

## ASSESSMENT

15 February 2026



Send Your Feedback

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# Riyad Bank

Second Party Opinion – Sustainable Finance Framework  
Assigned SQS2 Sustainability Quality Score

### Summary

We have assigned an SQS2 Sustainability Quality Score (very good) to Riyad Bank's sustainable finance framework, dated January 2026. The issuer has established its use-of-proceeds framework with the aim of financing projects across eleven eligible green categories and six eligible social categories. The framework is aligned with the four core components of the International Capital Market Association's (ICMA) Green Bond Principles (GBP) 2025, Social Bond Principles (SBP) 2025 and Sustainability Bond Guidelines (SBG) 2021; and the Loan Market Association, the Asia Pacific Loan Market Association and the Loan Syndications & Trading Association's (LMA/APLMA/LSTA) Green Loan Principles (GLP) 2025 and Social Loan Principles (SLP) 2025, and the issuer has incorporated all Moody's Ratings identified best practices. The framework demonstrates a significant contribution to sustainability.

### Sustainability quality score



### Alignment with principles

USE OF PROCEEDS

#### Overall alignment



#### FACTORS

FACTORS	ALIGNMENT
Use of proceeds	Partially aligned
Evaluation and selection	Partially aligned
Management of proceeds	Partially aligned
Reporting	Partially aligned

### Contribution to sustainability

#### Final contribution to sustainability



#### Preliminary contribution to sustainability

Relevance and magnitude

Additional considerations      No adjustment

POINT-IN-TIME ASSESSMENT

## Scope

We have provided a Second Party Opinion (SPO) on the sustainability credentials of Riyad Bank's sustainable finance framework, including the framework's alignment with the ICMA's GBP 2025, SBP 2025 and SBG 2021; and the LMA/APLMA/LSTA's GLP 2025 and SLP 2025. Under its framework, Riyad Bank plans to issue use-of-proceeds instruments to finance projects in eleven eligible green categories and six eligible social categories, as outlined in Appendix 3 of this report.

Our assessment is based on the last updated version of the framework received on 27 January 2026, and our opinion reflects our point-in-time assessment<sup>1</sup> of the details contained in this version of the framework, as well as other public and non-public information provided by the company.

We produced this SPO based on our [Assessment Framework: Second Party Opinions on Sustainable Debt](#), published in October 2025.

## Issuer profile

Riyad Bank is a joint-stock commercial bank based in Saudi Arabia. As of June 2025, the bank was the third-largest Saudi commercial bank, with a market share of around 11% in terms of deposits. It operated a network of 333 branches in Saudi Arabia, one branch in London (UK), an agency in Houston (US) and a representative office in Singapore. The Saudi government and quasi government entities own 32% of the bank, also reflected in the composition of its board of directors. However, this does not result in incremental governance risks because of the country's developed institutional framework.

Riyad Bank faces high exposure to environmental risks, mainly because of carbon transition risk. Although the bank has limited direct lending to carbon-intensive sectors, the sizeable contribution of the hydrocarbon industry to the Saudi economy and government finances increases vulnerability to environmental risks, potentially affecting the creditworthiness of the bank's counterparties.

## Strengths

- » Eligible projects address environmental and social challenges that are relevant for the issuer, its sector and the regional context.
- » A short allocation period within 24 months is in line with best market practices.
- » The proceeds allocation process is clearly structured and transparently disclosed in the framework, in line with best market practices.

## Challenges

- » Inclusion of general corporate purpose loans through pure-play companies constitutes a non-standard use of proceeds susceptible to specific challenges.
- » Some sub-categories lack defined thresholds, limiting the overall expected positive impact.

This publication does not announce a credit rating action. For any credit ratings referenced in this publication, please see the issuer/deal page on <https://ratings.moodys.com> for the most updated credit rating action information and rating history.

## Alignment with principles

Riyad Bank's sustainable finance framework is aligned with the four core components of the ICMA's GBP 2025, SBP 2025 and SBG 2021; and the LMA/APLMA/LSTA's GLP 2025 and SLP 2025, and the issuer has incorporated all Moody's Ratings identified best practices. For a summary alignment with principles scorecard, please see Appendix 1.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Green Bond Principles (GBP)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Green Loan Principles (GLP)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Bond Principles (SBP)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Loan Principles (SLP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability-Linked Bond Principles (SLBP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Linked Loan Principles (SLLP)

## Use of proceeds

Not aligned      Partially aligned      Aligned      Best practices

### Clarity of the eligible categories – BEST PRACTICES

Riyad Bank has clearly communicated the nature of expenditures, the location of the eligible projects for all project categories and the exclusion criteria. The eligibility criteria and the target population for the social categories are defined in the framework for all project categories.

The framework includes a limited allocation of proceeds towards general corporate purpose loans to pure-play companies that derive at least 90% of their revenue from activities that adhere to the eligibility criteria in the framework. The issuer has provided information that demonstrates suitable measures to identify, select and allocate net proceeds to pure play companies that adhere to the sustainability objectives and benefits targeted in the framework, and also to track and report on the associated sustainability benefits. With these mitigants in place, coupled with the limited allocation (i.e. max 10%), the 90% threshold and the exclusion of fossil fuels, we consider the structure to be in line with current market practices.

### Clarity of the environmental or social objectives – BEST PRACTICES

The bank has clearly outlined relevant environmental and social objectives for all eligible categories. The bank has also referenced the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), making the framework coherent with international standards (see Appendix 2 for more details).

### Clarity of the expected benefits – BEST PRACTICES

The bank has identified clear expected environmental and social benefits for all eligible categories. The benefits are measurable and will be quantified in the bank's annual post-issuance report. The issuer has also committed to a three year look-back period, and to disclose an estimation of the refinancing share to investors prior to issuance.

## Process for project evaluation and selection

Not aligned      Partially aligned      Aligned      Best practices

### Transparency and clarity of the process for defining and monitoring eligible projects – BEST PRACTICES

Riyad Bank has established a clear and structured decision-making process for determining the eligibility of projects. This process is detailed in the framework, which will be publicly available. The relevant Credit Committees and the Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG) will evaluate and select the eligible green and social projects, and will also monitor the allocation of proceeds to such projects. The SFWG will comprise members from departments in the bank including treasury, risk, investor relations, corporate, credit, finance and operations. Projects will be reviewed at least quarterly during the life of the instrument, and in case a project fails to meet the eligibility criteria, the committee will reallocate funds to new eligible projects. All projects within the framework will follow Riyad Bank's ESG Risk Management policies, which are publicly available on the bank's website and framework.

## Management of proceeds

Not aligned      Partially aligned      Aligned      Best practices

### Allocation and tracking of proceeds – BEST PRACTICES

The bank has defined its process for the management and allocation of proceeds in its publicly available framework. Net proceeds from issuances under the framework will be held in Riyad Bank's general funding accounts and will be allocated within 24 months from the date of issuance. The bank's SFWG will keep track of the proceeds and ensure their allocation to eligible projects. The allocation of net proceeds to eligible projects will be matched on a quarterly basis. Temporarily unallocated proceeds will be invested in cash or cash equivalents, in accordance with Riyad Bank's standard liquidity policy.

## Reporting

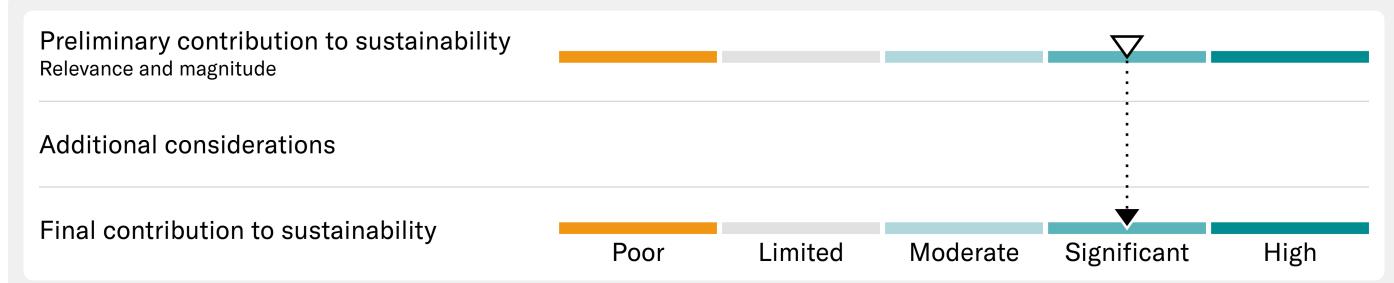
Not aligned      Partially aligned      Aligned      Best practices

### Reporting transparency – BEST PRACTICES

The bank has committed to annually publish on its website allocation and impact reports. The allocation report will be published until the full allocation of funds, and impact reporting will continue until the maturity of the bond or full repayment of the loan. The reports are considered exhaustive, including the amount of the proceeds allocated to each eligible category, the expected sustainable benefits, project type, size and location, and balance of unallocated proceeds. For each category, the issuer has included relevant impact indicators that are all clearly defined. Key methodology or data sources, and assumptions for calculation, will be also publicly available. Both the allocation and impact reporting indicators will be externally verified.

## Contribution to sustainability

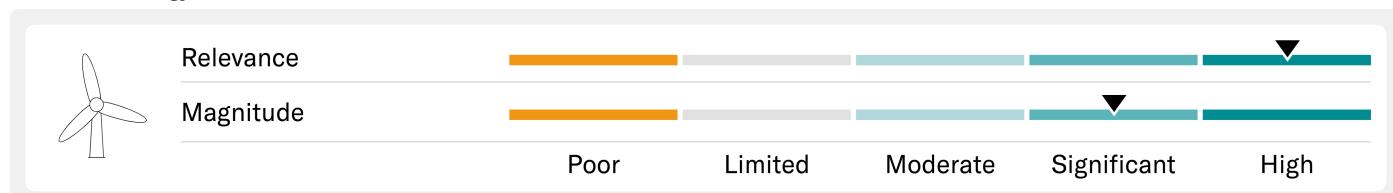
The framework demonstrates a significant overall contribution to sustainability. This reflects a preliminary contribution to sustainability score of significant, based on the relevance and magnitude of the eligible project categories, and we have not made an adjustment to the preliminary score based on additional contribution to sustainability considerations.



### Preliminary contribution to sustainability

The preliminary contribution to sustainability is significant, based on the relevance and magnitude of the eligible project categories. For the purpose of assessing the consolidated score on contribution to sustainability, categories have been weighted based on information provided by the issuer, indicating that most proceeds will be allocated to renewable energy, followed by green buildings and sustainable water and wastewater management. A detailed assessment by eligible category has been provided below.

## Renewable energy

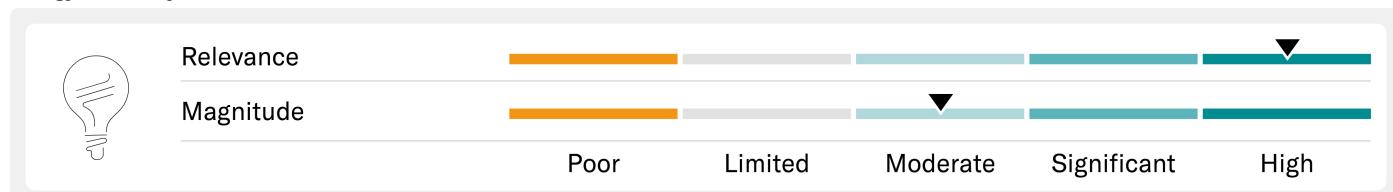


Projects related to renewable energy address the objective of climate change mitigation and increase the contribution of renewables to the country energy mix, which is a highly important objectives for the issuer, the sector and the local context. Financing the energy transition in Saudi Arabia is key because of the country's heavy reliance on fossil fuels, which currently constitute 97.8% of its energy mix, according to Ember's Yearly Electricity Data for 2024.<sup>2</sup> The country has set goals to diversify its energy sources and reduce carbon emissions, aiming for renewables to account for 50% of its power generation by 2030.<sup>3</sup> As part of this transition, Saudi Arabia's Liquid Fuels Displacement Program targets the displacement of up to one million barrels of liquid fuels across agriculture, industry and utilities by 2030.<sup>4</sup> Financing the energy transition is highly relevant to the banking sector, because of its critical role in channeling capital to support green and sustainable development, amid the increasing scrutiny from stakeholders to decarbonize portfolios.

