# Google Cloud’s $18.9bn investment in Qatar set to transform economy and skills by 2030



Google Cloud’s strategic initiatives in Qatar are intricately linked to the nation’s ambitious aspirations outlined in the Qatar National Vision 2030. Ghassan Kosta, the regional general manager for Google Cloud covering Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, and Iraq, emphasized that the company's investments, particularly the newly launched cloud region in Doha and the establishment of a Centre of Excellence, are emblematic of their commitment to fostering Qatar’s digital evolution. These projects are not merely technological upgrades; they aim to catalyse significant socio-economic transformations through digital innovation.

Kosta noted that the introduction of the Doha cloud region is expected to inject approximately $18.9 billion into Qatar’s economy from 2023 to 2030, creating an estimated 25,000 jobs in the process. This development is reported to enhance the digital capabilities of both businesses and public sector organisations, providing high-performance, low-latency services that are crucial for modern digital operations. Through these resources, Google Cloud seeks to support a diversified economy by facilitating innovation and elevating local enterprises to compete on a global stage.

The Centre of Excellence is pivotal in this strategy, acting as both an incubator for startups and a training ground for digital talent. By focusing on cloud training and developing high-potential local businesses, the CoE positions Qatar as a leader in the regional digital transformation landscape. According to Kosta, this initiative aligns with the human development goals of Qatar National Vision 2030, ensuring that the country builds a workforce equipped with advanced skills in artificial intelligence, data analytics, and cloud computing.

Highlighting a specific collaboration, Kosta mentioned the partnership with Qatar University, which has enabled students to leverage advanced tools like NotebookLM—a powerful AI-driven research assistant. This project not only streamlines academic research but also enhances educational prospects for students, thereby contributing to a more informed and innovative society. Kosta described it as a means of democratizing access to advanced technological resources, crucial for nurturing the next generation of researchers and thought leaders in Qatar.

Despite the optimism surrounding these initiatives, some observers caution that the success of such ambitious projects will depend on the ongoing commitment of both government and industry stakeholders. Qatar's proactive 'Cloud First' strategy shows a clear intent to build a robust digital infrastructure, which includes not just inviting tech giants like Google and Microsoft but also ensuring compliance with emerging data regulations and reducing latency for critical applications.

Both the launch of Google Cloud services in Qatar and the establishment of the Centre of Excellence are expected to drive substantial economic growth, with projections estimating a contribution of QR69 billion to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030. This aligns seamlessly with the overarching goals of the Qatar National Vision 2030, which seeks to establish a knowledge-based economy and stimulate further technological advancements across various sectors.

As Google Cloud celebrates its second anniversary of cloud innovation in the region, the implications of their investments extend beyond economic metrics. The focus on building local digital talent, fostering innovation, and enhancing service delivery exemplifies a forward-thinking approach that could position Qatar as a crucial hub for technological development in the Middle East.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.gulf-times.com/article/705736/business/google-clouds-qatar-strategy-aligned-with-2030-vision-says-top-executive), [[2]](https://cloud.google.com/blog/products/infrastructure/new-doha-google-cloud-region-is-now-open)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.gulf-times.com/article/705736/business/google-clouds-qatar-strategy-aligned-with-2030-vision-says-top-executive), [[2]](https://cloud.google.com/blog/products/infrastructure/new-doha-google-cloud-region-is-now-open), [[5]](https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/07/06/2023/google-cloud-market-to-generate-qr69bn-in-gdp-by-2030)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://qfz.gov.qa/google-clouds-center-of-excellence-opens-in-qatars-free-zones-to-bolster-qatars-digital-capacity/), [[4]](https://cloud.google.com/qatar-center-of-excellence), [[6]](https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/09/05/2025/qatar-accelerates-digital-shift-with-strategic-cloud-investments-policy-overhaul)
* Paragraph 4 – [[1]](https://www.gulf-times.com/article/705736/business/google-clouds-qatar-strategy-aligned-with-2030-vision-says-top-executive), [[5]](https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/07/06/2023/google-cloud-market-to-generate-qr69bn-in-gdp-by-2030)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://qfz.gov.qa/google-clouds-center-of-excellence-opens-in-qatars-free-zones-to-bolster-qatars-digital-capacity/), [[7]](https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/31/10/2022/qfza-google-cloud-to-operate-google-clouds-center-of-excellence)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.gulf-times.com/article/705736/business/google-clouds-qatar-strategy-aligned-with-2030-vision-says-top-executive> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://cloud.google.com/blog/products/infrastructure/new-doha-google-cloud-region-is-now-open> - Google Cloud has launched a new cloud region in Doha, Qatar, aiming to support the country's digital transformation and align with Qatar National Vision 2030. This initiative is expected to contribute $18.9 billion to Qatar's economy between 2023 and 2030 and create 25,000 jobs by 2030. The region offers high-performance, low-latency services to businesses and public sector organizations, enhancing their digital capabilities and fostering innovation.
3. <https://qfz.gov.qa/google-clouds-center-of-excellence-opens-in-qatars-free-zones-to-bolster-qatars-digital-capacity/> - Google Cloud's Center of Excellence (CoE) has opened in Qatar's Free Zones, aiming to bolster the nation's digital capacity. The CoE provides cloud training, supports startups, and facilitates research on cloud-based solutions. It serves as an incubator for high-potential startups and a hub for cloud innovation, positioning Qatar as a regional leader in digital transformation and supporting its efforts to build a knowledge-based economy in alignment with Qatar National Vision 2030.
4. <https://cloud.google.com/qatar-center-of-excellence> - Google Cloud's Center of Excellence in Qatar offers centralized training and resources to accelerate digital transformation. It provides curated content, intensive training programs, and a community for cloud innovators. The center aims to equip individuals and businesses with the necessary tools to succeed in the digital age, contributing to Qatar's goal of becoming a leading digital economy and hub for innovation.
5. <https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/07/06/2023/google-cloud-market-to-generate-qr69bn-in-gdp-by-2030> - The launch of Google Cloud services in Qatar is projected to generate QR69 billion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030. This aligns with Qatar National Vision 2030, which focuses on implementing digital transformation and establishing a knowledge-based economy. The initiative is expected to drive economic growth and technological advancement in the region.
6. <https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/09/05/2025/qatar-accelerates-digital-shift-with-strategic-cloud-investments-policy-overhaul> - Qatar is accelerating its digital transformation by inviting cloud giants like Google and Microsoft to establish local cloud regions. These investments strengthen the country's digital infrastructure, ensure compliance with data residency regulations, and reduce latency for critical applications across various industries. The 'Cloud First' approach adopted by Qatari government entities demonstrates a commitment to innovation and economic diversification.
7. <https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/31/10/2022/qfza-google-cloud-to-operate-google-clouds-center-of-excellence> - Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZA) and Google Cloud have partnered to operate the Google Cloud's Center of Excellence (CoE) in Qatar. The CoE, launched virtually in June 2021, has trained over 3,000 participants in cloud computing skills. It serves as a catalyst to upskill Qatar’s digital workforce, offering training to individuals interested in becoming certified cloud digital leaders.