



COMCEC STRATEGY

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**REPORT  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
COMCEC STRATEGY**

**42<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE FOLLOW-UP  
COMMITTEE OF THE COMCEC**

**May 2026  
COMCEC COORDINATION OFFICE**

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

### **ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMCEC STRATEGY**

#### **1. Introduction:**

COMCEC (The Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) has been continuing its efforts to enhance economic and commercial cooperation among member countries of the OIC since 1984. The main objective of COMCEC is to address the economic challenges of the Islamic Ummah and contribute to its development efforts. In this regard, COMCEC serves as a policy forum for generating and disseminating knowledge, exchanging experiences and best practices, developing common understanding and approximating policies among member countries.

COMCEC continues its activities in the light of the COMCEC Strategy. The Working Groups (WG), as part of the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy, provide a regular platform for member countries' experts to discuss policies and practices in each area of cooperation in order to create a common understanding and approximate policies. Research studies conducted for the Working Group Meetings reveal the state of affairs in member countries related to the specific topics. Some of the member countries are studied in detail in these guides and research reports through field visits, surveys and interviews.

COMCEC Working Groups are held in the six areas of cooperation defined in the COMCEC Strategy, namely trade, transport and communications, tourism, agriculture, financial cooperation and poverty alleviation. Since the 41<sup>st</sup> session of the COMCEC, six Working Group meetings have been held. The detailed information on the Working Groups is available on the COMCEC website (<http://www.comcec.org/>).

The COMCEC Project Funding, another important implementation tool of the COMCEC Strategy, enables member countries registered in the Working Groups as well as the relevant OIC institutions to develop and implement concrete cooperation projects. Moreover, the policy recommendations formulated by the Working Groups and adopted by the Ministerial Meetings are translated into concrete projects through this important mechanism.

Member countries and the relevant OIC Institutions have shown great interest to the COMCEC Project Support Instruments. In 2025, 21 projects were implemented under the COMCEC Project Funding. Moreover, 31 projects will be supported by the COMCEC Coordination Office (CCO) in 2026. Under the Al-Quds Program, 8 projects were implemented in 2025. For the year 2026, 10 new projects have been final listed and will be implemented under the authority of the Ministry of National Economy of the State of Palestine.

This report summarizes the progress achieved since the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy.

#### **2. Resolutions of the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC on the Implementation of the Strategy**

The 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC was held on 1-4 November 2025 in İstanbul. The Session was informed by the CCO on the progress achieved towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy. After fruitful exchange of views and deliberations among the Member Countries, the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC adopted the following resolutions, among others, for ensuring the effective implementation of the COMCEC Strategy.

- Commending the endeavours towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations by the Member Countries and the relevant OIC Institutions, the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC invited the Member Countries to exert every effort, to the extent possible, to implement the Policy Recommendations and to harness the benefits of the current facilities and mechanisms, in particular the COMCEC Working Groups and COMCEC Project Support Programs, and requested the OIC Institutions to support the Member Countries to this end.
- The Session called upon the Member Countries to utilize the COMCEC Policy Follow-up System to submit necessary information and data on the implementation of the COMCEC Ministerial Policy Recommendations in their respective countries and requested the CCO to regularly report the progress in the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy to the COMCEC Sessions, the Follow-Up Committee Meetings and other relevant OIC fora.
- The Session expressed its appreciation to the efforts of the OIC General Secretariat, CCO, SESRIC, ICDT, IsDB, ITFC, ICIEC, ICD, ISFD, IOFS, OIC LC, SMIIC, and ICCD towards the implementation of the COMCEC Strategy and the Ministerial Policy Recommendations.
- Underlining the importance of the realization of the objectives set by OIC 2025: Programme of Action and active follow-up of the economic and commercial section of the Programme by the COMCEC, and welcoming the preparation efforts towards developing a full-fledged successor Programme of Action, the Session requested the OIC General Secretariat to submit comprehensive progress reports thereon to the COMCEC Sessions and the Follow-up Committee Meetings.
- Recalling the decisions of the Third Ministerial Meeting of TPS-OIC TNC hosted by Republic of Türkiye on 10-11 June 2024, in İstanbul and 40<sup>th</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session requesting the continuation of technical review in 2025 to elaborate on the potential expansion of TPS-OIC with increased product coverage and new disciplines, the Session welcomed the decisions of the TNC meeting on 1-2 October 2025 at the chief negotiator level, in particular its decision, with a view to exploring the possibilities of the expansion of the TPS-OIC, to initiate preliminary discussions on challenges in implementation of PRETAS, possible expansion areas and objectives, legal considerations and institutional matters.
- Expressing its appreciation to the Republic of Türkiye for volunteering to host the next TNC meeting on 3-4 February 2026, the Session called upon the OIC Member Countries, which have signed and ratified the TPS-OIC Framework Agreement, to attend this important meeting, and invites other interested Member Countries that are not parties to the Framework Agreement to participate as observers.
- Acknowledging the important role of the OIC Arbitration Centre, as an affiliated institution of ICCD for the settlement of disputes, the Session called upon the Member Countries to encourage the active participation in the activities of the OIC Arbitration Centre with a view to making use of the services provided by the Centre to those who seek it.
- Welcoming the offer of the Republic of Türkiye to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> OIC Transport Ministerial Conference on 11-12 February 2026, the Session requested the Member States to actively participate in this important Conference.
- Commending the successful convening of the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers on 15-16 October 2025 in Doha, Qatar, the Session requested the Member Countries and relevant OIC institutions to further their efforts for the

