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Artificial Intelligence as a Strategic Pillar for Building the Digital Economy – An Analytical Study of Qatar

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Abstract:

This study aims to evaluate the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and its contribution to the digital economy in the State of Qatar, based on Qatar National Vision 2030 and the 2024 Arab Digital Economy Index. Employing a descriptive and analytical methodology, the study finds that Qatar is a regional leader in this field, ranking third among Arab countries in the use of AI technologies to build a digital economy according to the same index. This leadership is evident through the country's adoption of well-designed strategies and advanced technologies, forming a strong foundation for promoting sustainable development within the State of Qatar.

Keywords: Digital Economy; Artificial Intelligence; Information and Communication Technology (ICT); National Vision 2030.

JEL Classification: O33; L86; O55.

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Introduction

The digital economy encompasses a broad field of economic activities that leverage digital technologies to enhance productivity, foster innovation, and stimulate growth.

Fundamentally, it is built upon the use of the internet, cloud computing, big data, financial technologies (FinTech), and intelligent systems, either as substitutes for or enablers of traditional business models. These technologies open up new avenues for market development and economic capabilities.

Far from being limited to online transactions, the digital economy permeates nearly every sector, encompassing activities empowered by digital infrastructure. It influences core domains of human activity—from commerce and manufacturing to urban development, agriculture, education, healthcare, and public safety—shaping the contours of modern economies through digital transformation.

In this global context, the State of Qatar is actively pursuing its ambition to become a regional and global hub for emerging technologies, with artificial intelligence at the forefront. By accelerating digital innovation across strategic sectors, Qatar seeks to align with the goals of its National Vision 2030, while advancing digital transformation and reinforcing the foundations of its digital economy.

Research Problem

To what extent can artificial intelligence be considered a strategic Pillar in building an integrated digital economy in the State of Qatar?

Sub-Questions

To address this central problem, the study seeks to answer the following sub-questions:

— What are the defining characteristics and main components of Qatar's digital economy within the framework of Qatar National Vision 2030?

— To what degree have Qatari institutions integrated artificial intelligence technologies into key economic sectors?

— What are the strengths and weaknesses of Qatar's digital economy performance, as reflected in the 2025 Arab Digital Economy Index?

Research Hypotheses

The study is guided by the following working hypotheses:

— Artificial intelligence serves as a fundamental driver in advancing the digital economy in Qatar.

— The application of AI technologies contributes significantly to economic growth and the enhancement of public service delivery in the country

Significance of the Study

The importance of this study lies in its focus on one of the most critical and contemporary topics in the field of economics: the role of artificial intelligence in building the digital economy. It explores the transformation of traditional governments into digital governments in a transparent and efficient manner through digital economy initiatives. Given Qatar's leading position in this field, the State of Qatar was selected as a case study to analyze and understand the contribution of artificial intelligence to the enhancement of its digital economy, as reflected in the 2024 Arab Digital Economy Index.

Objectives of the Study

This study aims to achieve the following objectives:

— To explore the concepts of the digital economy and artificial intelligence, and the transformative potential of the latter in reshaping digital economies.

— To identify the key components of the digital economy within the framework of Qatar National Vision 2030.

— To investigate the role of artificial intelligence in accelerating digital transformation in the State of Qatar.

To assess Qatar's digital economy performance based on the 2024 Arab Digital Economy Index.

Methodology

The study adopts a descriptive approach for the theoretical framework, while a combination of case study and analytical methods is employed in the applied section. This mixed methodology enables the analysis of data related to artificial intelligence and the Arab digital economy as it pertains to the State of Qatar during the year 2024.

01- Review of Related Literature

A selection of relevant previous studies has been compiled to provide context and support for the present research. These studies include:

- (Ragai, 2024)**:** This study aimed to assess the readiness of the Egyptian economy to benefit from artificial intelligence technologies, as well as to identify the key requirements for integrating its applications into various uses in Egypt. The study employed a

descriptive-analytical approach and concluded that Egypt has achieved significant progress in terms of readiness—whether by establishing a national strategy for artificial intelligence, striving to build human capacities and both physical and institutional infrastructure, or through various efforts related to the regulatory and legislative framework.

