

Delighted to Share an insightful article on **Gulf IPOs** by **Shahid Nazir**, Partner of Corporate Finance & Deal Advisory, has been featured in **Arabian Business, UAE.**

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The Gulf region has experienced a surge in initial public offerings (IPOs) recently, with **Saudi Arabia** witnessing numerous listings and the UAE achieving notable debuts.

However, as more companies in the region consider entering public markets, **industry experts** advise that going public may not always be the optimal strategic decision.



In the first quarter of **2024**, there were **10 IPOs** in the Gulf region, raising **\$1.2** billion, according to an EY report. Saudi Arabia had nine listings, raising **\$724** million, while the UAE's Parkin Company raised **\$429** million in the Dubai Financial Market's largest offering of the quarter.

Muhammad Shahid Nazir, Partner of Corporate Finance and Deal Advisory at Insights UAE, highlighted unstable financials as a key concern. “Companies with uncertain financial performance may struggle to attract investors and maintain a stable stock price,” he told Arabian Business.

Lack of scalability could be a deterrent. “Without a clear growth strategy or the ability to scale, a company might not justify the costs and scrutiny of being public,” **Shahid Nazir** added.

Even companies with strong financials must handle the stringent regulatory and compliance burdens of being public. “If a company is not prepared to meet these obligations, it could face significant challenges,” **Shahid Nazir warned.**

“As more companies consider going public, it is essential for them to carefully evaluate their **readiness, market conditions, and strategic objectives,**” he advised.

With billions at stake and the region’s economic transformation in the balance, **Gulf IPO aspirants** must tread carefully to unlock their full potential.

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