

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Ministry of Higher Education  
King Faisal University  
Knowledge Exchange and Cooperation Administration



# Knowledge Exchange and Cooperation Foundations, Visions, and Programs

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## Introductory Note by the President of KFU

Within the framework of improvement and development plans adopted by university - institutions in the Kingdom, there has been an unmistakable interest in the concept and applications of knowledge exchange and cooperation and the transfer into a community of knowledge that is reinforced by knowledge economy. Such efforts were driven by the accelerating rate of using technology and the support our universities receive from our wise government. Accordingly, today our universities compete to set the outlines, visions, and programs toward the achievement of knowledge exchange, cooperation, and economy.

By virtue of its various colleges, programs, research centers, and all available infrastructure and human resources, King Faisal University has striven to have its own evident vision as a competent leading scientific institution in this important part of our country, which hosts the biggest national corporations that support the national economy of the kingdom. This puts the university before a big challenge to contribute in building a community whose components are based on knowledge economy, in addition to the role it will play to transfer and settle modern technology. Such contribution comes as part of the university's mission to develop and extend bridges of knowledge and technological exchange and cooperation between the university and national and international organizations which share and support the objectives of the university.



The university has set up many programs related to the field of knowledge exchange and cooperation to spring into the world of knowledge . Among these programs are : Institute of Research and Consultation, Prince Mohammed Bin Fahad Bin Abdulaziz for Research and Consultative Studies , Program of Scientific Chairs ,Centers of Research Excellence , and the University Endowment. Through this handbook , the reader will find the visions , missions , and objectives of these programs elaborated in detail . By this humble effort, the university hopes to contribute in enhancing knowledge culture , knowledge economy , and creativity in all scientific disciplines catered for by the university's colleges.

I pray to Almighty Allah to help us make King Faisal University a minaret of Knowledge and enlightened guidance, to achieve its objectives and meet the expectations of our wise leadership.

Prof. Yousif Mohadmed Al-Jandaan  
The President of the university



## Preface

King Faisal University has entered a new era of development and modernization in its educational and research programs and outputs. In this era, knowledge exchange and cooperation programs have become one of KFU's major tools of excellence and quality assurance in the university's academic , scientific, and service units. These efforts were made in order to cope with the latest knowledge and scientific developments, nationally and internationally, and reinforce strategies and visions adopted by the kingdom for its top academic institutions to service its long - term development plans through which the kingdom strives to transfer into a community of knowledge , reinforce its knowledge-based economy ,and progress with its social and developmental establishments in private and public sectors to levels of excellence that guarantee its regional and international competitiveness.

This publication presents a brief summary on a number of KFU's units and programs of knowledge exchange and cooperation which the university has either adopted or is on its way to adopt in order to realize its vision for more active participation in the national effort to turn to a community of knowledge and reinforce and strengthen its inputs to assure the demanded qualitative competence in all of the university's outputs.

Prof . Abdullah Bin Abraham Al-Sadaat  
KECA''s General Supervisor





## Introduction

Today, it has become evident that creating knowledge and spreading it is a field of competition among nations and peoples of the world in the 21st century.

It is also known that the economies of advanced countries are based, in the first place, on the production of knowledge and on investing this production to fulfill the needs of human communities and achieve their prosperity.

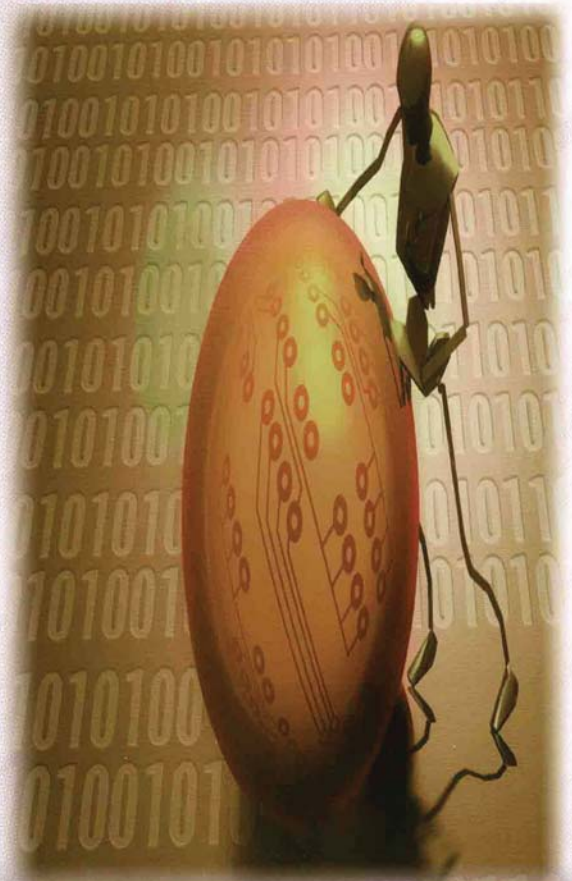
It is well known that the creation of knowledge is led by certain organizations, chief among them are universities, higher institutions, and advanced research centers that produce knowledge through scientific research, innovation, development, and training of human resources.

It is also obvious that knowledge and its creation activities is a great concern of scientists, researchers, thinkers, and innovators who devoted themselves to follow up with research and development to achieve all that is new and fruitful to fulfill the needs of their communities and humanity in general.



