

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

# THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

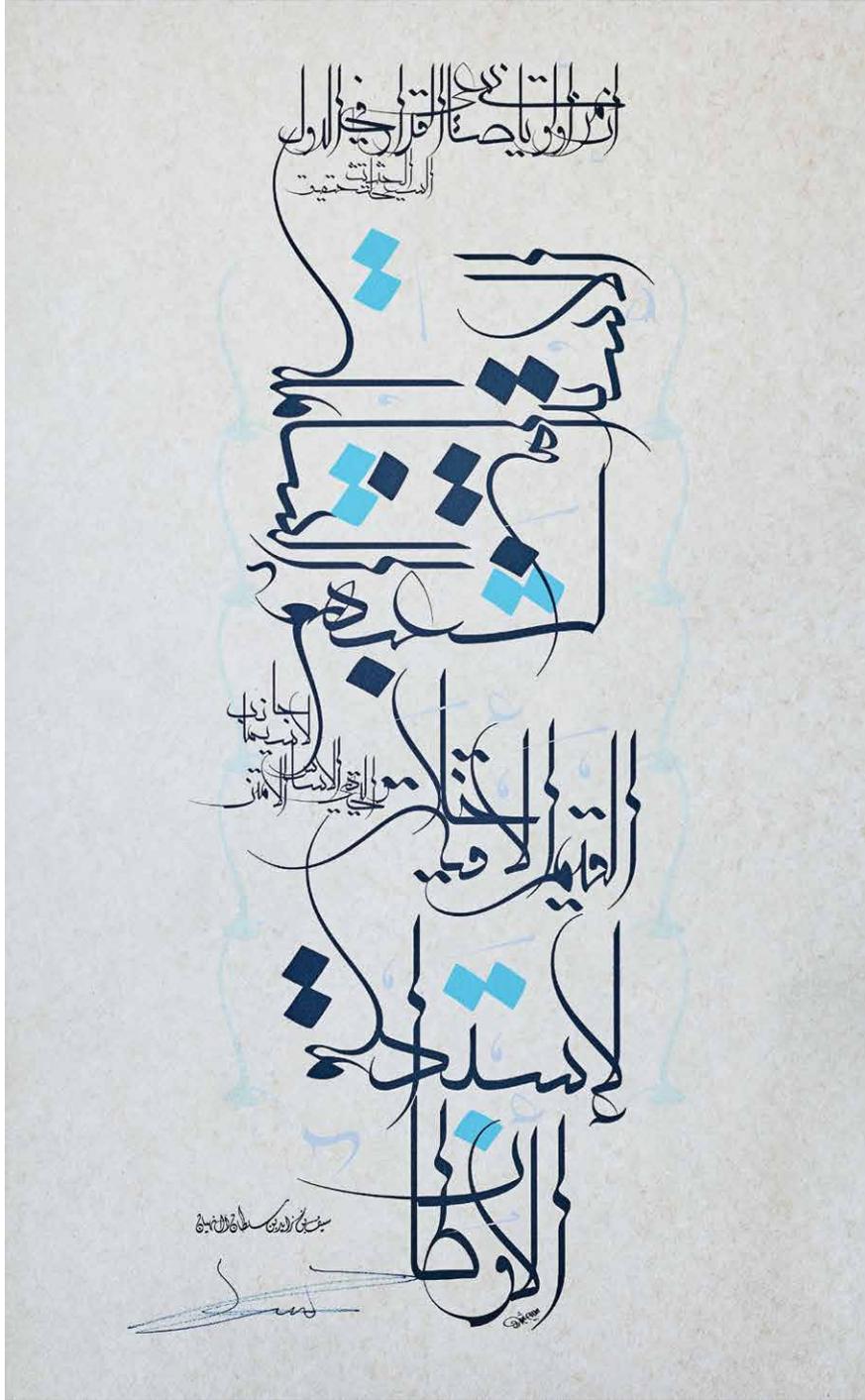
EXCELLENCE IN IMPLEMENTATION 2018: DATA TOWARDS THE 2030 AGENDA



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS







“ A country leader’s priority should be to strive for the inclusive well-being of his people - that is the foundation of a strong, safe and sustainable nation ”

Lieutenant General His Highness  
**Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan**  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior





## Acknowledgments

The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority (FCSA), in its capacity as secretariat of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) National Committee on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and convener of the UAE's SDG report, acknowledges the valuable contributions of the National Committee members and their support in the preparation of this report. The FCSA would also like to thank all federal and local agencies as well as private sector, academic and civil society organisations for their generous inputs in the report, without which this publication would not have been possible.



## List of Abbreviations

<b>AGEDI</b>	Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative	<b>IHC</b>	International Humanitarian City
<b>AgTech</b>	Agricultural Technology	<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>AI</b>	Artificial Intelligence	<b>IMD</b>	International Institute for Management Development
<b>APEC</b>	Advanced Power and Energy Center	<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>ATE</b>	Alarm Transmission Equipment	<b>IPU</b>	Inter-Parliamentary Union
<b>BIR</b>	Bureau of International Recycling	<b>ITU</b>	International Telecommunication Union
<b>BTU</b>	British Thermal Unit	<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
<b>CBD</b>	Convention on Biological Diversity	<b>JCI</b>	Joint Commission International
<b>CCTV</b>	Closed-Circuit Television	<b>KM</b>	Kilometer
<b>CITES</b>	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species	<b>KPIs</b>	Key Performance Indicators
<b>CLIX</b>	Climate Innovation Exchange	<b>KU</b>	Khalifa University of Science and Technology
<b>CSP</b>	Concentrated Solar Power	<b>KUSTAR</b>	Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research
<b>CSR</b>	Corporate Social Responsibility	<b>kWh</b>	Kilowatt Hour
<b>DCES</b>	Dubai Clean Energy Strategy	<b>LCOE</b>	Levelised Cost of Electricity
<b>DESA</b>	Department of Economic and Social Affairs	<b>LED</b>	Light Emitting Diode
<b>DEWA</b>	Dubai Electricity and Water Authority	<b>LDCs</b>	Least Developed Countries
<b>DFC</b>	Dubai Fitness Challenge	<b>MAB</b>	Man and Biosphere Programme
<b>DPW</b>	Dubai Ports World	<b>MAF</b>	Majid Al Futtaim
<b>DTCM</b>	Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing	<b>MBRSG</b>	Mohammed bin Rashed School of Government
<b>EAD</b>	Environment Agency Abu Dhabi	<b>MBZMFG</b>	Mohamed bin Zayed Majlis for Future Generations
<b>EDA</b>	Emirates Diplomatic Academy	<b>MENA</b>	Middle East and North Africa
<b>ERC</b>	Emirates Red Crescent	<b>MEWAR</b>	Middle East Waste and Recycling
<b>ESA</b>	Ecosystem Services Assessment	<b>MI</b>	Masdar Institute of Science and Technology
<b>ESRI</b>	Environmental Systems Research Institute	<b>MIT</b>	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
<b>EWS</b>	Emirates Wildlife Society	<b>MOCCA</b>	Ministry of Climate Change and Environment
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization	<b>MOCD</b>	Ministry of Community Development
<b>FCSA</b>	Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority	<b>MOE</b>	Ministry of Education
<b>FNC</b>	Federal National Council	<b>MOEI</b>	Ministry of Energy and Industry
<b>GBC</b>	Gender Balance Council	<b>MOFAIC</b>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
<b>GCC</b>	Gulf Cooperation Council	<b>MOHAP</b>	Ministry of Health and Prevention
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product	<b>MOHRE</b>	Ministry of Human Resources & Emiratisation
<b>GEP</b>	Global Education Program	<b>MOI</b>	Ministry of Interior
<b>GHG</b>	Greenhouse Gases	<b>MOID</b>	Ministry of Infrastructure Development
<b>GIA</b>	Gender Impact Assessment	<b>MW</b>	Megawatt
<b>GNI</b>	Gross National Index	<b>NKPIs</b>	National Key Performance Indicators
<b>GWh</b>	Gigawatt Hours	<b>NRC</b>	National Research Council
<b>HLPF</b>	High Level Political Forum	<b>NTC</b>	Nuclear Technology Center
<b>HPS</b>	High Pressure Sodium	<b>NWDS</b>	National Waste Database System
<b>IBA</b>	Important Bird Areas	<b>ODA</b>	Official Development Assistance
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology	<b>OECD</b>	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>IEA</b>	International Energy Agency	<b>OHCHR</b>	Office of the United Nations High
<b>IFRC</b>	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies		



## List of Abbreviations

<b>PI</b>	Commissioner for Human Rights	<b>UNEPFI</b>	United Nations Environment Program Finance Initiative
<b>PISA</b>	Petroleum Institute	<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>PPP</b>	Programme for International Student Assessment	<b>UNGC</b>	United Nations Global Compact
<b>PSAC</b>	Public Private Partnerships	<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>PV</b>	Private Sector Advisory Council	<b>UNHRD</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>R&amp;D</b>	Photovoltaic	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot
<b>ReCREMA</b>	Research and Development	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
<b>SCP</b>	Research Center for Renewable Energy Mapping and Assessment	<b>UNIDO</b>	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Consumption and Production	<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>SDGCAR</b>	Sustainable Development Goals Center of Excellence for the Arab Region	<b>UNOSDP</b>	United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal	<b>UNSD</b>	United Nations Statistics Division
<b>SDSN</b>	Sustainable Development Solutions Network	<b>USA</b>	United States of America
<b>SEAS</b>	Seawater Energy and Agriculture System	<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar
<b>SMEs</b>	Small and Medium Enterprises	<b>VNR</b>	Voluntary National Review
<b>SWF</b>	Sovereign Wealth Fund	<b>WCMC</b>	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
<b>TIMSS</b>	Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study	<b>WDF</b>	World Data Forum
<b>TRA</b>	Telecommunications Regulatory Authority	<b>WEF</b>	World Economic Forum
<b>UAE</b>	United Arab Emirates	<b>WEP</b>	Women Empowerment Principle
<b>UIS</b>	UNESCO Institute for Statistics	<b>WFP</b>	World Food Program
<b>UN</b>	United Nations	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Program	<b>WWF</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature
<b>UNEP</b>	United Nations Environment Program		



“

I am confident that we, in the UAE, have both the mindset and the systems in place to make a real difference towards the Sustainable Development Goals. We owe it to ourselves and to our posterity to dream big and deliver accordingly

”

His Highness

**Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan**

Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation





“

Working on achieving the SDGs targets is not new to the UAE. This is part of the framework and development roadmap of our Vision 2021, and the UAE Centennial 2071

”



His Excellency

**Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Gergawi**

Minister of Cabinet Affairs and the Future

Chairman of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority

“

Cross sector, but also cross country collaboration in pursuit of the SDGs is imperative for the success of the 2030 Agenda. In the UAE, we are committed to ensuring the right partnerships are established to promote sustainable development across our society

”

Her Excellency

**Reem bint Ebrahim Al Hashimy**

Minister of State for International Cooperation

Chairwoman of the National Committee on Sustainable Development Goals







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## Executive Summary

Sustainable development has been the cornerstone of the UAE's policy making, pioneered by the nation's founding father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. Given this legacy, the UAE is committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a whole, and to achieving the 17 goals whilst pursuing economic development.

### The SDGs in the UAE

To effectively implement the SDGs, the UAE adopted a whole of government approach that entailed the creation of a National Committee on SDGs. The National Committee, composed of federal entities and chaired by Her Excellency Reem bint Ebrahim Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation, Chairwoman of the UAE's National Committee on Sustainable Development Goals, facilitates the alignment of the SDGs, the sharing of information and supports the implementation of the SDGs in an integrated manner. The National Committee collaborates with different stakeholders locally and internationally to broaden the ownership of the 2030 Agenda. In 2018, the National Committee launched an advisory council represented by private sector leaders as well as a youth advisory council to uncover implementation challenges and serve as the National Committee's sounding board for future policy development in the UAE. To contribute to the global implementation of the SDGs, the National Committee launched the Global Councils on SDGs during the World Government Summit (2018) as a platform for international experts to come together and discuss innovative solutions to global challenges.

