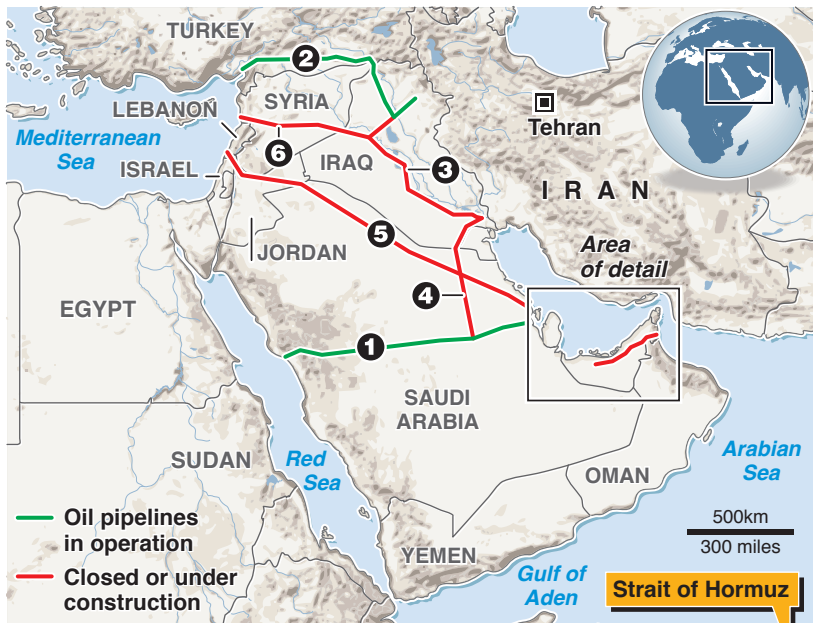


Middle East seeking new oil pipeline options

Threats by Iran to close the Strait of Hormuz – a vital transit point for over a third of the world's tanker-borne oil – has prompted Middle East countries to seek alternative export routes, with the UAE set to open a new 370km-long pipeline bypassing the Gulf by mid-2012



1 East-West (Petroline) Pipeline

Capacity 5 million barrels per day

2 Iraq-Turkey Pipeline: 1.6m bpd, currently operating at 300,000 bpd

3 Iraq Strategic Pipeline: 1.4m bpd, closed due to Iraq War damage

4 Iraqi Pipeline across Saudi Arabia

1.65m bpd, closed since 1991 Gulf War

5 Trans-Arabian Pipeline (Tapline)

500,000 bpd, currently in disrepair

6 Kirkuk-Baniyas Pipeline: 300,000 bpd, damaged during Iraq War

7 Abu Dhabi Crude Oil Pipeline: 1.5m bpd, due to open May or June

