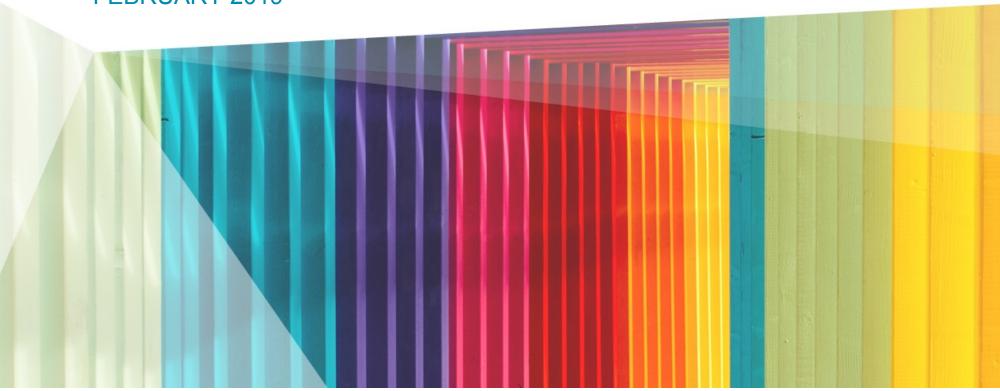




# INJAZ PRIVATE SECTOR SURVEY 2018 - RESULTS

FEBRUARY 2019



# 1

# INTRO AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



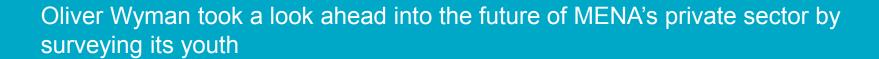
#### INJAZ PRIVATE SECTOR SURVEY PURPOSE AND APPROACH

#### Purpose of the survey

- While the private sector has grown significantly over the last years. The public sector remains a dominant player in many MENA economies
- However, a strong private sector is required to sustain nonhydrocarbon economic development and meet the labor market demands of MENA's fast growing and youthful population
- Therefore, we took a look ahead into the future of the private sector, by capturing the opinion of the people who are most likely going to shape it – MENA's youth
- Over the course of five weeks, we surveyed INJAZ students across the region, who are being equipped with the skills that determine a successful career in the private sector
- Given their special training, we think that their opinion is particularly relevant to outline the private sector's current state as well as to highlight opportunities and challenges ahead

#### **Approach**

- The survey consists of 17 questions
- It covers the following four areas:
  - Respondents' demographics
  - Private sector growth drivers and industries
  - Challenges and success factors of entrepreneurs and employees
  - The digital economy and its implications for the education system
- 949 people between the age of 16 and 35 participated in the survey, which was open from the 15<sup>th</sup> November to the 23<sup>rd</sup> December
- Distribution channels comprised Email, WhatsApp, SMS and Social Media



### INTRODUCTION

# INJAZ provides various training programs to MENA's youth to promote employability and job creation in the private sector

#### **OVERVIEW**

INJAZ is a non-profit organization that **promotes youth education and training** in the Arab world. It is the regional arm of Junior Achievement Worldwide (JAW).

Focal areas of education comprise workforce readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

With a network of 14 ministries of education, over **3,000 schools**, **418 universities** and **45,000 corporate volunteers**, INJAZ aims to equip the youth with the skills demanded by the private sector to foster employability and job creation.

Since 1999, **3 million students** have completed INJAZ programs across the MENA region.

#### **INJAZ Al-Arab Young Entrepreneurs Competition**

- INJAZ students can participate in the INJAZ Al-Arab Young Entrepreneurs
  Competition, which is the culmination of six months of experiential learning and application based on INJAZ Al-Arab's Company Program
- The Program is executed by a select group of corporate mentors who work hand-in-hand with students on establishing, marketing and liquidating a real business
- The Regional Competition is an annual celebration of national winners who demonstrated sound knowledge in business planning, market research, marketing, sales and feasibility studies

#### **Young Entrepreneurs Competition, Kuwait 2018**



#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Positive opinions on the private sector – yet institutional reforms required to fully harness opportunities of growth industries and the digital economy

1



56%

have a positive opinion of the private sector – that is almost four times the number of negative opinions (15%) 3



84%

say that the private sector will continue to grow in MENA. Multinationals (40%) and SMEs (25%) rather than large national enterprises (20%) and start-ups (15%) are expected to drive this growth

5



The expansion of SMEs is challenged by high business set-up costs (51%), extensively stringent regulations (36%), inappropriate institutional capabilities (36%) and a lack of foreign investment (28%)

6



88%

think that the digital economy depicts a major growth opportunity, yet according to 58% it receives insufficient public attention