### Contributing to the SDGs globally

Promoting peace and prosperity are the pillars of the UAE's foreign assistance policy. Whilst the UAE is racing to achieve the goals nationally, supporting other countries in their race is crucial to ensure no one is left behind. In 2017, the UAE was recognized as the biggest donor of development aid. The UAE's policy focuses on implementing development programs that support the achievement of various SDGs such as SDG 1 (No poverty) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) to support human development.

### The way forward

The review of the 17 Global Goals in the second part of this report highlights the importance of building on existing partnerships, and focusing on creating new ones to enhance data collection and monitoring of the goals. Whilst the UAE's policies are evidence-based, moving forward institutions should continuously adapt to meet the greater demands of the 2030 development paradigm. Moreover, ensuring broad involvement and engagement in the goals is important to ensure implementation levels are at par across the seven emirates. The SDGs are a great tool that should be used to strengthen collaboration among all relevant sectors and partners.

#### The story of the UAE SDG logo

UAE's National Committee on SDGs has created a bespoke logo to represent the approach the country is taking to implement the SDGs. Inspired by the colors of the 17 SDGs, each color in the logo represents a goal and the blending of colors is intended to convey the complexity, indivisibility and crosscutting nature of the SDGs. The map of the UAE at the center of the ring of colors illustrates the fact that sustainable development is very much a way of life for the country.



Furthermore, the logo for each SDG places UAE's map in the middle and gives prominence to the official color of that goal. Here is an example of the bespoke icon for SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.





## Introduction

The decision to adopt the 2030 Agenda in 2015 by 193 United Nations (UN) member states is a fundamental one. Never has the international community been more resolute and clearer in calling for data-driven development policy making. In other words, the SDGs set the parameters for international decision-making for the next 12 years and required each UN member state to develop a national plan of action to demonstrate how each country is developing according to the premises of sustainable development. Sustainable development is not a topic that is only relevant to ‘developing’ countries – every nation has a responsibility to find a balance between its present needs and the interests of future generations.

In July 2018, the UAE presented its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York, United States of America (USA). The UAE presented how sustainable development is at the heart of the country’s vision for its future by focusing on the institutional arrangements in place to support the implementation of the SDGs in the UAE. In addition, The UAE demonstrated its commitment to collecting data in order to develop more agile and adaptable policies that take into consideration fundamental shifts in the world. As such, the UAE invited all UN member states to attend the UN World Data Forum that was hosted

in Dubai in October 2018 under the patronage and in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. Data is a challenge for many countries; therefore, the UAE believed it was vital to highlight the importance of evidence-based policy making in achieving the SDGs by hosting a world-class data forum.

While the UAE has defined a path towards sustainable development internally, the UAE recognizes the 2030 Agenda as a roadmap to a brighter future for all and stands firm on its pledge of ‘leaving no one behind’. In 2017, the UAE was recognized by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as the world’s largest per capita donor, contributing 1.31% of its Gross National Index (GNI) as Official Development Assistance (ODA)<sup>1</sup>.

The annual report on the UAE’s progress in the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development is a testament to the UAE’s commitment of achieving the SDGs both locally and internationally. The 2018 edition of the report provides an overview of the institutional measures and mechanisms that support the implementation of the SDGs in the UAE and provides a review of the 17 goals to highlight advances, emblematic actions, as well as challenges in implementation.

<sup>1</sup> Official Development Assistance is ‘government aid designed to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries’ (OECD, 2018). Based on the UN’s target, developed countries should devote 0.7% of their Gross National Income to ODA.



Monitoring and reporting progress using accurate data, sound research and analysis is crucial for the UAE to achieve the six pillars of the National Agenda and the SDGs



His Excellency  
**Abdulla Nasser Lootah**

Director General of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority  
Vice-Chair of the National Committee on Sustainable Development Goals  
Chair of the Private Sector Advisory Council



## I. INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES AND MECHANISMS TO SUPPORT THE 2030 AGENDA

Part I of this publication provides an overview of the institutional measures and mechanisms in place in the UAE that support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Three dimensions are discussed in turn: The National Committee on SDGs, stakeholder engagement and the monitoring of UAE's progress in international reports, including the SDG Index Dashboards Report.

The National Committee on SDGs is the body responsible of promoting sustainable development and creating ownership of the goals. To ensure continuity in implementing the 2030 Agenda, the 17 goals are aligned and integrated in the UAE National Vision 2021 and tackled by the UAE's most important members of society namely: youth, private sector and the knowledge community. In addition, the same way monitoring and reporting of the goals is important to ensure implementation, it is equally important to monitor the overall country's progress to date. The last section discusses the current state of the UAE in international reports to review the country's progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda and in achieving competitiveness.



## 1.1. The UAE's institutional mechanism for sustainable development

The UAE played a key role in the negotiation process leading up to the SDGs. One of the main outcomes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), held in Rio in June 2012, was to launch a process that would support the development of the SDGs. The Open Working Group was established in 2013, and the UAE participated by representing the Asia-Pacific region along with Cyprus and Singapore as well as the Arab group in the negotiations. To ensure continuity of the UAE's prominent efforts, the National Committee on SDGs was created in 2017 to lead the effort of promoting and creating ownership of the goals and sustainable development in the UAE. In 2018, the Committee worked on a number of projects to support the local implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

### The National Committee on SDGs

#### Governance

In January 2017, the National Committee on SDGs was formed by UAE Cabinet decree No. 14 of 2017. The Committee is chaired by Her Excellency Reem bint Ebrahim Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation, and as of 2018 includes 17 members with FCSA serving as vice chair and secretariat (Figure 1).

The National Committee has a mandate to engage with relevant local and international stakeholders to promote the SDGs, align the SDGs with UAE's national development priorities, UAE Vision 2021, monitor and

report on the indicators in accordance with the UAE's statistical capacity, and undertake regular follow up and review on implementation.

In 2017, the Committee focused on creating the strategies necessary for the implementation of the 17 goals as well as engaging local and international stakeholders. Example of strategies developed during 2017 include a national SDG operational strategy to kick start reporting and monitoring of data related to the SDGs, and a communication strategy to engage local stakeholders and raise awareness on the SDGs in the UAE. Members of the Committee worked together to prepare for the annual SDG Excellence in Implementation event which brought together local and international stakeholders to learn about the main initiatives that support the 17 goals.

Figure 1: The UAE's National Committee on SDGs





### February

#### Launch of the Global Councils in SDGs in Action

The Global Councils on SDGs are a unique interdisciplinary network of decision makers from governments, international organisations, academia and private sector coming together to share innovative practices and discuss the creative implementation of the 17 SDGs at a global level. The Councils' aim is to create partnerships between countries and organisations in the implementation of innovative solutions to support the goals.



### July

#### Presentation of the UAE's first VNR at the UN HLPF in New York

His Excellency Abdulla Lootah, in his capacity as vice-chair of the National Committee on SDGs, presented the UAE's first VNR on July 16, 2018 to highlight the country's commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda and share with all member states the UAE's progress to date<sup>2</sup>. During the HLPF, the UAE's delegation was involved in different activities such as hosting an official UAE side event to introduce the Global Councils on SDGs as well as co-hosting additional side events and participating in panel discussions.



### September

#### Kickstart data collection for the SDGs

Committee members worked together on developing the SDG wheels as per their mandate to report on progress in implementation. As a result, the tool facilitates the identification of Tier 1 and Tier 2 indicators. In 2018, the Committee's secretariat focused on collecting data for the purpose of the annual report.

### October

#### Hosting the United Nations World Data Forum

FCSA hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> UN World Data Forum (WDF) in Dubai between 22-24 October 2018 in collaboration with the Statistics Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), under the guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Forum concluded with the launch of the Dubai Declaration<sup>3</sup> to increase financing for better data and statistics for sustainable development and to enhance data interoperability for the SDGs.



#### Launch of the SDG Geo Spatial Data Portal

To monitor data at an emirate level, a spatial data portal was developed in collaboration with the world's leader in geospatial information systems, Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI). The SDG Geo Spatial Data Portal is a pioneer project in the region that will allow the UAE to visualize spatial data. Combined with statistical data, this provides an opportunity to monitor change and progress towards the SDGs as well as to report progress directly to the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) in the future.



#### Launch of the UAE's Private Sector Advisory Council on the SDGs (PSAC)

The National Committee launched PSAC during the WDF to highlight the importance of the private sector's role in driving the 2030 Agenda in the UAE. The new body aims to usher in a new era of public-private partnerships defined by mutual support in meeting the UN's 17 goals.



#### Launch of the Youth Advisory Council

The Secretariat of the National Committee on SDGs, launched the Youth Advisory Council on SDGs in the presence of Her Excellency Shamma Bint Suhail Faris Al Mazrui, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Her Excellency Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the UN (For more information on the council, please refer to section 1.3).

<sup>2</sup> For all the UAE's VNR material, please visit <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>.

<sup>3</sup> The Dubai Declaration calls for the establishment of a funding mechanism open to all stakeholders that will mobilize domestic and international funds to strengthen national data and statistical systems. For more information, please visit <https://www.undataforum.org>.



## 1.2. Incorporation of the SDGs in the UAE's National Development Priorities

The UAE government is characterized by ambitious visions for national and subnational development and a commitment to achieving high quality economic, social and environmental development. In accordance with the principles of the founding fathers and under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai launched Vision 2021 and the National Agenda in 2010 and 2014 respectively. The National Agenda guides efforts towards Vision 2021 to position the UAE among the best countries by the Golden Jubilee of the Union. The National Agenda presents significant thematic overlaps with the 2030 Agenda, which are also cascaded in the development plans of the seven emirates namely: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al Khaimah and Fujairah.

### The UAE's National Agenda and the SDGs

The National Agenda was launched in 2014 by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and the Ruler of Dubai. The Agenda is the result of a series of workshops, known as 'Vision Labs' attended by over 300 officials from 90 federal and local government entities, participants from civil society organizations and the private sector and subject matter experts from academia and research institutions. It is centered on 6 national priorities, 52 National Key Performance Indicators (NKPIs) and 365 sub-NKPIs. By the end of 2018, 76% of the National Agenda indicators were achieved.

#### Alignment of the National Agenda with the SDGs

In 2017, the UAE's National Committee on SDGs conducted a mapping exercise between the UAE National Agenda and the 2030 Agenda. At a thematic level, the 17 goals can be mapped to pillars of the National Agenda (Figure 2).

To continue the implementation of the SDGs, the National Committee on SDGs' next steps are:

1. **Review** and **refresh** the national implementation plan and operational strategy
2. **Set** key priority areas and targets for the period 2019 to 2021
3. **Manage** the size and scope of the SDG implementation given resource capacities and constraints in a particular period.

### The UAE National Wellbeing Strategy and the SDGs

The UAE government launched the National Wellbeing Strategy in November 2018, a holistic plan to achieve wellbeing in the UAE. Challenges cannot be overcome, and innovative solutions cannot be discovered if members of the community do not enjoy a healthy mental state.

As presented in Figure 3, the strategy is based on a framework with three main themes: Thriving Citizens, Connected Communities, and a Flourishing Country. The strategy aims to achieve nine strategic objectives such as promoting a healthy and active lifestyle, and inspiring positive thinking. Thriving Citizens focuses on promoting a healthy lifestyle, both mentally and physically; Connected Communities underpins stable, connected families and homes characterized by a strong value system. It compasses strategic objectives that support building a tolerant, cohesive and resilient community. Lastly, a Flourishing Country underlines the promotion of socio-economic conditions that create opportunities and enhance living standards. In addition to the advancement of efficient and transparent institutions, a Flourishing Country focuses on the provision of the infrastructure necessary to promote wellbeing such as cultural events and activities that celebrate cultural diversity in the UAE.