implementation of its resolutions.

- The Session called upon the Member Countries to support the promotion of the OIC/COMCEC Shariah International Fund, which includes shares from the OIC COMCEC 50 Shariah Index, developed under the coordination of the OIC Exchanges Forum, to the investors and the finance community in their respective countries.
- The Session called upon Member Countries to take the necessary measures that would exempt Palestinian goods and commodities from customs duties, duties and taxes of similar effect, without quantitative or qualitative restrictions, which would have a positive effect on strengthening the steadfastness of the Palestinian people on their own territory and supporting the efforts of the State of Palestine to put an end to the Israeli occupation.
- The Session called upon the Member States and relevant parties, in the context of reactivating the role of the Syrian Arab Republic, to support and coordinate efforts in directing humanitarian and developmental assistance with a portion allocated to reconstruction efforts in a manner that respects the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian State and contributes to enhancing stability and achieving sustainable development for its people.
- The Session decided on “Developing Effective Trade Financing Tools for Increasing Export in the OIC Member Countries” as the theme for the Exchange of Views Session at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the COMCEC, and requested the COMCEC Trade Working Group in its 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting, in cooperation with the relevant OIC Institutions, to come up with concrete policy recommendations on this topic and report it to the 42<sup>nd</sup> COMCEC Session.

### **3. Implementation of the COMCEC Strategy**

#### **3.1. Meetings of the COMCEC Working Groups**

Since the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the COMCEC, the 26<sup>th</sup> rounds of COMCEC Working Group Meetings was held in April 2026 (25<sup>th</sup> Meeting for the Financial Cooperation Working Group). In addition to the relevant public institutions, representatives from the private sector and NGOs, as well as relevant international organizations, participated in the WG Meetings to enable the reflection of a wide range of stakeholders’ perspectives during the discussions.

All the documents and presentations made during the WG Meetings are available on the COMCEC website. ([www.comcec.org](http://www.comcec.org))

##### **3.1.1. COMCEC Trade Working Group**

Trade finance stands as fundamental pillars for the functioning and expansion of international trade by enabling firms to manage working capital constraints and mitigate payment and delivery risks across the trade cycle. The fact that international trade largely relies on credit and guarantee mechanisms rather than cash-in-advance transactions makes trade finance an indispensable element for integration into global value chains. In this regard, an effective trade finance system comprises institutional arrangements, financial instruments, and incentive mechanisms that enable exporters and importers to conduct international trade with minimal risk and efficient cash flow management. Accordingly, the development and effective implementation of trade finance instruments at the national level are critical for diversifying exports, supporting economic growth, and increasing employment and enhancing export competitiveness.

Considering the importance of the subject, the COMCEC Trade Working Group (TWG) has dedicated its 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Meetings to “Developing Effective Trade Financing Tools for Increasing Export in the OIC Member Countries”. During its 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting, which was held on 20 April 2026, the Working Group focused on the first draft of the Research Report being prepared on this subject. Moreover, the experiences and perspectives of member countries and international organizations on the subject have been shared with the participants. The final version of the Report will be submitted to the 27<sup>th</sup> TWG Meeting to be held on 14-15 September 2026 in Ankara.