7



In order to reap the full benefits offered by the digital economy, **educational staff** (48%), **curriculum** (45%) and **facilities** (44%) need to adapt

2 ( )

51%

says that there is a **shortage of job opportunities** in the private sector. **Uncompetitive salaries** and **slow career development** are raised by 51% and 34% respectively

4



A strong private sector will be particularly beneficial to the economy in manufacturing (42%), education (35%), professional services (30%), human health (29%), and agribusiness (28%) — according to the respondents these sectors have been among the most neglected in the past

#### **KEY LEARNINGS**

Three strategic initiatives are requisite to sustain economic growth, create jobs in the private sector and to reap the full benefits of the digital economy

IMPROVE INSTITUTIONAL ADAPT THE EDUCATIONAL ATTRACT DOMESTIC AND **CAPABILITIES AND** SYSTEM TO A STRONGER **FOREIGN INVESTMENTS REGULATIONS FOCUS ON SKILLS** IN KEY SECTORS Respondents highlighted high set-up costs · 45% report a mismatch between the A lack of foreign investment concerns 28% (51%), stringent regulations (36%) and current curriculum and the skills demanded of respondents (36%) inappropriate institutional by the labor market Identify key growth industries and establish capabilities Adapting the curriculum e.g. by introducing industry clusters Simplifying processes and reducing costs programming classes can increase the · Clusters, requiring a stable legal of setting up a business can stimulate chances of obtaining a job in the private environment and easy access to skilled entrepreneurialism sector and equip students with the domestic or foreign labor can attract qualifications to reap benefits of the digital • "Smarter Regulations", i.e. regulatory investments of multinationals and thereby economy sandboxes, self-regulatory systems, single serve as growth drivers of the private points of contact, use of ICTs and training A holistic reform would also require an sector of regulatory staff promotes a more upgrading of staff and facilities Rethinking the regulation of peer-to-peer conducive environment for SMEs finance and VC can augment the sources of funding available to SMEs

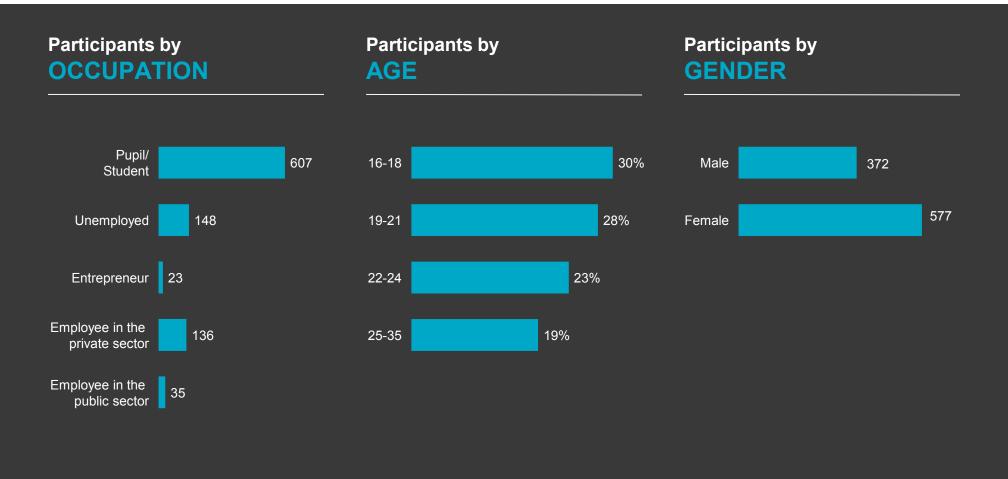
# 2

# **DEEP DIVES**

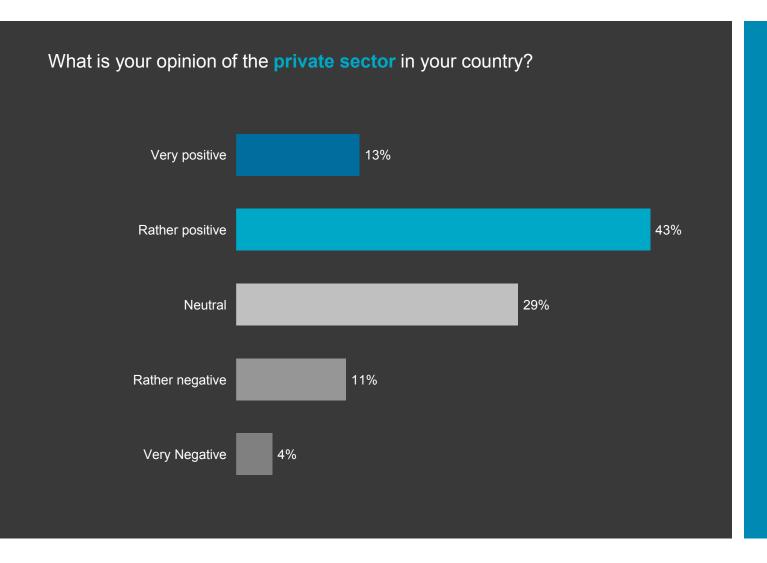


### SURVEY PARTICIPANTS' DEMOGRAPHICS

Pupils and students under 21 were the largest group of participants in the survey