Figure 2: Mapping of the UAE's National Priorities to the SDGs





Figure 3: The UAE National Wellbeing Strategy



Source: National Program for Happiness and Wellbeing



### 1.3 Stakeholder Engagement for the 2030 Agenda

The National Committee has developed an active engagement strategy in the UAE to involve local stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs. This section discusses the engagements of three main stakeholders: youth, private sector and knowledge institutions.

#### Youth

Many of the challenges that the SDGs address are salient for youth. The goals established that young people are a driving force for change, and they will be most impacted by the success or failure of the goals. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure they are directly engaged and empowered with the skills needed to contribute to sustainable development.

One way the Federal Youth Authority ensures the UAE's youth is invested in the 2030 Agenda's success is through civic engagement. Based on the UAE's Youth Engagement Strategy, the Authority uses different

platforms such as the Youth Circles, Youth Councils and the Emirates Youth Global Initiative<sup>4</sup> to ensure development issues are raised to shape national policies. So far, 134 youth circles were launched with 15 international youth circles across Russia, Spain, Kuwait, Sudan, Austria, the USA and the United Kingdom. In the past 2 years, over 20 Youth Circles directly related to the SDGs. For instance, in January 2018, the Dubai Youth Council and the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) launched a youth volunteer initiative to clean solar panels on rooftops in Hatta.

<sup>4</sup> For detailed information on the different platforms, please review the UAE's SDG Annual Report 2017/2018 by visiting <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>.

“

The youth are the largest age group around the world. The future we look forward to is theirs; therefore, their role should not be limited to simply participating in the decision-making process, but rather to make the decisions

”

Her Excellency

**Shamma bint Suhail Faris Al Mazrui**

Minister of State for Youth Affairs





### The Youth Advisory Council on SDGs

FCSA launched the Youth Advisory Council on SDGs during the WDF 2018 at the sidelines of a youth circle highlighting the role of youth in achieving the SDGs. The Council was launched in the presence of Her Excellency Shamma bint Suhail Faris Al Mazrui, Minister of State for Youth Affairs, Her Excellency Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the UN and His Excellency Abdulla Lootah, Director General of FCSA and Vice-Chair of the National Committee on SDGs. The launch coincides with the UN's Youth Strategy, 'Youth 2030: Working With and For Young People', which aims to strengthen the UN's capacity to engage young people and benefit from their insights and ideas.

The launch of the Youth Advisory Council reflects the UAE government's efforts to support the UAE youth with the skills and knowledge they need to face the challenges of our future. In addition, it represents a platform where youth can come together to share their views on a variety of SDG related topics. FCSA works in cooperation with the Federal Youth Authority to select UAE youth between the ages of 15 to 35, with an equal representation of genders. The Council aims to bring together youth to discuss potential solutions to SDGs' challenges in the UAE, and come up with creative solutions that can shape UAE's national policies.

### Mohammed bin Zayed Majlis for Future Generations

Launched in 2017 under the direction of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, the Majlis is designed to inspire, energize and connect those responsible for shaping the UAE's future.

The Majlis is a highly interactive space, which uses applied knowledge to help students explore innovative scenarios and ambitious ideas. Additionally, it provides a platform to engage with key government leaders on how to embrace the most significant challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century focusing on the SDGs and the post-oil era. Since 2017, the Majlis has engaged over 5,000 young Emirati students, provided more than 195 sessions and brought in 200 speakers from leading local and international institutions.



Mohamed Bin Zayed  
Majlis for Future Generations  
Imagine. Engage. Build



## Private Sector

Private sector engagement to progress the SDGs in the UAE is managed through two main platforms: PSAC and the UN Global Compact (UNGC) Local Network. Federal agencies that are members of the National Committee on SDGs remain at liberty to work with any private sector partner they deem material for the progression of their respective SDGs.

### The UAE's Private Sector Advisory Council on the SDGs

Launched at the UN WFP in October 2018, PSAC is a platform for regular dialogue between the private sector and the UAE's National Committee on SDGs. The goal of the partnership is to foster stronger links between private sector and government to promote the SDGs in the private sector and provide the National Committee with advice on policy reforms that support the achievements of the 17 goals. In 2019, PSAC will be involved in two main activities: hosting closed forums to bring together private sector leaders to discuss and provide insights on specific SDGs and publishing a report on the role of private sector in advancing the 2030 Agenda in the UAE.

### The UN Global Compact – UAE Network



Through its UAE Local Network, established in 2015, the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) is actively supporting business in the UAE to take bold, innovative action in support of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. With approximately 130 signatories in the UAE, this Local Network is one of the fastest growing worldwide, bringing together a growing number of businesses committed to embedding the principles of human rights, labor rights, environmental stewardship and anti-corruption into the strategies and operations of their

organisations.

To raise awareness, the Local Network hosts workshops on how to incorporate the SDGs into business strategy and report corporate sustainability. The Local Network flagship programs include the UAE SDG Pioneers, a group of business leaders celebrated for doing an exceptional job to advance the SDGs and include leaders from the UAE; and the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), launched in the UAE by the Local Network to call on businesses to act on gender balance in the workplace. With 63 WEPs signatories, UAE is the fourth fastest growing country, and hosts events to increase awareness and build companies' capacity to address gender balance. In support of the UAE visions' commitment to youth (and in line with the UN 2030 Youth Strategy), the Global Compact UAE Local Network Youth Ambassador program was also launched and has built a community of over fifty young responsible leaders passionate about the SDGs. These ambassadors support companies to report on their sustainability program and promote corporate sustainability among their current and future employers.

## Knowledge Institutions

The UAE recognizes that knowledge institutions, such as universities and think tanks, can serve as incubators of innovation and thought leadership. Research agendas should aim at developing new paradigms to create solutions for sustainable development. As such, a focus on the efforts such as those carried out by the Emirates Diplomatic Academy (EDA), Mohammed bin Rashed School of Government (MBRSG) and Masdar Institute of Science and Technology (MI) are essential to highlight.

### Emirates Diplomatic Academy

EDA, the UAE's leading international relations and diplomatic institution, equips the country's current and future diplomats with the knowledge and multi-disciplinary skills to serve their nation. As part of its core mandate, the EDA integrates sustainable development and SDGs into multiple areas of its work and activities, including its regionally pioneering work in diplomatic training on UN climate change negotiations. The Academy also runs a research programme on Energy, Climate Change and Sustainable Development that publishes research and organises events dedicated to SDG-relevant issues.

In November 2018, the EDA, in collaboration with the UN



SDSN (Sustainable Development Solutions Network), launched a Sustainable Development Goals Center of Excellence for the Arab Region (SDGCAR), which will link to a global network of regional SDG centres of excellence in Rwanda, China, Malaysia and Colombia. The SDGCAR will work with a variety of stakeholders in the Arab region and with the SDSN. It will serve as a convening point for SDG activities across the Arab world. The SDGCAR will pursue and promote educational training, research and policy advisory activities, and support Arab policymakers in their effort to achieve the SDGs.

### **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government**

The Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government is the first Arab-regional research and education institution focused on public policy. Advancing the 2030 Agenda is embedded across MBRSG's four core areas of activities namely: the regional policy think tank arm, the graduate academic degrees programs, the executive education programs, as well as the advisory arm.

For instance, sustainability policy is one of six priority research tracks in the School, also embedded in the Masters in Public Policy. These research and educational activities are complimented by policy forums held by the School to facilitate the practical exchange of knowledge. In January 2019, MBRSG hosted its annual Public Policy Forum with a focus on policy frameworks for 'Accelerating SDGs Implementation through Digital Transformation'. In addition, MBRSG works closely with government agencies and international organizations on policy research and capacity building. For instance, in 2018, MBRSG's research agenda addressed critical policy questions related to SDG 3 (Well-being and Health Policy), SDG 4 (Education Policy), SDG 5 (Gender

Equality), SDG 7 (Renewable Energy), SDG 8 (Skills for Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Access to Information and Communications Technology (ICT) , Knowledge Economy) SDG 10 (Policies for Disability and Elderly), SDG 11 (Smart Cities), SDG 12 (Food Security and Waste), SDG 16 (Open Government Data and ICT for development policies).

### **Masdar Institute of Science and Technology**

The Masdar Institute of Science and Technology was established in 2007, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), as an independent non-profit graduate level research university focused on advanced energy and sustainable technology. In February 2017, MI merged with the Khalifa University of Science, Technology and Research (KUSTAR), and the Petroleum Institute (PI), to produce a single world-class, research-intensive institution called the Khalifa University of Science and Technology (KU).

As part of KU, Masdar Institute plays a critical role, serving as an interdisciplinary research unit focused on long-term strategic priorities. KU's sustainability-focused research centers are grouped under the Masdar Institute. The centers' research priority focus on clean energy (e.g. Advanced Power and Energy Center<sup>5</sup>, Nuclear Technology Center<sup>6</sup>) as well as water and environment (e.g. Sustainable Bioenergy Research Consortium<sup>7</sup>).

As a research institute, MI also connects fundamental research with practical application through its partnership with local and international organizations, like the major renewable energy and sustainable urban development leader Masdar.

<sup>5</sup> The Advanced Power and Energy Center (APEC) aims to craft the future of electric energy systems allowing seamless and economical operation of high capacity renewable and clean energy resources while supporting hybrid AC/DC grids, and providing optimal architecture for smart grid and transportation electrification (Source: <https://www.ku.ac.ae>).

<sup>6</sup> The Nuclear Technology Center (NTC) aims to address the present and future research requirements to support the UAE's nuclear power program and help deliver safe, clean and efficient nuclear energy to meet the strategic UAE's vision, while protecting the public, workers and the environment (Source: <https://www.ku.ac.ae>).

<sup>7</sup> A key part of its research activity has been the initiation of a large-scale research program on alternative fuels derived from halophytic (saltwater tolerant) plants, called the Seawater Energy and Agriculture System (SEAS) (Source: <https://www.ku.ac.ae>).



## 1.4 The current state of the UAE in international reports

Given the UAE’s ambition to become the best country in the world by 2071, the FCSA’s Competitiveness Sector monitors global reports to evaluate the position of the UAE in achieving competitiveness indicators, but also the SDGs. This section reviews the state of the UAE in the SDG Index and Dashboards Report, and provides an overview of UAE’s ranking in different global competitiveness reports.