### **3.1.2. COMCEC Financial Cooperation Working Group**

Crowdfunding has emerged as a complementary financing mechanism that broadens access to capital by leveraging digital platforms to directly connect project owners with a dispersed pool of contributors. Its rapid expansion in recent years—driven by advances in financial technologies and platform-based business models—has increased its relevance as a tool for mobilizing resources beyond conventional channels. By enabling the aggregation of small-scale savings and facilitating more direct interaction between fundraisers and contributors, crowdfunding reduces transaction costs and mitigates informational frictions. In this context, it holds particular promise for developing and emerging economies, where structural gaps in financial systems constrain the efficient allocation of capital to entrepreneurs, start-ups, and SMEs. As such, crowdfunding can contribute to diversifying funding sources, fostering innovation, and supporting more inclusive economic development.

Within this framework, the Financial Cooperation Working Group (FCWG) has devoted its Meetings in 2026 to the theme of “Potential of Crowdfunding for Economic Development in the OIC Member Countries”. In this respect, the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the FCWG was held on 22 April 2026 in a virtual-only format with the aforementioned theme. A specific research report is being prepared on this crucial topic. The preliminary findings of the report, as well as the experiences and perspectives of member countries, international organizations and private sector were presented during the 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group. The final version of the Report will be submitted to the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group to be held on 21-22 September 2026.

### **3.1.3. COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group**

Integrated multimodal transport systems constitute a critical enabler of efficient, reliable, and cost-effective connectivity by ensuring the seamless integration of different transport modes within unified logistical frameworks. By facilitating smooth intermodal transfers, harmonizing infrastructure and operational standards, and improving coordination across transport networks, these systems significantly enhance the overall performance of supply chains.

In this context, the development of integrated multimodal transport systems plays a pivotal role in addressing structural bottlenecks in connectivity and logistics performance, particularly in developing and emerging economies. Well-designed multimodal systems contribute to reducing transit times and logistics costs, improving corridor efficiency, and strengthening regional and international trade linkages. Moreover, they help overcome challenges such as fragmented transport networks, weak intermodal interfaces, and limited coordination among stakeholders. By enhancing accessibility, supporting trade facilitation, and enabling more efficient resource allocation, integrated multimodal transport systems provide a foundation for resilient, sustainable, and inclusive economic growth.

Considering the importance of the issue, the COMCEC Transport and Communications Working Group (TCWG) has devoted its 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Meetings to “Designing Integrated Multimodal Transport Systems in the OIC Member Countries”. A research report on the subject is being prepared on this particular topic. The report will identify successful practices, innovative approaches and common challenges in designing integrated multimodal transport systems in the OIC Member Countries. The preliminary findings of the report, the experiences of member countries and international organizations were elaborated during the 26<sup>th</sup> TCWG Meeting. The final version of the research report will be submitted to the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the TCWG to be held in 14-15 September 2026.

#### **3.1.4. COMCEC Tourism Working Group**

Tourism has long been recognized as a strategic industry in national and international development because of its capacity to generate foreign exchange, employment, infrastructure investment, entrepreneurship, and intercultural exchange. Tourism has become one of the most dynamic and rapidly expanding sectors of the global economy, characterized by sustained growth and increasing diversification.

In the wider global landscape, the importance of the tourism sector stands out especially for developing and emerging economies. For OIC Member Countries, tourism has likewise grown into a key driver of economic diversification and regional growth. Tourism in many of these countries is not only a key engine of economic growth, but also a significant source of opportunity for small and medium-sized businesses, women, youth, and rural communities. At the same time, it plays an important role in safeguarding cultural heritage and enhancing connections between regions.

Although tourism supports national economies in various ways, these benefits are increasingly threatened by climate change. As one of the most pressing and complex challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, climate change is reshaping not only the natural environment but also economic and social systems. Its impacts are far-reaching, including rising global temperatures, sea-level rise, biodiversity loss, water shortages, and more frequent and severe extreme weather events, all of which directly affect tourism activities.

Considering the importance of the subject, Tourism Working Group (TWG) has devoted its Meetings in 2026 to the issue of climate change and mitigation strategies in tourism. In this respect, 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the TWG was held on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, in a virtual-only format, with the theme of “Impacts of Climate Change and Mitigation Strategies for Sustainable OIC Tourism”. A research report on this theme is commissioned to be prepared by CCO.