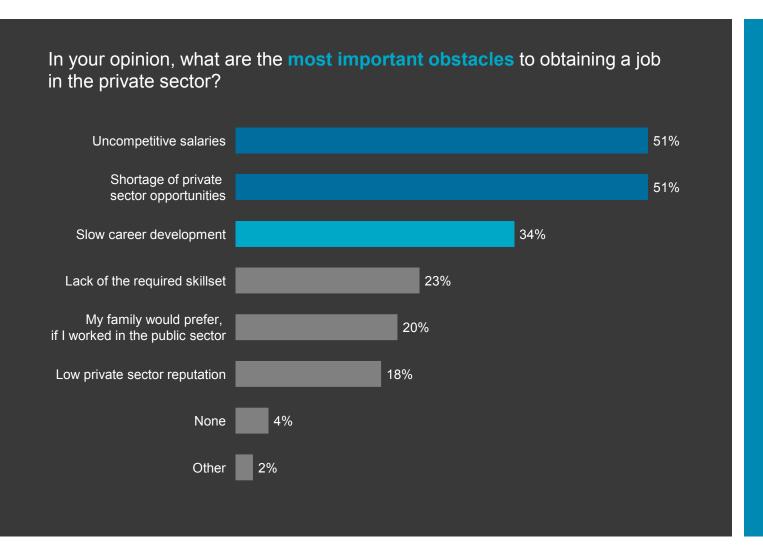
Positive opinions of the private sector are roughly four times the number of negative opinions



**56%** of MENA's youth have a positive or rather positive opinion of the private sector

15% have a negative opinion

Private sector employment obstacles include shortage of job opportunities, uncompetitive salaries and slow perceived career development

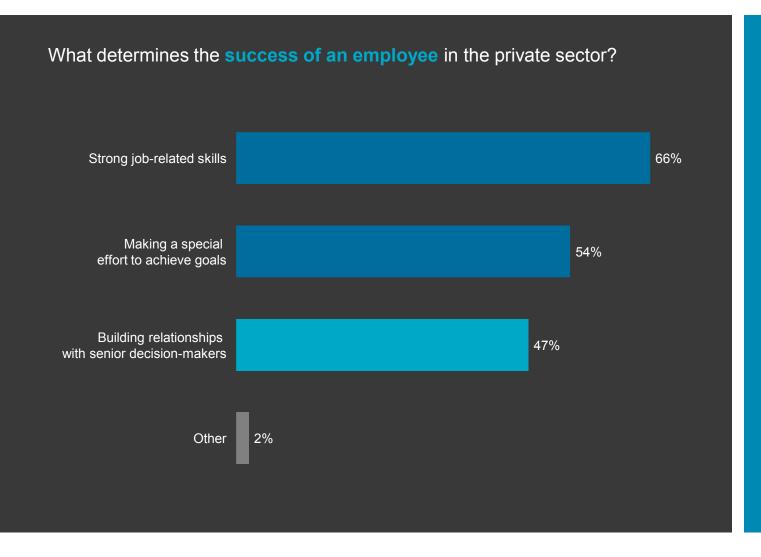


**51%** of the respondents think that that there are not sufficient private sector opportunities

Uncompetitive salaries (51%) and perceived slow career development (34%) also appear to be relevant

Lack of required skills, low private sector reputation and family concerns only matter for ca. one fifth of the respondents