- (Boumedyen & KECHE, 2025)**:** The study aimed to examine the role of artificial intelligence in enhancing governance and sustainable development in Algeria, and to assess the extent to which Algeria has adopted AI technologies and their impact on transparency, administrative efficiency, and economic performance. The research employed a descriptive-analytical approach in addition to a case study method. A questionnaire was used as the primary research tool, supplemented by interviews. The questionnaire was distributed to several banks, financial institutions, government bodies, and technology startups. The study's most significant finding was that AI applications considerably improve governance by enhancing fraud detection, reducing accounting errors, and increasing operational efficiency.
- (Božić, 2024)**:** This study aimed to explore the impact of artificial intelligence on the development of the digital economy using a descriptive-analytical approach and conducting an in-depth analysis of the topic. The findings indicated that AI has a significant and effective influence on digital economy development by improving efficiency, productivity, and customer interaction. Moreover, it contributes to creating new markets for businesses, driving economic growth, automating tasks, and facilitating data collection and analysis for decision-making processes. AI also plays a vital role in advancing specialized educational programs, improving healthcare services, and expanding access to essential services in remote areas.
- (Xinyi & Zeyi, 2024)**:** This study sought to explore the use of artificial intelligence technologies across various sectors of the digital economy, with a focus on finance, e-commerce, supply chain logistics, healthcare, and other areas. Using a descriptive-analytical method, the study concluded that the continuous advancement of AI has fundamentally transformed operations across different economic sectors, offering greater value and efficiency to businesses and playing a key role in their development.

What distinguishes our study from previous research is that it focuses specifically on the State of Qatar, which is considered a regional leader

in the fields of artificial intelligence and the digital economy. Our study presents the main components of the digital economy within the framework of Qatar National Vision 2030, and conducts an analytical assessment of the current state of AI and its role in enhancing the digital economy in Qatar, based on the Arab Digital Economy Index 2024.

Study Structure

The study is organized around two main thematic axes:

2- The Conceptual Framework of the Study

2-1 The concept of Artificial Intelligence

2-2 The concept of the Digital Economy

2-3 The Transformative Role of Artificial Intelligence in the Development of the Digital Economy

2-4 The Components of the Digital Economy within Qatar National Vision 2030

3- The Current State of the Digital Economy and Artificial Intelligence in Qatar According to the 2024 Arab Digital Economy Index

2- The Conceptual Framework of the Study

2-1- The concept of Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence (AI) has been defined in various ways, including:

- "A scientific and technical approach that encompasses methods and techniques aimed at creating algorithms capable of simulating human intelligence." (Mohamed, 2024).
- "A branch of computer science focused on developing systems that can mimic human cognitive abilities such as learning, analysis, and decision-making based on data, characterized by a high degree of analytical precision." (Boumedyen & KECHE, 2025)

Based on these definitions, artificial intelligence can be broadly defined as:

"A technology that enables machines to exhibit logic and human-like abilities such as autonomous decision-making by absorbing vast amounts of data and using it to solve problems proactively and predict future situations and events." (Of course, this format applies to all texts in the body).

2-2- The Concept of the Digital Economy

Several definitions have been proposed for the digital economy, including:

- "An economy that emphasizes digitalization—both in production (e.g., robotics) and in consumption (e.g., e-commerce)—alongside promoting innovation in the economic domain". (Tidiane, 2025)
- "The reshaping of traditional business models through the adoption of new digital technologies, allowing companies to enhance consumer experiences, streamline production processes, and innovate new products and services based on full utilization of digital data" (Khuntsaria, 2025)

From these definitions, it becomes clear that the digital economy refers to: **"An economy that relies on information and communication technologies (ICT) in its various operations and transactions, using digital computing technologies and the internet as core tools for efficiency, connectivity, and innovation."**

2-3- The Transformative Role of Artificial Intelligence in the Development of the Digital Economy

The transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI) in the digital economy manifests across several key areas (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024):

2-3-1- Automation of Routine Tasks: AI enables the automation of complex, data-driven tasks that traditionally require human intervention, such as data entry, customer service via chatbots, and even more advanced roles like financial analysis. This automation can accelerate operational processes, reduce costs, and minimize human error, allowing employees to focus on more strategic activities.