The on-going process of creating knowledge is closely related to continuing to qualify generations of innovators and gifted individuals and allow the exchange of expertise among them and to cater for their training needs, improvement of their skills, and facilitation of environments that support their productivity. The advancement in knowledge creation, dissemination, and employment is closely related to the amount of support it receives from partners and concerned parties like governmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals interested in the creation of knowledge and the development of communities.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia witnesses today a vast movement towards being a community of knowledge and to boost its national economy and base it on knowledge. Universities play a key role in the efforts of this movement and constantly move on with their activities to improve their capabilities, manpower, and facilities. They continue to vary their programs to upgrade their end-products to achieve that goal.





## KFU and Knowledge Creation

King Faisal University, one of the largest scientific and teaching institutions in the Kingdom, possesses the encouraging environment and the necessary circumstances to help it double its contribution in the creation of knowledge in the Kingdom and the development of its means, the variation of its programs, and the support of its sustainability.

KFU is a comprehensive university with a wide range of specialties in knowledge and scientific fields which are important to the economy of the Kingdom and the needs of its community. KFU hosts a large number of qualified researchers in different sciences and fields of knowledge and encompasses well equipped academic research and training facilities. Through directed planning, KFU continues to foster its programs and outputs and improve its performance on the basis of standards of excellence. The university has a distinguished geographical location which is of paramount importance to the economy of the Kingdom and the world. It is close to the flourishing economies in the Arab Gulf countries, giving the university a unique position in support of the knowledge-based economy of the Kingdom and the development of its human resources, infrastructure, material wealth, and granting it the position it deserves at both regional and international levels.



## Vision

King Faisal University to be a pioneer academic organization in establishing an innovative community based on knowledge economy, and to have a role in transferring, settling, and using advanced technology.

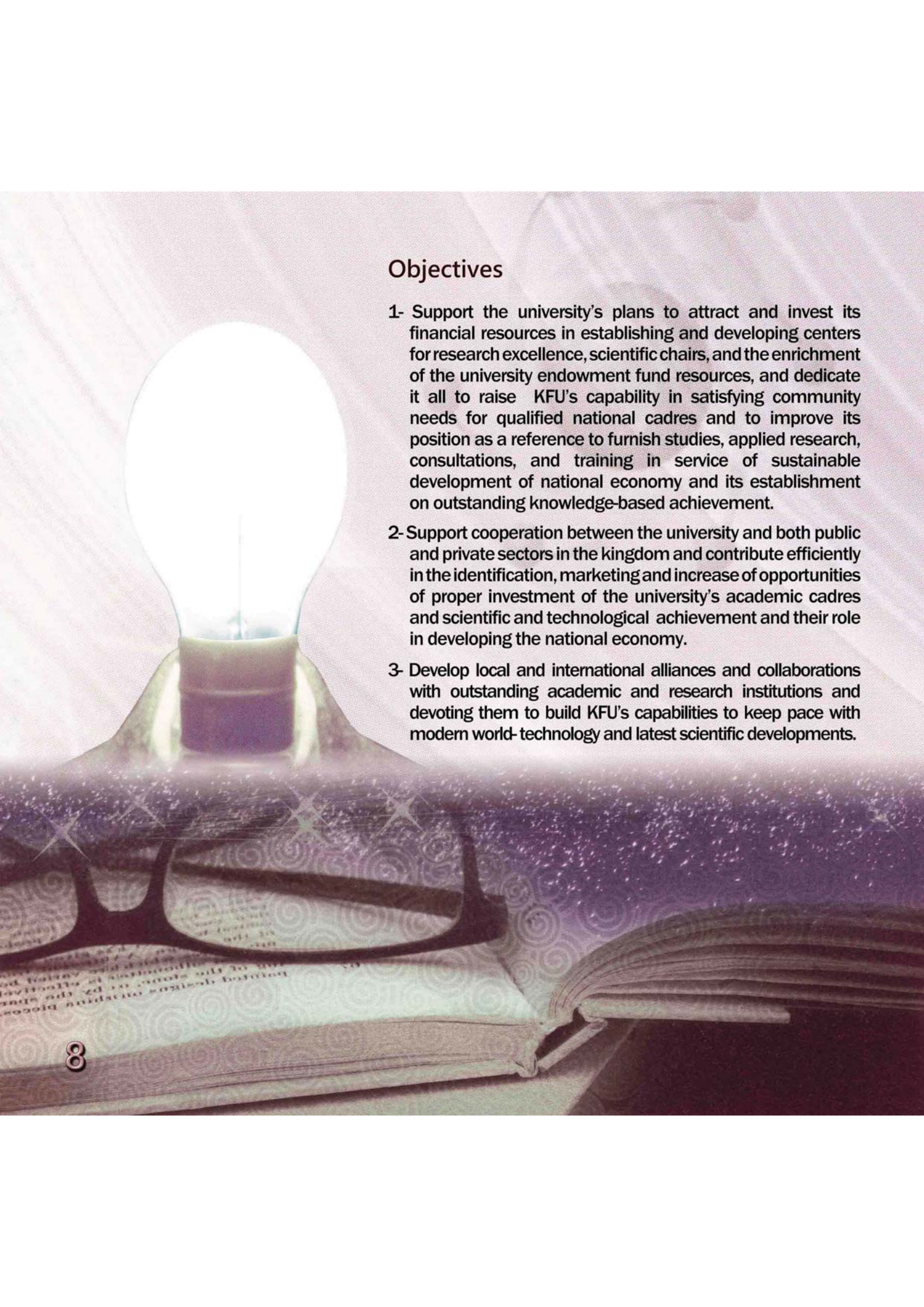
## Mission

Developing channels of knowledge exchange and cooperation between the university and closely associated local and international societal organizations, and strengthening its role as an outstanding and creative educational and research-based institution that plays an energetic role in achieving national development.

