SNI Global Tax Update Series

Regional Focus

Middle East

As digital tax compliance continues to accelerate worldwide, the Middle East is rapidly emerging as a key region in the global shift toward structured electronic invoicing and real-time fiscal oversight. Governments across the region are implementing national e-invoicing platforms designed to increase transparency, improve tax collection efficiency, and align domestic reporting systems with international digital compliance standards.

OVERVIEW

What Will You Discover in This Issue?

Middle East e-Invoicing Rollout Timeline

4 Dec 2020
🇸🇦 **KSA —** e-invoicing regulation published (FATOORA framework introduced).

4 Dec 2021
🇸🇦 **KSA —** B2B / B2G / B2C mandatory
Phase 1 (Generation Phase): taxpayers must generate and store e-invoices electronically.

1 Jan 2023
🇸🇦 **KSA —** B2B / B2G / B2C mandatory (integration phase begins)
Phase 2 rollout begins (integration with ZATCA platform in waves).

1 Apr 2025
🇯🇴 **Jordan —** JoFotara becomes mandatory for invoices required for tax purposes / local purchases.

Jul 2026
🇦🇪 **UAE —** Pilot phase begins for the national e-invoicing system with selected taxpayers and accredited service providers.

Aug 2026
🇴🇲 **Oman —** B2B / B2G mandatory (Phase 1)
Selected large VAT-registered companies

1 Jan 2027
🇦🇪 **UAE —** B2B / B2G mandatory (large taxpayers)
Businesses with ≥ AED 50M revenue must exchange invoices through the UAE network.

Feb 2027
🇴🇲 **Oman —** B2B / B2G mandatory (Phase 2)
All large VAT-registered companies

1 Jul 2027
🇦🇪 **UAE —** B2B / B2G mandatory (all VAT taxpayers)

1 Oct 2027
🇦🇪 **UAE —** B2G mandatory (government entities)

Middle East e-Invoicing Landscape (2020-2028)

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Phase 1 — Regulatory Foundations

Year	Country	Key Development
2020	Saudi Arabia	ZATCA publishes the FATOORA e-invoicing regulation, establishing the legal framework for digital invoicing.
2022	Jordan	JoFotara national e-invoicing platform launched, introducing structured invoice reporting infrastructure.
2023	UAE	The Ministry of Finance announces the UAE National e-invoicing Programme, built around a federated network architecture inspired by Peppol.

Phase 2 — Early Implementation and Initial Adoption

Year	Country	Key Development
2021	Saudi Arabia	Phase 1 (Generation Phase) becomes mandatory. Taxpayers must generate and store invoices electronically.
2023	Saudi Arabia	Phase 2 (Integration Phase) begins, requiring integration with the ZATCA platform through phased taxpayer waves.
2023 2024	Jordan	Taxpayer onboarding and integration period for JoFotara. Businesses register and prepare system integrations.

Phase 3 — Mandates and System Expansion

Year	Country	Key Development
2025	🇯🇴 Jordan	e-invoicing through JoFotara becomes mandatory for in-scope B2B, B2C and B2G transactions.
2025	🇦🇪 UAE	Legal framework and ministerial decisions are published, defining the architecture, Accredited Service Provider model, taxpayer obligations and governance of the national e-invoicingsystem.
2026	🇦🇪 UAE	The national pilot phase begins.
2026	🇴🇲 Oman	Phase 1 of the national B2B e-invoicing rollout begins, initially targeting selected large VAT-registered taxpayers.

Phase 4 — Full Regional Adoption

Year	Country	Key Development
2027	🇦🇪 UAE	B2B and B2G e-invoicing become mandatory for large businesses with revenue of AED 50M or more.
2027	🇦🇪 UAE	The mandate expands to businesses with revenue below AED 50M / remaining in-scope businesses.
2027	🇴🇲 Oman	The mandate expands to all large VAT-registered companies, followed by remaining VAT-registered taxpayers under the phased rollout.