The preliminary findings of the Report, the experiences and perspectives of member countries and international organizations were presented during the 26<sup>th</sup> TWG Meeting. The final version of the Report will be submitted to the 27<sup>th</sup> TWG meeting to be held on 16-17 September 2026.

#### **3.1.5. COMCEC Agriculture Working Group**

Agriculture constitutes a central pillar of economic activity, rural livelihoods, and social stability in member countries of the OIC. Beyond its economic dimension, the agricultural sector plays a vital role in sustaining rural communities and supporting broader development processes. In recent decades, climate change has emerged as a growing challenge for agricultural systems worldwide, generating increasing pressures on production conditions, natural resources, and institutional capacities. Rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, increased frequency of extreme weather events, and growing pressure on water resources are making agricultural production more uncertain and complex.

Although OIC member countries contribute significantly to global agricultural production, many of them have climate-sensitive production structures and relatively limited adaptive capacity. Prevailing agricultural planning frameworks in many OIC member countries remain largely based on traditional climate patterns and short-term productivity objectives that limit their effectiveness under increasing climate uncertainties. The absence of systematic climate risk analysis and well-designed incentive mechanisms, prevent the efficiency of public interventions to assist farmers and agri-businesses in their endeavours to mitigate the negative effects of climate change.

Due to the importance of the subject, the Agriculture Working Group (AWG) has devoted its Meetings in 2026 to discuss the topic of “Promoting a Resilient Agriculture Sector against Climate Change in OIC Member Countries”. In this respect, 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AWG was held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, in a virtual-only format, with the aforementioned theme. A research report on the subject is being prepared under aforementioned theme. The Report will identify best practices, innovative approaches and successful strategies to promoting a resilient agriculture sector against climate change in the OIC member countries. The preliminary findings of the Study, the experiences and perspectives of member countries as well as international organizations were elaborated during the 26<sup>th</sup> AWG Meeting. The final version of the Report will be submitted to the 27<sup>th</sup> AWG Meeting to be held on 21-22 September 2026.

### **3.1.6. COMCEC Poverty Alleviation Working Group**

Skill mismatch constitutes a critical constraint on labour market efficiency and inclusive economic growth, occurring when the skills of the workforce are not aligned with labour market needs. This challenge has become increasingly evident in many developing and emerging economies due to structural transformation, rapid technological change, and shifting sectoral employment patterns. It leads to productivity losses, inefficient resource allocation, and weaker employment outcomes, particularly among youth.

Preventing and reducing skill mismatch requires a systemic and forward-looking approach that strengthens the alignment between human capital formation and evolving labour market needs. This entails improving the responsiveness of education and training systems, particularly technical and vocational education and training (TVET), expanding lifelong learning opportunities, and enhancing labour market information systems to better anticipate skill demand.

In this context, considering the vital importance of the subject, Poverty Alleviation Working Group (PAWG) has dedicated its Meetings in 2026 to the issue of preventing skill mismatch in the labour markets of the OIC member countries. In this respect, the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PAWG was held on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, in a virtual-only format, with the theme of “Preventing the Skill Mismatch in the Labor Markets of the OIC Member Countries.”

A comprehensive research report is being prepared on this topic. The initial findings and the first draft of the report have been shared with the participants at the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PAWG. The draft report covers the conceptual framework of skill mismatch, examines key challenges faced by member countries, and includes case country analyses. The final version of the said research report will be submitted to the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Working Group to be held on 16-17 September 2026 and refined in light of the insights and feedback shared during the Meeting.

## **3.2. COMCEC Project Support Instruments**

### 3.2.1. The COMCEC Project Funding

COMCEC Project Funding is a valuable tool to assist member countries in their policy-making endeavours. It turns COMCEC policy recommendations into practice while improving the institutional and human capacity of member countries.

The projects submitted by member states and the OIC institutions under the COMCEC Project Funding serve to the realization of the objectives of the Strategy and of the policy recommendations adopted by COMCEC Sessions as well as to the mobilization of human and institutional resources of member countries.

The mechanism provides the project owners with the opportunity to implement projects in cooperation with other OIC member countries. In doing so, it facilitates sharing knowledge and experience in a specific theme among member countries.

In 2025, 21 projects were implemented under the COMCEC Project Funding. Moreover, 31 projects will be supported by the CCO in 2026 as demonstrated in Table 1.

