

1Q 2018 IR CALENDAR	DATE
QSE IR Excellence Awards, DOH	6 FEB
HSBC Investor Conference, RUH	26-27 FEB
HSBC Equity Forum, DXB	28 FEB-1 MAR
EFG Hermes 1x1 Conference, DXB	5-7 MAR

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT . . .

Saudi Arabia (+1.7) outperformed the region on positive investor sentiments post the end of the government's crackdown on corruption and mostly upbeat earnings. Bahrain (+1.2), Kuwait (+0.5%) and Oman (+0.5) also closed higher. Qatar (-2.7) fell the most, on selling pressure from foreign investors. Dubai (-1.6) was under pressure from real estate and banking sector stocks, while Abu Dhabi (-0.7%) closed lower. US markets broke their winning streak and posted record losses on rising bond yields amid upbeat economic data. The Dow (-4.1%) and the S&P 500 (-3.9%) both fell, marking their sharpest decline in over two years. European markets followed suite with the Stoxx Europe 600 (-3.1%) and FTSE 100 (-2.9%) heading southwards.

FY 17 RESULTS	PROFIT (mn)	Y-O-Y%
CBQ	QAR 604	+20.4%
YANSAB	SAR 7,220.9	+15.9%
Saudi Telecom	SAR 51,362	-4.3%
SABIC	SAR 150,390	+5.2%
Mashreq Bank	AED 2,052	+6.5%
ADCB	AED 4,277.6	+3.1%
SAFCO	SAR 2,759.5	-3.4%

BRENT SPOT PRICE



ASSET CLASS MONITOR	WTD ↓	YTD
US Treasury Yields	4.96%	6.47%
MSCI GCC	0.14%	5.82%
Aluminum	-0.45%	-0.62%
Gold	-1.17%	2.35%
Oil (Brent)	-2.75%	2.56%
FTSE 100	-2.90%	-3.18%
MSCI EM	-3.32%	6.25%
MSCI World	-3.43%	3.59%
S&P 500	-3.85%	3.31%

What will be the impact of higher oil price forecasts?

The week ahead

Regional markets

GCC markets are highly likely to start the week on a negative note, tracking the cues from global markets, the decline in crude oil prices on Friday and no positive catalysts, except for higher oil price forecasts from major Wall Street banks, in sight. Earnings will remain the centre of attention for investors and will set the tone for the markets this week, with results expected from Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank, Dubai Investments, Vodafone Qatar among others.

Global markets

The week starts with China, Germany, Eurozone and US services PMI data, along with Eurozone retail sales and investor confidence figures. This will be followed by German factory orders and US trade balance numbers on Tuesday. On Wednesday, the ECB will have its non-monetary policy meeting, followed by UK home prices, and US employment and consumer credit figures. On Thursday, the Bank of England will announce its monetary policy decision and the US will release its unemployment numbers. The week ends on Friday with UK trade balance, and industrial and manufacturing orders.

You may be asked about

IMF raised Saudi Arabia's GDP growth outlook to 1.6% for 2018, from 1.1% earlier, on rising crude oil prices, which is still below the government's 2.7% expectation. The agency has also raised global economic growth estimate to 3.9% for 2018, up from 3.7% earlier. US GDP is forecast to grow by 2.7% this year, up from 2.3% earlier, boosted by the US tax cut.

Note to management

Beware of the Petro-Paradox. Some major Wall Street banks have recently increased their outlook for oil in 2018 as economic growth and output cuts led by OPEC countries have helped to boost prices:

- Morgan Stanley forecasts that Brent could reach \$75/ bbl this year
- JPMorgan said that Brent could touch \$78/ bbl in 1Q or 2Q 2018
- Goldman Sachs estimates Brent will reach \$75/ bbl over the next three months and could climb to \$82.50 within six months

Historically, this would have been a reason to cheer for GCC equity markets. The received wisdom has been that GCC markets were umbilically linked to the oil price. When the oil price rises, GCC equity markets will follow. When the price of a barrel of Brent falls, so too will the Gulf's valuations. But this correlation - both perceived and real - appears to have been broken. The price of oil has risen some 20% in the past year, while GCC markets have remained flat. Why the divergence?

Read more about "[The Petro-Paradox](#)" in the thought leadership section of Iridium's website.