Regional Trend

Across the Middle East, e-invoicing initiatives show three clear policy patterns:

• Phased implementation models to allow businesses time to integrate with national systems.

• Hybrid architectures, combining clearance systems (Jordan, KSA) and network-based
models (UAE).

• Progressive expansion, beginning with large taxpayers and government suppliers before extending to the wider economy.

These reforms form part of a broader regional strategy aimed at VAT transparency, fraud reduction, and modernization of digital tax administration.

Country-Level Focus: Emerging e-Invoicing Mandates in the Middle East

01

This section provides a consolidated overview of the key e-invoicing mandates emerging across the Middle East,focusing on Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates. While these jurisdictions share the common objective of strengthening tax transparency through digital reporting frameworks, each has adopted a distinct implementation model, system architecture, and rollout timeline.

02

From Saudi Arabia's phased clearance-based system to the UAE's Peppol-aligned network model, and from Jordan's centralized JoFotara platform to Oman's upcoming nationale-invoicing framework, the region illustrates multipleregulatory approaches to digital tax control. Together, these developments reflect a broader shift toward structured transaction data, platform-based invoice exchange, and enhanced audit visibility for tax authorities.

03

The following country summaries highlight the defining characteristics, scope, and implementation milestones of each framework. For more detailed regulatory insights and technical guidance, readers can explore the extended analyses available through SNI Technology's blog and product resources.

SNI at a Glance

SNI is a global provider of digital tax compliance solutions, helping businesses navigate complex VAT regulations, e-invoicing mandates, and real-time reporting obligations across Europe, MENA, and Asia.

Founded in 2006, SNI supports over 1,000 companies with scalable, ERP-integrated platforms and deep regulatory expertise. Our solutions simplify compliance, reduce operational risk, and empower enterprises to stay agile in a rapidly evolving digital tax landscape.

SNI in numbers 2025

~300M
e-documents processed

17K+
support tickets resolved

162
projects gone live successfully

Global Developments:
Towards Transaction-Based Reporting

e-invoicing is no longer an emerging trend; it is a regulatory revolution reshaping global commerce. Governments are turning to real-time tax controls to fight VAT fraud and ensure end-to-end transparency. Initiatives like the EU's ViDA or clearance systems in Poland, Italy, Turkey, and Saudi Arabia reflect a growing preference for transaction-based tax enforcement.

600 billion
estimated annual global bill/invoice volume in 2026

87 billion
of those transmitted electronically as structured B2B e-invoices

80+ countries
have mandated or announced e-invoicing

$23.7 billion
Global e-invoicing market value projected to reach by 2028

Sources: *Billentis, Riding the Tornado: A Guide to Mastering Multinational E-invoicing and Compliance, 2026; OpenPeppol, The Global Shift to E-Invoicing, 2025.*

The Digital Shift in *VAT Compliance*

VAT compliance is evolving from periodic reporting to real-time, integrated processes. This global shift reflects governments' push for greater control and visibility through digital infrastructure. As countries adopt diverse models—from invoice reporting to clearance—the landscape becomes more complex, requiring businesses to adapt quickly and strategically.