The diverse projects financed in this category are expected to significantly contribute, overall, to the long-term climate change mitigation goals of the renewable energy sector. This category includes the generation of energy from renewable sources, including wind, solar, wave, tidal and ocean thermal, geothermal (excluded enhanced systems), run-of-river hydropower without artificial reservoirs, which are considered best available technologies, and the issuer has confirmed that an environmental impact assessment (EIA) will be conducted covering potential externalities of those projects, such as marine biodiversity risks and water management. Waste-to-energy, bioenergy and biofuels projects adhere to CBI standards, although waste wood is eligible and does not require certification. Green hydrogen projects focus on producing hydrogen through electrolysis powered by renewable energy sources with a carbon intensity below 100 gCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh. However, there are currently no minimum energy efficiency standards for electrolyzers, nor is there a maximum allowable carbon content for electrolysis. Additionally, there is a lack of information on whether the electricity will be sourced from the grid or generated on-site and the availability of local freshwater as assessed through EIA. This results in a moderate magnitude score for these projects on a stand-alone basis. The retrofit of renewable energy power plants is considered to have a positive impact, requiring carbon or energy savings of at least 30% after upgrade.

The category also includes the manufacture of components for renewable energy technology, which will result in substantial greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions. It also covers the construction, maintenance and expansion of the associated distribution networks, which are likely to provide significant environmental benefits, including reduced energy losses and an increased capacity to transport renewable energy. Additionally, these efforts are likely to result in social co-benefits, such as improved access to electricity and a reduction in power outages. Nevertheless, grid connections are not exclusively limited to renewable energy, and there is a lack of clarity regarding the allocation approach in situations where the system carries less than 90% renewables but the percentage of renewables is expected to increase.

## Energy efficiency



Projects related to energy efficiency reduce energy-related emissions and address climate change across the residential and industrial sectors which is highly important for the issuer and local context. The International Energy Agency (IEA) emphasizes that accelerating the global energy efficiency improvement rate to 4% per year, on average, over the next decade is essential for attaining net zero emissions.<sup>5</sup> The projects are particularly relevant to the local context. To decrease emissions, the Saudi Energy Efficiency Center operates an energy efficiency program aimed at three primary sectors — industry, buildings and land transportation — which collectively account for 90% of the country's energy demand.<sup>6</sup> Saudi Arabia's Energy Efficiency Program (SEEP) aims to implement new

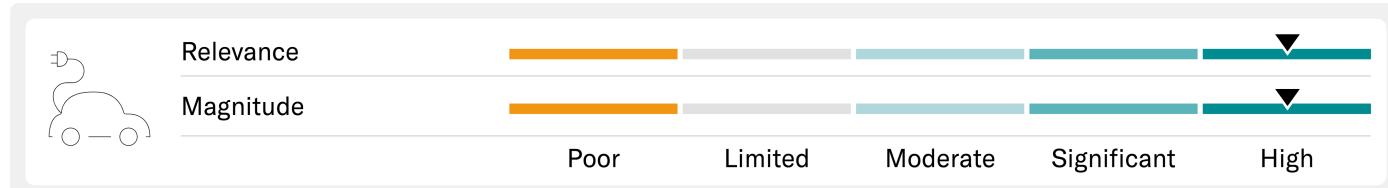
energy efficiency standards across power generation, electricity transmission and distribution, among others.<sup>7</sup> Saudi Arabia's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for energy efficiency include a commitment to reducing and avoiding GHG emissions by 278 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>eq annually by 2030.<sup>8</sup> In 2023, the industry accounted for 19.9% of the total final energy consumption, making it the second largest sector, surpassed only by transport.<sup>9</sup>

The projects included in this category are expected to have an overall moderate positive impact on the targeted objective. The first two sub-categories refer to projects for commercial, public and residential buildings, as well as industrial processes and supply chains. The absence of specific energy performance thresholds results in a limited magnitude score for these subcategories, even though these initiatives are expected to deliver positive long-term benefits with minimal risk of lock-in effects. These categories also include financing steel manufacture using direct reduced iron (DRI) in electric arc furnaces (EAFs) powered by renewable electricity and green hydrogen. EAFs offer environmental benefits, producing fewer pollutants than traditional blast furnaces. Although these projects are likely to reduce emissions compared with traditional steel manufacturing, there is limited visibility on the energy efficiency thresholds.

The third sub-category includes projects focus on reducing heat losses and increasing waste heat recovery, including the installation of renewable-powered cogeneration plants. The initiatives exclude technologies for inherently carbon-intensive processes driven by fossil fuels, which is seen positively. While the absence of specific thresholds limits the visibility of their overall positive impact, these projects are likely to yield significant positive long-term benefits with minimal lock-in effects.

The fourth sub-category relates to transmission and distribution systems, which includes the retrofitting and developing infrastructure to enhance energy efficiency and integrate renewable energy sources. It also includes technologies and components for efficient transmission and distribution, which are likely to generate significant positive impact. District heating and cooling networks are eligible only when primarily powered by renewables or waste heat, although details on specific technologies financed and thresholds are lacking. Subsea cables for renewable energy transmission are eligible only when more than 90% of the energy transmitted is renewable, and the bank will require an EIA to evaluate the effects on marine ecosystems. While electric heat pumps are eligible only when they meet a refrigerant threshold of GWP  $\leq$  675, there is no information on the potential use of fossil fuels in combination with heat pumps.

#### Clean transportation

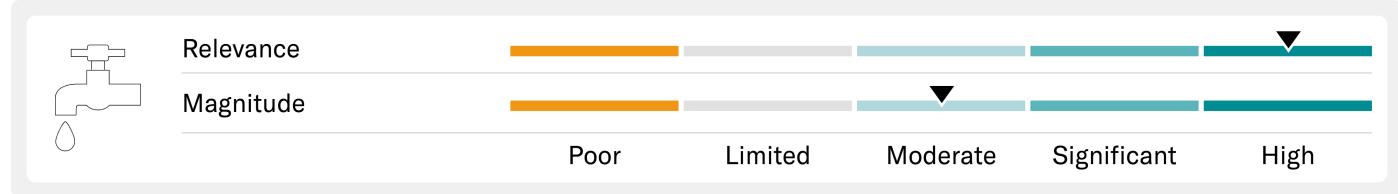


Projects related to the clean transportation sector address climate change mitigation, which is highly relevant for both the sector and the local context. The projects are highly relevant for the sector, because globally for the transport sector to achieve alignment with the IEA's Net Zero Scenario requires emissions to decrease by around a quarter by 2030.<sup>10</sup> The projects are also highly relevant to the local context. According to Our World in Data,<sup>11</sup> in 2022, road transportation accounted for 138 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions globally, making it the second-largest emitter at 23.5% of total emissions, behind the electricity and heat sector. In Saudi Arabia, the transportation sector relies entirely on fossil fuels and accounts for 22% of the country's national CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.<sup>12</sup>

In terms of magnitude, the eligible projects are expected to have an overall high positive impact on the decarbonization of the transportation sector. Eligible electric vehicles (EVs) and public transportation emitting less than 50 gCO<sub>2</sub>/km up to 2025, and zero tailpipe emissions thereafter, follow CBI requirements for passenger activity, although the most stringent threshold would be to only finance zero tailpipe emissions vehicles. Electric planes will have zero direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the point of use and are considered best available technology. However, the possibility of transporting 25% fossil fuels limits the expected overall positive impact. The category also includes other zero direct emissions vehicles not intended for road, including cranes and forklifts, which are considered best available technology. Freight rail transportation with average portfolio emissions of 25 gCO<sub>2</sub>/t-km up until 2030, and 21 gCO<sub>2</sub>/t-km from 2030 to 2050, complies with CBI requirements for freight activity. However, there is no requirement specifying a threshold of 18 gCO<sub>2</sub>/t-km for 2050. Active mobility, such as bicycling and other self-propelled transportation methods, is likely to have a positive long-term impact without causing lock-in effects. Similarly, alternative infrastructure, like walking and cycling lanes, is likely to significantly reduce GHG emissions in the transportation sector over the long term. Low-carbon transport infrastructure — including

electric charging stations; low-carbon fueling stations, such as for green hydrogen or biofuels; battery exchange and swapping stations; and railway tracks — is expected to have a high positive impact. Because of the region's reliance on fossil fuels for electricity, the current advantages of electric stations and related infrastructure are still modest. Nonetheless, as the energy mix evolves toward more renewable sources and the emissions intensity of the grid decreases, these benefits are likely to increase. Investments in the development and production of EVs, including building new manufacturing facilities, upgrading existing ones, and focusing on EV batteries and specialized parts, are seen as developing the best available technology and generating a positive long-term impact with no lock-in effects.

#### Sustainable water and wastewater management



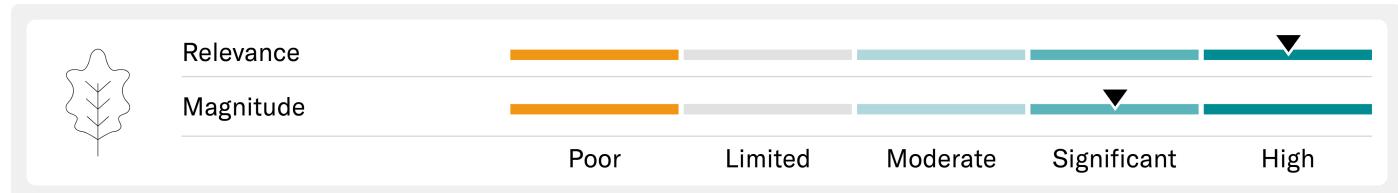
Projects aimed at developing a sustainable water and wastewater management system address the objectives of ensuring sustainable use of water resources, providing access to safe water, and limiting risks related to water stress, which are highly relevant to the regional context and the sector. Saudi Arabia is among the world's most arid and water-scarce countries. Recent rapid economic and population growth has further intensified challenges related to water sustainability. As part of its Vision 2030, Saudi Arabia seeks to strengthen water security by optimizing agricultural water use, increasing desalination efforts and enhancing transmission projects, among other initiatives.<sup>13</sup>

The projects eligible under this category are expected to make a moderate overall contribution to sustainable water and wastewater management, primarily due to the lack of relevant thresholds for some of the financed projects. For activities that improve water quality, the framework includes water and wastewater treatment facilities (WWTPs) with thresholds that follow the EU Taxonomy, considered among the best available standards. We lack detailed information on the technologies used in sewer systems and pumping stations, which limits their positive impact. Although the category includes upgrades to wastewater treatment plants and discharge infrastructure that are likely to generate positive benefits the absence of specific criteria for financing limits the visibility on the level of positive impact. Nevertheless, activities aimed at improving water quality are likely to have either no net GHG emissions or negative net GHG emissions, which is seen positively.

Desalination plants powered by electricity with an average carbon intensity of or below 100 gCOe/kWh or primarily powered by low-carbon sources, such as renewables, are likely to have a moderate impact. This is because of limited visibility of specific power consumption thresholds, the technologies implemented and the monitoring of brine and biodiversity at discharge points.

The category also includes projects related to increasing water-use efficiency, such as water recycling and reuse. The issuer has not provided a specific threshold for water saving systems, technologies and water metering, which limits visibility into the extent to which projects will contribute to the stated environmental objectives.