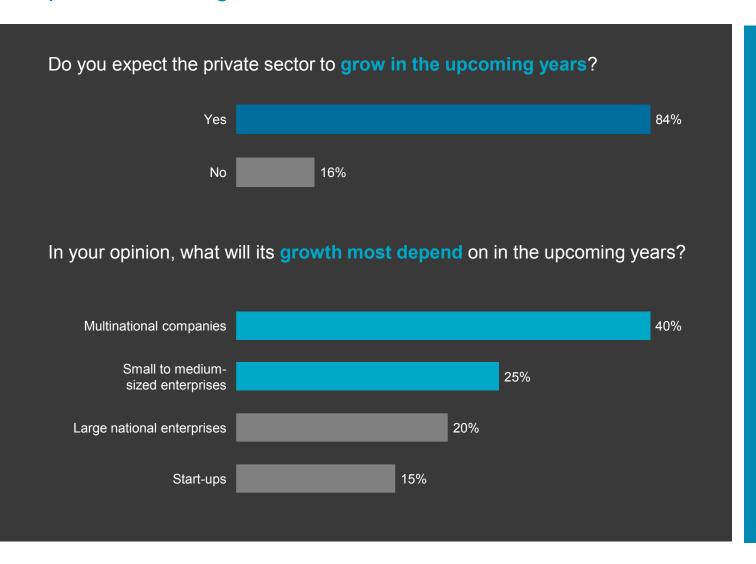
Skill set and effort are most important determinants of success in the private sector – it can be leveraged by building relationships with senior employees



Possessing the right skills and demonstrating effort at work are the most important success factors with 66% and 54% support respectively.

47% of the respondents also think that building the right relationships with senior employees can be an important success factor in the private sector

Multinationals and Small and Medium Enterprises are expected to drive private sector growth in MENA

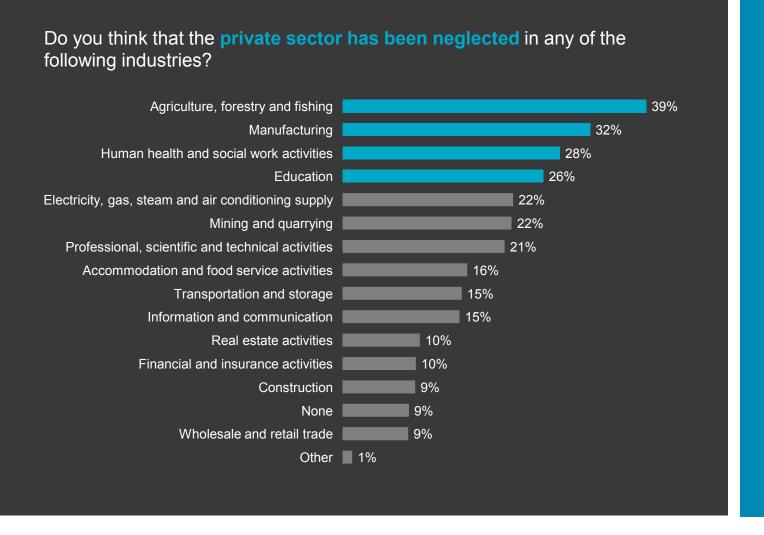


84% of the respondents thinks that the private sector will continue to grow in the upcoming years

This growth is mostly expected to be driven by Multinationals (40%) and SMEs (25%)

While Start-ups may develop fast, contribution to private sector growth must be evaluated in relation to their rather small size

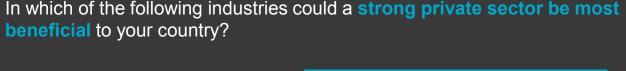
Most neglected industries of the private sector appear to be agribusiness, manufacturing, human health and social work activities, and education

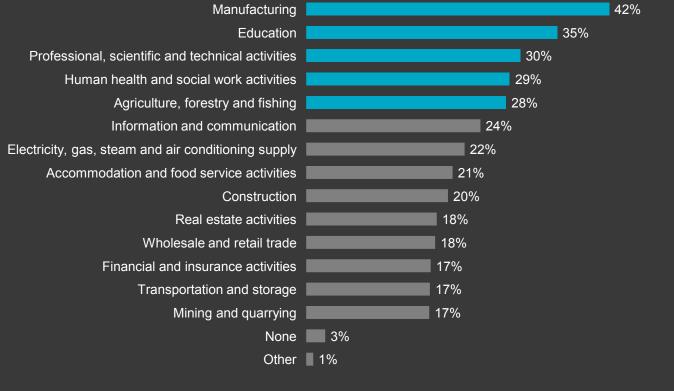


39% of the respondents claim that the private sector has been mostly neglected in agribusiness

Other neglected sectors include manufacturing (32%), human health and social work activities (28%) and education (26%)

The private sector is expected to be most beneficial in neglected industries of manufacturing, education, professional services and human health