Developments Towards Continuous Transaction-Based Reporting

Post Audit ↘

Supplier creates tax invoice and issue directly to the buyer

Control: Periodic tax filing

Invoices sample-audited later

Invoice Reporting ↘

Required data file must be uploaded to the tax authority website

Potentially on a daily basis

Supplier sends tax invoice to buyer

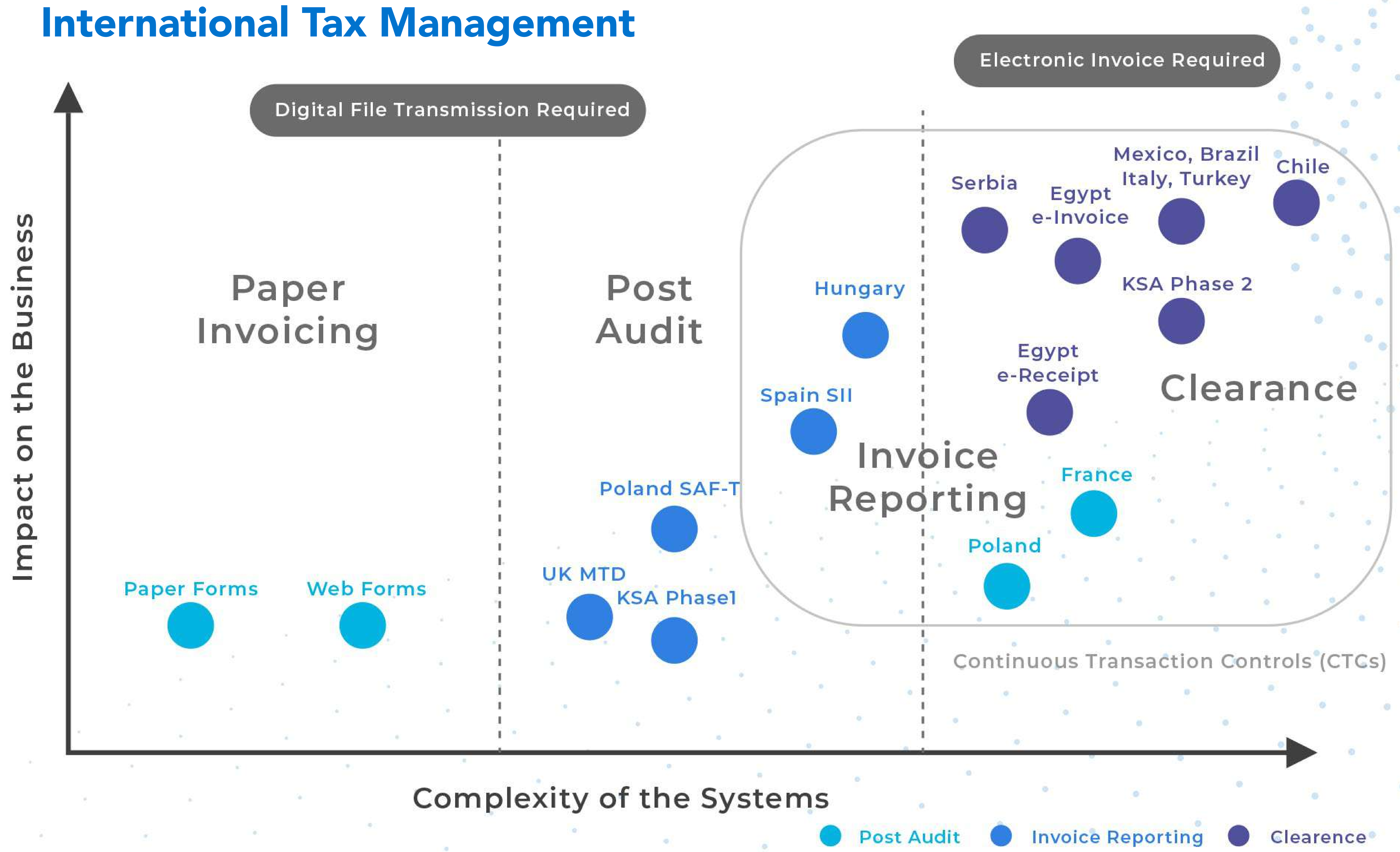
e-Invoicing ↘

Invoice information must be sent to a government platform simultaneously

Structured information and code together constitute the tax invoice

Government validates tax and sends the invoice

International Tax Management



🇯🇴 Jordan e-Invoicing Overview

Authority: Jordan's e-invoicing system is administered by the Income and Sales Tax Department (ISTD), which oversees the development and operation of the national platform.

System Platform: The national e-invoicing platform is known as JoFotara, a centralized system designed to receive invoice data from taxpayers either through a government portal or through integrated billing systems.

Key Legal Framework: The e-invoicing system was introduced under amendments to the Income and Sales Tax legislation and related regulatory decisions issued by the ISTD

Implementation Timeline

The rollout of Jordan's e-invoicing system was carried out via a staged implementation approach:

Implementation Timeline

December 2022
Launch of the national e-invoicing platform JoFotara.

