



# MARKET BRIEF

## KUWAIT

### ***A New Beginning***

**With the threat of Saddam Hussein removed and oil revenues at an all time high, Kuwait's public and private sectors are experiencing a tremendous boom in growth, rivaling that which followed the first Gulf War. Major government projects that have been on hold for the last decade are now moving ahead and there is a surge in tenders being released for social infrastructure projects such as hospitals and educational facilities.**

## Market Overview

▶ Tenders are being prepared for a new national library, national stadium, and airport terminal. Plans for upgrading public works systems are coming to fruition; the ring roads are being expanded and upgraded and a \$1,500 million master plan to upgrade Kuwait's sanitary system is entering its final stages. Projects totaling over \$30 billion are under serious consideration by the Kuwaiti Government.

▶ In addition to government tenders, the private sector is pouring money back into the country that had been invested overseas during Saddam's rule. Construction is booming. The hotel and real estate sectors are experiencing unprecedented growth due to an increase in the number of international companies basing themselves in Kuwait to do business in Iraq. Local investment houses are putting their money behind huge residential and commercial developments throughout the country.

▶ The rise in private sector development and commercial activity is increasing the political pressure on the Kuwaiti government to implement and enforce policies supporting liberalization of the economy. Kuwait remains a challenging place for a foreign company to do business. However, among private companies doing business in Kuwait, the expectations for future progress and increasing opportunities are high.

## Top 5 Sectors

1. Oil & Gas Services
2. Information Technology
3. Medical Equipment
4. Pollution Control
5. Air Conditioning & Refrigeration