**Table 1: Projects to be financed through the COMCEC Project Funding in 2026 Implementation Year**

No	Beneficiary Countries	Cooperation Area	Project Title
1	Benin, Pakistan, Türkiye	Agriculture	Capacity Building for the Establishment of a Community-Based Revolving Fund to Facilitate Farmers' Access to Agricultural Inputs
2	Morocco, Türkiye	Agriculture	Support and Incentive Mechanisms for Promoting Women and Youth Entrepreneurship in Agriculture
3	Gambia, Nigeria	Agriculture	Capacity Building on "Efficient Water Management in Rice Production"
4	Malaysia, Egypt	Agriculture	Capacity Building on Adopting Water-Smart Agricultural Techniques for Paddy Production in Malaysia
5	Pakistan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan	Agriculture	Enhancing Genome Editing and Crop Biotechnology Capacity for Climate-Resilient Agriculture in OIC Member Countries
6	Uganda, Türkiye	Agriculture	Building Capacity in the Use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for Agricultural Data and Early Warning to Enhance the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers
7	Niger, Türkiye, Uganda	Agriculture	Enhance Livestock Productivity in Niger through Artificial Insemination
8	Uganda, Egypt	Tourism	Strengthening Uganda's Culinary Tourism through Skills Development
9	Bangladesh, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, Mali, Jordan, Saudi Arabia	Tourism	Enhancing Cultural Heritage Site Preservation by Strengthening Governance and Monitoring Systems
10	Indonesia, Malaysia, UAE, Türkiye	Tourism	Strengthening and Branding Tourism Destinations in Indonesia with OIC/SMIIC Halal Standards
11	Uzbekistan, Türkiye, Indonesia	Tourism	Sustainable Tourism Villages Initiative: Empowering Communities and Enhancing Rural Visitor Experiences
12	Gambia, Türkiye	Tourism	Strengthening Culinary Tourism of the Gambia through Enhancing the Capacity of Chefs/Cooks in the Tourism and Hospitality Sector

13	Malaysia, Morocco, Egypt, Uzbekistan, Senegal, Jordan, Lebanon	Tourism	Capacity Building of Tourism Stakeholders with OIC/SMIIC Halal Restaurant and Tourism Services Standards
14	Egypt, Türkiye, Uzbekistan, Malaysia, Senegal	Tourism	Strengthening Egypt's Cultural Tourism Destination Brand through Sharing Experiences
15	Maldives	Tourism	Enhancing Maldivian Gastronomy Tourism by Increasing the Recognition of Traditional Cuisine
16	Uganda, Egypt	Financial Cooperation	Enhancing Professionals Cybersecurity Capabilities in Digital Payment Systems in Uganda
17	Gambia, Malaysia	Financial Cooperation	Capacity Building in Green Sukuk and Islamic Microfinance in The Gambia
18	Malaysia, Türkiye, Indonesia, UAE, Saudi Arabia	Financial Cooperation	Utilizing Islamic Social Finance Instruments as a Powerful Alternatives for Climate Resilience
19	Pakistan, Malaysia	Poverty Alleviation	Foresight Skills Lab (FSL): Bridging Today's Skills with Tomorrow's Jobs
20	Nigeria, Türkiye, Malaysia	Poverty Alleviation	Mobilizing Capital for Affordable Housing: A Masterclass on REITs, REIFs and Housing Sukuk
21	Bangladesh, Egypt, Malaysia	Poverty Alleviation	Experience Sharing on Islamic Financial Instruments for the Provision of Social Housing
22	Malaysia, Iraq, Jordan, Gambia, Nigeria, Pakistan	Poverty Alleviation	Closing the Gap: Strengthen Industry Driven TVET through Strategic Partnership to Boost Employment in OIC Countries
23	Maldives, Türkiye	Trade	Strengthening Maldivian MSMEs through Regional Cooperation and Exchange
24	Suriname, Guyana, Türkiye	Trade	Enhancing the Capacity of the Metrology Department in Suriname
25	Palestine, Jordan	Trade	Digital and Institutional Capacity Enhancement of the Palestinian Garment and Textile Industries
26	Bangladesh, Türkiye	Trade	Strengthening Digital Market Surveillance and Commodity Distribution in Bangladesh
27	Jordan, Türkiye, Saudi Arabia	Transport and Communication	Fostering a Common Regulatory Framework for ITS-Based Ride-Hailing Services in OIC Member States: Building Capacity and Data Integration through a Jordanian Pilot
28	Jordan, Oman	Small and Medium Enterprises	Strengthening Institutional Capacity for BSO to Design Digital SME Support Programs in Tourism and Hospitality
29	Pakistan, Türkiye, Senegal, Egypt	Small and Medium Enterprises	Identifying and Designing the Organizational Structure and Financing Model for a Multilateral and Sustainable OIC SME Networking Platform
30	Azerbaijan, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan, Senegal, Türkiye	Small and Medium Enterprises	Empowering SME Development Agencies with Innovative Financing Solutions under the OIC-SMENET Framework
31	Tajikistan, Türkiye	Digital Transformation	Capacity Building in Digital Skills for IT Specialists