### An overview of the UAE’s state in the SDG index

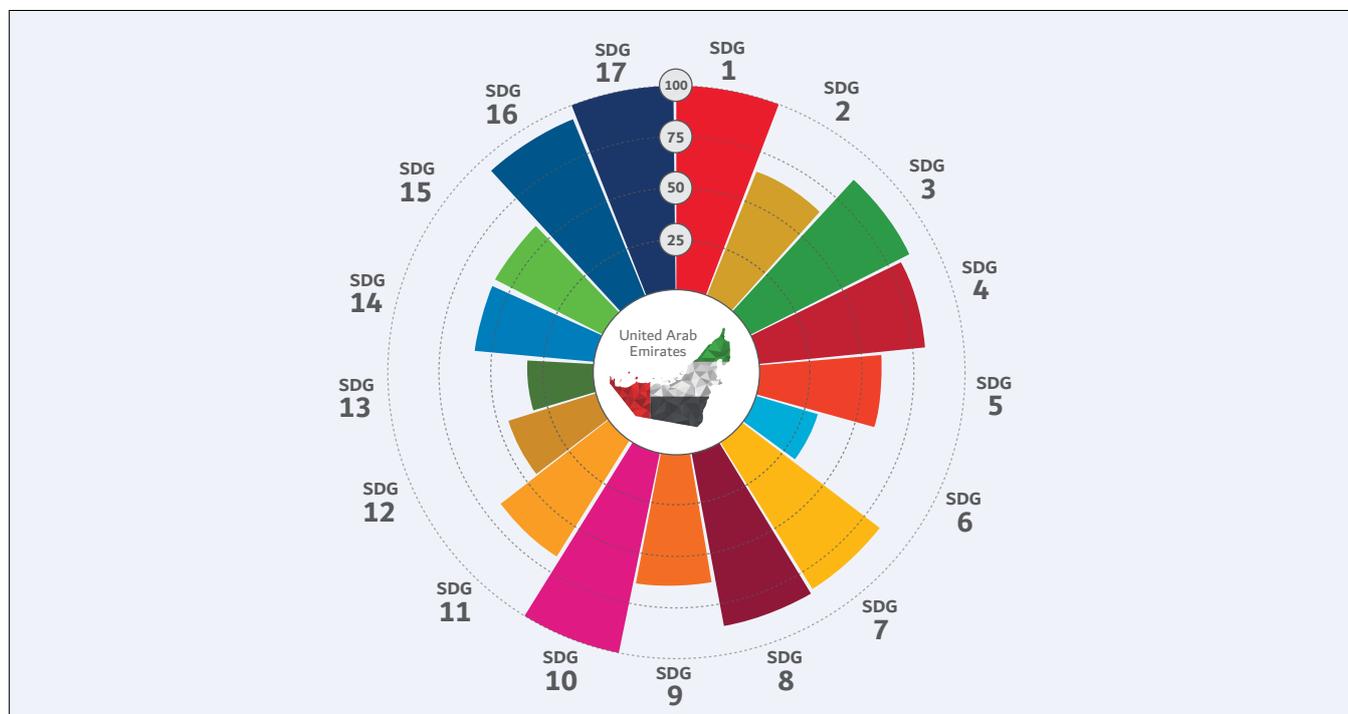
The SDG Index and Dashboards Report<sup>8</sup> produced by the SDSN<sup>9</sup> and Bertelsmann Stiftung<sup>10</sup> presents a revised and updated assessment of countries’ distance to achieving the goals and includes detailed SDG Dashboards to help identify implementation priorities for the SDGs (Figure 4).

Regionally, the UAE leads in a number of goals such as in Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9) and SDG 16 on achieving Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. In SDG 9 for instance, the UAE scored a 6.2/7 on ‘Quality of overall infrastructure’ and 4.1/5 on the ‘Quality of trade and transport-related

infrastructure’. Moreover, in SDG 16, over 90% of the population noted feeling safe walking alone at night in the city or in the area where they live, thus placing the UAE on top of the list of the safest countries to live in.

According to the 2018 report, the UAE ranks 60<sup>th</sup> among 156 countries with an overall SDG performance rate of 69%. In practice, this means that the UAE is on average 69% on the way to the best outcome across the SDGs. Compared with 2017 when the UAE ranked 77<sup>th</sup>; the UAE has improved in 17 ranks.

Figure 4: UAE Average Performance by SDG



Source: SDG Index and Dashboards Report 2018

<sup>8</sup> The report’s methodology is based on absolute thresholds to denote the distance of a country from achieving a specific goal. For more information, please visit <https://sdg.index.org>.

<sup>9</sup> SDSN is a network that mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development.

<sup>10</sup> Bertelsmann Stiftung is the largest private foundation in Germany established in 1977 as an agent for social change in areas such as education, healthcare and education.



## A Special Message

I warmly welcome the new report of the FCSA on the United Arab Emirates progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. I know of few countries on the planet working harder than the UAE to achieve prosperous, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable societies in the 21st century. The UAE is a pacesetter in the Arab region and globally.

It is my special pleasure and honor to work with the Government of the UAE on several cutting-edge initiatives around sustainable development, including the FCSA's efforts to strengthen SDG monitoring and metrics; the UAE's quest for placing happiness at the center of public policy; and the UAE's support for regional SDG coordination through a new SDG Center of Excellence for the Arab Region based at the Emirates Diplomatic Academy.

All of these efforts, plus the upcoming Dubai Expo 2020, exemplify the UAE's commitment to innovative approaches to the sustainable development challenges of the 21st century. And the challenges are indeed significant. Perhaps most important for global stability and well-being is the challenge of environmental sustainability. The entire Arab region and significant additional parts of Western Asia are beset by a deepening water crisis that is exacerbated by global warming. To limit the damage from human-induced global warming, the world needs to decarbonize the global energy system by 2050, which is a huge economic, political and social challenge for the hydrocarbon-rich Gulf countries.

The SDG Index for the UAE highlights the areas of the Emirates' great strengths as well as the top priorities for further progress. The UAE scores very high on almost all measures of economic development, including access to essential services, high household incomes, low rate of poverty, and the benefits of high-quality infrastructure. The most important challenges are found mainly in energy (SDGs 7 and 13) and water (SDGs 6, 11-15). The UAE has one of the highest carbon emissions per capita in the world, a reflection of the dependence of the economy on hydrocarbons. At the same time, water stress throughout the region is growing. Fortunately, some of this water stress can be alleviated through desalination, assuming that the desalination can be shifted to zero-carbon energy sources.

The challenge then for a sophisticated, high-income, diverse society like the UAE is to continue to emphasize the well-being and inclusion of a highly diverse citizenry and to take the lead in the transition from a hydrocarbon-based economy to one based on smart technologies and renewable energy. Of course, the ability to tap large-scale solar energy is one of the most exciting strengths of the UAE and the entire Arab region.

I thank the FCSA for its continued thought leadership and creativity in supporting the government and people of the UAE to show the way forward to the "future we want" for all the world in the 21st century.

Professor

**Jeffrey D. Sachs**

Director, SDSN

Director, Center for Sustainable

Development, Columbia University, USA





## The UAE's journey towards competitiveness

To achieve the UAE's ambition of becoming the best country in the world by 2071, FCSA's competitiveness department is tasked with reviewing and analyzing a selection of some of the most recognized international competitiveness reports. This is in line with FCSA's strategic objectives of ensuring the UAE's performance continuously improves to reach number 1 by 2071.

In 2018, the UAE achieved great strides in global competitiveness rankings in various international reports (Figure 5). For instance, since 2011, the UAE has jumped 21 ranks to become 7<sup>th</sup> globally and 1<sup>st</sup> in Middle East North Africa (MENA) in 2018 in the World Competitiveness Year Book, published by the Institute of Management Development in Switzerland. The UAE also moved up two ranks in INSEAD's Global Talent

Competitiveness Index to hold rank 17 in 2018, making the UAE among the top 20 in the world and leading the GCC and Middle East region.

There is a close correlation between FCSA's strategy to improve UAE's global competitiveness ranking and the country's efforts to fulfill the 2030 Agenda. This is manifested by applying special attention to all indicators and producing statistical datasets that are cross linked in the methodologies of competitiveness reports as well as reports, indices and dashboards by the UNSD. Such rank improvements are attributed to a number of innovative programs and initiatives launched by FCSA through building strategic relationships with stakeholders such as UAE government entities, both federal and local, the private sector, academia and international organizations.

Figure 5: The UAE in Numbers



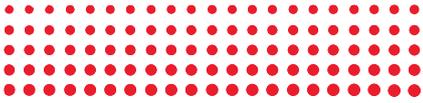
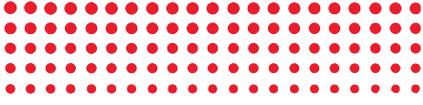




## II. REVIEW OF THE SDGS IN THE UAE

Part II of this publication provides an analysis of each SDG to highlight the ministry or the government entity's main achievements in advancing their respective goal(s) through both launching new policies and initiatives but also in terms of how the UAE is progressing on a number of SDG indicators. In addition, the following pages include a high-level brief of the types of challenges that are, or could in the future impede the implementation of the respective goal.

# 1 NO POVERTY



END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE



“

To reach the vision of the 2030 Agenda, the Ministry of Community Development works closely with all segments of society in each emirate, to ensure no one is left behind

”



Her Excellency  
**Hessa bint Essa Buhumaid**  
Minister of Community Development



## Overview

Sustained economic growth can't be achieved without social inclusion as the whole of society has a role to play in the development of a country. Federal Law No. 13 of 1972 and its amendments by the law (No.2) in 2001 was issued by the Ministry of Community Development (MOCD) as the first law to provide social benefits to members of the community to ensure and sustain the high quality of living for all UAE citizens. The Ministry continues to work today on enhancing social inclusion for all members of society where social benefits are extended to cover twenty one segments of the community.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Launch of the initiative 'Masaei Al Khair' (2018) in collaboration with other federal government bodies, local government entities and the private sector. The initiative aims at providing free home maintenance and renovation for the social security beneficiaries across UAE
- Launch of the 'Motivation Employment Policy' (2017), which aimed at securing employment opportunities for social security beneficiaries across the UAE.

## Challenges

- The UAE government has a future vision to change the culture of social support from the current 'social welfare' model to 'sustainable social development' that encourages independence and growth of families across the UAE.



## Did you know?

- AED 11 billion worth of social assistance will be provided in the UAE between 2018-2021

1 NO POVERTY



**Indicator 1.3.1:** Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and vulnerable



Note: MOCD currently only collects total number of people covered by social protection. The Ministry is exploring ways to filter the data according to the indicator's requirements

Source: MOCD

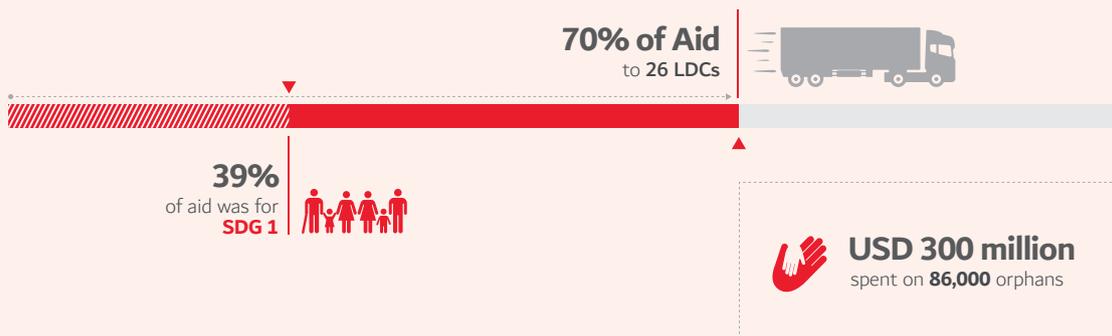
## Case Study: The Emirates Red Crescent

The Emirates Red Crescent (ERC), also part of the global Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement, is the UAE’s main arm for humanitarian work. Present in 14 countries, ERC has played a leading role in promoting different aspects of humanitarian work at a domestic and international level. Since its inception in 1983, ERC has been involved in providing support and aid to those afflicted by conflict and war by offering urgent reliefs and establishing infrastructure projects to rehabilitate affected areas. In addition, ERC has mobilized its resources to support people with special needs, widows, sponsoring orphans and families in need all whilst while establishing a solid culture of voluntary work among its personnel and within civil society in the UAE.

In 2016, ERC contributed a total of AED 889 million (USD 242 million) – more than double its disbursements in 2015 – to mobilize the power humanity to help the weak and needy regardless of ethnic, cultural, or religious considerations. Though ERC’s main focus is providing a humanitarian response, more than a quarter of its aid constitutes multi-sector development activities. Contributions to 26 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) represented 70% of ERC’s total aid. ERC also manages one of the world’s longest running programs for orphan sponsorship. Beginning in 1986, ERC has sponsored more than 86,000 orphans all over the world until end of 2018. The cost of their care has reached more than AED 1 billion (approx. USD 300 million).