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## Objectives

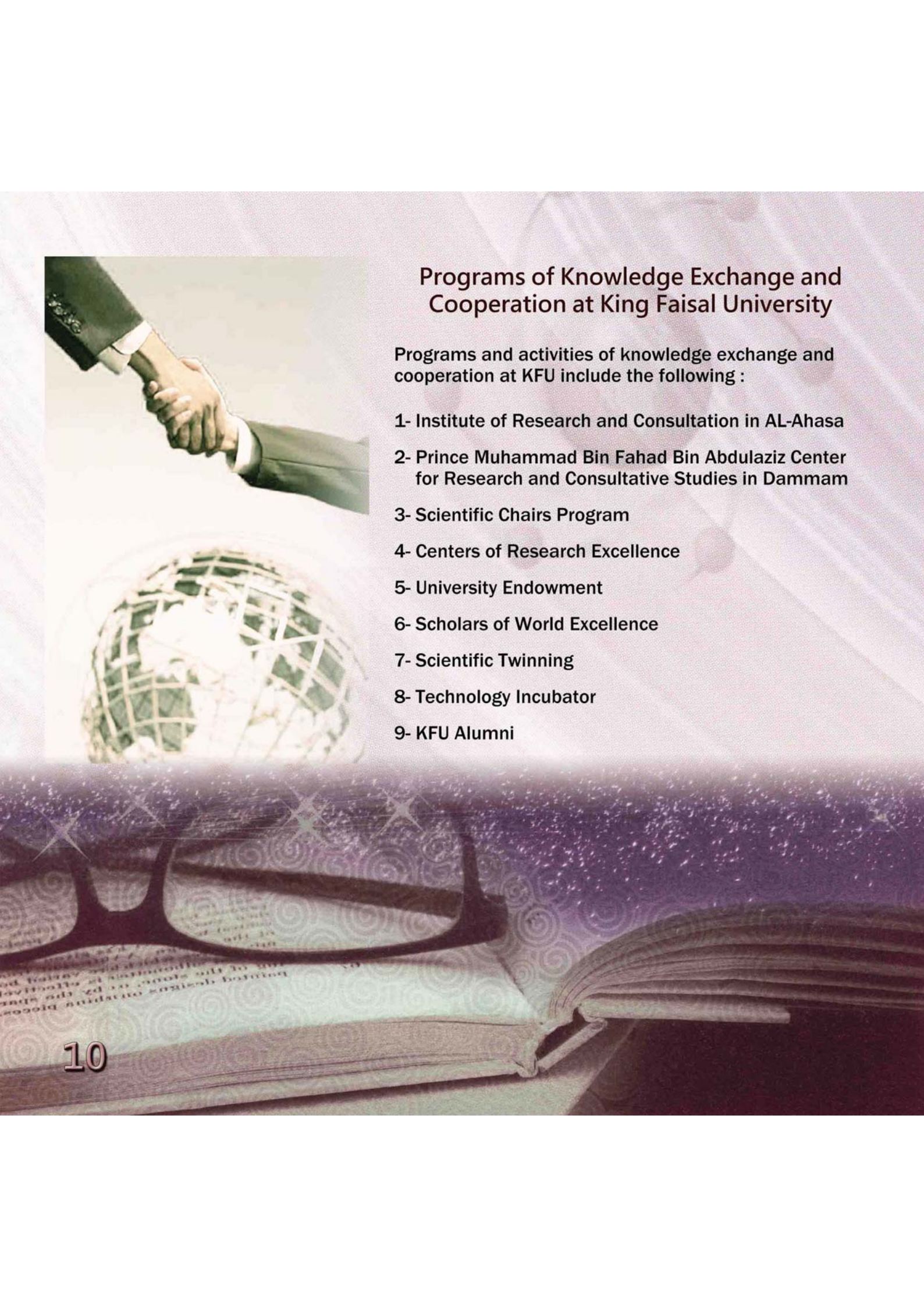
- 1- Support the university's plans to attract and invest its financial resources in establishing and developing centers for research excellence, scientific chairs, and the enrichment of the university endowment fund resources, and dedicate it all to raise KFU's capability in satisfying community needs for qualified national cadres and to improve its position as a reference to furnish studies, applied research, consultations, and training in service of sustainable development of national economy and its establishment on outstanding knowledge-based achievement.
- 2- Support cooperation between the university and both public and private sectors in the kingdom and contribute efficiently in the identification, marketing and increase of opportunities of proper investment of the university's academic cadres and scientific and technological achievement and their role in developing the national economy.
- 3- Develop local and international alliances and collaborations with outstanding academic and research institutions and devoting them to build KFU's capabilities to keep pace with modern world- technology and latest scientific developments.