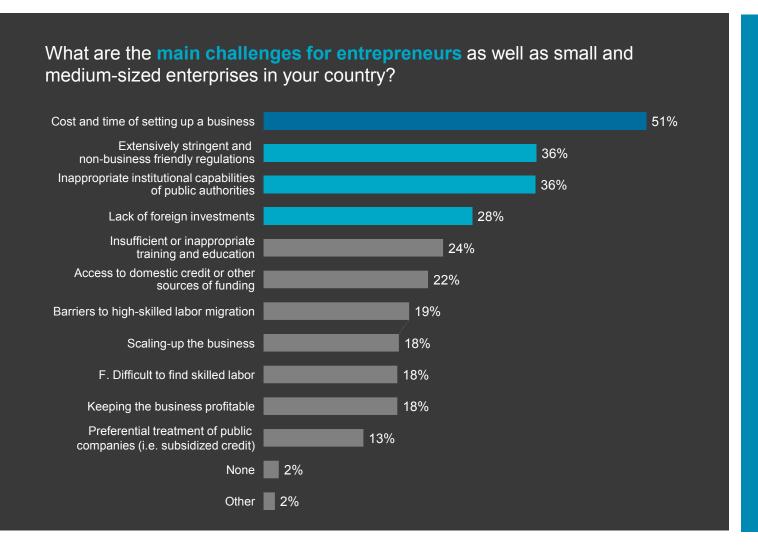
A strong private sector is seen to be most beneficial in manufacturing (42%) and education (35%)

They are followed by professional, scientific and technical activities (30%) and human health and social work activities (29%)

**28%** claim that agribusiness would be most beneficial

Strikingly, industries with the greatest benefits of a strong private sector have also been among the most neglected

Expansion of SMEs and Start-ups is challenged by set-up costs, stringent regulations, weak institutional capabilities and a lack of foreign investments

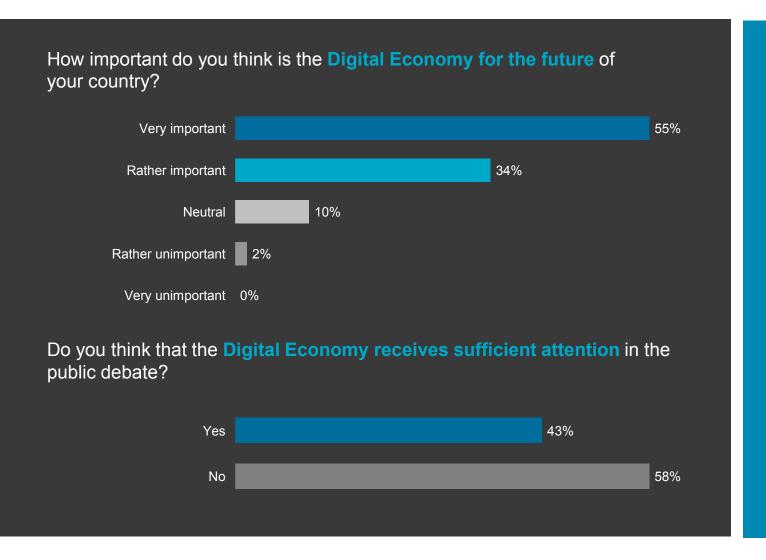


Cost and time of setting up a business and is the most important challenge for entrepreneurs, mentioned by 51%

This is followed by excessively stringent and non-business friendly regulations (36%), and inappropriate institutional capabilities of public authorities (36%)

**28%** of the respondents state a lack of foreign investments

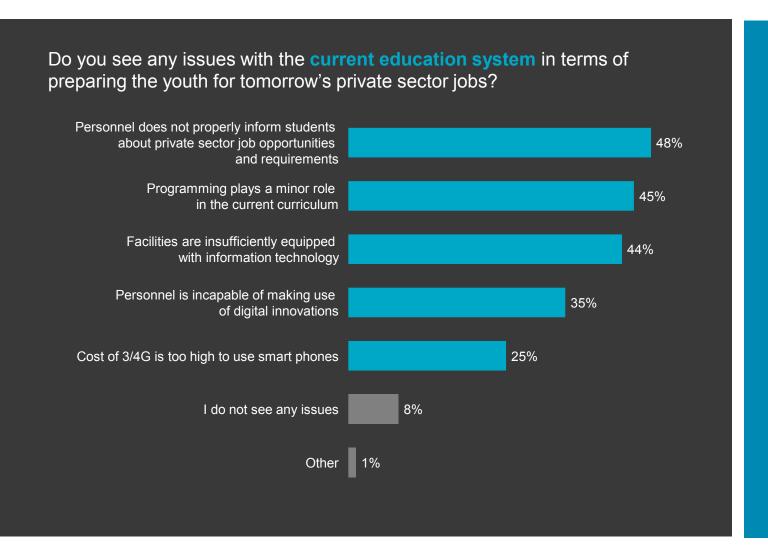
The digital economy depicts a major opportunity according to a vast majority of the respondents – however, it receives insufficient public attention



**88%** thinks that the digital economy is rather or very important for the future of the country

However, **58%**believe that, despite its importance, the digital economy does not receive sufficient attention in the public debate

