

## Finance Minister receives FDPM Fellowship winners



Shaikh Salman with FDPM Fellowship winners.

### Manama

The Minister of Finance and National Economy (MOFNE), Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, yesterday welcomed the fourth intake of the First Deputy Prime Minister's (FDPM) Fellowship for a

roundtable discussion, at Gudai-biya Palace.

During the discussion, the minister highlighted that the FDPM Fellowship continues to enhance the skill-set and capabilities of Bahraini nationals, in line with the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by HM

King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

He highlighted that over the past four years the programme has successfully provided the necessary innovative skills and expertise needed by the national workforce to further develop the public sector.

The minister praised the pas-

sion and ambition demonstrated by the fellows, adding that such mindsets develop future leaders that contribute to the Kingdom's development, in line with the vision of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy

Prime Minister.

He noted that the comprehensive programme further provides fellows with an understanding of the policy development processes that take place within government, which are vital to their future careers.

The minister then gave a brief

on MOFNE's scope of work, including the various initiatives undertaken to further enhance the Kingdom's national economy.

He concluded by thanking the programme's administrators, and wished the fellows success in their future careers within the public sector.

# Focus on Kenya ties

Roundtable meeting focuses on further strengthening bilateral ties

● **Dr Shaikh Abdulla affirmed the keenness of the Kingdom to enhance co-operation with the Republic of Kenya for the benefit of both countries and people.**

● **The meeting welcomed mutual keenness to expand trade exchange and joint co-operation in the fields of energy, technology, banking, tourism, petrochemicals and small industries.**

### Manama

Foreign Ministry Undersecretary for International Affairs, Dr Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, chaired a roundtable meeting yesterday between the Kingdom and the Republic of Kenya.

The meeting was held in the Ministry's General Court in the presence of the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Sabah Salim Al Doseri, the Assistant Under-

secretary for Foreign Trade at the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Eman Ahmed Al Doseri and a representative of the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication.

The Kenyan delegation was headed by the Middle East Director at the Kenyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Jacqueline Yonga.

The two sides discussed the friendly relations between the two countries and reviewed ways to enhance them at all levels. Viewpoints on the latest regional and international developments of mutual concern were also discussed during the meeting.

Dr Shaikh Abdulla affirmed the keenness of the Kingdom to enhance co-operation with the Republic of Kenya for the benefit of both countries and people.

In this regard, he recalled the visit of His Royal Highness the Prime Minister, Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa to Nairobi in February 2018, during which he met with the President of the Republic of Kenya.

The visit contributed to the development of ties between the two countries.

The Undersecretary for International Affairs highlighted the development and achievements of the Kingdom under the leadership of His Majesty King



The roundtable meeting in progress.

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

He noted that the Kingdom is now a model for reforms, tolerance, religious and public freedoms, women partnership and sustainable development.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah also shed light on the various investment opportunities in the Kingdom of Bahrain as it is a regional hub for finance and entrepreneurship.

He also commended the efforts of the government in implementing various sustainable development programmes in accordance with the highest quality and efficiency standards, praising Bahrain Economic Vision 2013 for diversifying sources

of income and attracting technical and financial services.

The Undersecretary for International Affairs stressed the importance of uniting efforts to combat all forms of terrorism.

He warned against harbouring

terrorist organisations and interfering in the internal affairs of other states with no regard to the principles of good neighbourliness and other international principles.

In this regard, he affirmed the supporting position of the Kingdom of Bahrain to all the measures taken by the Republic of Kenya to preserve its national security against terrorist groups.

Dr Shaikh Abdulla welcomed mutual keenness to expand trade exchange and joint co-operation in the fields of energy, technology, banking, tourism, petrochemicals and small industries.

He praised the role of the Kenyan community in the Kingdom

and its positive contribution to the Bahraini comprehensive development process.

He also lauded the Kingdom's new achievement in the field of anti-trafficking, where it was ranked in Tier 1 status in the report of the Department of State of the United States of America for the second consecutive year as the only country in the MENA region to achieve such status.

Dr Shaikh Abdulla stressed the keenness of the Kingdom to develop co-operation with African countries in various fields through the promotion of economic and investment partnerships that benefit both sides.

He also expressed the aspiration of the Kingdom to enhance co-ordination with the Republic of Kenya in the context of collective action, especially at the Arab-African Summit, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations.

For her part, Ambassador Jacqueline Yonga expressed her country's keenness to further develop cooperation and coordination with the Kingdom of Bahrain.

She praised the pioneering role of the Kingdom in establishing peace and combating terrorism in the region, wishing the Kingdom further progress and prosperity.

## Smart meter project reviewed



Electricity and Water Authority Chief Executive Officer Shaikh Nawaf bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa yesterday visited the water distribution directorate in Salmabad and inspected the progress of work on the new smart meter project. The EWA chief stressed the importance of the main advantages of the new remote water reading meter, which aims to support automation of the billing process, reduce water losses and enable customers to monitor their consumption, slash operational and maintenance costs.

## Development projects launched in Yemen

### Riyadh

The King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSRelief) is launching sustainable development initiatives in Yemen as part of "You Are Not Alone" project aimed at protecting orphans' families in Yemen.

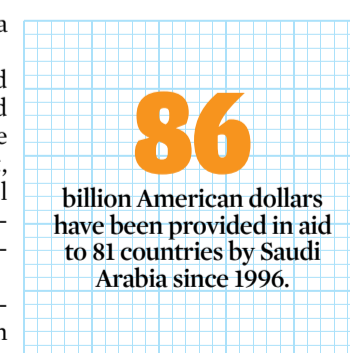
One such project is aimed at improving mothers' livelihoods and the resilience of communities via vocational training and economic empowerment. It covers the governorates of

Sanaa, Taiz, Al Jouf, Al Bayda and Marib.

Another project is aimed at improving livelihoods and strengthening resilience in the governorates of Hadramout, Shabwa, Aden, Lahj and Al Jouf, benefiting 3,750 individuals directly and 18,750 indirectly.

KSRelief is also offering professional training courses in administration and finance, as well as vocational courses for women.

Certificates are issued and



tools procured for each beneficiary according to their specialisation.

The Kingdom's foreign aid efforts have always been on the rise until they hit a record in the last few years, with the volume of Saudi aid, provided impartially to 81 countries, exceeding \$86 billion between 1996 and 2018.

King Salman issued his directives on May 13, 2015 to establish the KSRelief to provide various humanitarian and relief programs. Since its inception, KSRelief has implemented 1,011 projects in 44 countries worth \$3,439,139,000.