#### Pollution prevention and control

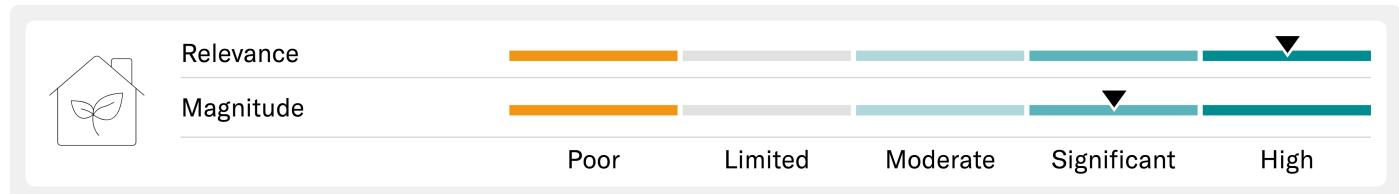


Eligible projects are addressing climate change mitigation and pollution prevention and control, which are highly relevant objectives for the issuer and local context due to the country's economic dependence on the hydrocarbons sector. According to the guidelines set by the World Health Organization, air quality in Saudi Arabia is deemed unsafe. Recent data shows that the annual average concentration of PM2.5 in the country is 88 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, significantly surpassing the recommended limit of 10 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.<sup>14</sup> Projects related to the prevention and reduction of waste are also highly relevant in the country, as in Saudi Arabia recycling is in its early stages.<sup>15</sup> Waste disposal

primarily depends on landfills, which account for roughly 85% of all waste treatment.<sup>16</sup> Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 includes developing a circular economy to encourage resource reuse and reduce emissions.<sup>17</sup> The country also gives importance to projects related to soil remediation, aiming to restore 200 million hectares of degraded land both domestically and internationally. It has increased its protected land from 4% to 18% and has steadily expanded the number of national parks.<sup>18</sup>

Projects related to pollution prevention and control under this category are likely to provide significant long-term impact, contributing to the targeted objectives. A minimum threshold of 80% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to the baseline is required, and only direct air capture (DACCs) combined with permanent carbon storage qualifies as eligible—which is viewed positively. However, the absence of a commitment to only finance low-carbon energy sources constrains the overall positive impact. Expenditures for GHG emissions control are limited to process upgrades or sensors for monitoring and testing emissions, supported by a comprehensive list of exclusions—such as technologies linked to fossil fuel power generation—helping to minimize potential negative externalities or carbon lock-in. Soil remediation projects under this category are considered to deliver substantial long-term positive impacts, as well as waste management initiatives, some of which are aligned with stringent standards (waste-to-energy and anaerobic digestion); however, the absence of certain criteria—such as certified feedstock wood—reduces their overall positive impact.

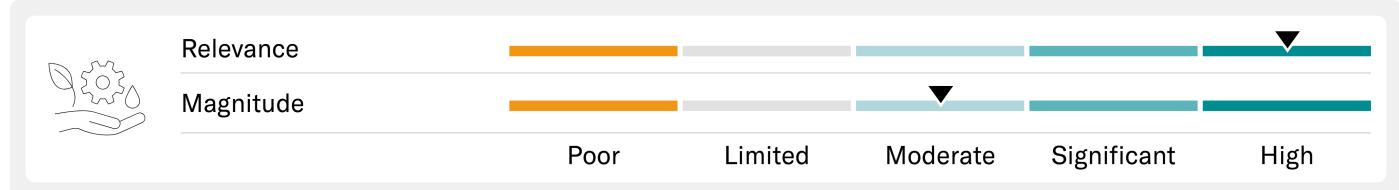
#### Green buildings



Addressing climate change mitigation through investments in green buildings is a highly relevant objective for the issuer's business, sector and region. In the local context, real estate accounts for 28% of the total primary energy demand in the country.<sup>19</sup> Although the building sector accounts for only a moderate portion of Saudi Arabia's overall emissions, it is still among the top emitters, following the electricity and heat production, transport and industry sectors.<sup>20</sup> Finally, banks play an important role in channeling capital through loans in the real estate sector.

Eligible projects are expected to have a significant impact on reducing the real estate sector's contribution to climate change. Building renovations that achieve a minimum 30% improvement in energy use or carbon emissions align with very good market standards, although not the most ambitious ones. Eligible projects also include replacing existing heating or cooling systems in buildings with more efficient, non-fossil fuel-powered systems, as well as implementing waste heat recovery improvements. However, without additional thresholds or criteria, there is limited visibility into their positive sustainability impact. Nonetheless, these projects are not expected to have carbon lock-in effects. Finally, the eligible building certifications, including LEED (Gold and above) and BREEAM (Excellent), do not necessarily ensure ambitious energy performance, achieving as a stand alone sub-category a moderate magnitude score.

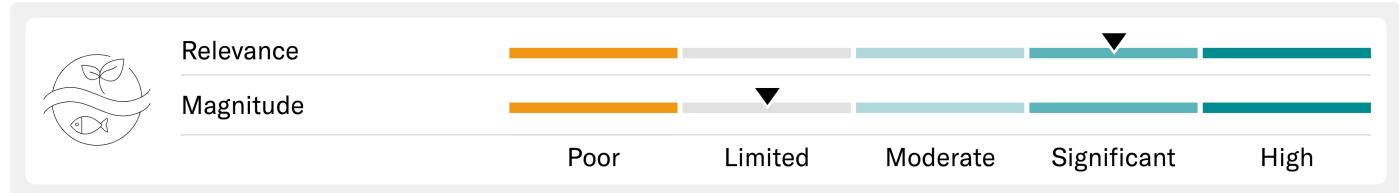
#### Environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use



The environmentally sustainable management of living natural resources and land use in Saudi Arabia is a highly relevant objective, particularly because of the country's limited arable land and significant water scarcity challenges. Saudi Arabia faces acute water stress, ranking 8th worldwide, with only 1.6% of its land classified as arable, far below the global average of 10.7%.<sup>21</sup> Projects related to sustainable land use, such as promoting integrated crop-livestock-forestry systems and agroforestry, are crucial for enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem restoration. These efforts align with the UN's SDGs 12, 14 and 15, which are among the least funded and require substantial support from financial institutions like Riyad Bank to address the pressing needs of climate change mitigation and sustainable agriculture.

The eligible projects in this category are expected to generate a moderate overall long-term positive impact. Although these projects incorporate technologies such as hydroponic and vertical farming — which offer environmental benefits like reduced water consumption — their overall impact may be tempered by reliance on electricity, the specifics of which have not been disclosed by the bank. Non-organic practices are excluded from eligibility; however, the framework lacks defined efficiency improvement requirements for irrigation and farming techniques. Investments in alternative proteins, including cultured and plant-based meat, offer the potential for lower GHG emissions. The issuer has not provided concrete information on how enhanced green cover in urban centers or the management of protected areas will be realized, leaving the potential benefits contingent upon project specifics and environmental conditions. Regular audits and certifications aim to mitigate E&S risks, ensuring long-term conservation outcomes. However, the absence of detailed criteria underscores the moderate magnitude of impact.

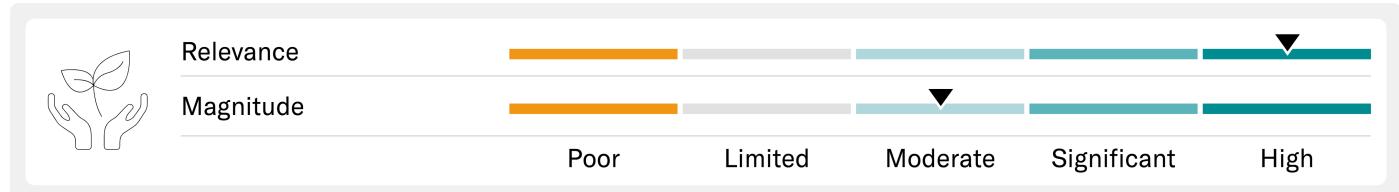
#### Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity



Terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity conservation in Saudi Arabia is of significant importance, aligning with the objectives of the UN SDGs 11, 13 and 15. However, there is some uncertainty of the degree to which sustainable tourism addresses the stated objective. The protection of biodiversity is crucial, particularly because the country faces major challenges in achieving SDGs related to life below water and on land. Despite Saudi Arabia's expanding tourism sector, which has seen international tourist numbers nearly double since 2010, biodiversity protection remains comparatively low, with the country ranking 136th in Yale University's Biodiversity and Habitat rankings<sup>22</sup>. Tourism, although economically beneficial, poses risks to biodiversity because of its contribution to GHG emissions and the potential degradation of natural habitats. Financial support and strategic initiatives are needed to enhance the conservation of marine and terrestrial biodiversity in the region.

The eligible projects in this category are expected to have a limited contribution to the terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity conservation. Coastal, marine, and watershed ecosystems biodiversity conservation projects generally deliver significant long-term positive impacts, although the lack of detailed information on concrete projects limit the visibility on the potential benefits. Sustainable tourism initiatives eligible under this category, on the other hand, are considered to have limited contribution to sustainability, as the bank has not clearly detailed how these ventures will mitigate environmental negative impacts, especially within protected areas or habitats of endangered species. Moreover, nature-based visitor centers, despite their educational role, pose risks of habitat disruption and resource strain if not carefully managed. The issuer has not specified the mechanisms for measuring and mitigating the negative impact of these tourism activities, nor has it addressed the potential increase in emissions associated with tourism-related travel.

#### Climate change adaptation

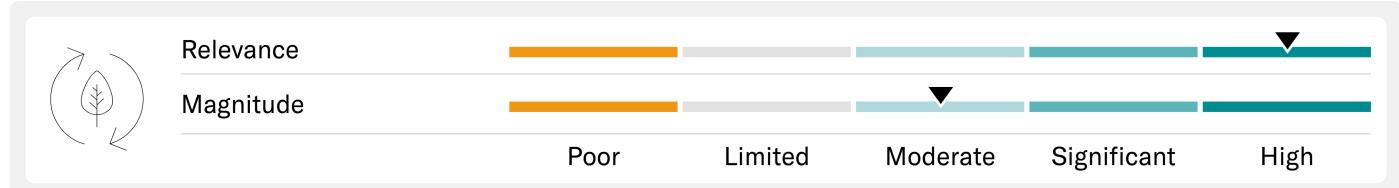


Climate change adaptation in Saudi Arabia is highly relevant, particularly for institutions like Riyad Bank, which support the financing of projects aimed at enhancing climate resilience. The country faces acute challenges, with significant vulnerabilities to heat stress and water scarcity, ranking 8th globally in terms of water stress<sup>23</sup>. This scarcity is exacerbated by environmental factors such as high temperatures and limited renewable water resources. To address these challenges, Saudi Arabia is investing heavily in climate resilience through initiatives like advanced climate monitoring systems and ICT solutions for reducing GHG emissions, all in alignment with its Vision 2030 strategy.

The eligible projects are expected to moderately enhance Saudi Arabia's climate resilience, addressing the issuer's climate change adaptation objectives. Data-driven climate monitoring solutions and ICT systems for GHG emissions reduction may lead to significant

positive impact, although these initiatives lack specific sector deployment information and minimum improvement targets. The design, construction and refurbishment of existing infrastructure, such as flood defense systems and climate-resilient agricultural practices, also promise substantial benefits for climate adaptation. However, large-scale infrastructure projects could introduce environmental and social externalities, necessitating comprehensive vulnerability assessments and adaptation plans. In addition, the lack of detailed integration of climate-resilient construction and concerns about the environmental impacts of Artificial Aquifer Recharge and Storage (AARS) raise questions about the overall effectiveness and sustainability of these initiatives.