2-3-2- Enhanced Data Analytics: Thanks to its ability to accurately process vast datasets and detect patterns and trends, AI significantly strengthens data analysis capabilities. Organizations can leverage these insights to optimize strategies, predict market trends, improve marketing plans, and enhance customer service by anticipating needs and preferences.

2-3-3- Supply Chain Optimization: AI can improve supply chains by forecasting demand fluctuations, identifying bottlenecks, and suggesting corrective measures. It also supports more efficient inventory management, which helps companies reduce costs and increase overall operational efficiency (Božić, 2024)

2-3-4- Innovation in Products and Services: AI drives innovation by enabling the creation of new products and services that were previously

unimaginable—for example, AI-based financial services that offer personalized investment advice.

2-3-5- Market Expansion: Artificial intelligence supports companies in expanding into new markets and reaching broader customer bases. Through advanced market analytics, AI helps identify new consumer segments and uncover emerging opportunities, thereby enabling businesses to tailor their strategies for greater outreach and competitiveness.

2-3-6- Risk Management: AI can be employed to assess and predict various types of risk, such as those related to lending and investment decisions. It can also analyze customer data and transaction histories to identify high-risk clients, enhancing the ability of institutions to make informed, proactive risk mitigation decisions (Ben naser, 2024)

2-4- The Components of the Digital Economy within Qatar National Vision 2030

Through its National Vision 2030, the State of Qatar aims to establish an advanced digital economy built on robust infrastructure that supports high-level business activities and fosters innovation. This vision is driven by strategic initiatives and investments in sustainable, high-yield digital development, as outlined in the (2030 Digital Agenda, 2025). The key components include:

2-4-1- Advanced Digital Infrastructure: By promoting Qatar's cloud capabilities on a global scale, developing an advanced environmental technology program, and establishing the foundations for a nationwide high-performance computing (HPC) program.

2-4-2- A Thriving Digital Economy: Focusing on digital transformation in strategic sectors, supporting digital advancement across small, medium, and large enterprises, and promoting digital export initiatives.

2-4-3- Growing Digital Innovation: Through the creation of a program to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) in the digital sector, the development of a national framework for monetizing data and digital assets, facilitating support procedures for tech startups, and enhancing research and development (R&D) in advanced technologies, with a focus on strategic tech-oriented R&D.

2-4-4- Integrated Digital Government: By transitioning to a user-centered centralized government service model and enhancing the efficiency and quality of central government services.

2-4-5- Knowledge-Driven Digital Technology: This involves strengthening the regulatory structure of the ICT sector, formulating a national data governance and management framework, establishing a national data and analytics

program, launching a national emerging technologies strategy, and inaugurating a future technology foresight center.

2-4-6- A Future-Led Digital Society: Through programs aimed at attracting global digital talent, modernizing work practices, developing and incentivizing local digital skills, and ensuring digital inclusion across all segments of society.

3- The Conceptual Framework of the Study

3-1- Pillar One: Institutions

This pillar reflects the degree of stability, regulatory environment, governance, and technological governance within the country. Governments play a central role in this regard, as their primary responsibilities include establishing a sound institutional framework that fosters entrepreneurship, economic growth, the rule of law, and improvements in citizens' quality of life and living standards.

This institutional foundation underpins all other economic and digital developments. Strong institutions create a favorable environment for business and innovation, and they also ensure that the benefits of technological advancement are widespread and sustainable.

Accordingly, Qatar ranks first in the Arab world in this pillar and has outperformed some benchmark countries such as Malaysia, due to its notable progress in this area.

