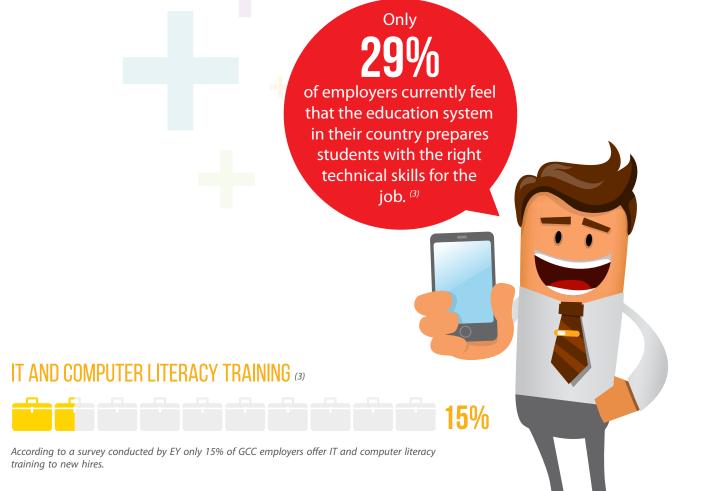


## **TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN EDUCATION**

ICT has been shown to increase the ability of learners to work independently, organize their own work and improve their cooperative working skills. These are skills needed in the world of work and should be taught at all levels.<sup>(1)</sup>

GCC Governments are currently tackling educational reforms needed to prepare young people to enter private and public sector employment. Governments are preparing young people for wider employment opportunities through including new curricula, improved teaching standards, increased professional freedom and enhanced use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT).<sup>(2)</sup>



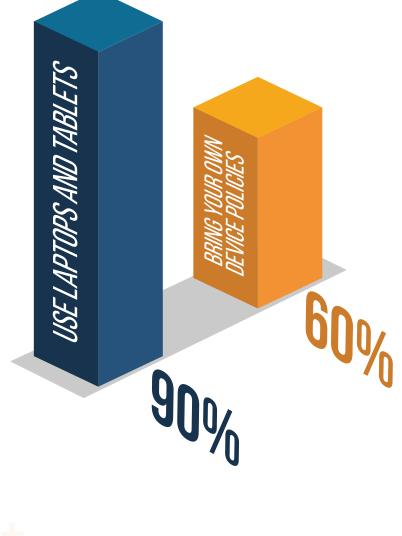
The GCC nations are increasingly deploying information and communications technology to facilitate effective learning. In the last decade, several schools and universities in the GCC have undergone a transformation phase for adopting, installing, and upgrading the information technology infrastructure. The governments are investing heavily towards modernizing the education system. The gradual spread of technology across the education institutions is likely to prepare the students for a future in an increasingly technology-oriented job market. Moreover, the use of internet and devices such as laptops and tablets are facilitating a more enjoyable and effective learning atmosphere, which is likely to result in improved grades of the students. <sup>(4)</sup>

A recent GCC education industry report by Alpen Capital reveals the region has an annual spend of USD 150 billion towards the education sector, with technology-driven education a priority for boosting innovation, meeting students' demands and tackling unemployment.

The GCC has taken the regional lead in the Middle East region. Technology-driven education initiatives include the UAE's Smart Learning Initiative, which aims to provide personal tablets to all K-12 government schools by 2017, and Qatar's Supreme Education Council's e-Bag project, which provides students and teachers with tablets to enhance learning and reduce school bag weight.

On the back end, institutions are deploying complex learning analytics for individualized learning strategies, and utilizing cloud campuses to host electronic resources and mobile-enabled projects.

Over 90 per cent of GCC educational institutions use laptops and tablets, while 60 per cent have Bring Your Own Device policies for students, according to IDC.<sup>(5)</sup>





D3 Consultants is a private educational consulting company operating in the GCC specializing in turnkey solutions and educational management services serving investors and capital investment companies, private and public K-12 schools, universities, training centers, and early childhood nurseries.

www.d3consultants.net

- 2. Source: ALPEN Capital Report
- 3. Source: EY GCC Education Report
- 4. Source: ALPEN Capital Report 5. Source: Eye of Riyadh - Culture and Education

<sup>1.</sup> Source: Deloitte whitepaper - Education - Middle East Public Sector national necessities