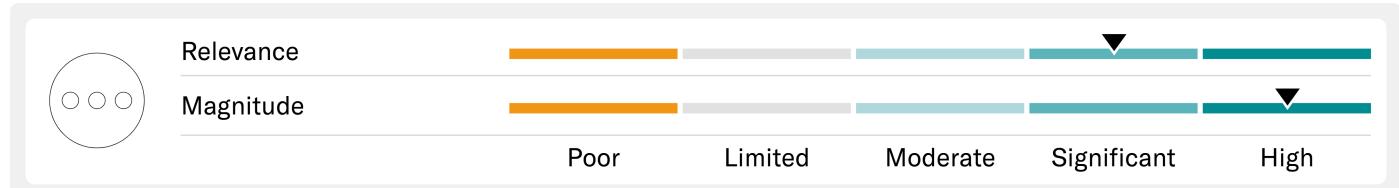
#### Eco-efficient and/or circular economy adapted products, production technologies and processes



The eligible projects target circular economy, which is a highly relevant objective for the issuer and country, especially because of Saudi Arabia's ambitious recycling targets. Saudi Arabia ranks 53rd in waste recovery rate<sup>24</sup> and faces substantial challenges in achieving SDG 12, "Responsible Consumption and Production." With one of the highest per capita waste production rates globally and relatively low recycling rates, the county's goal to boost recycling from 3%-4% to 95% is critical.

The eligible projects are expected to moderately contribute to circular economy. The issuer plans to invest in projects focused on R&D of circular products, incorporating bio-based materials and promoting waste diversion; however, the absence of defined efficiency improvement thresholds and detailed eligibility criteria limits our visibility into the potential positive impact. Although some standards are applied, the lack of clarity regarding eco-label comparisons and minimum efficiency improvement benchmarks poses challenges to assess the potential benefits. Positive aspects include the production of Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials(RSB)-certified low-carbon products and mechanical recycling of plastics, although the latter remains energy-intensive. Sustainable sourcing of biogenic inputs is mentioned, but it lacks certification details ensuring suppliers' compliance with sustainability requirements. Repair, refurbishment and reuse activities are included; however, there is no information on product types and no thresholds to prevent the life span extension of carbon-intensive products. The exclusion of carbon-intensive equipment mitigates E&S externalities. However, further clarity on procurement processes and systems could enhance overall project sustainability.

#### Green financing instruments

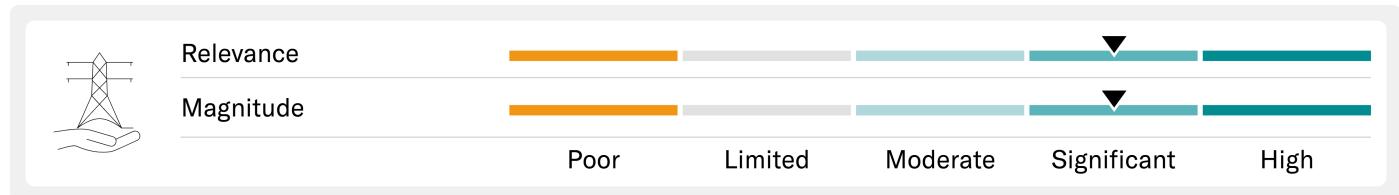


The relevance is significant as eligible projects will ultimately serve for the creation of carbon credits. While the eligible wind and solar projects address climate change mitigation—an objective that is crucial to the issuer, the sector, and the local context—the creation of carbon credits is not considered the most effective or direct means of decarbonization for the companies purchasing them. Carbon credits do not guarantee additional benefits and should primarily be used to offset residual, non-abatable GHG emissions after all feasible decarbonization measures have been implemented. On the positive side, this category is strictly limited to expenditures associated with the setup and maintenance of the wind and solar projects, excluding any transactions involving the purchase or sale of carbon credits, which enhances its materiality. In addition, financial institutions can serve as key facilitators and intermediaries in the carbon credit market, and Saudi Arabia has been actively promoting the growth of this market.<sup>25</sup>

Eligible projects are expected to generate a high contribution to climate change mitigation. The category aims to finance wind and solar projects in Saudi Arabia, considered best in class technologies with minimal negative externalities. Moreover, all projects must comply with the framework's ongoing monitoring and reporting requirements, and the bank has confirmed that its disclosures will include the relevant avoided emissions attributable to the eligible projects. The bank noted that most projects are expected to

participate in the voluntary carbon credit market, which is seen positively, while acknowledging a gradual rise in compliance-based initiatives in the country.

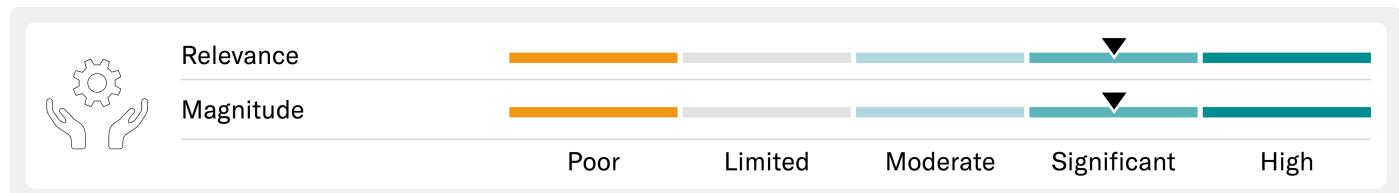
#### Affordable basic infrastructure



Access to affordable basic infrastructure in Saudi Arabia is a significantly relevant objective for the issuer, the sector and the local context, aligning with the kingdom's Vision 2030 goals. While the bank contributes to a high access rate for clean water and electricity — with more than 99% of the population having access<sup>26</sup> — growing demand because of population expansion necessitates continued investment. Despite near-universal access to electricity, the government is expanding renewable energy projects and enhancing the transmission network to meet future demands. Furthermore, investments in transportation, recreational and cultural infrastructure aim to improve quality of life, with specific emphasis on expanding access in remote and underserved areas.

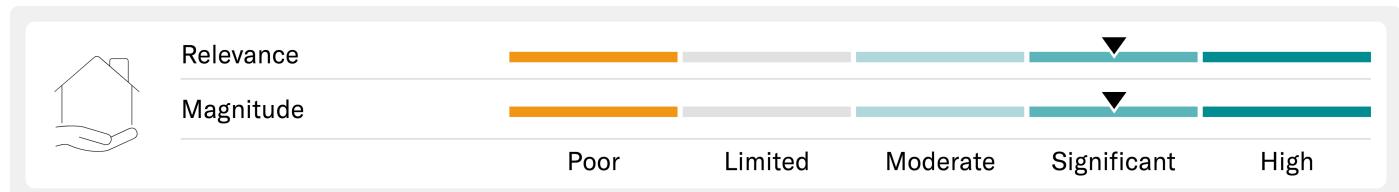
Projects in this category are expected to significantly contribute to the access to affordable basic infrastructure by enhancing access to energy, water, road infrastructure and cultural facilities. The target population consists primarily of the country's general residents rather than its most vulnerable groups, although certain projects include a focus on underserved and remote communities. Energy and water services are considered quite affordable in the country, especially if compared with global standards. Potential environmental negative externalities associated with road infrastructure are anticipated; however, the bank is expected to apply its standard policies and procedures to mitigate these impacts.

#### Access to essential services



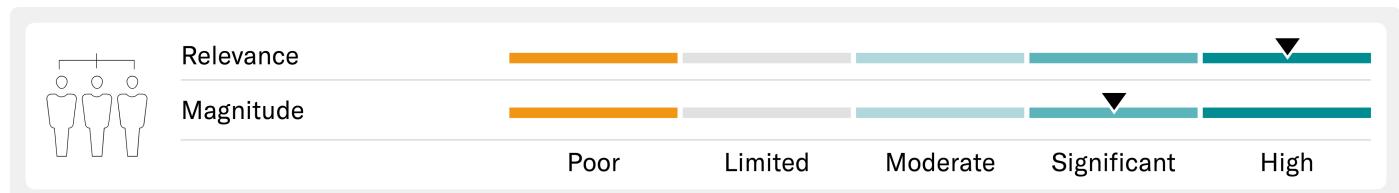
Advancing comprehensive healthcare coverage, enhancing educational access and improving access to services for other disadvantaged populations are central priorities for Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. These goals are crucial for both the government and the financial sector, because they align with the country's long-term development objectives. Although healthcare coverage is widespread<sup>27</sup>, ensuring access for all citizens and nearly all non-citizens, the healthcare sector still faces infrastructure and workforce shortage. Public-private partnerships are being pursued to address these challenges. In education, Saudi Arabia boasts a high literacy rate of 98% with a minimal gender gap<sup>28</sup>. However, disparities in substantive equity persist, particularly among economically disadvantaged students. The education system is accessible, although regional variations exist, with some areas demonstrating better accessibility than others.

The projects are expected to significantly enhance access to healthcare and education services in Saudi Arabia, aiming at benefitting the general population, with a focus on underserved and vulnerable communities, particularly in remote and rural areas. These initiatives aim to create lasting positive impacts by ensuring the affordability and accessibility of essential services, although the affordability for some vulnerable groups is not guaranteed. In healthcare, while Saudi residents benefit from free medical care through public hospitals and clinics, non-citizens often face higher out-of-pocket expenses for services not covered by compulsory employer-provided insurance. In education, public schooling is free and compulsory, ensuring broad accessibility. However, private schools and universities, often free or subsidised for citizens, can impose significant financial burdens on non-citizen families, especially those from lower-middle-class backgrounds.

**Affordable housing**

Addressing the affordable housing deficit is significantly relevant for Saudi Arabia, because of the intensifying demand driven by urban population growth and limited housing supply. Riyad Bank plays a critical role in supporting affordable housing initiatives by originating mortgages, enhancing liquidity for further home financing solutions. Despite Saudi Arabia's reputation for affordability, rising land and housing prices present challenges for new entrants. The country requires more than 115,000 new housing units annually until 2030 to meet demand<sup>29</sup>, with programs like Sakani aiding citizens in accessing affordable options. These efforts are essential to address the needs of Saudi population, although they do not include the growing non-Saudi population, which now comprises 44.4% of the total population<sup>30</sup>.

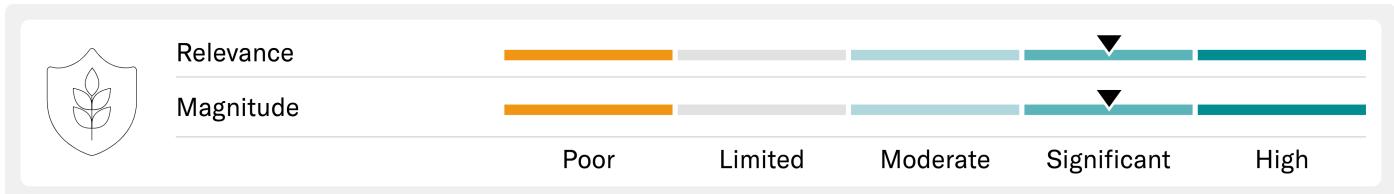
The eligible projects are expected to significantly contribute to enhancing access to affordable housing for low-income Saudi citizens, through government-supported initiatives such as the Sakani and Masakin programs. These programs specifically target low-income individuals and marginalized communities, aligning with local social welfare guidelines to ensure that financial assistance reaches those most in need. These programs provide financial assistance and favorable loan terms, such as extended tenures and deferred payments, to reduce barriers to homeownership. For example, the Sakani program often features subsidized loans with fixed interest rates for a designated period, making housing more accessible. However, there is a lack of visibility if similar interest rates safeguards apply for all eligible projects under this category.

**Employment generation**

Employment generation through Small Medium Enterprise (SME) financing in Saudi Arabia is a highly relevant objective for Riyad Bank, the sector and the national context, aligning with Saudi's Vision 2030 goals. Total unemployment rates have been declining, dropping to 3.9% in 2024 from 7.7% during the coronavirus pandemic<sup>31</sup>. Riyad Bank plays a leading role in SME financing, holding a 22% market share in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector in the fourth quarter of 2023, and is committed to expanding this sector. SMEs are pivotal in economic diversification and job creation, accounting for 99.6% of businesses and contributing 31% to GDP. They are crucial to the Vision 2030 initiative, which seeks to increase SME loans to 20% of total banking sector loans by 2030, thus fostering growth in sectors such as retail, construction, and food and beverages.