- 4- Intensify and diversify programs and activities which aim to enrich the university's experience in knowledge-based cooperation, exchange and partnership that enhance the university's academic and scientific status locally and internationally.
- 5- Work on the attraction and recruitment of distinguished international scientists and researchers to teach, advise, train, and participate in research projects and scientific activities.
- 6- Contribute, along with colleges and research centers, to create an environment which reinforces innovation and excellence in knowledge and technological achievement at the university, and work to embrace the university's gifted staff and students and develop their talents.
- 7- Contribute to create an environment that embraces the university's creative and innovative ideas and translate them into investment projects and products that strengthen the national economy and its efficiency in regional and international competition.







## Programs of Knowledge Exchange and Cooperation at King Faisal University

Programs and activities of knowledge exchange and cooperation at KFU include the following :

- 1- Institute of Research and Consultation in AL-Ahasa
- 2- Prince Muhammad Bin Fahad Bin Abdulaziz Center for Research and Consultative Studies in Dammam
- 3- Scientific Chairs Program
- 4- Centers of Research Excellence
- 5- University Endowment
- 6- Scholars of World Excellence
- 7- Scientific Twinning
- 8- Technology Incubator
- 9- KFU Alumni



## Institute of Research and Consultation in AL-Ahsa

Institutes of research and consultation and their affiliated research centers represent one of the basic blocks of development. They play a significant role as they rely on scientific methods in solving problems that face the community, be they social or scientific; related to knowledge, industrial, or technological environment in which these institutes are located. Because of the need of Saudi community for the expertise of the university in the fields that serve the development of the society, the Institute of Research and Consultation has been established to serve the university and the local community in which it exists and participate in the sustainable development of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in general.

The Institute of Research and Consultation represents a bridge between the university and the surrounding community. It aims to reach out to this community and identify its needs and the mechanisms needed to develop elements of its production; thus, enabling the institute to market its products and outputs in the surrounding community with the help of researchers available at the university and the employment of their scientific infrastructure, laboratories, and research facilities.

The Institute is considered a unique KFU unit which contributes in the fulfillment of the university's mission to develop the community and magnify the return of the investment of the university's material and human resources in its capacity as a house of national expertise.







## Vision

The Institute is to be a consultative house of national expertise in a variety of fields closely related to the execution of the ambitious development plans in the Kingdom.

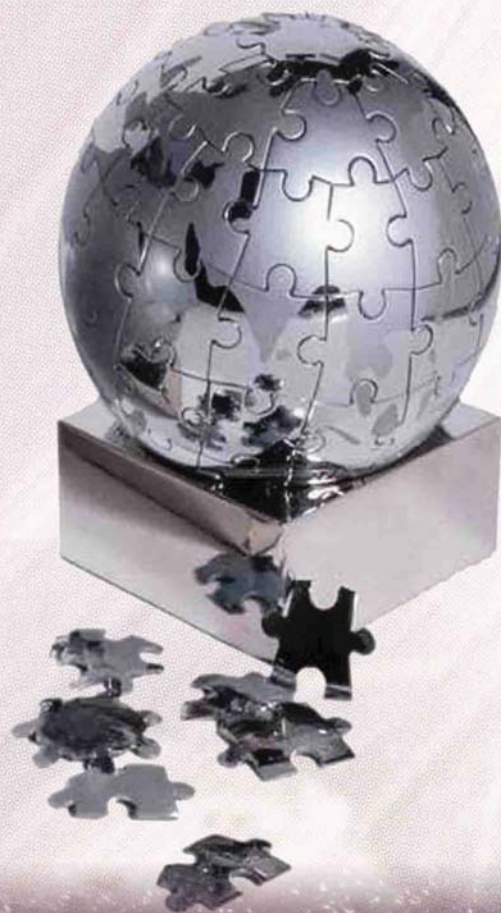
## Mission

To provide experience and consultation in different scientific and developmental fields to serve local, regional, and international communities through distinguished research and consultative work.