1 April 2025
e-invoicing becomes mandatory for in-scope invoices, including B2B, B2C and B2G transactions, where invoices are required for tax purposes

2025
Mandatory use begins for in-scope invoices, while businesses continue completing onboarding and technical integration with JoFotara.

Scope: The e-invoicing mandate applies to taxpayers who operate in Jordan and issue invoices for taxable transactions. The scope includes: B2G, B2B and B2C transactions

Submission and Reporting Model
Jordan's e-invoicing framework operates through a centralized reporting model.

Under this model:

- Invoices must be generated electronically using compliant systems.
- Invoice data must be transmitted through the JoFotara platform or through integrated systems connected to the platform.
- The system allows the tax authority to collect structured invoice data for monitoring and compliance purposes.

Overview of the Mandate

The introduction of the JoFotara system represents a significant transformation in Jordan's tax reporting environment. By requiring invoice data to pass through a centralized platform, the tax authority gains the ability to monitor transactions more effectively and reduce opportunities for under-reporting or invoice manipulation.
For businesses, the transition to electronic invoicing requires both technical and operational adjustments. Companies must ensure that invoicing systems are capable of generating electronic invoices that comply with national specifications, and that those systems can connect to the JoFotara platform where necessary.

Oman e-Invoicing Overview

Authority: The Oman Tax Authority (OTA) is responsible for the design, implementation, and governance of the national electronic invoicing framework.

System Platform: Oman is introducing a national e-invoicing platform as part of its broader VAT digitalization strategy. The framework is expected to rely on certified service providers to facilitate invoice transmission and system integration.

Key Legal Framework: The framework is being developed through OTA regulatory guidance, service provider accreditation criteria and Peppol-aligned technical specifications, including the draft PINT-OM specifications.

Implementation Timeline

2023

Initial announcements and consultations regarding the development of Oman's national e-invoicing system.

2025

Launch of the Service Provider accreditation portal, allowing service providers to apply for certification.

August 2026

Phase 1 begins with selected large VAT-registered companies.

2027

Phase 2 expands to all large VAT-registered companies, followed by Phase 3 for remaining VAT-registered taxpayers.

2028 / TBC

Government entities are expected to be incorporated under a later B2G phase. The exact timing should be kept subject to OTA confirmation.

Scope: Oman's e-invoicing framework is expected to cover B2B, B2G and B2C transactions. The initial rollout focuses on VAT-registered businesses, starting with selected large taxpayers and expanding gradually Recent OTA guidance also indicates that B2C transactions will be in scope, including transactions involving non-resident suppliers. B2C invoices are expected to include mandatory QR codes, with transaction data reported to the OTA within 24 hours.

Under this architecture:

- Businesses generate electronic invoices using compliant invoicing systems.
- Invoice data is transmitted through accredited service providers connected to the national infrastructure.
- The tax authority receives structured invoice data to support monitoring and compliance activities.

This model allows businesses to maintain their existing ERP or billing systems while connecting to the national platform through certified intermediaries.

Overview of the Mandate

Oman's upcoming e-invoicing mandate represents a major step in the country's digital tax transformation. The framework is moving toward a Peppol-aligned, service-provider-driven model, combining structured invoice exchange with tax reporting to the OTA. Although some implementation details are still being finalized, the direction is already clear: Oman is building a 5-corner e-invoicing ecosystem supported by Accredited Service Providers, PINT-OM specifications and increasing near real-time transaction reporting obligations. For businesses, this means early preparation will be essential, especially for ERP readiness, service provider selection, data mapping and VAT compliance.

Saudi Arabia e-Invoicing Overview

Authority: The Zakat, Tax and Customs Authority (ZATCA) oversees the implementation and operation of the national electronic invoicing system.

System Platform: The Saudi e-invoicing system, referred to as FATOORA, introduces a nationwide digital invoicing infrastructure designed to standardize invoice generation and enable electronic transmission of invoice data to the tax authority.

