

## **1- Iran's Economy in Prospect**

In face of the complex and modern global economy, countries take up different measures such as planning, policy making along with designing a series of coherent and predictive measures to guarantee the stability of their economy. Economic fluctuations and crises as well as external shocks are among major issues that need to be addressed in terms of their macroeconomic and sectorial impact. This becomes more important for the case of strategic sectors such as industry, mining and trade due to their significant share in gross domestic product, employment and strong backward and forward linkages.

Respectively, a thorough examination of key trends and indicators not only helps (authorities concerned with policy making in the field of industry, mining and trade, willing to gain a more realistic insight of Iran's economy in view of relevant factors affecting its future path) better identify challenges and relevant solutions, but also paves the way for cogent predictions and futuristic analysis of economic trends. Such knowledge will enable them to more effectively apply future policies towards improving and stabilizing the state of the economy while preventing any possible deviations. Meanwhile, accurate identification of challenges and analysis of the developments in industry, mining and trade sectors require building close connections with economic actors, associations and unions in these sectors.

That said, the purpose of this study is to investigate the current state of Iran's economy by means of «studying performance indicators focusing on industry, mining and trade», «consulting economic experts regarding the future state of Iran's economy focusing on industry, mining and trade», «identifying major challenges and problems in industry, mining and trade sectors through building connections with economic actors, unions and associations » and «analyzing the problems and challenges identified by the unions and associations». In other words, the main approach of this study is to continuously monitor, and closely connect with economic actors and associations in industry, mining and trade sectors, in order to identify the major problems and challenges. Finally some remedial measures are proposed.

### **1-1- Goals and Objectives**

- Close monitoring of the key economic indices focusing on industry, mining and trade sectors;

- Consulting economic experts regarding the future state and developments of Iran's economy;
- Consulting economic experts regarding major economic problems and issues in Iran;
- Consulting unions and associations involved in the sector regarding major issues and challenges of manufacturing industries;
- Analyzing issues and challenges identified by manufacturing industries.

**1-2- Beneficiary organizations:**

Ministry of Industry, Mine and Trade and affiliated organizations, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, the Central Bank, public and private sector economic actors and policymakers.