IZ
Islam Zidan
Cost Analysis & KPI Dashboards

CASE STUDY · CONTRACTING

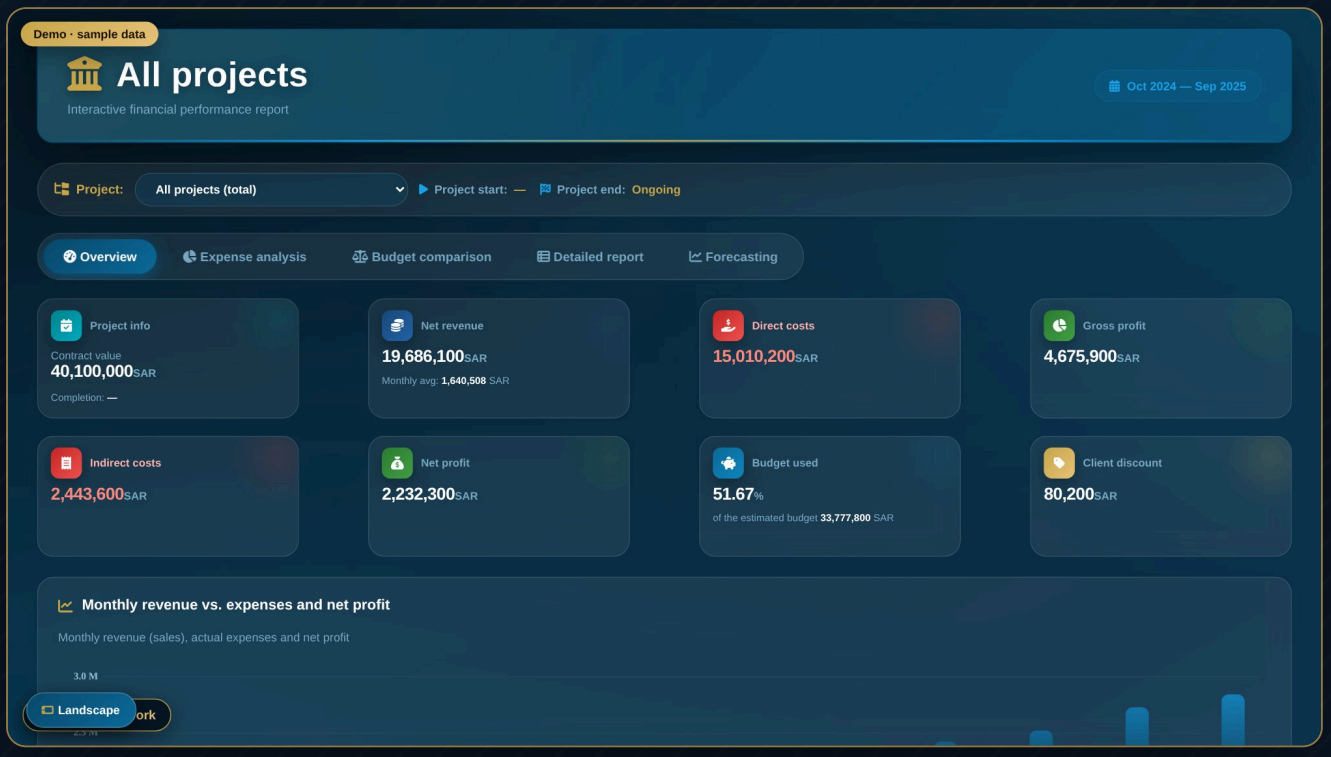
SAR 33.8 million budget. Which lines are burning it too fast?

One dashboard, built from the Excel files the company already had, shows each project's budget, actual spend and the lines heading for an overrun, while there is still time to act.

51.7%
of the estimated budget already spent

11.3%
net margin on SAR 19.7 M of revenue

4
companies in one dashboard, each with its own identity



Structure from the actual engagement (a group of 4 contracting companies). Figures are the sample data of the live demo.

islamzidan.com

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The total looked fine. The lines told a different story.

01

Situation

A group of contracting companies, each with several projects tracked in separate Excel files. Management had to open dozens of files to know where any project stood.