Over two-thirds (68%) of ERC’s support in 2016 focused towards the realization of SDGs 1 and 2, pertaining to ending poverty and achievement of food security. This was largely accomplished through the provision of social welfare services, food aid and food security programs in a number of countries, including 16 LDCs. 39% of the total aid provided by ERC was for SDG 1 which includes financial support provided to orphans and households caring for them, in addition to building and maintaining orphanages. In 2016, the designated programs in 16 countries supported and encouraged nearly 65,000 children who have lost one or both of their parents.

### Key facts and numbers





END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE



“

Food security is a top priority for the UAE and it is a global challenge we can only overcome by scientific research and an assessment of the current state

”

Her Excellency

**Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Al Mehairi**

Minister of State for Food Security



## Overview

Access to quality and nutritious food is fundamental to human existence. Food security produces a wide range of positive impacts such as economic growth and poverty reduction, and has an important foreign policy dimension due to trade. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UAE imports 87% of its total food supply. Therefore, securing sustainable sources of food is a matter of national security. The Food Security Office was established in 2017 to help the UAE achieve its vision of becoming a leader in innovation-driven food security by utilizing technologies that can limit greenhouse gas emissions, water use and waste whilst guaranteeing the health of the consumer.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Bzar, Our Future with Food, is a cultural movement by kids-for-kids to help raise awareness on how food is produced to teach children about food sustainability. Implementation of the movement will begin in 2019
- The National Future Food Security Strategy (2018) includes 38 short and long-term initiatives within the 2021 and 2051 UAE Vision. The strategy includes five strategic objectives to facilitate food trade, diversify food import sources and identify alternative supply schemes (See case study on page 31)
- Agricultural Technology Adaptation Accelerator Program (AgTech) 2018 is an initiative to foster the adoption of sustainable technologies to promote agriculture in marginal environments through an interactive platform. The aim is to establish an agricultural business environment that supports the UAE's water and food security
- Food Valley Platform is a unified platform to document all relevant research and critical information to researchers that will help boost research and development (R&D) in that sector. The platform is under development and will include information such as R&D papers, funding sources, and a patent management process.

## Challenges

- Population growth will increase demand for food which can increase the UAE's vulnerability to external risks such as price shocks, political risks and physical risks related to low availability of food on the global market as a result of crop failures.



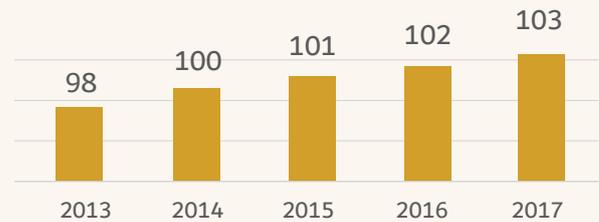
## Did you know?

- The UAE is the only country in the world that has appointed a Minister of State for Food Security
- 40% of food in the UAE is re-exported to East Africa and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and other regions
- The UAE will be home to the world's largest vertical farm by 2019, an initiative by Emirates Flight Catering, a subsidiary of Emirates Group

**2** ZERO HUNGER



**Indicator 2.c.1:** Indicator of food price anomalies



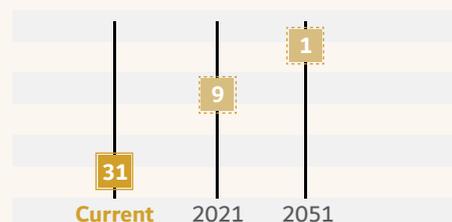
Source: FCSEA

Reported 2017 UAE Food Trade Values for Imports & Exports



Source: Food Security Office

UAE's rank in the Global Food Security Index 2018, by the Economist Intelligence Unit



Source: Food Security Office



## Case Study: The UAE national food security strategy

In November 2018, during the UAE's second Annual Government Meeting, Her Excellency Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Al Mehairi, Minister of State for Food Security, presented the National Strategy for Food Security. The strategy defines the elements of the national food basket, which includes 18 main types, based on 3 main criteria:

- Knowledge of the volume of domestic consumption of the most important products
- Production capacity
- Processing and nutritional needs.

The strategy includes 38 short and long-term key initiatives and is geared by 5 strategic goals focusing on:

- Facilitating the global food trade
- Diversifying food import sources
- Identifying alternative supply schemes, covering three to five sources for each major food category.

The strategy aims to:

- Make the UAE the world's best in the Economist Intelligence Unit, Global Food Security Index by 2051 and among the top 10 countries by 2021
- Develop a comprehensive national system based on enabling sustainable food production through the use of modern technologies
- Enhance local production
- Develop international partnerships to diversify food sources
- Activate legislation and policies that contribute to improving nutrition and to reducing waste

### National Food Security Strategy

UAE's population having access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for an active and healthy life at affordable prices at all times

#### 2021 Mission

To champion agribusiness trade facilitation through a whole-of-nation apparatus and to ensure food security under all circumstances through enabling technology-based production and supply of food, promoting international trade partnerships and enforcing policies and regulations to enhance nutritional intake and reduce food loss and waste

#### 2051 Vision

World leading hub in innovation-driven food security

#### 18 selected main food items

Fruits	Vegetables	Grains and Pulses	Livestock products	Fisheries
Apples	Tomatoes	Wheat	Milk	Fish
Bananas	Leafy greens	Rice	Poultry meat	<b>Other</b>
Dates	Cucumber	Sugar	Eggs	Oils
	Potato	Pulses	Cattle meat	
			Goat meat	

#### Strategic goals



1 Facilitate global agri-business trade and diversify international food sources



2 Enhance sustainable technology-enabled domestic food supply across the value chain



3 Reduce food loss and waste



4 Sustain food safety and improve nutritional intake



5 Enhance capacity to respond to food security risks and crises

# 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES



“

The UAE aspires to achieve high quality health care, which is one of the most important pillars of the UAE’s Vision 2021. In its work with partners, the Ministry emphasizes the importance of disease prevention and the existence of a strong healthcare system that is capable of responding effectively to epidemics and health risks

”



His Excellency  
**Abdulrahman bin Mohamed Al Owais**  
Minister of Health and Prevention  
Minister of State for Federal National Council Affairs



## Overview

The UAE's National Agenda 2021 is in line with SDG 3 of the 2030 Agenda as health is one of the six national priorities of the UAE's Vision. The Ministry of Health and Prevention (MOHAP) is striving to enhance community health by providing innovative and fair healthcare services as per international standards. In addition, MOHAP acts as a regulator of the sector through an integrated health legislative system. The UAE is aspiring to create one of the best healthcare systems in the world by the nation's Golden Jubilee.

## Policies and Initiatives

- New regulation regarding the code of marketing for breast milk substitute to enhance breastfeeding (2018). The aim of the regulation is to contribute effectively to the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding. This will be achieved through the coordination of marketing and promotion activities for supplies and products related to infant and young children, and by providing appropriate information for the protection of their health
- National Policy for the Promotion of Mental Health in the UAE (2017)
- Roll out of an excise tax on Tobacco (100%), Energy drinks (100%), and Soft drinks (50%) in 2017
- Launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of 'Your Health Comes First'. A mass media awareness campaign focusing on health risks associated with drinking sugar-sweetened beverages.

## Challenges

- Rise in obesity, physical inactivity and unhealthy diets constitute a huge challenge in the UAE. MOHAP is working jointly with different sectors to promote a multi-sectoral approach to enhance collaboration and improve accountability.

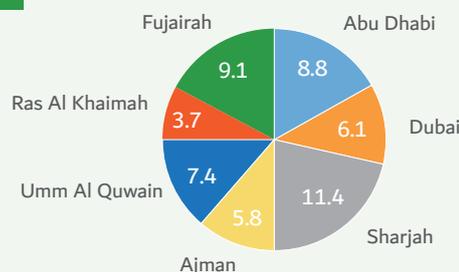


### Did you know?

- The UAE has the lowest Tuberculosis globally, with a rate of 1.6 per 100,000 population (Source: MOHAP)
- The UAE has the highest number of Joint Commission International (JCI)<sup>11</sup>-accredited facilities
- In the UAE, 100% Births attended by skilled health personnel (Source: SDG Index by Bertelman and stiftung, 2018)



**Indicator 3.2.1:** Under-5 mortality rate per 1,000 births by Emirate (2016)



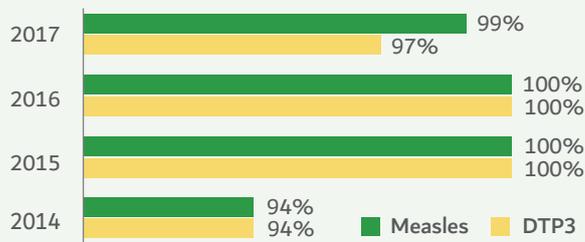
Source: FCSA

**Indicator 3.2.2:** Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 births by Emirate (2016)



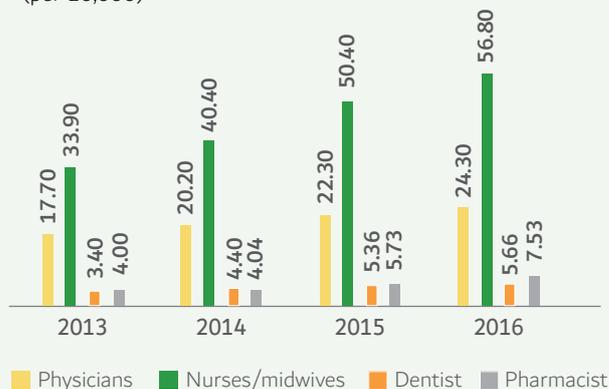
Source: FCSA

**Indicator 3.b.1:** Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national programme



Source: MOHAP

**Indicator 3.c.1:** Health worker density and distribution (per 10,000)



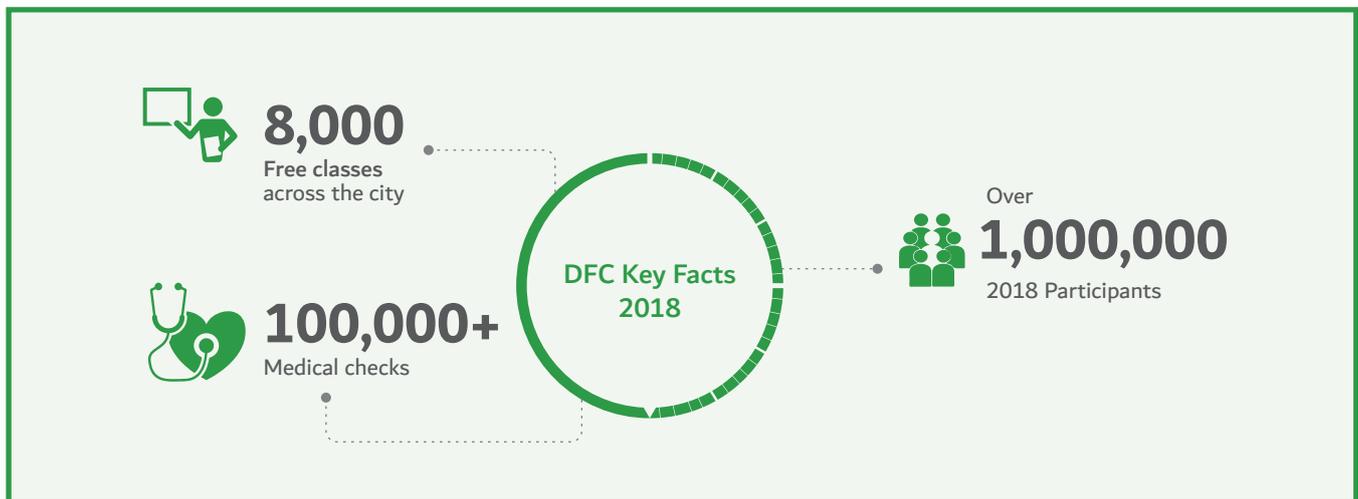
Source: MOHAP

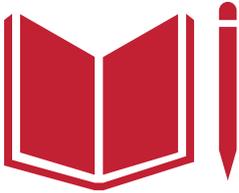
<sup>11</sup> JCI is an organisation that works to improve patient safety and quality of health care in the international community.