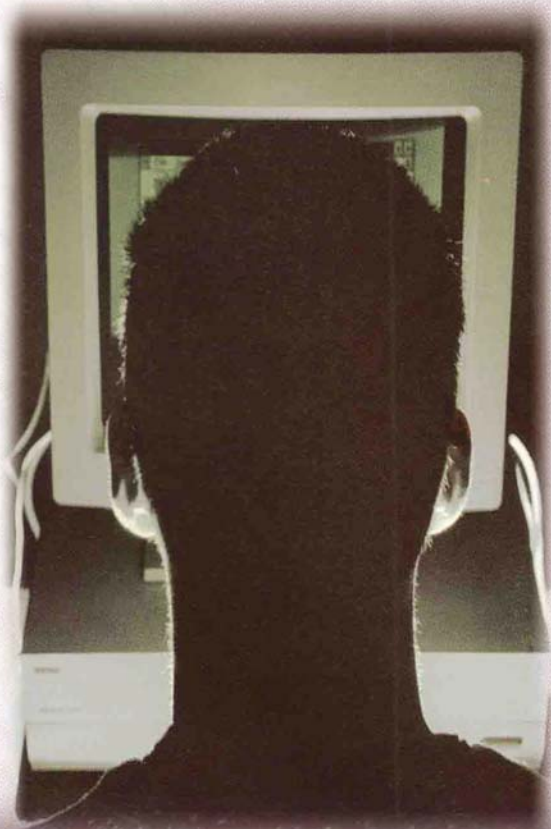


## Objectives

1. To act as a consultative house of expertise to different governmental and private sectors.
2. To familiarize both governmental and private sectors with the research and consultative abilities of the university to help establish positive relationship between the university and the community.
3. To provide qualitative research and consultative services to the sectors of production, services, and investment, and help develop their performance through research and development methods.
4. To direct consultative and research activities to serve national development programs.
5. To foster scientific cooperation with institutes and centers of scientific and technological research and adapt it to suit the local environment.







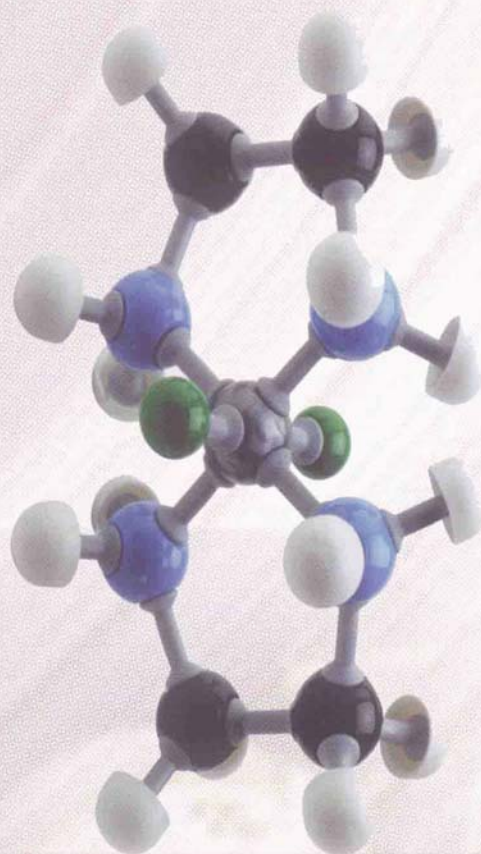
## Prince Muhammad Bin Fahad Bin Abdulaziz Center for Research and Consultative Studies in Dammam

The Center has been established to provide scientific and technical consultations and to conduct research projects needed by governmental and non-governmental organizations, utilizing the expertise of faculty members of different colleges to provide those services that are funded by customer organizations. The center ,thus, benefits from available resources to support its role in serving the community, enriching and disseminating knowledge, and energetically responding to the community's different needs at a stage of on-going construction and development that the Kingdom witnesses.



## Center Objectives

1. Work on developing scientific research as a main activity of the university in its different colleges.
2. Support higher studies programs and research in the university colleges.
3. Support of cooperation and integration among different academic departments in the university colleges.
4. Promote research cooperation between eastern province scientific, medical, and social organizations, among others, and Saudi ,as well as, world universities.
5. Enable the largest possible number of Saudi female students and workers in different scientific fields to carry out scientific research related to higher studies.
6. Make the most possible use of advanced scientific medical equipment that can be employed for multiple purposes to serve scientific research and facilitate important and rare medical investigations.





## King Faisal University and Scientific Chairs

Recognizing the role of scientific chairs in achieving the active transition into a knowledge community, King Faisal University has sought to make these chairs one of its basic initiatives for the support of excellence in scientific research and the opportunities of enhancement of knowledge creativity, innovation, and development. Accordingly, King Faisal University founded a number of chairs and utilized them as a mean of transferring knowledge and modern technologies. They were also used as a mean to attract local and international distinguished researchers and scientists to work for the chairs and lead their scientific research projects and programs of training and enablement of national cadres in quality research fields and modern technologies, as well as the enhancement of encouraging infrastructures and environment for innovation, creativity, and excellence. Such chairs also have an impact on reform of the university's academic plans and programs so that research and development become a fundamental title and basic goal to qualify for and accomplish.



Through its scientific chairs program, the university aims to build partnership bridges with local community institutions, of private and public sectors, which appeal to participate and contribute in achieving excellence in scientific research and higher education inputs and outputs in the kingdom. Meanwhile, the university devotes its expertise and research centers to develop its institutions, services and products' competency and to harmonize in competitive consistency with the needs and requirements of the present time. Through scientific chairs, KFU is seeking to achieve a wider knowledge communication and stronger scientific and cooperative partnerships with outstanding scientific organization in developed countries and invest these partnerships to achieve the quantum leap in the university's research programs and knowledge accomplishments.







## Vision

King Faisal University Scientific Chairs to be a fundamental enhancer and a renewable resource of support of creativity , research excellence ,and knowledge and scientific development efforts , and to be a main channel to achieve the strategic partnership with the community and promote the university's leadership at local , regional ,and international levels.

## Mission

To reinforce the university's efforts to support national development and serve its objectives and prepare a generation of outstanding researchers to contribute in knowledge production and transfer and settlement of modern technology.