Projects in this category are expected to significantly contribute to supporting MSMEs in the country, including but not limited to vulnerable groups affected by pandemic and natural disasters. These include specific groups such as undereducated, underserved and unemployed individuals; people with disabilities; rural populations; and the under-banked. The issuer confirmed that interest rates will be equal to or lower than the market average, although the lack of visibility on the application of interest rates safeguards, such as fixed or capped interest rates, limits the potential benefits of this type of financing. This approach aims to bolster MSMEs without restricting support to any particular sector, excluding those in the oil and gas industry.

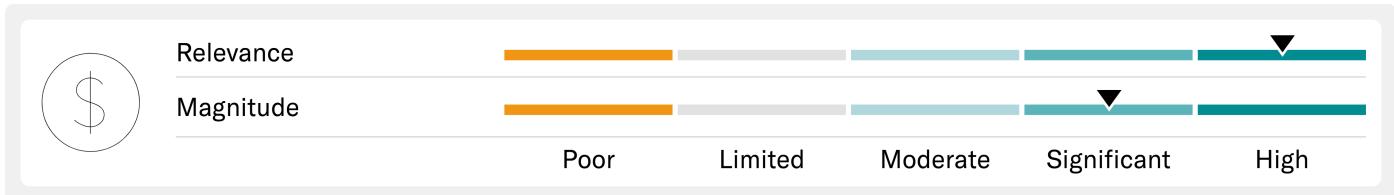
### Food security and sustainable food systems



Food security and sustainable food systems are significantly relevant objectives for Riyad Bank, the agricultural sector and the local context in Saudi Arabia. Despite the country's challenges with water scarcity and its heavy reliance on food imports, Saudi Arabia achieved a low Global Hunger Index score of 5.9 in 2023<sup>32</sup>, indicating minimal hunger compared with neighboring countries. Riyad Bank supports agriculture by financing initiatives often in partnership with government entities like the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture. The agricultural sector is the third-largest contributor to Saudi Arabia's GDP, providing livelihoods for millions. Saudi Arabia has achieved self-sufficiency in select food items, such as dates, dairy products and table eggs, while imports meet 70% of its food demands. The continued decline in agricultural land since 2016 and high dependency on irrigation with limited water resources pose ongoing challenges to agricultural development and food security.

Projects in this category are expected to significantly contribute to food security and sustainable food systems by creating long-term positive impacts on rural communities, low-income individuals and smallholder farmers. These projects aim to enhance agricultural productivity and resilience through technology and infrastructure improvements, directly benefiting small-scale farmers, pastoralists, forest keepers and fishers who manage areas from less than one hectare to 10 hectares. Although the initiatives focus on improving productivity, livelihoods and market access for these groups, the lack of detailed information on how potential environmental externalities are mitigated, such as those from fisheries and farming practices, limits the overall positive impact.

### Socioeconomic advancement and empowerment



Socioeconomic advancement and empowerment in Saudi Arabia is a highly relevant objective for the issuer, the sector and the local context. Financing women-led businesses is vital for addressing significant gender gaps in labor participation and advancing toward the kingdom's target of 40% female workforce involvement by 2030. As of 2023, gender disparities persisted, with female unemployment at 11.2%<sup>33</sup> compared with 1.9% for males in 2025<sup>34</sup>, highlighting the need for targeted interventions. The banking sector plays a crucial role in supporting women's integration into the labor force, aiming to boost female labor force participation to the 2030 target from 28.1% in 2025<sup>35</sup>.

Projects in this category are expected to significantly contribute to socioeconomic advancement and empowerment, particularly by targeting women, women-owned businesses and SMEs to empower female entrepreneurs. These projects are likely to yield substantial long-term benefits by enhancing women's presence in the labor force, as they exclusively target women and enterprises identified as women-owned according to the criteria set by the International Finance Corporation (IFC). These initiatives aim to support female entrepreneurs through financial institutions that provide access to economic resources, microfinance and skills training. However, the lack of detailed eligibility criteria on the size of enterprise and absence of a specific criteria to target underserved areas or focus on sectors or initiatives supporting positive sustainable and socioeconomic outcomes, limits the overall positive impact. The Saudi Central Bank's benchmark rates, such as the repo rate at 4.50% and reverse repo rate at 4.00% as of October 2025, are positively influencing the accessibility and affordability of these financial resources.

### Additional contribution to sustainability considerations

We have not made an adjustment to the preliminary contribution to sustainability score based on additional considerations.

The bank conducts a comprehensive environmental and social risk assessments for all projects financed or refinanced to identify potential risks. Environmental risk management involves assessing various risks and factors, such as transition and physical risks, as well as factors related to nature, air, water and biodiversity. Social risks are evaluated based on human rights, equal treatment and opportunities, health and safety, and supply-chain ethics. We note social issues related to working conditions of migrant workers on energy projects in the country have been raised, involving several domestic and international companies and financial institutions including Riyad Bank. There is currently no available information indicating that legal proceedings or penalties have been initiated. Governance risks consider corporate culture, violations of the UNGC and OECD principles, corruption and bribery, and the protection of whistle-blowers. The banks assessments' results inform an ESG scorecard, which assigns scores to reflect the overall risk profile, from low to high—which determine the requirements for due diligence and oversight by the bank. High-risk projects require additional environmental and social impact assessments (ESIA). All projects are screened against the exclusion list, automatically disqualifying any ineligible activities. Projects that pass these assessments and meet green or social eligibility criteria proceed through internal governance processes for sustainable finance allocation. Throughout their life cycle, projects are monitored for environmental and social performance and compliance. Reassessment is triggered by significant changes, ensuring continued alignment with the eligibility criteria.

The issuer's framework is coherent with Riyad Bank's overall strategy, which is accompanied by a comprehensive three-year road map targeting three sectors that account for 40% of the bank's loan portfolio emissions. The bank aims to support the kingdom's Vision 2030 and commits to achieving net-zero emissions by 2060. The bank has set a target of SAR20 billion in sustainable finance volume by 2030, committing to finance sustainable projects and initiatives. The bank aims to increase engagement with sustainability initiatives such as the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials, the UN Global Compact, CDP and the Principles for Responsible Banking.

## Appendix 1 - Alignment with principles scorecard for Riyad Bank's sustainable finance framework

Factor	Sub-factor	Component	Component score	Sub-factor score	Factor score		
Use of proceeds	Clarity of the eligible categories	Nature of expenditure	A				
		Definition of content, eligibility and exclusion criteria for nearly all categories	A	Best practices	Best practices		
		Location	A				
		BP: Definition of content, eligibility and exclusion criteria for all categories	Yes				
	Clarity of the objectives	Relevance of objectives to project categories for nearly all categories	A	Best practices	Best practices		
		Coherence of project category objectives with standards for nearly all categories	A				
		BP: Objectives are defined, relevant and coherent for all categories	Yes				
	Clarity of expected benefits	Identification and relevance of expected benefits for nearly all categories	A		Best practices		
		Measurability of expected benefits for nearly all categories	A				
		BP: Relevant benefits are identified for all categories	Yes				
		BP: Benefits are measurable for all categories	Yes				
		BP: Disclosure of refinancing prior to issuance and in post-allocation reporting	Yes				
		BP: Commitment to communicate refinancing look-back period prior to issuance	Yes				
Process for project evaluation and selection	Transparency and clarity of the process for defining and monitoring eligible projects	Clarity of the process	A				
		Disclosure of the process	A	Best practices	Best practices		
		Transparency of the environmental and social risk mitigation process	A				
		BP: Monitoring of continued project compliance	Yes				
Management of proceeds	Allocation and tracking of proceeds	Tracking of proceeds	A				
		Periodic adjustment of proceeds to match allocations	A				
		Disclosure of the intended types of temporary placements of unallocated proceeds	A	Best practices	Best practices		
		BP: Disclosure of the proceeds management process	Yes				
		BP: Allocation period is 24 months or less	Yes				
	Reporting transparency	Reporting frequency	A				
		Reporting duration	A				
		Report disclosure	A				
		Reporting exhaustivity	A				
		BP: Allocation reporting at least until full allocation of proceeds, and impact reporting until full bond maturity or loan payback	Yes	Best practices	Best practices		
Reporting		BP: Clarity and relevance of the indicators on the sustainability benefits	Yes				
		BP: Disclosure of reporting methodology and calculation assumptions	Yes				
		BP: Independent external auditor, or other third party, to verify the tracking and allocation of funds	Yes				
		BP: Independent impact assessment on environmental and social benefits	Yes				
		Overall alignment with principles score:			Best practices		
					Best practices		

Legend: BP - Best practice, A - Aligned, PA - Partially aligned, NA - Not aligned

## Appendix 2 - Mapping eligible categories to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

The 17 eligible categories included in Riyad Bank's framework are likely to contribute to 15 of the UN's SDGs, namely:

UN SDG 17 Goals	Eligible Category	SDG Targets
GOAL 1: No Poverty	<i>Affordable Housing</i>	1.4: Ensure all have equal rights to economic resources, access to basic services, property ownership and finance
	<i>Employment Generation</i>	1.5: Build the resilience of those in vulnerable situations and reduce exposure to climate-related events and other disasters
GOAL 2: Zero Hunger	<i>Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems</i>	2.3: Double agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale farmers through equal access to resources and opportunities
		2.4: Ensure sustainable food production systems that improve productivity and support ecosystems and climate change adaptation
GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being	<i>Access to Essential Services</i>	2.A: Enhance agricultural capacity in emerging markets through investment in rural infrastructure, research and technology
	<i>Pollution Prevention and Control</i>	3.8: Achieve universal health coverage with access to quality and affordable essential health-care services and medicines for all
GOAL 4: Quality Education	<i>Access to Essential Services</i>	3.9: Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution
		4.1: Ensure that all children complete quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective outcomes
GOAL 5: Gender Equality	<i>Socioeconomic Advancement and Empowerment</i>	4.A: Build and upgrade education facilities that provide safe and effective learning environments for all
		5.5: Ensure women's full participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of political and economic life
GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	<i>Affordable Basic Infrastructure</i>	5.A: Establish women's equal rights to economic resources, access to ownership and control over property and financial services
	<i>Sustainable Water and Wastewater Management</i>	6.1: Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
		6.3: Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing hazardous chemicals and materials
		6.4: Increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable supply of freshwater to reduce water scarcity

UN SDG 17 Goals	Eligible Category	SDG Targets
GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	<i>Renewable Energy</i>	7.2: Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
	<i>Energy Efficiency</i>	7.3 Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	<i>Employment Generation</i>	8.3: Promote policies that support productivity, job creation, entrepreneurship, innovation, and encourage the growth of SMEs
	<i>Access to Essential Services</i>	8.6: Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	<i>Green Buildings</i>	9.1: Develop sustainable infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, focusing on equitable access
	<i>Employment Generation</i>	9.3 Increase SMEs' access to finance, and their integration into value chains and markets, particularly in emerging markets
GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality	<i>Affordable Basic Infrastructure</i>	9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with all countries taking action
	<i>Socioeconomic Advancement and Empowerment</i>	10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities, including by promoting legislation, policies and action
GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	<i>Affordable Housing</i>	11.1: Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums
	<i>Clean Transportation (lower-carbon)</i>	11.2: Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all
GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	<i>Environmentally Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources and Land Use</i>	12.2: Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
	<i>Eco-efficient and/or Circular Economy Adapted Products, Production Technologies and Processes</i>	12.5: Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

UN SDG 17 Goals	Eligible Category	SDG Targets
GOAL 13: Climate Action	<i>Renewable Energy</i>	
	<i>Energy Efficiency</i>	
	<i>Clean Transportation (lower-carbon)</i>	
	<i>Environmentally Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources and Land Use</i>	13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
	<i>Climate Change Adaptation</i>	
	<i>Green financing instruments</i>	
GOAL 14: Life Below Water	<i>Environmentally Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources and Land Use</i>	14.2: Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts
	<i>Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity</i>	
GOAL 15: Life on Land	<i>Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity</i>	15.1: Ensure the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services
	<i>Environmentally Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources and Land Use</i>	15.3: Combat desertification and restore degraded land and soil

The mapping of the UN's SDGs in this SPO considers the eligible project categories and associated sustainability objectives/benefits documented in the issuer's financing framework, as well as resources and guidelines from public institutions, such as the ICMA's SDG Mapping Guidance and the UN's SDG targets and indicators.