Key Legal Framework: The legal foundation was established through the e-Invoicing Regulation, published by ZATCA in December 2020.

Implementation Timeline

4 December 2020

Publication of the e-invoicing Regulation, formally introducing the national electronic invoicing framework

4 December 2021

Phase 1 – Generation Phase becomes mandatory for VAT-registered taxpayers. Businesses are required to generate and store electronic invoices and electronic credit/debit notes using compliant electronic systems.

1 January 2023

Phase 2 – Integration Phase begins. Under this phase, taxpayers must integrate their invoicing systems with ZATCA's platform to enable electronic transmission and validation of invoice data. Phase 2 is implemented progressively through multiple waves targeting taxpayers based on revenue thresholds, allowing ZATCA to gradually expand system coverage.

Scope: Saudi Arabia's e-invoicing mandate applies broadly to VAT-registered taxpayers conducting taxable transactions within the Kingdom. The scope includes: B2G, B2B and B2C transactions
Different technical requirements apply depending on the transaction type, particularly during the integration phase.

Submission and Reporting Model

Saudi Arabia operates a hybrid clearance and reporting model under the FATOORA framework.

Key operational elements include:

- B2B invoices must be submitted to ZATCA for clearance before being shared with the buyer.
- B2C invoices are generated electronically and reported to ZATCA within a specified time after issuance.
- Electronic invoices must follow a structured XML format aligned with ZATCA technical specifications.
- Invoices must include cryptographic stamps and QR codes to ensure authenticity and traceability.

Overview of the Mandate

Saudi Arabia's e-invoicing mandate introduces a structured digital invoicing framework thatenables the tax authority to obtain invoice data electronically and strengthen VAT compliance.Through the FATOORA system, businesses must generate compliant electronic invoices and, during the integration phase, connect their invoicing systems to ZATCA's platform for invoiceclearance or reporting. The phased rollout allows the authority to progressively expand coverage across VAT-registered taxpayers while ensuring system readiness for businesses.

United Arab Emirates e-Invoicing Overview

Authority: The UAE e-invoicing framework is administered by the Ministry of Finance (MoF).

System Platform: The framework is based on a decentralized Peppol-aligned model. Underthis architecture, invoices are exchanged through a network of Accredited Service Providers (ASPs) that connect businesses to the national infrastructure while enabling secure and standardized data exchange between trading partners.

Key Legal Framework: The regulatory foundation of the UAE e-invoicing program was established through a set of ministerial decisions issued in 2025, which define the legal structure, operational model, and accreditation framework for service providers participating in the national system.

Implementation Timeline

July 2023
Announcement of the UAE's national e-invoicing program and confirmation of a Peppol-based network model.

February 2026
Publication of the legal framework governing the UAE e-invoicing system and the accreditation model for service providers.

July 2026
Pilot phase begins with selected businesses and service providers

1 January 2027
Mandatory e-invoicing begins for businesses with an annual revenue exceeding AED 50 million.

1 July 2027
Expansion of the mandate to businesses/persons with revenue below AED 50M, where in scope

1 October 2027
Government entities become part of the national e-invoicing network.

Scope: The UAE e-invoicing mandate applies to transactions conducted by VAT-registered businesses within the country. The scope primarily includes B2B and B2G transactions.

Submission and Reporting Model
The UAE operates a Peppol-based decentralized exchange model.

Key operational elements include:
- Businesses exchange invoices through Accredited Service Providers (ASPs).
- Service providers are responsible for transmitting invoice data across the network.
- The framework enables structured electronic invoice exchange using standardized formats aligned with Peppol specifications.

This model allows interoperability between different service providers while enabling the government to maintain visibility into transactional data.

Overview of the Mandate

The UAE's e-invoicing program represents a major step toward digital tax administration and data-driven compliance. Unlike centralized clearance models adopted in some urisdictions, the UAE has chosen a Peppol-aligned decentralized architecture. Under this model, businesses exchange invoices through accredited intermediaries known as Accredited Service Providers (ASPs), which operate within the national network and facilitate secure transmission of invoice data between trading partners. This approach allows companies to maintain flexibility in their technology infrastructure while ensuring interoperability across the network.