02

Finding

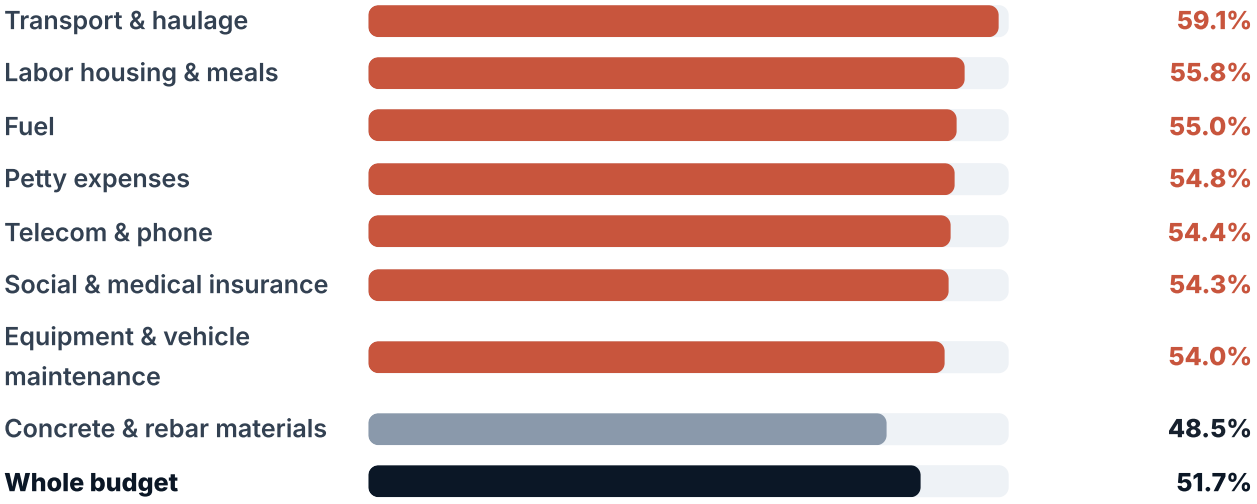
51.7% of the estimated budget is spent overall, but transport (59.1%), labor housing (55.8%) and fuel (55.0%) are spending faster than the project as a whole.

03

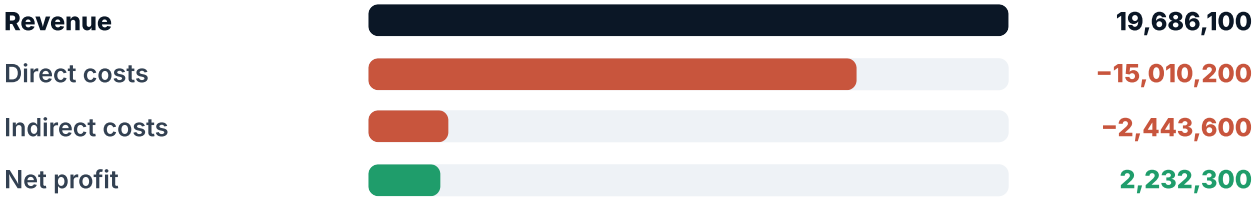
Decision

Review the fast-burning lines now and cap each one monthly against its remaining budget, before they become overruns at close-out.

Budget used by cost line (whole budget: 51.7%)



From revenue to net profit (SAR)



Every 1% overrun on direct costs removes about 7% of net profit.

APPROACH

One Excel file in, every project out.

1
Excel file per company
Each sheet is a project; the dashboard reads them all and builds a total automatically.

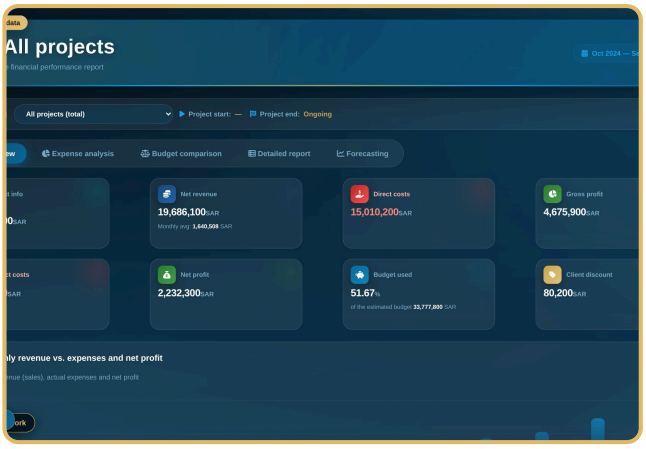
5
analysis tabs
Overview, expense analysis, budget comparison, detailed report and a 6-month forecast.