## Case Study: Dubai Fitness Challenge 30x30 – Get active, 30 minutes for 30 days

According to the report ‘Sport and the SDGs’ by the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP), physical inactivity has been identified as the fourth leading risk factor for global mortality by the World Health Organisation (WHO). In 2017, the Dubai Fitness Challenge (DFC) launched its first edition by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council, Dubai Government. The challenge aims to transform the city of Dubai into the most active in the world. For a period of one month, the city keeps moving with a calendar of exciting events. DFC did not only motivate Dubai’s residents to engage in physical activity, it also saw the city work as one and commit to living a healthier, active lifestyle and it contributes to Dubai’s 2021 plan, ‘A happy city, creative and empowered people’. In its second year, the challenge brought in over 8,000 free classes, events and community led activities for people all over the region to take part in and show their passion of staying healthy.

The Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM) developed a multi-layer research programme to evaluate the change in physical activity levels in Dubai of both residents in general and those who have attended DFC’s events and activities throughout the full month between October and November. According to DTCM, the total number of registered participants in 2017 (786,000) far exceeded the 100,000 target set ahead of the challenge. In 2018, the number of participants reached 1,053,102. Furthermore, with surveys showing that almost half of attendees at the challenge’s marquee events were not registered as official participants, it is believed that the real reach of the initiative was over one million, amplifying its impact and further enhancing its legacy. The action packed calendar of the 2018 activities included challenges such as the Fitness Villages and the Weekend Carnival located in various location in Dubai and other emirates. Huge involvement from schools plus increased levels of regular exercise and high satisfaction scores were among the key outcomes of the Dubai Fitness Challenge.





ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND  
EQUITABLE QUALITY  
EDUCATION AND PROMOTE  
LIFELONG LEARNING  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL



“

The development of the education sector is one of the most important goals of the SDGs. Therefore, providing education to all members of society is one of the key instruments for achieving that objective

”

His Excellency  
**Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi**  
Minister of Education



## Overview

The UAE places education at the cornerstone of Vision 2021. The Ministry of Education (MOE) and its strategic partners have laid out a strong strategy to harness the national human capital's full potential by maximizing participation in high-quality education, encouraging entrepreneurship, and nurturing public and private sector leaders. The 2016 merger between the Ministry of Education and Higher Education has enabled the UAE to focus on equity and quality from kindergarten to higher education to fill the gap between academic requirements and labour market demands. MOE is accelerating progress towards the SDGs by infusing Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) (such as Artificial Intelligence) in the education system through a smart learning program and a specialized data centre.

## Policies and Initiatives

- The Early Childhood Policy (2018) targets children from birth until the age of 8 and calls for the establishment of a national framework with a comprehensive and integrated approach for the care and learning of children
- The Inclusive Education Policy Framework (2018) defines an Emirati school model focused on providing quality education from birth through its five tracks (Specialization track, General/Academic track, Professional track, Advanced track and Professional Advanced track).

## Challenges

- Quality as measured by students' learning outcomes: Although recent international assessment results (TIMSS and PISA) are showing improvements
- Teacher preparation and professional development: Increased quality of teachers (with a shift from a supply-driven to a demand-driven focus of all professional development programs) to ensure that teachers adopt teaching and learning methodologies and assessment practices that reflect the intent of the curriculum, the need of students, and system expectations for effective teaching
- Clear, consistent and sustainable SDG 4 Monitoring Framework at a global level: Although many efforts are under way to develop a holistic monitoring framework for SDG 4, it is still a global challenge to finalize all components of a sound monitoring framework including operationalization of certain targets, development of indicators, standards and tools to match the ambitions of SDG 4.

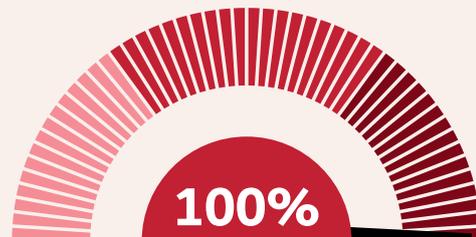


## Did you know?

- MOE's smart eco-system serves nearly 25,000 teachers, over 300,000 students, and over 500,000 parents
- The UAE Cabinet approved a record AED 180 billion (USD 49 billion) for the federal budget of the upcoming three years leading to 2021, out of which AED 60.3 billion (USD 16.3 billion) for the year 2019, with 17% allocated to education alone
- The UAE is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> globally in (Number of) International Students, Global Talent Competitiveness Index, 2018

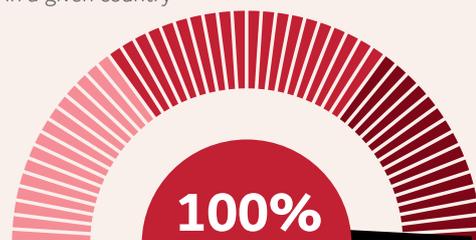


**Indicator 4.a.1:** Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)



Source: MOE

**Indicator 4.c.1:** Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country



Source: MOE

## Case Study: The DP World global education program

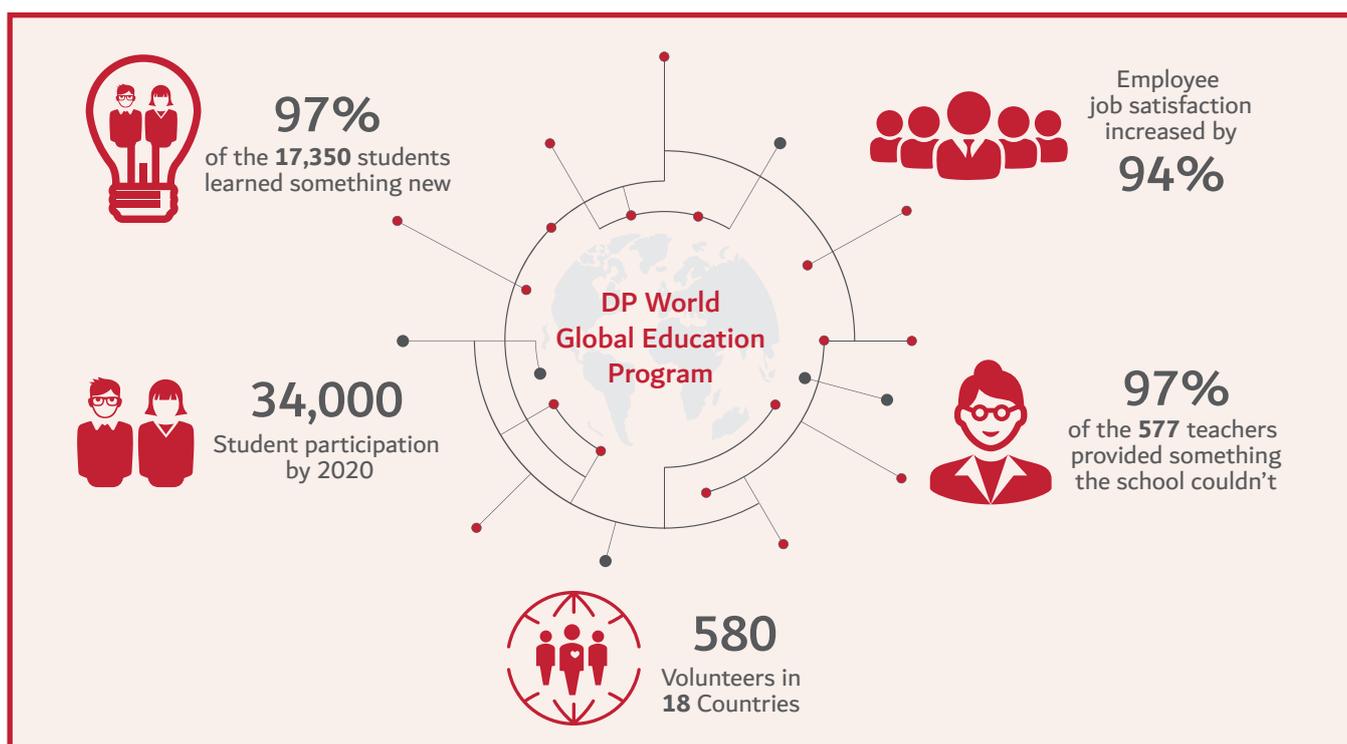
DP World began life as a local port operator with its first project, the development of Dubai's Port Rashid, in 1972. Over the years, DP World has grown to become one of the world's busiest ports. DP World's operations also include terminals, industrial parks, logistics and economic zones, maritime services and marinas. DP World is a member of the UAE's Private Sector Advisory Council to the National Committee on the SDGs.

In 2015, DP World (Dubai Ports) launched a unique Global Education Program (GEP) for 8-14 year olds across its international network, which aims to engage 34,000 children by 2020 with 70% reporting a positive impact. Employees deliver a range of modules in local schools as part of their volunteering leave. The content covers a wide range of topics to engage young people in ports, trade and logistics, a little-known and often overlooked part of the world economy.

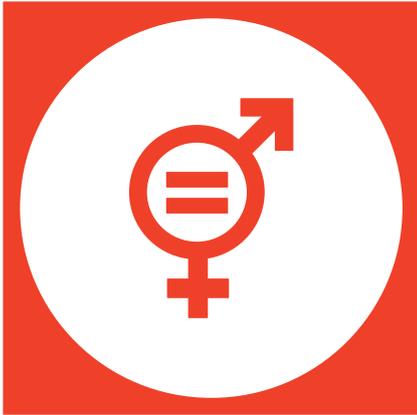
Modules come with guidance and delivery notes, lesson plans, student activities and worksheets. It has been implemented in fourteen languages – from Arabic and English to Hindi, Mandarin, French, Spanish, Thai, Korean Portuguese, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Romanian and Dutch. The first lessons were initially piloted in the UAE, India, Pakistan, Senegal, the United Kingdom, Argentina and the Philippines and were rolled out across the rest of DP World's network in over six continents.

DP World's Education Program is part of the UAE's approach to address the need for better educational standards internationally. The pioneering scheme aims to boost the skills, aspirations and confidence of young people in the communities where DP World operate, raising awareness about the maritime sector, trade and logistics, and related career options. It also aims to develop a talent pipeline of future employees in DP World's business.

The content covers a wide range of topics to engage young people in ports, trade and logistics. Subjects include port management, sustainability, careers in trade and logistics and the maritime sector, geography, ocean protection, disaster relief, illegal wildlife trafficking, mathematics, design and technology.



# 5 GENDER EQUALITY



ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY  
AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN  
AND GIRLS



“

One of the main pillars of the council is giving equal opportunities to both genders across all sectors including the public and private sector

”

Her Excellency  
**Mona Ghanem al Marri**  
Vice President of the UAE Gender Balance Council



## Overview

According to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), gender inequality is a major barrier to human development. The UAE's compliance with international codes and conventions is a demonstration of the country's commitment to adhering to best practices in order to guarantee the elements necessary for a decent life to all of its residents, especially women. Based on the Vision 2021, the UAE aims to become one of the world's top 25 countries for gender equality. Established in 2015, the UAE Gender Balance Council (GBC) is a federal entity responsible for developing and implementing the gender balance agenda in the UAE. In line with SDG 5, the Council's objectives are to reduce the gender gap across all government sectors, achieve gender balance in decision-making positions, and promote the UAE's status as a benchmark for gender balance.