Table number (01): Pillar One – Institutions

Pillar One	Institutions	Index Value
1.1	Political Environment	62.27
1.1.1	Political Stability and Security	83.96
1.1.2	Government Effectiveness	82.55
1.1.3	Voice and Accountability	20.29
1.2	Regulatory Environment	78.62
1.2.1	Regulatory Quality	77.36
1.2.2	Rule of Law	79.25
1.2.3	Control of Corruption	79.25
1.3	Technology Governance	63.18
1.3.1	Secure Internet Servers	48.78
1.3.2	Cybersecurity	94.40
1.3.3	Online Shopping	2.48
1.3.4	ICT Regulatory Environment	69.06
1.3.5	Emerging Technology Regulation	73.51
1.3.6	E-Commerce Legislation	100.00
1.3.7	Legal Protection of Content Privacy	54.05
Total Pillar Score		**68.0**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

Based on the data in the Table (01), which reflects the institutional pillar in the case of Qatar, we can observe a high level of development in the country's digital economy. Qatar achieved an overall score of 68.0, ranking first among Arab countries. The country performed particularly well in key areas such as e-commerce legislation, cybersecurity, political stability and security, and government effectiveness.

However, challenges persist, especially in the "Voice and Accountability" component of the political environment and in technology governance, particularly online shopping, which recorded a notably low score. This disparity indicates the need for Qatar to improve its performance in these lower-scoring sub dimensions to ensure comprehensive and sustainable digital development across all sectors.

This suggests that Qatari policymakers view institutional strength as a key determinant of the country's ability to attract investment, maintain economic stability, and foster a competitive and robust digital economy.

3-2- Pillar Two – Infrastructure

This pillar highlights the country's ability to develop and maintain the physical and digital infrastructures necessary for the prosperity of the digital economy. It includes access to and quality of information and communication technology (ICT), equitable technological outreach to all societal segments, and the overall logistics systems—each playing a crucial role in enabling digital progress.

Infrastructure serves as the foundation for digital trade, telecommunications, and supports the development of smart cities, e-government services, and other innovative services that contribute to economic diversification and growth. Qatar ranks fourth in the Arab world in this pillar, with an index value of 71.59.

Table number (02): Pillar Two – Infrastructure

Pillar Two	Infrastructure	Index Value
2.1	Access to ICT	93.20
2.2	ICT Usage	82.50
2.3	Technological Inclusion	47.05
2.3.1	E-Participation	36.05
2.3.2	Socio-Economic Gap in the Use of Digital Payments	39.69
2.3.3	Availability of Local Content Online	81.97
2.3.4	Gender Gap in Internet Use	70.39
2.3.5	Rural Gap in the Use of Digital Payments	7.15
2.4	Logistics Performance	63.60
Total Pillar Score		**71.59**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

It is evident from Table 02 that Qatar has made significant progress in developing its infrastructure, ranking fourth in the Arab world with a score of 71.59, which is considered very good. This score reflects the country's strengths in several areas, including access to and usage of ICT, the availability of local online content, and strong logistics performance. These factors indicate an advanced level of technology adoption and diffusion in Qatar.

However, some challenges remain, particularly in the field of e-participation, which reflects existing gaps in digital engagement. Therefore, efforts must be made to strengthen this aspect. Additionally, there are challenges related to the socio-economic divide in the use of digital payments, highlighting the need for Qatar to bridge this gap to ensure that all segments of society—especially those in rural areas—benefit from technological advancements.

3-3- Pillar Three: Workforce

This pillar is a fundamental component of the Digital Economy Index for Arab countries, highlighting the importance of human capital as a driving force behind economic and digital innovation. It encompasses the evaluation of educational attainment, the presence of diverse skills within the workforce, and the prevalence of creativity and adaptability—all critical elements in building a thriving digital ecosystem.

This pillar consists of several indicators, such as the percentage of GDP allocated to education, the percentage of employment in high-skill jobs, and the integration of ICT skills in the education system. Together, these metrics provide insights into the country's commitment to developing the human

resources needed to thrive in a globally competitive, tech-driven market. Qatar ranked fifth among Arab countries with a pillar index value of 46.75.