In order to reap the full benefits of the digital economy, educational staff, curriculum and facilities need to adapt



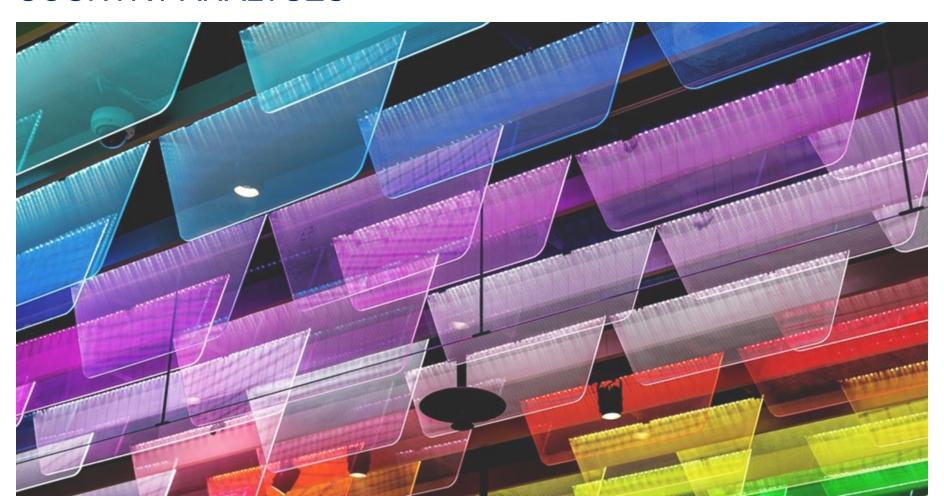
**48%** claim that they are not being properly informed about private sector opportunities and requirements by their teachers

**45%** responded that programming plays only a minor role in the curriculum

44% of the respondents, facilities are insufficiently equipped and 35% think that the personnel does not posses the required digital capabilities

# 3

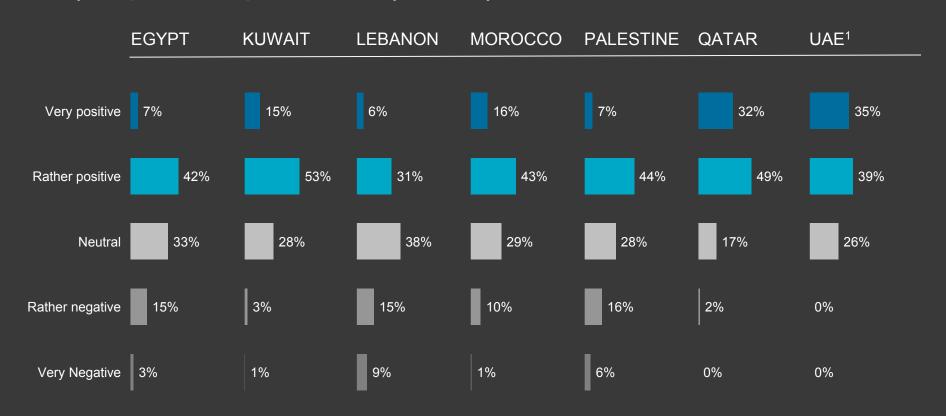
# **COUNTRY ANALYSES**



# COUNTRY ANALYSIS (1/9)

Positive opinions of the private sector are four times the negative opinions – the UAE has the most positive view on the private sector

What is your opinion of the private sector in your country?

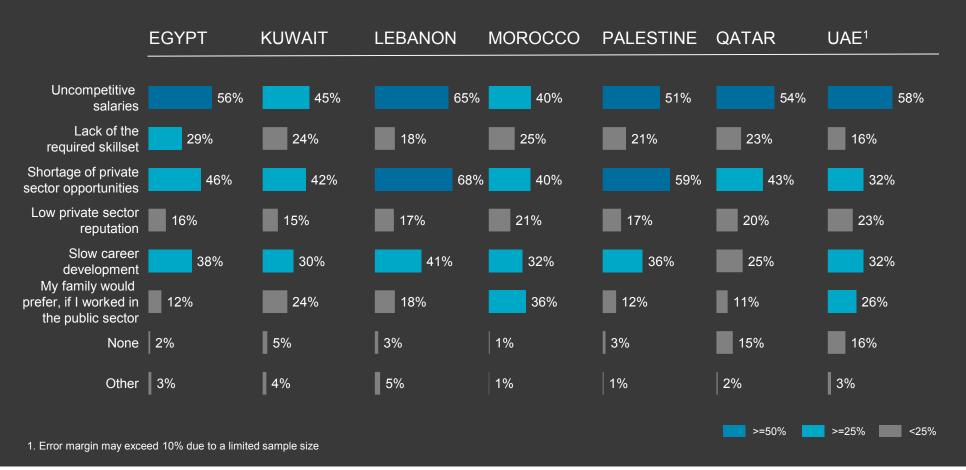


<sup>1.</sup> Error margin may exceed 10% due to a limited sample size

# COUNTRY ANALYSIS (2/9)

Uncompetitive salaries, slow career development and a shortage of jobs are seen as the most important obstacles to obtaining a job in the private sector

