National Fund for SME Development — Kuwait's KD 2 Billion Lender and Its Slow Start

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Kuwait

Quality score: 38/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Kuwait's National Fund for SME Development, capitalised at KD 2 billion in 2013, financed only about 1,040 projects at 2% interest in 13 years — under 10% of its capital — prompting a 2025 shift to bank-partnered indirect lending.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-08-26

National Fund for SME Development (Kuwait) — accessed 2026-08-26

Times Kuwait: Kuwait set for major overhaul of small projects fund — accessed 2026-08-26

DevelopmentAid: The National Fund for SME Development — accessed 2026-08-26

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