**Poultry industry in the GCC: Production, Demand and Supply analysis**

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The Gulf cooperation council (GCC) consists of six states – Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar. The GCC states, with a population of 53.45 million in 2016, are the richest countries in the world with a very high per capita income. The population growth rate in GCC states averaged to 4.62 % in 2016, which is quite high than the average population growth rate of 1.14% in the world.

Due to higher per capita income, hence higher buying power, the meat consumption – especially of poultry meat – in GCC countries is very high. In the year 2016, the GCC countries consumed a total of 1.896 million metric tons of poultry meat, which was almost 6 % higher than the previous years. According to the year-2016 statistics, the average per capita poultry meat consumption in GCC was over 35 kg. On the other hand, the domestic poultry meat production in GCC states is insufficient to meet the ever increasing demands. Currently, the GCC countries, collectively, are producing only 0.90 million tons which meets only 47 % of the total demand, while, the rest is imported, mainly from Brazil, France, USA, and Argentina. Domestic poultry companies has great opportunities to expand their operations and to increase domestic production to fulfill the demand-and-supply gap. Saudi Arabia is the biggest poultry producer in GCC with about 70 % of flocks in GCC. By overcoming the current challenges, the local companies has a great chance to increase their production.