAC**

> CHRYSTALAC reported a 2% rise in revenue to $1.3 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. CHRYSTALAC's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**GSF INDUSTRIES**

> GSF Industries reported a 2% rise in revenue to $1.7 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. GSF's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**CHAMBLEY'S**

> CHAMBLEY'S reported a 3% rise in revenue to $1.5 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. CHAMBLEY'S shares rose 3% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**ROCK CREEK ENTERPRISES**

> ROCK CREEK ENTERPRISES reported a 4% rise in revenue to $1.3 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. ROCK CREEK ENTERPRISES' shares rose 4% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**SHROFF CORPORATION**

> SHROFF CORPORATION reported a 3% rise in revenue to $1.8 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. SHROFF CORPORATION's shares rose 3% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

**VYVAN SEAT**

> VYVAN SEAT reported a 2% rise in revenue to $1.1 billion in its latest quarter. The company said it was confident it could meet its goals for the coming quarter, despite concerns about the spread of Covid-19. VYVAN SEAT's shares rose 2% to $143.25 in pre-market trading.

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Information contained herein is believed to be reliable and has been obtained from sources deemed to be reliable. The accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed. This publication is for educational purposes only and is not intended as an offer or solicitation for a purchase or sale of any of the financial instruments mentioned. GolfTime and Delta Bank are not responsible and shall not be held accountable and will not accept any losses or liabilities for actions based on this data.
Stores that defined American malls bet on a freestanding future

Bloomingdale's
New York City

Quirinalential visits from Macy's to Karl Lagerfeld to Zara to planning a post-COVID return to traditional shopping centers, we've been through a lot. In fact, the food court at the mall is now better than ever. That's why it's called a mall... or the mall... or the mall...

100 years ago, mall shopping started. In the 1950s, it became popular. In the 1970s, it was mainstream. In the 1980s, it was essential. Today, it's a way of life. And it's not going anywhere anytime soon. That's why it's called a mall... or the mall... or the mall...

Pedestrians pass in front of a Zara retail store in New York's Union Square. Zara, which never cares much for conventional malls, is one of the models for how to sell clothes in the age of online shopping. The company has been able to achieve this by offering a wide range of products at competitive prices, all while maintaining high standards of quality and design. However, as more and more people shop online, many malls are struggling to attract customers.

The future of malls is uncertain, but there are still some who believe that they can innovate and attract visitors. Some are experimenting with new technologies, such as virtual reality or augmented reality, to create a more immersive shopping experience. Others are focusing on creating unique or themed environments, such as a ski resort or a beach club, to attract visitors who want a break from the usual retail experience.

In conclusion, the future of malls is uncertain. While some may struggle, others are finding ways to innovate and attract customers. The key is to offer something unique or different that can't be found online. Only time will tell which approach will succeed.
Biden determined to tax rich after windfall during crisis

Money drained from the pockets of the rich can fund the climate fight. President Joe Biden is determined to tax the rich to fund the climate fight. His administration is working to increase taxes on capital gains. The Treasury Department has announced plans to make capital gains subject to a 30 percent tax, up from the current 20 percent rate. This would make it one of the highest capital gains tax rates in the world. The move is seen as an attempt to raise revenue and combat inequality. Biden’s team has said it would raise $1.2 trillion over 10 years. The tax increase would apply to capital gains of more than $10 million for individuals and more than $50 million for trusts and estates. The administration is also considering a push to raise corporate taxes. A report by the National Economic Council and the Treasury Department is expected to be released soon, outlining a range of proposals. Biden is also expected to press for a hike in the corporate tax rate from 21 percent to 28 percent. The new rules would apply to companies with annual revenues of more than $500 million. The move is seen as a way to increase tax revenue and help fund the government’s climate goals. The Treasury Department has estimated that the new tax rules could raise $110 billion over 10 years. Biden has said the new tax rules are necessary to address the climate crisis and build a more sustainable economy. The administration is also working on a package of clean energy incentives, including a carbon dividend program and a $350 billion fund to support research and development. The President has also called for a 1 percent tax on all financial transactions, which could raise $3 trillion over 10 years. Biden has said these measures are necessary to bring the U.S. closer to its climate goals and build a more resilient economy.
## QSE closes higher as local retail investors turn bullish

By Dhati Kyallo

Qatar Exchange’s (QSE) equity index gained 0.54% at 11,772.49 to post its highest close in nearly five months, marking a bullish sentiment from local retail investors.

The index’s rise was underpinned by the rally in banking and real estate sectors, which saw a strong bounce in several banks and real estate companies.

Banking and real estate companies witnessed a significant buying interest from retail investors, who appear to be taking advantage of the recent market dip to accumulate stocks at attractive levels.

However, other sectors such as healthcare, utilities, and consumer goods saw muted activities, with gains halting after a run-up.

The net result was a robust performance, with gains across a significant number of stocks, leading to the QSE index posting its best single-day gain in recent months.

## Qatar awards new contracts worth $3.9bn during 2020

By Dhati Kyallo

The government of Qatar has awarded several new contracts worth a total of $3.9 billion during 2020, according to the Qatar Ministry of Finance.

The contracts, which cover various sectors including construction, transport, and energy, were awarded to local and international companies.

The Ministry of Finance stated that the contracts aim to stimulate the local economy and create jobs for Qatari nationals.

The contracts were awarded through a competitive bidding process and reflect the government's commitment to sustainable development and infrastructure projects.

## ICC Qatar, Reliability on hosting webinar on Qatar’s oil and gas industry

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Qatar, in partnership with Reliability, will be hosting an online event to discuss the oil and gas industry.

The webinar, which will be held on [event date], will feature a panel of experts from the industry to discuss key challenges and opportunities.

The event is aimed at providing insights into the latest trends and developments in Qatar’s oil and gas sector, as well as highlighting the role of technology and innovation in driving future growth.

## US home sales tumble amid cold weather, tight supply

By Dhati Kyallo

The US housing market experienced a sharp decline in home sales in February amid cold weather and tight supply conditions, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR).

The NAR’s Existing Home Sales Index (EHSI) dropped to 5.01 million units in February, a decline of 10.6% from the previous month and a 14.2% decrease from February 2021.

The inventory of homes for sale also fell to 1.02 million units, a 17.3% decrease from January and a 19.3% decrease from February 2021.

The median home price in February rose to $394,600, an increase of 13.3% from a year ago, indicating strong demand from buyers.

The decline in home sales and inventory highlights the ongoing difficulty faced by the housing market, with limited supply driving up prices and making it challenging for buyers to find homes.

## Consolidation initiative of Islamic banks in Qatar likely to increase their capitalisation, funding capacity, say experts

By Dhati Kyallo

The consolidation initiative of Islamic banks in Qatar is likely to increase their capitalisation and funding capacity, according to industry experts.

The move, which includes the merger of several Islamic banks into a single entity, is expected to provide greater economies of scale and efficiency.

The consolidation is also expected to enhance the competitiveness of the Islamic banking sector in Qatar, allowing for better management of risks and capital allocation.

The amalgamation will also enable the banks to leverage their combined resources and expertise, leading to improved product offerings and customer services.

The initiative is part of a broader effort by the QFC to promote financial stability and growth in the region. The QFC is working with the Islamic banks to ensure a smooth transition and to support the development of the Islamic finance industry.

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