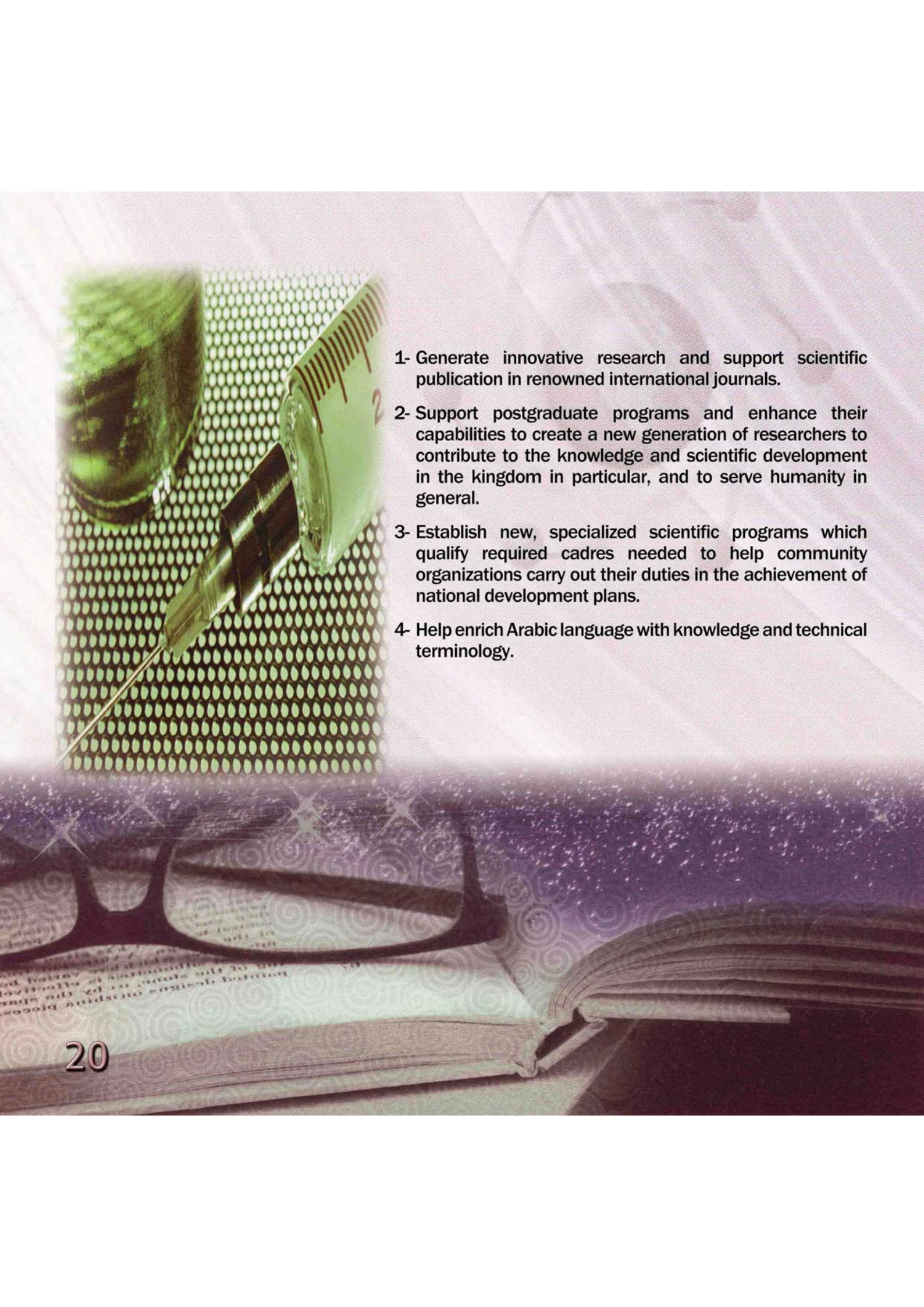


## Objectives

- 1- Foster a culture of excellence, innovation, and creativity in the university's genres and support their development.
- 2- Enhance the university's and the Kingdom's scientific standing internationally.
- 3- Support the transfer of technology to enhance, develop, and increase the caliber and productivity of local industry and other production and service entities.
- 4- Identify mutually beneficial areas of collaboration between the university and the community's organizations.
- 5- Develop channels of utilization of the university's assets of human resources , utilities , and equipment and put them in service of the community.





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- 1- Generate innovative research and support scientific publication in renowned international journals.
  - 2- Support postgraduate programs and enhance their capabilities to create a new generation of researchers to contribute to the knowledge and scientific development in the kingdom in particular, and to serve humanity in general.
  - 3- Establish new, specialized scientific programs which qualify required cadres needed to help community organizations carry out their duties in the achievement of national development plans.
  - 4- Help enrich Arabic language with knowledge and technical terminology.



## Centers of Research Excellence

Recently, the Ministry of Higher Education has strived to foster a spirit of competition among universities to gain support to establish and develop centers of research excellence to upgrade the outputs of research and development in the universities to higher levels and to participate in acquiring and localizing modern technology to find solutions to problems facing public and private development, industry , production, and service sectors and to support national economy founded on knowledge-based production and development.