4
companies
Each with its own name, logo and colors, plus a shareable copy for management.



F	E	D	C	B	A
			ف المشاريع اكتوبر (نسخة نهائية 2) - مراجعة		
			جميع الأرقام والأسماء في هذا الملف افتراضية لأغراض العرض والتوضيح فقط، ولا تمثل أي شركة حقيقية		
مين سجل	ملاحظات	المبلغ	نوع المصروف	اسم المشروع	
أحمد		5,658,000 ر.س	مواد	برج النخيل	2026/10/(
م. سامي	فاتورة ناقصة	2,952 ألف	رواتب عمال	مشروع البرج	04-10-202
المحاسب		1230000	معدات ثقيلة	برج سكني النخيل	7 اكتوبر
	راجع مع المهندس	1476000SAR	مقاول باطن	البرج - النخيل	2026-10-1
أحمد		SR 984,000	عمومية	برج النخيل	2026/10/
خالد	دفعة أولى؟	2,040,000 ر.س	مشتريات مواد	مستودعات م2	06-10-202
أحمد		918 ألف	عماله	مشروع المستودعات الصناعيه	9 اكتوبر
م. سامي		1020000	ايجار معدات	مستودعات	2026-10-1
المحاسب	مكرر؟؟	714000SAR	مقاولين	المستودعات	2026/10/
		SR 408,000	مصاريف	مستودعات م2	18-10-202
أحمد		2,376,000 ر.س	مواد بناء	مدرسة ابتدائي	11 اكتوبر
خالد	فاتورة ناقصة	1,188 ألف	عمالة يومية	مشروع المدرسة	2026-10-1
أحمد		432000	معدات	المدرسه	2026/10/
م. سامي	راجع مع المهندس	972000SAR	باطن	مدرسة الفيصلية	20-10-202
	مكرر؟؟	972,000	مقاول باطن	مدرسة ابتدائي	20-10-202
المحاسب		SR 432,000	مصروفات متنوعة	مدرسة ابتدائي	23 اكتوبر
	دفعة أولى؟	1,177,000 ر.س	مواد	طريق شرق	2026-10-1

Before: one Excel file per project, with no single view (illustrative shape of the raw data).



After: one dashboard for every project and company.

Questions management can now answer in seconds

- How much of each project's budget is spent, and is that ahead of the work done?
- Which cost lines will overrun at close-out if nothing changes?
- What revenue, cost and profit should we expect over the next 3 months?
- How do all projects and companies compare in one view?

IMPACT & NEXT STEPS

Catch the overrun while it can still be fixed.

Cost line	Budget (SAR)	Projected at close (SAR)	Projected overrun
Transport & haulage	759,300	867,775	+108,475 (14.3%)
Labor housing & meals	1,510,600	1,631,432	+120,832 (8.0%)
Fuel	2,402,300	2,558,426	+156,126 (6.5%)
Petty expenses	406,000	430,597	+24,597 (6.1%)
Total	5,078,200	5,488,230	+410,030

Illustrative projection: each line keeps its current pace until the budget is fully used (assumes completion ≈ 51.7%).

Decision after the findings

Cap transport, labor housing and fuel, and review them every month against the remaining budget.

The 7-day method I use with any company

Day 1
Collect
3 to 6 months of data, as Excel files or system reports.

Days 2–4
Clean & link
Accounts, items and months reconciled into one model.

Days 5–7
Dashboard
Margins, expenses, budgets and alerts in one view.

Day 7
Report & meeting
A short PDF of findings and a walkthrough with management.



See it on your own numbers

Islam Zidan

Chief Accountant · Cost Accounting Manager · Financial Analyst

13+ years across fuel retail, contracting, manufacturing and trading in Saudi Arabia. I turn scattered Excel files into dashboards that show where profit is made and where it leaks. NDA available on request.

Website
islamzidan.com/en/contracting/

Live demo
islamzidan.com/live/contracting_en.html

WhatsApp
+966 53 521 2052

Book a 30-min call
cal.com/islamzidan/30min