Table number (03): Pillar Three - Workforce

Pillar Three	Workforce	Index Value
3.1	Education spending as % of GDP	19.30
3.2	Knowledge-intensive employment %	31.20
3.3	ICT skills in the education system	89.16
Total Pillar Score		**46.75**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

From the table above, we observe a mixed picture regarding the development of human resources (the workforce) within Qatar's digital economy. With an index value of 46.75, there is noticeable disparity between the sub-indicators. The strongest area is the integration of ICT skills in the education system (89.16), which reflects significant efforts in embedding digital technologies into the education sector.

However, challenges remain in other areas, particularly in education spending as a percentage of GDP (19.30), highlighting the need for increased investment in education. Additionally, the relatively low percentage of knowledge-intensive employment (31.20) points to a need for greater job opportunities in tech and knowledge-based sectors.

This disparity shows that while Qatar has made progress in some aspects of developing its digital workforce, comprehensive strategies are still required to strengthen workforce capabilities and improve education quality and training—key to enhancing the nation's competitiveness in a technology-driven global market.

3-4- Pillar Four: Digital Government

This pillar measures the extent to which government institutions leverage ICT to deliver public services. It includes the development of e-government services, ICT infrastructure, and the human capital component necessary to support digital governance. Qatar ranked sixth among Arab countries in this pillar with an index value of 71.67.

Table number (04): Pillar Four – Digital Government

Pillar Four	Digital Government	Index Value
4.1	Online government services	61.00
4.2	Telecommunications infrastructure	82.00
4.3	Human capital component	72.00
Total Pillar Score		**71.67**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

The table above highlights Qatar's strength in telecommunications infrastructure (82.00), indicating substantial national efforts and the digital government's capacity to deliver services more efficiently and inclusively. The human capital component is also strong (72.00), reflecting effective workforce support for digital transformation.

However, the score for online government services (61.00) is relatively lower compared to the other components, suggesting a need for increased attention to this aspect. Improving e-government services would strengthen trust and engagement between citizens and the state and reduce reliance on traditional public service delivery methods.

The overall high score of this pillar reflects Qatar's significant investment in digital platforms, infrastructure, and its strategic prioritization of digital literacy and public services—aligned with its broader vision for digital transformation and economic modernization.

3-5- Pillar Five: Innovation

The innovation pillar measures the extent to which a country fosters an environment conducive to creativity and technological advancement. Innovation ecosystems—considered essential foundations for digital transformation—are assessed through several indicators: total R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP, the share of R&D funded by the private sector, university-industry collaboration, and finally, knowledge impact and absorption. Qatar ranked third among Arab countries in this pillar, with an index score of 38.6.

Table number (05): Pillar Five - Innovation

Pillar Five	Innovation	Index Value
5.1	Total R&D spending funded by businesses	11.4
5.2	University-industry collaboration in R&D	82.8
5.3	Knowledge impact	31.1
5.4	Knowledge absorption	29.1
Total Pillar Score		**38.6**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

Qatar's ranking as third in the Arab world is a positive indicator of its commitment to innovation and pursuit of leadership in this area, reflected in its score of 38.6. However, when compared to benchmark countries like Singapore and Malaysia, the score remains relatively low, pointing to shortcomings—particularly in overall R&D spending, especially from the private sector.

The relatively low scores for knowledge impact (31.1) and knowledge absorption (29.1) hinder Qatar's progress in innovation, despite its strong

performance in university-industry collaboration (82.8) in R&D. While such collaboration is encouraging, it is not sufficient on its own to significantly boost the innovation index. A comprehensive national innovation strategy is essential to drive meaningful progress.

Qatar is actively working to develop its institutions by integrating creativity and innovation into the fields of digital technologies and artificial intelligence, recognizing both the opportunities and challenges these technologies present to organizations.

Consequently, Qatar is considered among the technologically advanced nations in both the Arab world. Through strategic steps, it continues to promote research, build human capacity, and attract specialized talent to solidify its position as a leader in innovation.

