

## **The State of Logistics – An Overview of Logistics in Oman**

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### **Abstract**

The government of Oman has embarked on a development agenda with the objective of converting Oman to a logistic hub in the Arabian Peninsula. While the government is heavily involved in developing infrastructure, education/training institutes also play a major role in building the human capacity in the respective industries. This paper reviews and analyses Oman logistics performance based on two internationally published documents which focus on the trade and logistics performance of countries, (1) the “Connecting to Compete Report” and (2) “Trading Across Borders”. The analysis of Oman logistics performance was based on capacity building (CB) perspective which is a conceptual approach to development. CB It refers to systematically planned development of knowledge, output rate, management, skills, and competence of staff of an organization (Eade, 2007). In the process of capacity building focuses on understanding the obstacles that inhibit people, governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations from realizing their developmental goals. The contribution of this paper lies in mapping the current situation of logistics in Oman, internally and as a part of the wider Global Physical Network. This document then suggests some quick fixes with regards improving capacity building that would eventually improve the logistics performance of the country.

### **Keywords**

Logistics performance, logistics competency, capacity building, Oman

### **Biography**

**Zainab Al-Balushi** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Operations Management and Business Statistics in the College of Economics and Political Sciences, in Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. She earned BSc in Commerce and Economics, major Operations Management from Sultan Qaboos University, Oman, MSc. In Logistics Management Masters from Sydney University, Australia, Masters of Commerce in Supply Chain Management from the University of Melbourne, Australia and PhD in Supply Chain Management from The University of Melbourne. She has published conference papers. Her research interests include supply chain management, logistics, purchasing, buyer-supplier relationship, performance measurement, service management and lean. She is member of EUROMA, DSI, POMS and INFORMS.