

March 2019

Consulting in GCC: Understanding the Value Add

Time to relate all to implementation

Research Highlights:

The report analyses the GCC Consulting market, key challenges facing the consulting industry and also the opportunities for growth in the industry. Through this study actionable recommendations have been provided for two main stakeholders; clients and consultants.





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about marmore

Our vision

To be the first choice for obtaining strategic intelligence on the MENA region.

Our mission

Serving businesses and institutions with reliable information and intelligence about MENA, needed to catalyse growth, understand the larger environment and facilitate decision-making.

Our aim

Advocate intellectual research on MENA economics, businesses and financial markets and provide customized, actionable solutions.

Our foundation

- » A subsidiary of Markaz: Investment bank and asset management firm with 40+ years of history
- » Markaz research activities commenced in 2006
- » Marmore established in 2010 to intensify the research activities
- » Publishes research reports and provides consulting services

published research

Industry research

Marmore's industry reports provide information on industry structure, key players, market analysis, demand drivers, competitive analysis and regulatory requirements.

Economic research

These reports are produced as thematic discussions based on current issues in the economy. The reports aid key stakeholders such as investors, businessmen, market participants, and policy makers in understanding the impact of a particular theme on the economy.

Infrastructure research

Infrastructure research highlights bottlenecks in the sector and areas requiring urgent investments. Our infrastructure report analyses the link between economic development and infrastructure and showcases supply & demand challenges in the GCC and investment opportunities.

Capital market research

Capital market reports provide an analysis of stock & bond markets in the MENA region including outlook. These reports are strategic in nature and provides investment perspective to readers.

Policy research

Marmore has partnered with several leading thought leaders and institutions of repute to generate economic policy research studies in key areas like energy, labor, economic structure and public sector.

Periodic research

Our periodic reports capture GCC stock markets' earnings, risk premium studies, and economic development & outlook.

Regulatory research

Our regulatory research series is an effective consolidation, analysis and summary of key business, economic, and market regulations that impact business environment.

consulting **services**

Marmore provides customized consulting services based on specific requirements of our clients. Marmore's bespoke consulting services marries the challenges of cost, time, scope and data availability to generate actionable outcomes that are specific to our clients' needs.

What type of consulting services we provide?

- » Industry market assessment (market size, competitors, regulations)
- » White label reports (industry reports, company newsletters, periodic research)
- Databases (competitors' information, target clients insights)
- » Company valuation (buy/sell side advisory)
- » Due diligence / Business evaluation
- » Feasibility studies (market and financial)
- » Business plans
- » C-Suite support to leaders with intellectual, industry related needs

How do we execute consulting engagement?

Our seven step process to execute consulting engagements:

- » Step 1: Requirement and scope analysis
- » Step 2: Proposal submission
- » Step 3: Project initiation
- » Step 4: Fieldwork / research
- » Step 5: Analysis & reporting
- » Step 6: Review & approval
- » Step 7: Report submission / presentation



2018









Table of Contents

Chapter No	Chapter Name
1	Executive Summary
2	Introduction
3	Why stakeholders need to source advice from consultants
4	How do various stakeholders choose their consultants?
5	Native Consultancies in GCC
6	Usual types of consulting support sought
7	Do stakeholders measure performance impact of consulting assignments?
8	Is there a gap between recommendation and implementation: how to measure the gap?
9	How to make the relationship more productive and useful
10	Conclusions
11	Actionable Recommendations

Tables and Charts

Table	es
3.1	Types of Consulting Support Generally Available
3.2	Consulting firms and services- GCC/MENA
3.3	Consulting Services across Functions (Not Exhaustive)
3.4	Emergent Typical Government Consulting Needs
4.1	The Broad Classification of Consulting Firms
4.2	GCC Consultancy Landscape
5.1	Areas of Consulting Activity
10.1	Recommendations

Charts		
4.1	Consulting Market Size in the GCC	
5.1	Home grown management consultancies of GCC	
5.2	Key Consultancies operating in Kuwait	

Executive Summary

Stakeholders, like government departments and companies in the public sector, private sector corporate boards, etc., widely utilize external consulting support to help them strategically review service areas for focusing on the delivery of institutional plans. The GCC region has a large presence of multinational consultancy groups, regional firms and boutique consultancies.

The entire process of a consultation exercise will largely depend upon the actual nature of the relationships developed, which includes managing expectations set at the outset. Uncovering the key business drivers and organizational motivations as part of stakeholder engagement will help harmonize diverse characteristics of groups towards a singular consulting focus.

Recent trends show that GCC governments are increasingly turning to consultants and advisors from global and regional institutions to extract meaningful value from immense reams of data, so that deeper insights are obtained for crafting evidence-based policies. With the region undergoing an economic transformation, the demand for consultancies having in-depth regional awareness and capacity to provide real time solutions is high.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that many GCC entities are not fully familiar with the broader consulting landscape nor with best practices in terms of leveraging consulting services. Understanding the consultant's role and contribution is critical for measurable success. One of the critical observations is that the returns from the proper selection and use of consultants can be extremely significant. On the flip side, the costs too can be heavy in terms of both money and morale.

The report explores the very important question that every year, despite businesses and public sector entities in the GCC spending enormous sums on consulting services, is there full understanding among various stakeholders about best practices and effectiveness of engagements? The report provides in-depth analysis of the recent status of the GCC consulting environment the type of consulting support sought, stakeholders who increasingly seek consultancy advices, emerging consulting needs and prominent consulting firms in the region. Through this study, actionable recommendations have been arrived at for two main stakeholder groups; clients and consultants.

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