3-6- Pillar Six: Technological Readiness

This pillar focuses on how well countries keep pace with the rapidly evolving technological landscape, which is a key component of competitiveness and economic prosperity. It reflects a nation's ability to harness current technologies, anticipate future innovations, and invest accordingly. To assess a country's position and preparedness in this area, several indicators are evaluated: the adoption of emerging technologies, investment in these technologies, and formulation of forward-looking strategies. Qatar ranked third among Arab countries with an index score of 77.9.

Table number (06): Pillar Six - Technological Readiness

Pillar Six	Innovation	Index Value
6.1	Adoption of emerging technologies	62.7
6.2	Investment in emerging technologies	71.0
6.3	Artificial Intelligence Strategy	100.0
Total Pillar Score		**77.9**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

The table above illustrates Qatar's technological readiness, serving as a clear indicator of its progress in embracing and deploying digital technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) within its digital ecosystem. With an overall score of 77.9, this is a strong signal of Qatar's commitment to developing knowledge- and innovation-driven strategies, particularly in the field of AI, where it scored a full 100.0—the highest possible score.

Qatar also performed well in investment in emerging technologies and in technology adoption, though there is still room for growth to reach optimal

levels. Therefore, the country still needs to design a renewed roadmap with modern mechanisms to further advance in this field.

According to a report released by Tortoise Intelligence, which has been tracking global AI readiness since 2019, several Arab countries have made notable progress in adopting AI technologies. Qatar ranked 54th globally and 4th in the Arab world in 2019. By the end of 2024, Qatar had improved to 42nd globally and 3rd among Arab nations in terms of AI adoption.

3-7- Pillar Seven: Market Sophistication and Development

This pillar reflects the maturity and development of financial and credit services, which are essential for fostering business environments conducive to innovation and economic growth. The economic indicators included in this pillar cover the availability and accessibility of startup financing, the ratio of domestic credit to the private sector relative to GDP, and the diversity within local industries. Together, these metrics provide a composite measure of the market's adaptability and complexity. Qatar ranked second among Arab countries, with an overall index score of 65.0.

Table number (07): Pillar Seven - Market Development

Pillar Seven	Market Development	Index Value
7.1	Startup financing and ease of access	62.3
7.2	Investment in emerging technologies	52.6
7.3	Local industry diversification	80.1
Total Pillar Score		**65.0**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

From Table 07, we can observe that Qatar's market development score stands at 65.0, indicating a relatively strong market maturity. The score of 62.3 for startup financing points to a healthy financial system and an enabling environment that supports innovation and business growth. While this score reflects positively on the country's market evolution, there remains a need to increase investment and funding for emerging enterprises, particularly in emerging technologies, which scored a relatively lower 52.6.

This suggests that while Qatar's market is well-developed, there is room for further enhancement, especially in terms of financial support and investment for innovative startups, in order to solidify its position as a regional leader in market complexity and digital transformation.

3-8- Pillar Eight: Financial Market Development

This pillar offers insight into how successfully countries integrate financial inclusion and fintech innovation into their economic frameworks. Financial technology plays a central role in shaping the financial landscape of modern societies. The indicators used to assess this pillar include: the percentage of the population over the age of 15 with a bank account, the spread of debit and credit card holders, the percentage of individuals engaging in digital financial transactions, and the market capitalization of listed capital markets as a percentage of GDP.

Qatar ranked second among Arab countries, with a total index score of 57.6.