## Policies and Initiatives

- His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, issued a new decree (2018) to increase Emirati women's representation in the Federal National Council (FNC) to 50% in the upcoming parliamentary term
- Equal pay law (2018) mandates equal pay for men and women in the UAE
- The Gender Balance Index (2017) is an initiative by UAE Gender Balance that measures the efforts of organizations and their leadership in 3 categories: The best personality supporting gender balance, the best federal authority supporting gender balance and the best gender balance initiative in the UAE
- National Strategy for the Empowerment and Leadership of Women (2015-2021) aims to provide a framework for federal and local government entities and private sector to define plans that will ensure women's participation in society.

## Challenges

- Lack of data for years prior to the establishment of UAE GBC as collecting gender disaggregated data was not a priority for various local government authorities and entities
- Low representation of women in board level positions in UAE's public and private sector.



## Did you know?

- The UAE GBC is the first council of its kind in the Arab region
- Women make up 20% of the diplomatic corps, where they occupy 175 positions, 42 working on missions abroad, and 7 being ambassadors
- The UAE is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> globally in Wage Equality for Similar Work, Global Gender Gap Report by WEF, 2017



**Indicator 5.5.1:** Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments

Proportion of women in the Federal National Council



Source: GBC

**Indicator 5.5.2:** Proportion of women in managerial positions (%)



Source: MOHRE

**Indicator 5.b.1:** Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex in 2017 (%)



Source: TRA

## Case Study: The Gender Balance Guide for UAE organizations

In support of the UAE’s ongoing journey to become one of the top countries in the world for gender balance by 2021, the UAE GBC and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) collaborated in 2017 to launch ‘The Gender Balance Guide: Actions for UAE Organizations<sup>12</sup>’. The Guide serves as a tool for organizations across the UAE to help advance gender balance and work toward greater equality. This guide highlights mechanisms that can be employed to accelerate more balanced representation within a variety of organizations in the UAE: Government, semi-governmental enterprises and private companies.

Drawing on the international best practices, standards and recommendations of the OECD member countries, the guide offers a framework that can help policymakers and organizations within the UAE implement result-oriented and concrete actions to become gender champions. The guide also highlights linkages between the key concrete actions. Whilst there is no single recipe to achieve gender balance, the guide proposes a roadmap for improvement that focuses on an incremental approach based on three levels of progress. The three levels (see below) – bronze, silver and gold – mark levels of gender balance maturity and achievements. Organizations that engage in gender balance initiatives begin at the Bronze Level and may progress to Silver and Gold over time. Each level builds on the work of the previous level in ways intended to support organizations as they take on more comprehensive and in-depth approaches to achieve gender balance. All organizations should strive to achieve the Bronze Levels as a minimum commitment and be encouraged to reach higher levels.

### Vision 2021 and Levels of Progress

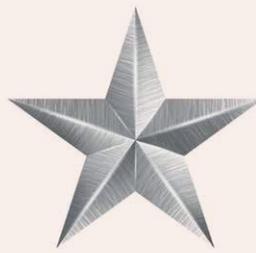
Creating gender sensitive work places and harmonising strategies and policies to enable doing so undergirds two of the UAE’s Vision 2021 goals: Social cohesion and a competitive knowledge economy. Below is an incentive system to encourage organisations to promote gender balance.

#### **Bronze Level Gender Balance Commitment**



- Raise awareness
- Organisational commitment to gender balance
- Achievement of national gender KPIs

#### **Silver Level Gender Balance Distinction**



- Development of a gender balance action plan
- Successful use of Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) for policy and programme design
- Measurement of progress

#### **Gold Level Gender Balance Excellence**



- Implementation of advanced gender balance practices
- Successful use of gender impact assessment for budgeting
- Actions taken to support other organisations and share lessons learned

<sup>12</sup> For more information on the guide, please visit the UAE GBC website: <https://www.gbc.gov.ae>



ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL



“

The Water Security Strategy 2036 seeks to reduce average residential water consumption by 20% as well as to promote sustainable practices in various circumstances to meet the needs of the community and to achieve the economic prosperity of the UAE

”

His Excellency  
**Suhail bin Mohammed Faraj Faris Al Mazrouei**  
Minister of Energy and Industry



## Overview

In 2016, the World Economic Forum (WEF) listed ‘Water Crises’ as one of top 10 global risks to impact the world. Water security concerns are particularly acute in the UAE as the country is located in one of the most water scarce regions of the world. In line with the UAE Vision 2021 and SDG 6, the Ministry of Energy and Industry (MOEI) developed the UAE Water Security Strategy 2036 with the overarching objective of setting a roadmap to achieve water security. The strategy was developed in collaboration with more than 30 entities in the water sector and built on a large repertoire of previous studies and references. The aim of the strategy is to enhance water security planning and risk management, through tools such as the national water risk register, an integrated hydraulic water network model and an emergency impact simulator.

## Policies and Initiatives

- The UAE energy and water demand-side management program 2050, launched in 2018, will set the action plan required to reach national targets for energy and water demand reduction and efficiency improvements
- The Water Security Strategy 2036, launched in 2018, is considered the first unified water security strategy in the country.

## Challenges

- The UAE faces water related challenges such as the scarcity of fresh natural water resources, the depletion of groundwater, the high demand for water, the high water losses from water distribution networks and the low irrigation efficiency, and limited utilization of available treated wastewater
- The water system lacks the resilience to deal with emergencies. In addition, desalination plants result in a high carbon footprint
- Data collection and reporting are a challenge, as a result MOEI has launched the data management and automation platform ATMATA, which uses digital platforms for water data collection and management.

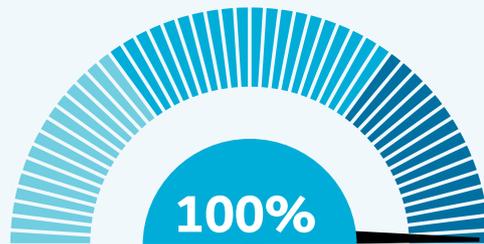


## Did you know?

- Desalinated seawater supplies 94% of drinkable water in the UAE
- UAE will build the first hydroelectric power station in GCC countries by 2021
- UAE completed in 2018 the construction of the world’s largest reserve of high-quality desalinated water located in Al Dhafra region of Abu Dhabi



**Indicator 6.1.1:** Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (2015)



Source: FCSA

**Indicator 6.2.1:** Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (2015)



Source: FCSA



## Case Study: UAE water security strategy 2036

The UAE Water Security Strategy 2036 has been prepared from a national perspective to cover all elements of the water supply chain in the country covering a period of 20 years with the participation of all water resources authorities involved in the development and adoption of the strategy.

The UAE Water Security Strategy 2036 aims to ensure sustainable and continuous access to safe and adequate quantities of potable water. This is based on enforced regulations and World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines under normal operations and during large-scale emergencies affecting the entire nation and the UAE's Vision 2021 to achieve prosperity and sustainability.

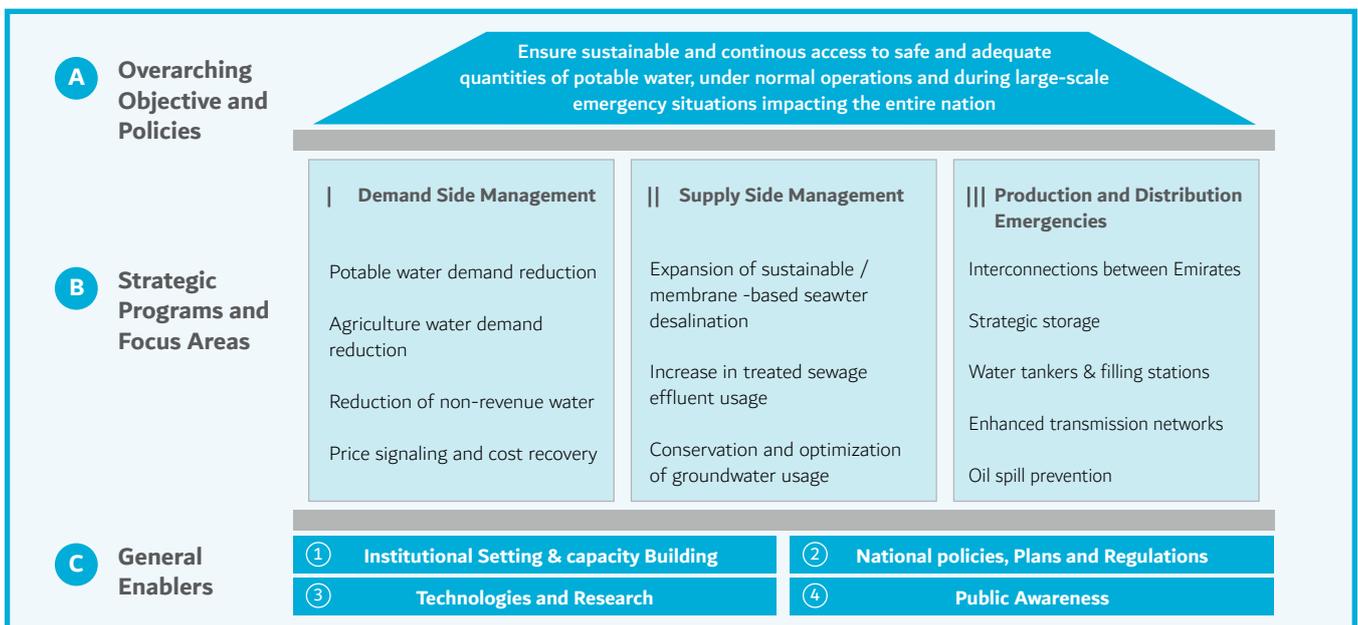
The prioritized strategic solutions were grouped into an integrated framework, comprising of three strategic programs and four enablers. The strategic programs are:

- Water Demand Side Management Program
- Water Supply Side Management Program
- Emergency Water Production and Distribution Program

The above strategic programs are enabled by multiple crosscutting initiatives including the following:

- Development of national water policies, plans and legislation
- Institutional setting and capacity building
- Technologies and innovation
- Public awareness

The Water Security Strategy 2036 is planned to increase the water productivity and reduce the water scarcity level with significant improvements to the performance of the UAE water sector. The strategy adopted a set of targets as key performance indicators (KPIs) to be achieved by 2036. For instance, a reduction of 21% in total water demand, an increase in treated wastewater re-use rate to 95%. Other KPIs include, maintaining two days' worth of storage capacity across production and transmission systems under normal conditions so that water demand is programmed and controlled to provide storage capacity sufficient for two weeks in large emergency situations while maintaining basic economic activity by providing 91 liters of water per capita per day. In cases of maximum emergency, it will provide a capacity of the estimated water needs, i.e. 30 liters of water per capita per day for a period of 35 days. The outputs of the Water Security Strategy 2036 are expected to achieve financial and environmental sustainability when compared to business as usual in the UAE water sector. The strategy will rationalize expenditure with more than AED 74 billion (USD 20 billion) in addition to a reduction of CO2 emissions by 100 million tons from desalination plants.



# 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



ENSURE ACCESS TO  
AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE,  
SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN  
ENERGY FOR ALL



“

The goals that our founding father have set since the establishment of the UAE include affordable and clean electricity to all citizens and residents of our nation

”

His Excellency  
**Suhail bin Mohammed Faraj Faris Al Mazrouei**  
Minister of Energy and Industry





## Overview

The UAE is endowed with plentiful of oil reserves however, it is not immune to the world's energy challenges such as rising pollution, depletion of deposits and increases in energy demand. These threats require great innovation and the UAE has risen to the challenge. The UAE's Vision 2021 has a formulated clean energy indicator developed since 2013. The UAE launched the Energy Strategy 2050 with a target of producing 50% of its energy requirements from clean sources. For instance, the Peaceful Nuclear Energy Program, which will begin operation in 2019, will make a great contribution to diversify energy sources and support the UAE in its aim of reducing its carbon footprint.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Shuaa is a web application to estimate potential electricity production and savings on electricity bill by installing solar panels. The second phase of the project was completed in 2017
- The UAE launched 'Energy Strategy 2050' in 2017, which is considered the first unified energy strategy in the country that is based on supply and demand.

