

Newsletter

SFD

February 2025



A Legacy Rooted in Glory, A History Echoing Through Time

In celebration of the Founding Day, SFD held a commemorative event at its headquarters with participation of its employees — a tribute to a cherished national occasion and a proud reflection of our nation's enduring glory and deeply rooted heritage

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Saudi Fund for Development



خمسون عاماً
من التأثير العالمي

SFD Signs First Development Loan Agreement with Suriname to Finance Power Transmission and Distribution Project Worth USD 20 Million

His Excellency Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD, signed Fund's first concessional development loan agreement with His Excellency Mr. Keirmech and Raghoebarsing, Minister of Finance and Planning of the Republic of Suriname. The agreement secures USD 20 million in funding to support expansion of Suriname's power transmission and distribution systems.

The agreement aims to extend the electrical grid in the capital Paramaribo and the city of Nickerie, enhancing electricity availability for beneficiaries, improving the overall efficiency of the national power network in Suriname, and providing reliable electricity to farms and factories across various regions. Transmission lines are expected to stretch up to 50 kilometers.



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SFD and UNDP Sign MoU to Support Water Security in Somalia

On the sidelines of the 4th Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum, H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with H.E. Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director at the UNDP, to implement the grant allocated to the Federal Republic of Somalia under Phase V of the Saudi Program for Digging Wells and Rural Development in Africa. The signing ceremony was attended by H.E. Mr. Aweys Haji Yousuf, Ambassador of Somalia to the Kingdom. The program aims to improve access to clean water in rural areas of Somalia through development of solar-powered wells and water supply systems. The project will support clean drinking water, help combat desertification, enhance water and food security, and support the agricultural sector, while also reducing the spread of waterborne diseases.



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SFD Concludes Participation in Saudi Media Forum as Development Partner

SFD concluded its participation in the Saudi Media Forum 2025 as a development partner. During the event, the SFD received a commemorative shield from the Saudi Broadcasting Authority in recognition of its active communication efforts and meaningful contribution to development-oriented media and public engagement. Through an interactive booth, SFD showcased its development stories and highlighted impactful projects and programs it supports in developing countries around the world.



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SFD Wraps Up Participation in the 4th Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum

SFD concluded its participation in the 4th Riyadh International Humanitarian Forum, organized by King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, under the patronage of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, .King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, held on February 24–25, 2025

H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD, delivered opening remarks during a panel session titled "The Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus" as part of the forum's proceedings. In his speech, he emphasized the importance of unifying joint efforts to achieve development across various developing countries worldwide, moving toward sustainable solutions to address future challenges

H.E. Eng. Faisal Al-Qahtani, Deputy CEO of SFD, also highlighted during the session SFD's development activities and their integration with humanitarian efforts, aiming to achieve developmental impact in less developed communities around the world. The session included participation of representatives from the German Federal Foreign Office's humanitarian aid department, United Nations University for Peace, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)



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SFD Signs Two Development Agreements to Support Water and Oil Derivatives Sectors in Pakistan

In line with directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques—may God preserve him—and in the presence of H.E. Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Prime Minister of Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, Chief Executive Officer of SFD, signed a development agreement with H.E. Dr. Kazim Niaz, Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The agreement involves financing of oil derivatives valued at USD 1.2 billion. This new agreement builds upon Saudi Arabia's continued support—channeled through SFD—since 2019 to finance Pakistan's oil derivatives, with total contributions reaching approximately USD 6.7 billion. The support aims to stimulate economic growth, address financial challenges, and enhance key sectors within the country. The signing ceremony was also attended by H.E. Mr. Nawaf Al-Malki, Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to Pakistan, along with senior officials from both sides.

In addition, the two parties concluded a concessional loan agreement worth USD 41 million, provided by SFD, to fund a drinking water supply project in the city of Mansehra, Pakistan.



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SFD Strengthens Its Presence at the Global Water & Energy Summit in Spain and Wins Contribution Award

SFD, a global partner in sustainable economic development, participated in the Global Water & Energy Summit, held from February 10–12, 2025, in Valencia, Spain, with an informative exhibition booth. The booth attracted numerous international experts, specialists, and summit attendees, offering a glimpse into SFD's five-decade journey of driving development around the world.

Representing SFD in summit's opening address, Dr. Abdullah Al-Sukran, Executive Director of Strategy and Development, highlighted SFD's contributions over the past 50 years, with a particular focus on its impactful work in the water and energy sectors across developing countries.

In recognition of its dedicated efforts and impactful role in advancing sustainable global development, SFD was awarded the 2025 Global Water & Energy Summit Award for Outstanding Community Contribution.

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President of Suriname Receives SFD CEO

His Excellency Chand Santokhi, President of the Republic of Suriname, received Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD, along with his accompanying delegation. The meeting focused on exploring ways to strengthen development cooperation between the two sides.

This visit comes as part of Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad's official trip to Suriname to sign the first development agreement between SFD and Suriname, providing a concessional loan of USD 20 million to support a project in the energy sector.

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Inauguration of Wadi Al-Sail and Qalali Housing Project in Bahrain Funded by SFD

In presence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD, participated in the inauguration of Wadi Al-Sail and Qalali Housing Project in Bahrain. The project was financed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through SFD, with a contribution exceeding USD 100 million. Also attending the ceremony was Mr. Fahad .bin Munikhir, Chargé d'Affaires at the Saudi Embassy in Bahrain



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SFD Concludes Participation in the 5th Blended Finance Summit

SFD concluded its participation in the 5th Blended Finance Summit, held from February 20–22, 2025, in Cape Town, South Africa. Through its exhibition booth, the Fund showcased its projects, programs, and development stories since its establishment in 1974, highlighting its contributions to infrastructure development and essential services in less developed communities to foster growth and prosperity across developing countries.

The booth drew significant attention from heads and representatives of UN agencies, international organizations, development funds, banks, and global development experts, who explored the Fund's five-decade journey and its vital role in advancing sustainable development worldwide.



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الدولة السعودية الأولى

تأسست عام
١١٣٩هـ | ١٧٢٧م



عاصمتها
الدرعية

على يد الإمام
محمد بن سعود



تاريخ الدولة السعودية منذ التأسيس

المملكة العربية السعودية

تأسست عام
١٣١٩هـ | ١٩٠٢م



عاصمتها
الرياض

على يد الملك عبدالعزيز
بن عبد الرحمن بن فيصل
آل سعود

الدولة السعودية الثانية

تأسست عام
١٢٤٠هـ | ١٨٢٤م



عاصمتها
الرياض

على يد الإمام تركي
بن عبد الله بن محمد
بن سعود



Bilateral Meetings and Engagements



H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD received H.E. Mr. Gerardo Werthein, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Argentina, along with his accompanying delegation.



H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD, met with H.E. Mr. Dean Macpherson, Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure of the Republic of South Africa, and his accompanying delegation.

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Bilateral Meetings and Engagements



H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, H.E. Mr. Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), along with his delegation.



H.E. Mr. Sultan Al-Marshad, CEO of SFD also received H.E. Mr. Dennis Cornwall, Minister of Finance of Grenada, and his accompanying delegation.

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