REGIONAL CALENDAR

05.02.2018	-	-
06.02.2018	-	-
07.02.2018	-	-
08.02.2018	KSA Weekly Money Supply	-

GLOBAL CALENDAR

05.02.2018	Caixin China Services PMI	US ISM Non-Manufacturing PMI
06.02.2018	UK Retail Sales	US Trade Balance
07.02.2018	ECB Non-Monetary Policy Meeting	US ADP Employment Change
08.02.2018	China Trade Balance	BoE Interest Rate Decision
09.02.2018	China Consumer Inflation	UK Production Data

Food for thought

IR & BEYOND

Iridium	The Petro-Paradox	Link
Goldman Sachs	"The New Oil Order" - Making Sense Of An Industry's Transformation	Link
Ipreo	Ipreo's Global Equity Assets Report	Link
Bloomberg	When the market speaks volumes	Link
Institutional Investor	Private Capital Firms Went On IR Hiring Spree in 2017	Link

EARNINGS CALENDAR*	Market	Est/ Conf	Date
Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank	UAE	C	04 Feb
Abdullah A.M. Al-Khodari	KSA	E	04Feb
Yamama Cement Co	KSA	E	04 Feb
Herfy Food Services Co	KSA	E	04 Feb
Al Othaim Markets	KSA	E	04 Feb
Fawaz Abdulaziz Al Hokair	KSA	E	04 Feb
Saudi Airlines Catering	KSA	E	04 Feb
Commercial Bank of Dubai	UAE	E	05 Feb
Bank Al-Jazira	KSA	E	05 Feb
VIVA Kuwait Telecom	Kuwait	E	05 Feb
National Mobile Telecom	Kuwait	C	05 Feb
Union National Bank	UAE	C	06 Feb
Dubai Investments	UAE	E	06 Feb
Vodafone Qatar	Qatar	E	06 Feb
Gulf Bank	Kuwait	E	06 Feb
Oman Telecommunications	Oman	E	06 Feb

*Courtesy of Arqam Capital Research

About Iridium

Iridium is the GCC region's leading IR specialist.

We advance the science and practice of investor relations to help organizations and leaders protect downside, close gaps and unlock future potential.

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For more information contact:

Iridium Advisors DMCC
Pamela Chahine, Director
+971 4 374 5757
ir@iridium.ae
www.iridium.ae

GLOBAL AGENDA

BoE	Announces its Monetary Policy
ECB President	Addresses the European Parliament
European Commission	Publishes Economic Bulletin
China	Releases Trade Balance and Consumer Inflation Data
General Motors	Releases Quarterly Results
Russian President	To give the annual state-of-the-nation address
South Korean Court	To rule on appeals by both prosecutors and Samsung Electronics heir on his five-year prison term for bribery
BP	Releases Quarterly Results
Winter Olympics	2018 Olympic Winter Games to begin in South Korea

MOST READ REGIONAL SECTOR HEADLINES

Banks	Commercial Bank of Qatar looking at tapping Formosa Debt
Retail	Jarir sees single digit growth this year: CEO
Energy	Saudi Arabia to link Saudi Aramco tax to oil price
Materials	SABIC to buy 24.99% stake in Swiss chemicals maker Clariant
REIT	Riyad REIT to establish SR1bn Sukuk program
Financials	SAMA bans MedGulf from issuing new insurance contracts
Transportation	Gulf Navigation Holding to acquire majority stake in Singapore's Atlantic
Utilities	Abu Dhabi's Tabreed said to acquire assets in Saudi, Egypt
Real Estate	Al Jaber Group expects to seal a deal to restructure AED 5.75bn in debt
Telecom	Ooredoo launches joint initiative to enable digital transformation of SMEs

MOST READ REGIONAL COMPANY HEADLINES

Saudi Aramco	Saudi Aramco cuts LPG prices to lowest level in five months
First Abu Dhabi Bank	First Abu Dhabi Bank hires banks for Dollar Sukuk sale
Dubai Islamic Bank	Dubai Islamic Bank issues \$1bn Islamic bond
National Bank of Oman	National Bank of Oman's board recommends 20% dividend
SABIC	SABIC takes SR350mn impairment on steel unit
Qatar Airways	Qatar Airways to take delivery of first Airbus A350-1000 in Feb
ADNOC	ADNOC in partnership talks with Chinese firms
Al Hammadi	Al Hammadi close to hiring Goldman Sachs to advise on merger with Care
Sipchem	Sipchem mulls first US petrochemicals investment
Dana Gas	Dana Gas fails to overturn previous court ruling on Sukuk

REGIONAL MARKETS	Last Close	YTD %	QTD %	MTD %	M-Cap (bn)	P/E (ttm)
Saudi Arabia	7,656.07	5.9%	5.9%	0.1%	\$ 483.30	17.9 x
ADX	4,612.33	4.9%	4.9%	0.2%	\$ 127.94	16.0 x
DFM	3,412.26	1.3%	1.3%	0.5%	\$ 85.94	22.7 x
Nasdaq Dubai	3,436.45	4.5%	4.5%	0.6%	n/a	n/a
Qatar	9,207.01	8.0%	8.0%	0.0%	\$ 104.64	15.2 x
Bahrain	1,357.68	2.0%	2.0%	0.5%	\$ 21.09	7.9 x
Oman	5,035.23	-1.3%	-1.3%	0.7%	\$ 14.14	11.8 x

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