## Appendix 3 - Summary of eligible categories in Riyad Bank's sustainable finance framework

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Renewable Energy	Generation of energy from renewable sources	<p>The generation of electricity from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wind (onshore and offshore)</li> <li>Wave, tidal and ocean thermal energy conversion</li> <li>Solar photovoltaic systems (including floating)</li> <li>Concentrated solar heat and power generation, where large majority of electricity (more than 85%) generated from the facility is derived from solar energy sources</li> <li>Hydropower: (i) For new facilities: Lifecycle carbon intensity below 50 gCO2/kWh (ii) For facilities that became operational before 2022: Lifecycle carbon intensity below 100 gCO2/kWh</li> <li>Waste to energy from: (i) municipal solid waste where majority of recyclables are segregated before incineration, (ii) anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge, or (iii) bioenergy limited to facilities with life-cycle emissions intensity below 100 gCO2/kWh. This also includes the production of biofuel with a greenhouse gas savings threshold of 65% relative to the fossil fuel comparator set out in Annex V to Directive (EU) 2018/2001</li> <li>Geothermal (direct emissions intensity threshold below 100 gCO2/kWh)</li> <li>Green hydrogen projects<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Retrofit of renewable energy power plants</li> </ul>	<p><b>A Thriving Economy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grow contribution of renewables to national energy mix</li> </ul> <p>Affordable and clean energy</p> <p>Climate action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided in tonnes of CO2 equivalent</li> <li>Annual renewable energy generation in MWh/GWh (electricity) and GJ/TJ (other energy)</li> <li>Additional capacity of renewable energy plant(s) constructed or rehabilitated in MW</li> </ul>
	Manufacture of components for renewable energy technology	<p>Development and/or manufacture of renewable energy technologies and associated assets wholly dedicated and used for purpose of supporting renewable energy generation facilities, including equipment for renewable energy generation and energy storage systems.</p> <p>Examples could include wind turbines ; solar panels; battery storage connected to renewables; energy storage systems connected to an eligible transmission and distribution system as defined by this Framework; and the development, manufacturing or purchase of vessels (boats, barges, ships) fully dedicated to the construction or other services of marine renewables</p>		
	Construction/maintenance/expansion of associated distribution networks	<p>For transmission and distribution systems, the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the system carries more than 90% electricity from renewable sources, the full financing or project is considered eligible</li> <li>If the system carries less than 90% renewable energy, but is on a decarbonisation trajectory in line with the EU Taxonomy, then the full financing is considered eligible; and</li> <li>If the system carries less than 90% renewables, but the percentage of renewables is expected to increase, a pro-rata approach will be adopted for allocation</li> </ul>		

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Energy Efficiency	Commercial, public and residential buildings (existing and new construction)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development, manufacture and installation of energy-efficient lighting or equipment to increase the operational energy efficiency of utilities and/ or other public services (excluding improvements in buildings)</li> <li>Improvement of heat efficiency of non-fossil-fuel powered-utilities, power plants, and other public services. Example projects could include rehabilitation of electric-powered district heating systems, electric powered district cooling systems heat-loss reduction, and/ or increased recovery of wasted heat</li> <li>Mobile network upgrades to 5G technology and 4GLTE migration from 3G or lower</li> <li>Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT) development and operation of networks, services and products that are specific to energy efficiency improvements</li> <li>Telecom towers upgrades, including cooling systems, insulation and reflective paints that enhance energy efficiency</li> <li>Modernisation of broadband network from copper to fibre optic</li> <li>Installation of zoned thermostats, smart thermostat systems and censoring equipment, e.g. motion and day light control</li> </ul>	<b>A Thriving Economy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grow contribution of renewables to national energy mix</li> <li>Enhance competitiveness of the energy market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual energy savings in MWh/GWh (electricity) and GJ/TJ (other energy savings)</li> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent</li> </ul>
	Industrial processes and supply chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrades, improvement and installation of technologies and equipment to industrial and manufacturing processes to increase energy efficiency</li> <li>Development, manufacture and distribution of equipment and software that are specifically designed to increase the energy efficiency of industrial and manufacturing processes such as demand management technologies</li> <li>Financing steel manufacturing that uses (i) direct reduced iron (DRI) in an electric arc furnace (EAF), (ii) green hydrogen as a fuel and (iii) electricity for the facilities is sourced from renewable sources</li> </ul>		Affordable and clean energy
		<p>Industrial/utility energy-efficiency improvements which result in reduction of heat losses and/ or increased waste heat recovery. This includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of renewable-powered cogeneration plants</li> </ul>		Climate action
Transmission and distribution systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retrofit of distribution systems, transmission lines or substations to reduce energy use and/ or technical losses (except for capacity expansion). Distributed assets, such as hybrid solar invertors, that will be limited to those where the intent is to reduce the curtailment of renewable energy into the grid. Electrical grid development and maintenance projects will be limited to those systems dedicated to connecting renewables to the power grid or supporting at least 90% renewable electricity</li> <li>The development, manufacture, installation of technologies/components for efficient transmission and distribution. Examples could include smart grid technologies such as advanced/smart meters, monitoring and control automation devices, computing platforms, distributed generation, peak demand management, smart energy algorithms, green computing systems designed for energy efficient use, etc.</li> <li>Distribution networks for districting heating/cooling where these are primarily (more than 50 %) powered by renewables, waste heat or both</li> <li>Subsea cables for renewable energy transmission, where more than 90% of energy transmitted through the cables is renewable</li> <li>Installation and operation of electric heat pumps is eligible, if Refrigerant threshold: GWP ≤ 675</li> </ul>			

