

Saudi push to diversify its economy

Following the sharp fall in oil prices over the past year, Saudi Arabia's King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud is planning large-scale infrastructure projects to diversify the oil-dependent economy

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



■ **King Abdullah Port:** Long-term plan to create twin-basin facility able to handle 20 million containers per year, putting it on par with Dubai's *Jebel Ali Port* – busiest trading hub in Middle East

■ **Jeddah Islamic Port:** Kingdom's biggest facility, with 6.5 million container capacity. Expected to be main connecting point for **Saudi Landbridge** rail project

■ **Yanbu:** Port city in process of expansion, set to become key mineral processing hub by 2019

■ **Jizan:** \$10 billion scheme to build new port and shipyard, with focus on exporting refined oil products

■ **Al Lith:** Plans approved for new facility able to handle giant cargo ships, intended to ease pressure on Jeddah Islamic Port

■ **Saudi Landbridge:** Aims to transform Saudi rail network, linking commercial west with oil-rich east. Scheduled for completion in 2020, \$7 billion project includes refurbishment and laying of over 1,100km of new track