The Ministry of Higher Education attempts, through promoting the idea of centers of research excellence, to encourage the universities to qualify all their current and future research centers to be excellence centers that are capable of innovating, producing, and marketing knowledge and modern technology and building distinguished relationships with local and international partners to secure financial and technological support to gain sufficiency and strengthen their capability to survive, develop, and improve their performance.

The Ministry has set certain standards to develop centers of research excellence and encouraged the principle of integration through establishing cooperative research centers that are later transferred into excellence centers after accumulating the required credit of experience and research programs. KFU hosts the Center of Research Excellence in Palm Trees and Dates. This center is funded by the Ministry of Higher Education and practices its research activities in a number of interests in basic and applied research and holds scientific gatherings and offers training courses in the field of date palm specialties and applications.







## Vision

The Center of Research Excellence in Palm Trees and Dates at KFUPM is to match parallel outstanding international equivalents in its area of specialty.

## Mission

To achieve qualitative and innovative research accomplishments in the fields of dates and palm trees, enhance capabilities, support research programs and improve that field of study, and to carry out activities that help support scientific and research fields in the center.



## Objectives

1. To carry out qualitative research, scientific, and training activities focused on the fields of dates and palm trees that are of national importance and strategic dimension.
2. To prepare the research and scientific environment suitable to enable researchers and graduate studies students to carry out innovative research and develop advanced technologies so that the Kingdom acquires a leading position in the fields of interest to the center.
3. To achieve integration and collaboration between researchers and experts in Saudi research centers and universities and the private sector.
4. To increase cooperation in the field of qualitative research between Saudi universities and the internationally recognized centers in the area of dates and palm trees.





## University Endowment

As an encouragement to the initiatives to support research and scientific programs in the university and to offer the chance to organizations and individuals to participate in this activity, KFU Endowment Fund has been established with independent governance and operations that are run in accordance with the Islamic teachings and with full commitment to the conditions set by donators.

### Objectives

1. To encourage spending on the field of scientific research and development in social, economic, environmental, medical, agricultural, and educational areas.
2. To fund scientific programs of the university in their credit as charitable aspects that are worthy of support for the sake of Allah and the After Life.
3. To give a chance to the wealthy and philanthropists to take part in the process of development and forward movement of the wheel of scientific research and community service.



## Scholars of World Excellence

In this program the university hosts internationally distinguished scholars, especially those awarded with international excellence prizes like Noble Prize, King Faisal Prize, and other well known prizes so as to participate in the university's efforts to develop and achieve higher levels of excellence and quality in research development and educational outputs. These scholars are recruited to be on campus for marking periods (a semester or more) or short visits, or to be off campus providing consultations through remote communication.







## Objectives

1. Attracting the best international scientific expertise to work for and to cooperate with the university.
2. Providing chances of interaction with and assimilation of international models of excellence in scientific and modern technology.
3. Enhancing the international reputation of the university by virtue of the internationally recognized figures working for or cooperating with it.
4. Benefiting from the expertise of international excellence in raising the level and competence of educational and research outputs of the university.
5. Enabling the university's students to interact with distinguished scientific experts and motivating their scientific abilities according to international excellence standards.



## Scientific Twinning


Scientific twinning with internationally recognized universities, institutions and research centers is considered among the most efficient means of acquiring excellence in higher education, research, and development.

Through the twinning program, strategic alliances are held with selected scientific organizations which result in:

1. Achieving higher levels of excellence, improving outputs, and keeping up with international progress in education, scientific research, and development.
2. Accommodating and improving a wide range of scientific programs, and adopting successful international scientific experiences and using them to fulfill the needs of the community of the Kingdom.
3. Providing chances of working and collaborating with internationally distinguished figures in teaching, scientific research, and training.
4. Developing the university's human (academic and administrative) resources, and adopting on-going training programs to adapt with the requirements of changing into a society of knowledge.







## Technology Incubator

This is a dynamic project that the university strives to accomplish. Technology incubator is among the best mechanisms for developing partnership with both private and public sectors where the university's research resources, technical communication networks, and administrative capabilities are used to support companies and industrial organizations, especially the novice ones that rely on investing in innovative ideas by providing them with space, office equipment, administrative facilities, labs, and well equipped workshops.

This idea is based on the principle of sharing among several organizations of experiences and facilities that the university provides at low costs. These organizations, in turn, receive and support innovative and developmental ideas born inside and outside the university and turn them into products and investments with commercial value. Such mechanism of incubation leads to the creation of knowledge and using it to serve the benefit of the national economy and cater for the needs of the different developmental fields of the community.



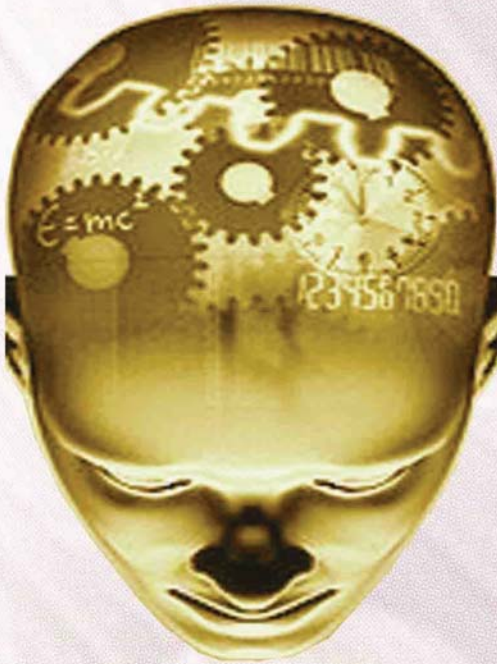
## Objectives

- Attracting industrial companies and commercial organizations to work with the university to support the creation of knowledge and using it to the benefit of the community.
- Creating a financial resource to fund scientific research and to encourage innovative and developmental ideas in the university by investing part of its buildings and resources.
- Fostering an environment of creativity and innovation on campus.
- Providing job opportunities for graduate students and distinguished alumni of the university.
- Supporting the role of the university in serving the national economy by the investment of knowledge.