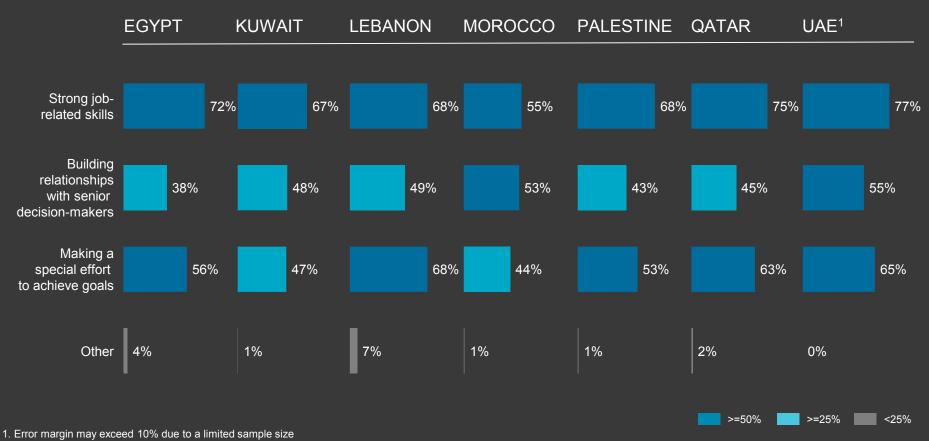
In your opinion, what are the **most important obstacles to obtaining a job** in the private sector?



# COUNTRY ANALYSIS (3/9)

MENA's youth thinks that strong job-related skills and making a special effort to achieve goals are most conducive to success in the private sector

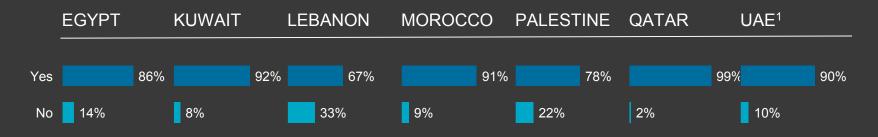
What determines the success of an employee in the private sector?



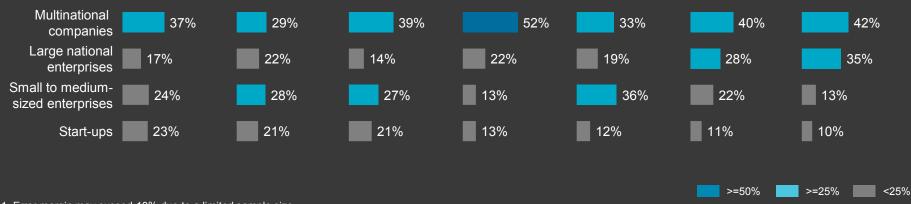
## COUNTRY ANALYSIS (4/9)

Private sector to grow in the upcoming years – This is to be driven by multinationals as well as SMEs and large national firms

Do you expect the **private sector to grow** in the upcoming years?



In your opinion, what will its growth most depend on in the upcoming years?

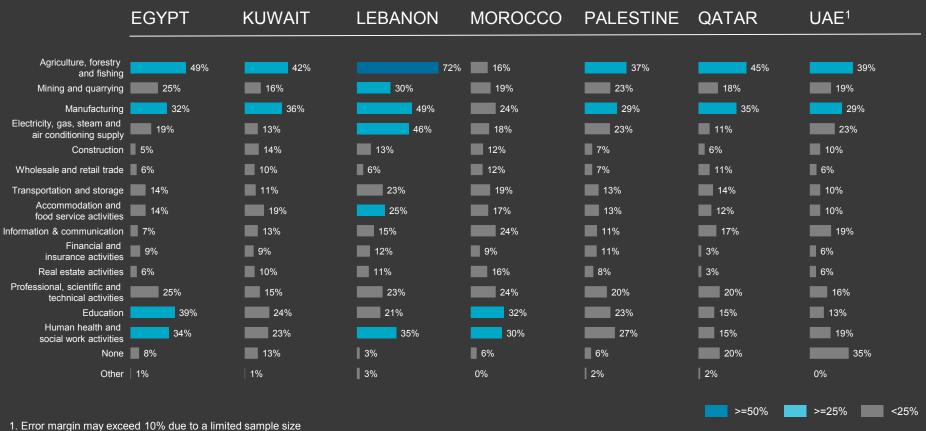


1. Error margin may exceed 10% due to a limited sample size

## COUNTRY ANALYSIS (5/9)

Agribusiness, manufacturing and human health as well as social work activities appear to be MENA's most neglected industries