Besides, an online training program on the implementation process of the projects under the COMCEC Project Funding was held on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Within the scope of the program, project staff were informed about the actors and their responsibilities in the implementation period, monitoring and reporting processes, and critical issues in the implementation period as well as basic working principles of the project management information system. The 14<sup>th</sup> Call

for Project Proposals will be open October 1st, 2026 under the COMCEC Project Funding.

### 3.2.2. COMCEC Al-Quds Program

The COMCEC Al-Quds Program has been developed as a sign of solidarity with Palestine considering the current situation and special conditions there, especially in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, in accordance with the resolutions of the Extraordinary Islamic Summits on Al-Quds as well as the COMCEC Sessions. The scope of the program include entrepreneurship, vocational education, training, creating job opportunities and empowerment of women and youth, e-commerce and SME development. In this regard, 8 projects were implemented under the Al-Quds Program in 2025 as demonstrated the Table 2 below:

**Table 2: Al-Quds Program: Projects implemented in 2025**

No	Project Title
1.	Bridge to Opportunities: Enhancing the Employability of Al-Quds Youth
2.	Empowering Al-Quds Graduates: Freelancing for Sustainable Livelihoods and Income Opportunities
3.	Capacity Enhancement in Mother-of-Pearl Manufacturing
4.	Empowering Al-Quds Youth for Preserving Cultural Heritage
5.	Empowering Youth and Women in Al-Quds: Building Skills and Strengthening Social Inclusion through Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training
6.	Mastering the Coding Interviews for New Graduates
7.	Empowering Al-Quds: Preserving Cultural Heritage and Fostering Economic Growth
8.	Sustaining Economic Empowerment and Cultural Preservation through Ceramic Arts and Digital Innovation

Furthermore, this year, 10 new projects have been final listed and will be implemented by the Ministry of National Economy of the State of Palestine. This list of the projects to be implemented in 2026 is demonstrated below:

**Table 3: Al-Quds Program: Projects to be implemented in 2026**

No	Project Title
1.	Advancing Employability, Digital ADR, and Innovation Pathways for Al-Quds Youth
2.	Youth-led Digital Transformation of Al Quds’s Old City SMEs
3.	Reviving the Traditional Khayzaran Craft to Strengthen Livelihoods in Al-Quds
4.	Empowering Youth and Women through Vocational Training and Community Engagement
5.	AI Agentic Engineering Professional Training Program
6.	Empowering Al-Quds: Preserving Cultural Heritage and Fostering Economic Growth
7.	Empowering Youth through Ceramic Arts and Digital Innovation in Al-Quds
8.	Empowering Youth in Al-Quds as Cultural Heritage Storytellers and Archivists – Advancing the Tankiz Interpretation Center’s Narrative Lab
9.	The Palestinian Heritage Museum: A Living Center for Culture, Creativity, and Economic Empowerment
10.	Enhancing Healthcare and Emergency Services in Al-Quds

The projects aim to bolster economic empowerment and skill development in Al Quds. They encompass initiatives such as fostering technical and vocational capacity in handicrafts, supporting small and medium enterprises through youth and business development, empowering youth and women in various sectors, promoting economic empowerment for Palestinian women, leveraging AI and tourism. These efforts collectively seek to enhance the economy of people living in Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

### **3.2.3 COMCEC Syria Program**

The COMCEC Syria Program has been initiated with the aim of contributing to strengthening the institutional and human capacity in Syrian Arab Republic, in line with the relevant resolutions of the 51<sup>st</sup> Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the 41<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session. In this context, tailored capacity-building projects focusing on trade, SMEs, vocational education, and planning, program and strategy management will be implemented this year under this Program.