## The National Research Center for Giftedness and Creativity



The National Research Center for Giftedness and Creativity is a national consultative and research institution incubated by King Faisal University to meet the society's expectations in stimulating scientific research in this area and help foster in the society the culture and educational practices of giftedness and creativity when preparing youngsters to assume their leading positions in building the society and reinforcing its accomplishments.

The establishment of this national center, by royal decree, expresses the university's intension to keep up with and support the vision of this country's leadership in long term investment in creative and gifted minds to fulfill the objectives of turning into knowledge-based and developed society. The center aims at achieving qualitative research and carrying out consultative tasks in giftedness and creativity field to reinforce and develop the dedicated programs and practices for serving giftedness and creativity in the society.

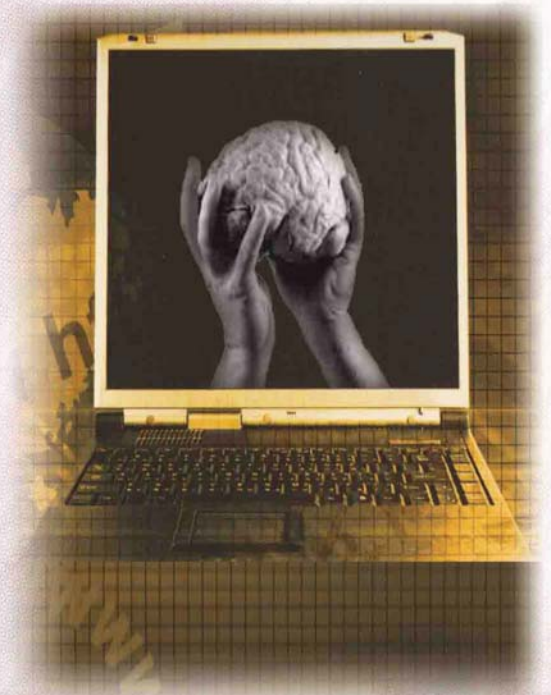


## vision

Assume high professional excellence at the international level and be a leading house of educational expertise in giftedness and creativity field.

## Mission

To offer scientific and technical developmental research and consultative services to researchers, specialists, and stakeholders in the field of nurturing gifted and creative individuals through providing moral and scientific support of research projects, training programs, and highly professional consultation services.





## Alumni



Among the constituents of the active partnership between the university and the community is the university's investment in its alumni. Through such program, the university strives to foster the strong bonds with its alumni and secure continued flow of feedback on their achievements and professional growth. The program aims to maintain the loyalty of such alumni to the university and to continue to provide them with full information on its recent developments. Through this program, the university calls on its alumni to actively participate in developing its programs and services, as those alumni are considered by the university as one of its renewable resources in the society. The Alumni Office takes the responsibility of following up with the graduates and acts as the connecting link with them.



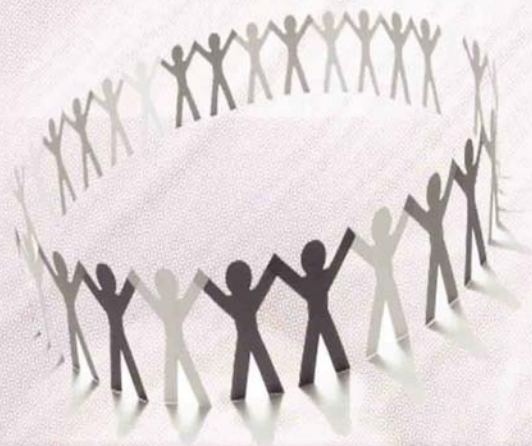
## Vision

Alumni Office aspires to become the active and strong link between the university and its alumni and between the university and the community.



## Mission

Alumni Office is the party that is concerned with supporting continuous communication between the university and its alumni through motivating actual graduates and those expected to graduate to actively participate in activities and programs that the office provides.







## Objectives

1. Maintaining continuous communication between the university and its alumni to increase their loyalty to the university.
2. Updating the alumni continuously with the latest developments in their major fields to improve their professional and scientific skills.
3. Inviting the alumni to attend the university's different occasions and activities.
4. Giving the alumni a chance to voluntarily participate in financial and in-kind support to develop their university in general, or college or department in particular.





P.O. Box 400 Al-Ahsa 31982  
Saudi Arabia  
Tel. : 0096635893167  
Fax : 0096635893165  
<http://www.kfu.edu.sa>  
[cooperation.department@kfu.edu.sa](mailto:cooperation.department@kfu.edu.sa)