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Clean Transportatio n (lower-carbon)	Sustainable infrastructure and transportation	<p>Investments and expenditure in low energy consuming or low emission transportation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electric vehicles including passenger cars (under 50 gCO2/km up to 2025, and zero tailpipe emissions thereafter) and electric scooters, motorbikes, and light commercial vehicles including electric shuttles</li> <li>Electric planes for freight transportation, with share of fossil fuel freight transported limited to 25% in mass</li> <li>Public transportation (under 50 gCO2/p-km up to 2025, and zero tailpipe emissions thereafter) including electric trams and trains</li> <li>Other zero direct emissions vehicles not intended for road including cranes and forklifts</li> <li>Freight rail transportation (under average portfolio emissions of 25 gCO2/t-km up till 2030, 21 gCO2/t-km from 2030 up to 2050)</li> <li>Active mobility including bicycles, and other forms of self-propelled types of transportation</li> <li>Infrastructure for active mobility including walking/ cycling lanes</li> <li>Low-carbon transport infrastructure including electric charging stations, low-carbon fueling stations, such as for green hydrogen or biofuels, battery exchange and swapping stations and railway tracks</li> <li>Investments and expenditure into development and production of electric vehicles (EVs), including construction of new dedicated manufacturing facilities and upgrading and retrofitting of existing facilities for the purpose of expanding production (including R&amp;D), as well as the manufacture of EV batteries and development of its specialized parts, such as cathode/anode material, ternary precursor</li> </ul>	<p><b>A Thriving Economy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve local, regional &amp; international connectivity of trade &amp; transport networks</li> </ul> <p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance traffic safety</li> <li>Reduce all types of pollution</li> </ul> <p>Affordable and clean energy</p> <p>Sustainable cities and communities</p> <p>Climate action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided in tCO2-e p.a.</li> <li>Type of transport financed</li> <li>Distance travelled by the mode of transport financed (km)</li> <li>Estimated reduction in fuel consumption</li> <li>Number of clean vehicles deployed (e.g., electric)</li> <li>Estimated reduction in car use in number of kilometres driven or as share of total transport ridership</li> </ul>
Sustainable Water and Wastewater Management	Sustainable water and wastewater management	<p>Activities that improve water quality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water and wastewater treatment facilities (WWTP) (where - The net energy consumption of the waste water treatment plant equals to or is lower than: 35 kWh per population equivalent (p.e.) per annum for treatment plant capacity below 10 000 p.e.; or 25 kWh per population equivalent (p.e.) per annum for treatment plant capacity between 10 000 and 100 000 p.e.; or 20 kWh per population equivalent (p.e.) per annum for treatment plant capacity above 100 000 p.e.)</li> <li>Sewer systems and pumping stations</li> <li>Upgrades to wastewater treatment plants to remove nutrients</li> <li>Wastewater discharge infrastructure</li> <li>Desalination plants powered by electricity with an average carbon intensity at or below 100 gCO2e/kWh over the residual asset life or desalination plants primarily powered by low-carbon sources, such as renewables</li> <li>Sustainable urban drainage systems and river training and other forms of flooding mitigation</li> </ul> <p>Activities that increase water-use efficiency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water recycling and reuse</li> <li>Water saving systems, technologies and water metering</li> </ul>	<p><b>An Ambitious Nation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure sustainable use of water resources</li> </ul> <p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce all types of pollution</li> </ul> <p>Clean water and sanitation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual absolute (gross) water use before and after the project in m3/a, reduction in water use in %</li> <li>Annual absolute (gross) amount of wastewater treated, reused or avoided before and after the project in m3 and p.e. and as %</li> <li>Annual absolute (gross) amount of raw/untreated sewage sludge that is treated and disposed of (in tonnes of dry solids p.a. and in %)</li> <li>Annual absolute (gross) amount of sludge that is reused (in tonnes of dry solids p.a. and in %)</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Pollution Prevention and Control		<p>Activities with capital expenditures which achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce air emissions</li> <li>• Greenhouse gas emissions control</li> <li>• Soil remediation</li> <li>• Waste prevention ,reduction, waste recycling energy/emission-efficient waste to energy</li> </ul> <p>Investment in the following infrastructure facilities and activities that contribute to the objectives outlined above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of waste collection facilities and the provision of waste collection services which supports source segregation of waste</li> <li>• Development of recycling facilities that process (i) recyclable waste into secondary raw material, (ii) mixed residual waste to produce feedstock for waste to energy plants, (iii) food and/ or green/ garden/ yard waste to produce compost</li> <li>• Process upgrades, sensors to monitor/test emission control or compliance</li> </ul>	<p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce all types of pollution</li> </ul> <p>Good health and well-being</p> <p>Responsible consumption and production</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amount of waste treated or recycled (tons)</li> <li>• Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided in tonnes of CO2 equivalent</li> <li>• Amount of energy generated from waste (MWh)</li> <li>• Annual amount of waste (separated, collected, treated, and disposed) (% of total waste)</li> <li>• How many fractions of waste were separated before and after the project</li> </ul>
Green Buildings	Commercial, public and residential Buildings (existing and new construction)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Buildings that meet regional, national or internationally recognized standards or certifications for environmental performance such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEED: Gold or above</li> <li>• Mostadam: Gold or above</li> <li>• BREEAM: Excellent or above</li> <li>• Global Sustainability Assessment System (GSAS): 4 star or above</li> <li>• EDGE: Certified</li> <li>• WELL: Gold or above</li> <li>• Fitwel: 2 star or above</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Buildings that comply with a CBI-approved proxy, such as a city-specific, national, or international proxy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Building Index: Gold or above</li> <li>• Higg FEM (for textile sector buildings with 75 points and above)</li> <li>• SS 564 for data centres with PUE below 1.5</li> <li>• Earth Check: Gold or above</li> <li>• HQE: Excellent or above</li> <li>• Singapore Building and Construction Authority (BCA) Green Mark: Gold Plus or above</li> <li>• CASBEE: A very good or above</li> <li>• Green Star: 5 star or above</li> <li>• Al Sa'fat certification: (Platinum)</li> <li>• Estidama : 4 Pearl rating or above</li> <li>• BEAM Plus: Gold or above</li> <li>• BEAM Plus Selective: (Very Good or above with Energy Use (EU) category included under the assessment OR all levels, subject to the building achieving at least 20% energy efficiency improvement)</li> <li>• BEAM Plus Neighborhood: Gold or above</li> <li>• or equivalent certifications</li> </ul> </li> <li>-Building renovation that achieve a minimum 30% improvement in energy use and/or carbon emissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Replacement of existing heating/cooling systems in buildings with more efficient, non-fossil fuel powered systems</li> <li>-Waste heat recovery improvements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the urban landscape in Saudi cities</li> </ul> <p>Industry, innovation and infrastructure</p> <p>Sustainable cities and communities</p> <p>Climate action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided in tonnes of CO2 equivalent</li> <li>• Building certification standard</li> <li>• % of energy and water use reduced vs local code</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Environmental Management of Living Natural Resources and Land Use	Sustainable Agricultural, Fishery and Aquaculture processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organic or fair-trade certified farming, hydroponic farming or vertical farming</li> <li>- Improving the energy efficiency of irrigation</li> <li>- Investment in integrated cropland-livestock- forestry systems and agroforestry systems targeted at smallholder farmers with sustainable forestry management plan in place</li> <li>- Investments in improved farming techniques and equipment which improves yields and reduces inputs such as water, pesticides, and fertilizers. Examples include promotion or implementation of sustainable agricultural techniques and practices including no-till farming systems, soil recovery and restoration of degraded pasture, agricultural practices that use no synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, crop rotation for carbon sequestration and nitrogen accumulation purpose</li> <li>- Investments in vertical farming projects powered by renewable energy sources or power source with carbon intensity threshold of 100 CO2e/kWh or below</li> <li>Financing of products and associated activities with any of the following certifications applicable to natural materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• US Soy Sustainability Assurance Protocol for agricultural purposes</li> <li>• RSPO (waste to energy from palm oil operations)</li> <li>• Cotton compliant with the CmiA Standard or Better Cotton Standard</li> <li>• 2BSVs (soy)</li> <li>• Rainforest Alliance</li> <li>• Certified forests (FSC, PEFC, China Forest Certification Scheme)</li> <li>• Certified organic agriculture, including USDA Organic<sup>22</sup></li> <li>• Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC)</li> <li>• Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) with two stars or higher</li> <li>• Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)</li> <li>• Best Seafood Practices (BSP)</li> <li>• International Sustainability and Carbon Certification (ISCC)</li> <li>• Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) with a score of 95 or above</li> <li>• Round Table on Responsible Soy (RTRS) Standard for Responsible Soy Production</li> <li>• Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Investment in management and maintenance of protected areas (national and regional natural parks and other protected areas, including coastal and marine ecosystems)</li> <li>Investment in alternative proteins: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R&amp;D related to management of living natural resources and land use.</li> <li>• R&amp;D towards cultured meat</li> <li>• R&amp;D and production of fermented meat with significantly lower GHG emissions compared to plant and animal production counterpart</li> <li>• R&amp;D and production of plant-based protein with (i) evidence of life-cycle GHG emissions being significantly lower than meat counterparts and (ii) production that procures raw materials from certified sustainable sources listed above</li> <li>• Increased green cover in urban centers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>A Vibrant Society:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguard the environment from natural threats</li> <li>• Protect &amp; rehabilitate natural landscapes</li> </ul> <b>Responsible consumption and production</b> <b>Climate action</b> <b>Life below water</b> <b>Life on land</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable land use area (hectares)</li> <li>• Area of certified forests managed (hectares)</li> <li>• Number of indigenous species, flora, or fauna (trees, shrubs, and grasses...) restored through the project</li> <li>• Increase of natural landscape area in urban areas (km<sup>2</sup>/% for increase)</li> <li>• Water savings from improved irrigation, stormwater and rainwater capture, groundwater recharge and/or the reuse of highly treated wastewater (e.g., m<sup>3</sup>/year)</li> <li>• Increase in area under certified organic or sustainable agriculture</li> <li>• Increase in area under integrated pest management</li> <li>• Increase in feedstock supply chain certification coverage</li> <li>• Increase in % of certified sustainable fisheries, aquaculture</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Terrestrial and Aquatic Biodiversity	Conservation of terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity	<p>The protection of variability among living organisms from coastal, marine, watershed environments and other aquatic ecosystems, eligible activities include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation and restoration of natural landscapes</li> <li>• Safeguarding and/or developing protected terrestrial and marine areas and systems</li> <li>• Forest conservation, or REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation)</li> <li>• Preserving terrestrial, marine natural habitat</li> <li>• Investments in measuring, tracking, reporting water quality indicators and in new restoration techniques to achieve sustainable fishery and aquaculture management, ecosystem restoration and disaster resilience</li> </ul> <p>'• Training conservation workers, forestry personnel, farmers in biodiversity conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacement of phosphate-based or nitrogen-based synthetic fertilizers with alternative sustainable and biodegradable fertilizers, in areas connected to rivers or coastal water basins</li> <li>• Infrastructure that prevents runoff of chemicals, solid waste, mercury, plastics, and pollutants into areas connected to rivers or coastal water basins</li> <li>• Nature-based solutions for solar farms to cool solar panels and enhance their performance (for example, seeding with native grasses and flowers, agrivoltaics)</li> </ul>	<b>A Vibrant Society:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect &amp; rehabilitate natural landscapes</li> </ul> <p>Life below water</p> <p>Life on land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual GHG emissions reduced in tCO2-e p.a.</li> <li>• Types of living organisms protected</li> <li>• Increase of protected area/habitat (km<sup>2</sup>/% for increase)</li> <li>• Number of conservation workers (e.g., game wardens, rangers, natural park officials) trained in biodiversity conservation</li> </ul>
Sustainable tourism		<p>Ecotourism and sustainable tourism activities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable or ecotourism ventures that meet established standards for best practices, conserve or restore habitats or avoid increasing encroachment on habitat, and work to reduce carbon emissions</li> <li>• Licensed certified sustainable tourism in the vicinity of marine conservation areas, within less than 20 kilometers from the marine-protected areas and internationally recognized areas (e.g., KBAs, IBAs, Ramsar Sites), with inclusive livelihood elements and business opportunities, such as resorts, hotels, boat operators, sailing schools, and diving centers</li> <li>• Nature-based freshwater and marine visitor centers showcasing the environment and disseminating research and knowledge about lakes, wetlands, reefs, and other aquatic ecosystems</li> </ul>		
Climate Change Adaptation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data driven climate monitoring solutions, such as early warning systems, climate observation, systems for monitoring GHG emissions</li> <li>- Development and/or use of information and communications technology (ICT) solutions for the exclusive purpose of collecting, transmitting, storing and using data to facilitate GHG emission reductions</li> <li>- Expenditures related to the design, construction, refurbishment of existing infrastructure and maintenance of eligible infrastructure that features intentional integration of climate resilient construction (design, materials) and/or soft infrastructure improvement (asset-focused resilience).</li> </ul>	<b>A Vibrant Society:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce all types of pollution</li> <li>• Safeguard the environment from natural threats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type of resilient infrastructure financed</li> <li>• Increase in grid resilience, energy generation, transmission/distribution, and storage (MWh)</li> <li>• Increased number of people/businesses/acres with secure water supply</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Climate Change Adaptation		<p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy rain drainage systems, flood prevention, flood defence systems, sluice gates, drainage systems, tunnels and channels reinforcement of existing infrastructure</li> <li>Use of climate resilient crops (e.g., drought resistant seeds) and drip irrigation for agricultural production systems, stormwater storage, grain storage, soil rehabilitation, climate resilient livestock infrastructure (e.g., cooling sheds, emergency shelters)</li> <li>Wildfire safety infrastructure and equipment such as hd-cameras, weather stations, fire resilient utility lines</li> <li>Construction of sea walls</li> </ul> <p>'• Reinjection of Treated Sewage Effluent (TSE) into groundwater as per the Kingdom's Standards</p> <p>• Artificial Aquifer Recharge and Storage (AARS) of desalinated water to recharge groundwater</p> <p>• Operation and Maintenance of the hydrological network</p> <p>- Infrastructure that fulfils the asset-focused resilience criteria above and also adds climate resilience benefit to the broader local system against negative physical climate impacts (systems-focused resilience).</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal pumping stations in areas of water stress, water reclamation plants in areas of water stress, wetland protection, stormwater management, flood defences</li> <li>Green roofs and walls, water retention gardens, porous pavements</li> <li>Wild brush clearing, species diversification, transmigration of species more capable of survival, nature-based solutions such as afforestation and reforestation, mangrove conservation and replanting, restoration of salt marshes, peatland restoration</li> <li>Grid resilience, back-up generation and storage designed for climate-related disruption</li> <li>For monitoring the human health risk due to climate change the implementation of air quality forecasting system, monitoring of fire propagation and smoke transport systems</li> </ul>	<p>Sustainable cities and communities</p> <p>Climate action</p> <p>Life on land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction in repair costs and/or operating days lost due to landslides</li> <li>Reduction in the number of customers/employees suffering loss of power/transport services</li> <li>Additional water availability and/or increased water catchment in m<sup>3</sup>/year</li> </ul>
Eco-efficient and/or Circular Economy Adapted Products, Production Technologies and Processes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research and development of products designed for circularity and/or adaptive re-use. Eligible products go beyond an eco-label and demonstrate significant waste diversion and/or use of waste products</li> <li>Equipment / technology / IT systems which help in reducing the resource intensity of economic activities</li> <li>R&amp;D (incl. pilot project) of products, processes and technologies using bio-based materials (such as biopolymers/bioplastics)</li> <li>Procurement and sale of recycled or waste materials as an input</li> <li>Production of resource-efficient or low-carbon products that are RSB-certified (in case of bio-based materials)</li> <li>Manufacturing of plastic products with: (i) at least 90% waste, recycled, renewable or bio-based input, (ii) recycling activities are limited to mechanical recycling, (iii) at least 90% of the plastic products are not intended for single use customer products, and (iv) all products are recyclable.</li> </ul> <p>Biogenic inputs are sourced sustainably</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repair, refurbishment and reuse activities/products including materials that are aimed at increasing the lifespan of existing products and put them back to its original use with very minimal processing or without any further pre-processing required</li> </ul>	<p><b>A Thriving Economy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nurture &amp; support the innovation &amp; entrepreneurship culture</li> <li>Localize promising manufacturing industries</li> </ul> <p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce all types of pollution</li> <li>Protect &amp; rehabilitate natural landscapes</li> </ul> <p>Decent work and economic growth;</p> <p>Industry innovation and infrastructure;</p> <p>Responsible consumption and production</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in materials reusable, recyclable, and/or certified compostable as a result of the project</li> <li>Proportion of circular materials produced as a % of the total material production of the project</li> <li>Waste that is prevented, minimised, reused or recycled before and after the project (% of total waste)</li> <li>Single use products replaced by products designed and produced for reuse (%)</li> <li>Amount of virgin raw materials that are substituted by secondary raw materials and by-products</li> <li>from manufacturing processes (%), tonnes p.a)</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Green financing instruments		Projects involved in various international, regional or national carbon markets and trading systems, as well as well established, credible voluntary carbon standards like the VCS or the Gold Standard. For certainty, such projects must otherwise be eligible under this Framework	<b>A Thriving Economy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nurture &amp; support the innovation &amp; entrepreneurship culture</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided in tonnes of CO2 equivalent</li><li>Number of carbon credits generated / purchased or traded</li></ul>
			Industry, innovation and infrastructure	
Affordable Basic Infrastructure	Clean water and sanitation	Activities that expand public access to safe and affordable drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Construction, maintenance and equipment for water supply and storage infrastructure such as pipework and water towers and storage</li><li>Activities that improve access to clean water, including desalination projects</li><li>Activities that provide access to adequate sanitation facilities</li></ul>	<b>A Vibrant Society:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improve quality of services provided in Saudi cities</li><li>Improve the urban landscape in Saudi Cities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of water infrastructure projects built/upgraded</li><li>Number of new household water connections</li><li>Number of people provided with adequate and equitable sanitation</li></ul>
	Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Development and refurbishment of rural/feeder roads (including road infrastructure such as bridges and tunnels) in regions without connection/access to key social infrastructure (e.g., healthcare, schools)</li><li>Financing of roads in underserved or remote areas</li><li>Financing the construction, equipping, or maintenance of clean transportation facilities, such as cycleways, pedestrian thoroughfares and other public transportation infrastructure contributing to the reduction of harmful emissions</li></ul>	Good health and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of people provided access to clean and affordable energy</li><li>Number of additional transport units purchased to allow for social distancing</li></ul>
	Power and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Development of sustainable (hydropower plants, solar power plants, renewable energy, energy efficiency equipment) electrical transmission and distribution infrastructure to link regions with a low power connection rate (below 50%)</li><li>Development of transmission and distribution infrastructure aimed at improving access to electricity in underserved areas</li></ul>	Affordable and clean energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of new household power connections</li><li>Number of people provided access to clean and affordable energy</li></ul>
	Community, recreational, and cultural infrastructure	Development, refurbishment and maintenance of recreational facilities such as parks, sport facilities and cultural centers with free or discounted access to all  <i>Target population: General Population including those who lack quality access to essential services with a focus on underserved</i>	Sustainable cities and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of beneficiaries</li><li>Number of recreational facilities projects built/upgraded</li></ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Access to Essential Services	Healthcare	<p>Finance to enhance access to public, not-for-profit, free or subsidized essential services in healthcare including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction and/or operation of healthcare facilities such as hospitals and primary care facilities, affiliated to the relevant national healthcare system. Retrofitting of healthcare facilities, developing healthcare facility infrastructure, and financing basic medical equipment and devices</li> <li>Infrastructure for the provision of emergency services, such as related to fire, rescue, medical response, and disease control services. Such services are free and accessible to all</li> <li>Educational and vocational training for medical care, emergency care and public health professionals</li> <li>Vaccination programmes, programmes fighting against disease and epidemics (COVID, Ebola, malaria, tuberculosis, infectious and tropical diseases)</li> <li>Sale of affordably priced or subsidized medicines on the WHO essential medicines list</li> <li>Research and development of critical medical equipment or provision of diagnostic services, medicines (from the WHO essential medicines list).</li> </ul> <p><i>Target population: General Population including those who lack quality access to essential healthcare with a focus on underserved, vulnerable communities, remote and rural areas, low-income individuals</i></p>	<p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ease the access to healthcare services</li> <li>Improve value of healthcare services</li> </ul> <p><b>A Thriving Economy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build a life-long learning journey</li> <li>Improve equity of access to education</li> <li>Improve fundamental learning outcomes</li> <li>Develop our brightest minds in priority fields</li> <li>Ensure alignment of educational outputs with labor market needs</li> <li>Expand vocational training to provide for labor market needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of people treated</li> <li>Number of people with improved access to healthcare</li> <li>Number of hospital beds</li> <li>Number of hospitals and other healthcare facilities built, upgraded, financed or acquired</li> <li>Number of units of medical equipment purchased</li> <li>Number of health professionals trained, hired, benefiting</li> <li>Number of people provided access to health products, pharmaceuticals, equipment, or devices</li> <li>Number of people benefiting from health public goods or services or public health measures</li> <li>Number of people vaccinated (broken down by age, income-level, gender)</li> </ul>
	Education and vocational training	<p>Activities that provide access to essential services for education and vocational training, including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of public/free/subsidised schools in underserved and rural area</li> <li>Construction of campuses for public schools and universities</li> <li>Affordable schools and education providers which 90% of population are able to afford the fees charged</li> <li>Construction of student housing for public universities provided the rent is capped below the local or regional average to ensure affordability to all students</li> <li>Free or subsidised training for educational professionals</li> <li>Education loans for low-income or marginalized students, where some kind of financial advantages are in place, such as (loans below the market rate /collateral free loans / merit-based loan sanctioning /loan extensions)</li> <li>Activities such as (retrofitting infrastructure, school transportation service, mobilising skilled resources, remote education, leveraging hi-tech, low-tech and no-tech approaches) to expand access to education for underserved communities</li> <li>Activities to promote entrepreneurship and innovation among students, including financing hackathons and FinTech competitions</li> </ul> <p><i>Target population: General Population including those who lack quality access to essential education with a focus on youth, underserved, vulnerable communities, remote and rural areas</i></p>	<p>Good health and well-being</p> <p>Quality education</p> <p>Decent work and economic growth</p> <p>Reduced inequalities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of schools, universities and other education facilities built, upgraded, financed or acquired</li> <li>Number and amount of loans provided to low-income or vulnerable students</li> <li>Education facilities for inclusive and effective learning environments</li> <li>Number of people provided with skill development and/or vocational training</li> <li>Number of education facilities, loans and/or initiatives</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Access to Essential Services	Access to services for other disadvantaged populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects involving purchase of new equipment including wheelchairs, and other mobility devices affordable to the target population</li> <li>Projects including retrofits of spaces and infrastructure such as installation of handrails and ramps</li> <li>Expenditures related to consultancy services including services for pre-employment support, and training programs for job assistance</li> </ul> <p><i>Target population: People with disabilities, elderly and aging population, low-income individuals</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of people reached</li> <li>Number of people benefiting from financial assistance or social protections for health</li> </ul>
Affordable Housing		<p>Financing and/or refinancing of government-supported or government-subsidised mortgages for the provision of affordable housing or first-time home access (e.g. Real Estate Development Fund Housing Support and Ministry of housing Programs, Sakani program, Masakin program) as well as projects related to the development and construction of homes covered under such programmes</p> <p><i>Target population: Low income individuals, marginalized communities aligned with local social welfare guidelines beneficiaries</i></p>	<p><b>A Vibrant Society:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable suitable home ownership among Saudi families</li> <li>No poverty</li> <li>Reduced inequalities</li> <li>Sustainable cities and communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of individuals/families benefiting from subsidised housing</li> <li>Number of affordable houses constructed, improved, rented, financed, or acquired</li> <li>Number and amount of outstanding affordable housing loans/grants/subsidies</li> </ul>
Employment Generation	MSME lending and programmes designed to prevent and/or alleviate unemployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activities that support employment generation through lending to Micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSME), as defined by the Saudi Central Bank.</li> <li>The provision of support measures to these customers such as offering extension of payment periods and exemption of facility fees during natural disasters and pandemics.</li> <li>Providing financing to a small-medium sized enterprise (SMEs) among under-banked populations undereducated, underserved, unemployed, people with disabilities, rural populations)</li> </ul> <p><i>Target population: MSME, MSMEs whose economic activities have been affected by pandemics and natural disasters people of determination, and under-banked population</i></p>	<p><b>A Thriving Economy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance ease of doing business</li> <li>Develop promising local companies into regional &amp; global leaders</li> <li>Grow SME contribution to the economy</li> <li><b>An Ambitious Nation:</b></li> <li>Enhance businesses focus on the sustainability of the economy</li> </ul> <p>No poverty</p> <p>Decent work and economic growth</p> <p>Industry, innovation and infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number and amount of loans granted to MSMEs</li> <li>Number of jobs created / preserved at MSMEs, if possible</li> <li>Number and amount of loans to MSMEs and start-ups facing the effects of natural disasters and / or health pandemics</li> <li>Number of disabled people employed</li> </ul>