Table number (08): Pillar Eight - Financial Market Development

Pillar Eight	Financial Market Development	Index Value
8.1	Fintech & Financial Inclusion	78.2
8.1.1	Percentage of population (15+) with bank accounts	85.7
8.1.2	Percentage of population (15+) with debit/credit cards	72.4
8.1.3	Percentage of population (15+) who made or received digital payments	76.6
8.2	Market capitalization as Percentage of GDP	36.9
Total Pillar Score		**57.6**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

It is evident from the previous table that the overall score of the pillar reached 57.6, which is considered a good level. The country's financial market is in continuous development, ranking second in the Arab world and 31st globally. This reflects the effective use of financial technology in implementing financial inclusion. The index for the latter reached 78.2. Similarly, the percentage of individuals with bank accounts was 85.7, indicating a strong level of financial inclusion. The percentage of those who own debit or credit cards was also good, estimated at 72.4, demonstrating effective usage of digital financial tools. Moreover, the percentage of individuals who made or received digital payments stood at 76.6, highlighting the growing awareness and adoption of digital payment methods .

As for the market capitalization as a percentage of GDP, it reached 36.9, which indicates an active Qatari market; however, further development of the financial environment is needed to enhance investment and stimulate the digital economy.

3-9- Pillar Nine – Economic Impact and Sustainable Development

This pillar measures the effectiveness of countries in leveraging technological advancements to progress toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It encompasses a wide range of objectives, including eradicating poverty and hunger, promoting health and well-being, ensuring quality education, fostering decent work and economic growth, driving industrial innovation and infrastructure, and strengthening partnerships to achieve these goals.

Qatar ranked first in the Arab world in this pillar, with a score of 78.57.

Table number (09): Pillar Nine - Economic Impact and Sustainable Development

Pillar Nine	Economic Impact and Sustainable Development	Index Value
9.1	Goal 1: No Poverty	99.67
9.2	Goal 2: Zero Hunger	69.56
9.3	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being	88.67
9.4	Goal 4: Quality Education	89.90
9.5	Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	69.93
9.6	Goal 9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure	84.08
9.7	Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals	48.16
Total Pillar Score		**78.57**

Source: (Arab Federation for Digital Economy, 2024)

The table above highlights the significant progress Qatar has made in achieving most of the Sustainable Development Goals through the use of information and communication technologies (ICT). The overall score of 78.57 indicates remarkable performance across most dimensions. Notably, Qatar has almost entirely eradicated poverty (scoring 99.67). Similarly, the country showed exceptional performance in other areas. However, the score for Goal 17 — *Partnerships for the Goals* — was moderate (48.16), suggesting that more efforts are needed to enhance this area through the use of digital technologies.

Conclusion

The previous analysis of the nine pillars demonstrates that the State of Qatar has undergone rapid developments in line with digital transformation initiatives and the increasing financial inclusion of its population. Artificial intelligence plays a fundamental role in boosting productivity and economic growth, thanks to its strong capacity to enhance business performance and efficiency, as well as its ability to support decision-making processes through the accurate analysis of big data.

Qatar's strong performance in the 2024 Arab Digital Economy Index further underscores the strength of its digital infrastructure and strategic initiatives aimed at advancing the digital landscape through the use of artificial intelligence—efforts that align with its national vision for 2030.

Study Findings

The study arrived at several key findings, summarized as follows:

- The State of Qatar has achieved outstanding performance in the field of digital government services, indicating a highly developed digital infrastructure for the delivery of public services.
- Qatar excels in institutional pillars such as political environment and government effectiveness, reflecting a stable political climate and effective governance.
- The country demonstrates significant readiness for future technologies, scoring 77.89—highlighting its strong capacity to adopt emerging and new technologies.
- Qatar invests heavily in innovation and development, particularly through the promotion of public-private partnerships aimed at accelerating technological advancement.
- The country shows a strong commitment to education and training in technology and engineering, supported by reputable academic institutions that help build technological competencies.
- Qatar has expanded its digital infrastructure—including data centers and cybersecurity systems—to support the digital economy.
- The government actively supports startups and entrepreneurship through business incubators and accelerators, fostering innovation across various sectors, especially in technology.
- Qatar maintains strong international relations, facilitating partnerships with numerous global technological institutions, which contributes to the exchange of expertise and the advancement of technological progress within the country.

Study Recommendations

The study concluded with the following recommendations:
Although Qatar is achieving notable results in the adoption and use of technologies, there is still room for improvement in promoting more local innovation, particularly in sectors such as research and development.

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