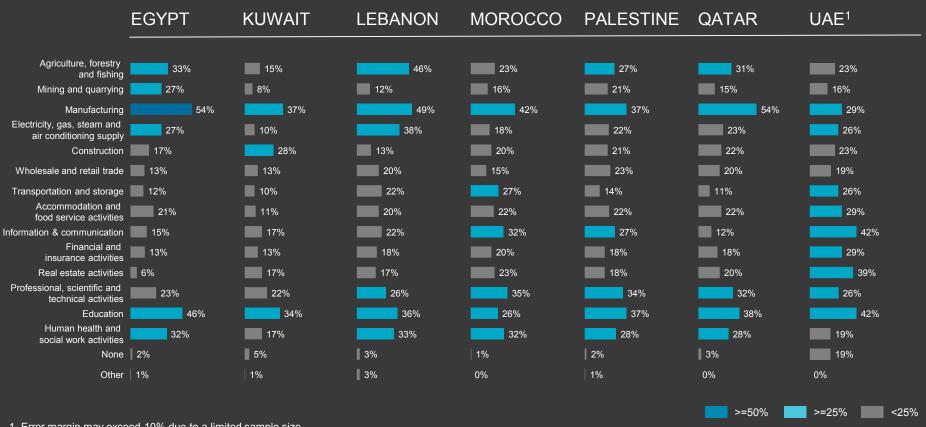
Do you think that the private sector has been neglected in any of the following industries?



# **COUNTRY ANALYSIS (6/9)**

Manufacturing, education, professional services and human health are most beneficial private sector industries – they are also among the most neglected

In which of the following industries could a strong private sector be most beneficial to your country?

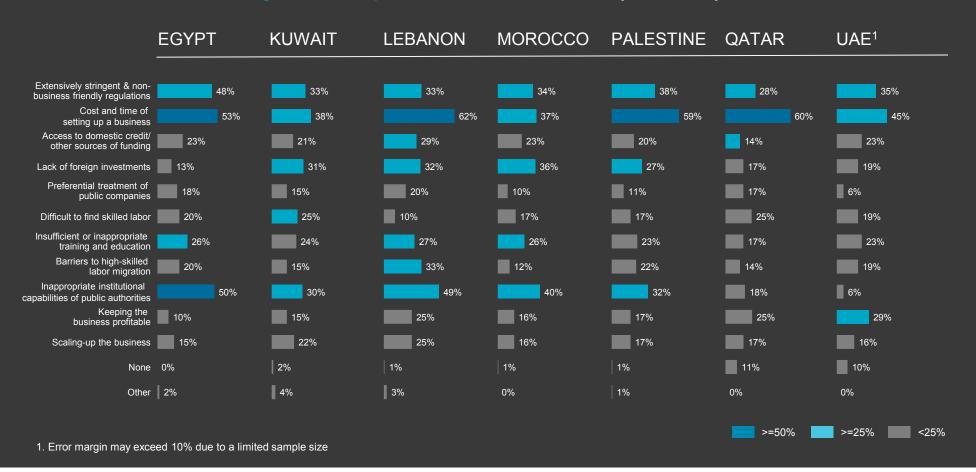


<sup>1.</sup> Error margin may exceed 10% due to a limited sample size

## COUNTRY ANALYSIS (7/9)

Cost and time of setting up a business, regulatory red tape, and inappropriate institutional capabilities depict main challenges for entrepreneurs and SMEs

What are the main challenges for entrepreneurs as well as SMEs in your country?



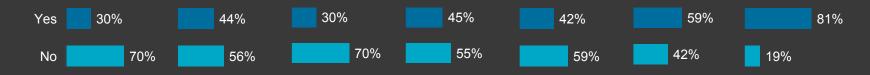
# COUNTRY ANALYSIS (8/9)

The digital economy depicts a very important opportunity, yet it receives insufficient public attention in most countries except for the UAE

How important do you think is the Digital Economy for the future of your country?



Do you think that the **Digital Economy receives sufficient attention** in the public debate?



<sup>1.</sup> Error margin may exceed 10% due to a limited sample size

# COUNTRY ANALYSIS (9/9)

Lack of information about private sector jobs, minor role of programming and insufficient information technology are main issues of the education system

Do you see any issues with the education system in terms of preparing the youth for tomorrow's private sector jobs?