Eligible Categories	Sub-Categories	Description	Sustainability Objectives	Impact Reporting Metrics
Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems	Activities which enhance food security	<p>Food security and sustainable food systems (e.g. physical, social, and economic access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food that meets dietary needs and requirements; resilient agricultural practices; reduction of food loss and waste; and improved productivity of small- scale producers). Eligible activities include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technology and infrastructure that improves agricultural productivity and enhances livelihoods and food security and nutrition in poor rural communities</li> <li>Food security and livelihoods programmes, ensuring access to food and the protection of livelihoods during and immediately after an emergency</li> <li>Strengthening food security, expanding climate-smart and green livelihoods, and building household resilience by supporting improved rural and urban production, self- and paid employment, and entrepreneurship</li> <li>Technology and infrastructure that improves agricultural efficiency and the agricultural supply chain and prevents food waste</li> <li>Support to smallholder farmers including equipment and facilities that help to prevent food loss and waste, improve productivity and increase market access to smallholder producers</li> <li>Modern technologies related to hydroponic farming/ organic farming methods</li> </ul>	<b>An Ambitious Nation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure development &amp; food security</li> </ul> <b>Zero hunger</b> <b>Responsible consumption and production</b> <b>Life on land</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of people provided with safe, nutritious and sufficient food</li> <li>Products with certified improvements in nutritional value</li> <li>Number of smallholder farmers reached or /and provided with access to agricultural inputs (financial inputs, equipment, training, etc.)</li> <li>Number of people benefitting from agricultural projects and using improved farming technology</li> </ul>
Socioeconomic Advancement and Empowerment	Gender equality and inclusion	<p>Projects supporting women-owned enterprises / businesses. as defined by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the enterprise qualifies as a woman-owned enterprise if it meets at least one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) ≥ 51% owned by woman/ women; OR</li> <li>(ii) ≥ 20% owned by woman/women; AND has ≥ 1 woman as CEO/COO/President/Vice President; AND has ≥ 30% of the board of directors composed of women, where a board exists.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial institutions helping to acquire and serve women- owned business</li> <li>Financial institutions that help to provide access to economic resources, microfinance and skills training for women on social welfare programmes</li> </ul>	<b>A Thriving Economy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase women participation in the labor market</li> </ul> <b>Gender equality</b> <b>Decent work and economic growth</b> <b>Reduced inequalities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number and amount of women-owned SMEs</li> <li>Number of financial institutions financed, helping to acquire and serve women-owned SMEs</li> <li>Proportion of women in management positions</li> <li>Number of women provided with access to information or financial services through digital products/services</li> <li>Number of women provided with decent work conditions</li> </ul>

*Target population: General Population with a focus on rural communities, low income individuals, and smallholder farmers*

*Target population: Women, Women owned businesses and small and medium-sized enterprises*

## Endnotes

- 1 The point-in-time assessment is applicable only on the date of assignment or update.
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- 22 [Biodiversity & Habitat](#). Environmental Performance Index. Accessed in January 2026.
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- 27 [CASTAT: 100% of Saudis have basic healthcare coverage](#). General Authority for Statistics. 5 December 2024.
- 28 [Literacy rate, adult total \(% of people ages 15 and above\) - Saudi Arabia](#). World Bank. Accessed in January 2026.
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- 30 [Population Estimates Publication 2024](#). General Authority for Statistics. 2024
- 31 [Unemployment, total \(% of total labor force\) \(modeled ILO estimate\) - Saudi Arabia](#). World Bank. Accessed in January 2026.
- 32 [Saudi Arabia](#). Global Hunger Index (GHI). Accessed in January 2026.
- 33 [Unemployment, female \(% of female labor force\) \(national estimate\) - Saudi Arabia](#). World Bank. Accessed in January 2026.
- 34 [Unemployment, male \(% of male labor force\) \(national estimate\) - Saudi Arabia](#). World Bank. Accessed in January 2026.
- 35 [Labor Force Participation Rate by Country 2025](#). World Population Review. Accessed in January 2026.

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