Regional Map

Jordan — B2B / B2C / B2G mandatory
E-invoicing through JoFotara becomes mandatory for in-scope transactions.

KSA — B2B / B2G / B2C mandatory
Phase 1, the Generation Phase, requires taxpayers to generate and store e-invoices electronically.

UAE — B2B / B2G mandatory for large businesses
Businesses with annual revenue of AED 50M or more must exchange e-invoices through the UAE network.

Oman — B2B mandatory, Phase 1
First group of selected large VAT-registered companies enters the mandate.

e-Invoicing in the Middle East: From Oil Revenues to Digital Tax Infrastructure

Economic Diversification and the Shift Beyond Oil

e-invoicing initiatives in the Middle East are closely linked to broader fiscal transformation strategies rather than serving only as tax-control mechanisms. For decades, many regional economies relied heavily on hydrocarbon revenues as their main source of public income. Volatile oil prices and long-term economic planning have encouraged governments to diversify their fiscal bases. The introduction of value-added tax in Saudi Arabia and the UAE in 2018, followed by Oman in 2021, marked an important shift toward more sustainable revenue sources. e-invoicing supports this framework by requiring invoices to be generated and transmitted electronically, giving governments greater visibility into transactions, strengthening VAT administration, reducing tax gaps, improving overall compliance, and modernizing tax infrastructure across economies undergoing significant post-oil economic transformation.

Supporting International Business and Foreign Investment

At the same time, several Middle Eastern economies aim to position themselves as regional hubs for international trade and investment. Cities such as Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Riyadh host multinational companies operating across continents. Policymakers must therefore implement digital tax controls without disrupting complex business environments. Regional e-invoicing frameworks increasingly support multinational ERP systems, cross-border trade, and service provider ecosystems. Rather than focusing only on domestic compliance, governments seek alignment with international standards and interoperable models. These reforms serve a dual purpose: strengthening tax governance while creating a business environment that attracts global investment and supports long-term regional economic

How Does e-Invoicing Benefit *Your Business?*

Cut Operational Costs

Reduce paper, printing, and archiving costs, while saving time and reducing overheads.

Minimize Errors, Maximize Accuracy

Automation reduces manual errors, speeds up approvals, and prevents payment mismatches.

Boost Cash Flow & Business Relationships

Faster processing enables quicker payments and boosts supplier confidence, reinforcing trust and stability.

Instant & Secure Invoice Transmission

Invoices are delivered instantly and securely, reducing delays, lost documents, and disputes.

Digital Archiving Advantages

Invoices are securely stored with full traceability, ensuring compliance and smoother audits.

Support Your Sustainability Goals

Paperless operations help meet ESG goals and reduce environmental impact.

SNI: Purpose-Built Compliance for *Global Enterprises*

SNI delivers scalable, mandate-specific e-invoicing solutions designed to align with both local legal frameworks and enterprise IT environments.

Through a single platform fully integrated with your existing ERP, **SNI** helps to automate your complete invoicing lifecycle, covering both sales (outgoing) and purchase (incoming) invoices, along with reporting and tax compliance.

Comprehensive
End-to-end solutions

Flexible
On-Premise | Cloud | Hybrid

Global
Worldwide scalability

Why Choose SNI?

- Compatible with any ERP system without major changes required
- SAP-certified integration for full compliance
- Fast implementation with pre-built connectors
- Flexible deployment: Cloud, On-Premise, or Hybrid
- Scalable and compatible with diverse IT environments
- Regional support teams with ongoing compliance monitoring
- Long-term partnership with focus on adaptability and sustainability

Ready to Take the Next Step?

If your organization is preparing for the next phase of e-invoicing and tax digitalization, we're ready to support you — wherever you are.

Book a demo today **with SNI!**

Let's turn complexity into clarity together.