

Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) — A National Applied-Research Institute's Struggle to Commercialise Technology

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Kuwait

Quality score: 29/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Kuwait's applied-research institute has filed 75 patents since 1979, but an independent 2021 OECD review found its 2017 Technology Transfer Office had no budget, was effectively non-operational, and generated zero licensing revenue — a cautionary lesson.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	0/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research \(KISR\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[KISR — Official Patents Register 1979–2023 \(PDF\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[OECD Reviews of Innovation Policy: Kuwait 2021 \(PDF\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[UK Government — Science & Innovation Network Country Snapshot: Kuwait](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

[Times Kuwait — KISR secures US patent for solar-powered wastewater treatment system](#) — accessed 2026-07-14

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