## Challenges

- The overall awareness and uptake of renewable technologies on the distributed generation is still low. The deployment of renewable energy varies significantly between emirates
- The penetration of clean energy use in the transport sector remains low. New incentive packages have been launched by the local governments, which shall facilitate the electrification of the transport sector
- No incentives in place to share data with MOEI as the Ministry does not have a constitutional merit to collect data. The Ministry has developed a web platform system called ATMATA for more efficient energy data management and facilitating annual collection of data for the Ministry of Energy and Industry and its stakeholders
- UAE's clean energy aims would require a flexible power system comprising dispatchable generation, storage, demand side management and grid interconnections. More research is required to ensure the power system can be stable under very high renewable energy penetration levels.



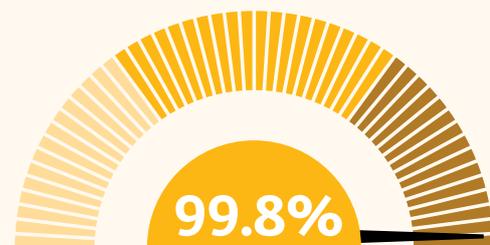
## Did you know?

- Noor Abu Dhabi, the world's largest independent solar plant will have an installed capacity of 1,177 MW once completed
- The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park is the largest single-site solar park in the world, with a planned capacity of 1,000 MW by 2020, and 5,000 MW by 2030, with a total investment of AED 50 billion (USD 13.6 billion)
- The Barakah nuclear power plant is the UAE's first nuclear power station. Four nuclear reactors are planned to start operation successively before 2020
- The UAE is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> globally in Ease of Access to Electricity, Global Competitiveness Report 4.0 by WEF, 2018

### 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

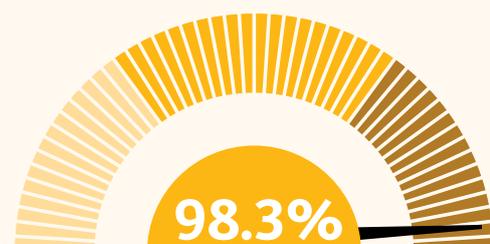


**Indicator 7.1.1:** Proportion of population with access to electricity (2015)



Source: FCSA

**Indicator 7.1.2:** Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology (2015)



Source: FCSA

## Case Study: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum solar park

There is already a clear commitment in the UAE to align with the SDGs and it is well encapsulated in a number of documents and plans, such as the UAE Centennial 2071, UAE Vision 2021, the Dubai Plan 2021, and the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050. Dubai Electricity & Water Authority's (DEWA) vision is well aligned with the aspirations set out in the SDGs. Within our own activities, we have identified where DEWA has the biggest potential to contribute to the Global Goals, given the nature, scale and reach of our operations, and how this will add value to our business.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park is one of DEWA's key initiatives towards achieving Dubai Clean Energy Strategy (DCES) 2050 and is directly contributing to SDG 7. It has also major contributions to SDGs 8, 9, 12 and 13. The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, is the largest single site solar park in the world, with a planned capacity of 5,000 MW by 2030. Located in Seih Al Dahal, Dubai, the solar park will reduce over 6.5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year starting from 2030.

The solar park will use a range of photovoltaic and concentrated solar power technologies to provide clean energy to the citizens and residents of Dubai. The solar park not only combines the efforts of the public and private sectors in solar energy, but it also includes an Innovation Centre and it is home to one of the largest Research & Development centres in the region which includes a photovoltaic solar testing facility and a solar powered water desalination plant.

Operation of the park began in 2013, with the launch of the first phase of the project, having a capacity of 13 MW generated by photovoltaic technology. The second phase of the solar park was successfully inaugurated in April 2017, with a total capacity of 200 MW.

In regards to future expansions, the third phase will be implemented in stages (200 MW by 2018, 300 MW for the second stage, and 300 MW for the third stage). The fourth phase, the 950 MW, has received the lowest international Levelised Cost of Electricity (LCOE) bid of USD 7.3 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) for the Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) plant and added 250 MW of photovoltaic (PV) solar panels, at a cost of 2.4 USD cents per kilowatt hour, the world's lowest. The CSP plant will feature a 260-meter solar tower, the tallest of its kind in the world with a total investment of AED 16 billion (USD 4.3 billion).



The  
**largest**  
single site solar park  
in the **world**



**5,000 MW**  
of planned capacity  
by **2030**



Reduction of  
**6.5 million**  
tons of **carbon dioxide**  
emissions every year  
starting **2030**



PROMOTE SUSTAINED,  
INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE  
ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND  
PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT  
AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL



“

The Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation is committed to championing national efforts to foster a vibrant knowledge economy through the implementation of policies and programmes that support and empower local talent, attract international expertise to key economic sectors, and promote an efficient labour market

”

His Excellency

**Nasser bin Thani Juma Al Hamli**

Minister of Human Resources and Emiratisation



## Overview

In line with SDG 8, one of the six national priorities of the UAE's National Agenda 2021 is transitioning to a 'knowledge-based economy'. In practice, this signifies promoting innovation and research, supporting high value-adding sectors and strengthening the regulatory framework for key sectors. The Ministry of Human Resources & Emiratisation (MOHRE) is responsible of transforming the job market in the UAE into an attractive market for Emirati talent. To do that, MOHRE has focused on developing a system of policies, standards but also institutional partnerships to empower the Emirati labour force, protect the work environment whilst reinforcing innovation.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Citizen Redistribution Policy (2018) is a job rotation mechanism between the public and private sector that aims to provide experienced and competent staff from the public sector to take on leading positions in the private sector
- The Unified e-Portal for Self-employment of Skilled Personnel (2018) aims to connect talented national skills with different programs and services in the private and public sector. The portal is also a platform for companies to use in order to hire national talent
- Launch of a series of smart apps in 2017 and 2018 to encourage efficiency and promote ease in service provision. This includes, but is not limited to, 'Wajehni', an app aimed at providing professional guidance to the UAE's fresh graduates to identify work and internship opportunities; the 'Salamah' app targeted at employers, workers and doctors and aims to be a platform to instantly report any work-related injuries.

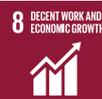
## Challenges

- Raising the level of Emiratisation in the private sector especially that of females as the majority of UAE nationals prefer working in the public sector
- Potential loss of a number of jobs due to the risk that automation poses on administrative jobs hence the importance of equipping UAE nationals with the right skills to succeed in the private sector.



## Did you know?

- The UAE is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> globally in Ease of Hiring, the Global Talent Competitiveness Index (INSEAD), 2018
- The UAE is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> globally in Entrepreneurship, the World Competitiveness Yearbook by IMD, 2018
- UAE is ranked 11<sup>th</sup> globally in the Ease of Doing Business Report, 2019
- EXPO 2020 is expected to create 275,000 jobs

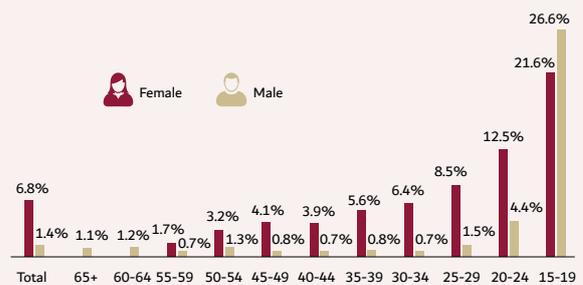


**Indicator 8.2.1:** Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person (%)



Source: FCSA

**Indicator 8.5.2:** Unemployment rate by sex, age (%) in 2017



Source: FCSA

**Indicator 8.10.1:** Number of commercial bank branches and automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults



Source: FCSA & Central Bank of the UAE



## Case Study: The government accelerators for targeted emiratization

The UAE government is expecting a high growth of UAE nationals in the workforce over the next 10 years driven by an increase in the demographic growth rate. In practice, this would require today's Emirati youth to have the necessary skills to join private sector and also requires the UAE government to support UAE nationals in honing and building their skills. One way of achieving this is by leveraging 'The Government Accelerators'. The latter is a platform for cross-sectoral government and private sector teams to address their challenges and achieve ambitious goals in a short period. The Government Accelerators focus on four areas: Setting national KPIs, developing policies, creating projects, and services.

MOHRE has worked with the Government Accelerators on an initiative known as 'the Targeted Emiratization Initiative' which aims to accelerate Emiratization in a number of priority sectors in a specified period.

The 2018 initiative began in January and was based on a phased approach in which MOHRE followed the process set by the accelerator. First, working teams were identified, then the teams worked together on setting goals and identifying available resources to achieve their aim. Finally, the accelerators' teams work intensively with private sector companies and other material stakeholders through different means such as: Building partnerships, developing tools e.g. 'the Tawteen gate', organizing career fairs, launching an Emiratization campaign etc.

The first phase started in January 2018 and lasted until May 2018. The goal was to hire 4,000 nationals in four key sectors: Transportation and aviation, real estate, technology and communications, and services sectors. Compared to 2017, the phase achieved a 109% growth rate in hiring nationals. The next phase was launched in August 2018 and will last until February 2019. The target is to hire 3,500 nationals in the following sectors: Tourism, retail and financial sectors. Further phases will last until 2021 and will target other priority sectors for the UAE.



**4,000**  
nationals in  
**4 key sectors**  
by May 2018



**109%** growth  
rate  
in hiring nationals  
compared to 2017



**3,500**  
nationals in  
additional **3 key**  
sectors  
by February 2019



BUILD RESILIENT  
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE  
INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE  
INDUSTRIALIZATION AND  
FOSTER INNOVATION



“

The UAE has maintained its regional leadership and global reach in many indicators, including competitiveness, development, entrepreneurship, innovation, ease of doing business, trade, tourism and investment

”



His Excellency  
**Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri**  
Minister of Economy



## Overview

In line with the UAE's Vision 2021 to be among the top 10 countries in the world by the Golden Jubilee of the Union in 2021, the UAE has taken many steps and strides to promote and encourage innovation. Most notable is the launch of the Innovation Strategy in 2014 by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai. To align with national priorities and the 2030 Agenda, the Ministry of Economy is continuously working on fostering an environment that encourages sustained economic activity in the UAE. This is done through the enactment of legislations that encourage investments, supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs), protecting consumer rights and intellectual property as well as fulfilling environmental and social requirements whilst pursuing economic growth.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Launch of the 'Innovative Guide for Companies in the UAE' in cooperation with the National Research Council (NRC) to highlight the Ministry's role in implementing the UAE's National Innovation Strategy
- Launch of the 'Annual Corporate Social Responsibility National Index' (2017) to track companies in the UAE based on their contributions to CSR initiatives
- Issuance of the Anti-dumping Law (2017) which aims to protect domestic products from imports being sold for less than what is considered fair market value.

## Challenges

- Supporting SMEs in staying competitive given the government's pursuit of an innovation based economy
- Promoting the culture of innovation in businesses and SMEs in the UAE.

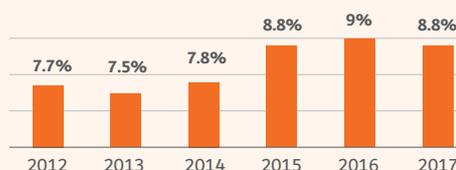


### Did you know?

- The UAE ranks 1<sup>st</sup> among Arab countries in the Global Innovation Index, 2018
- The UAE ranks 8<sup>th</sup> globally in percentage of researchers in business enterprise, the Global Innovation Index, 2018



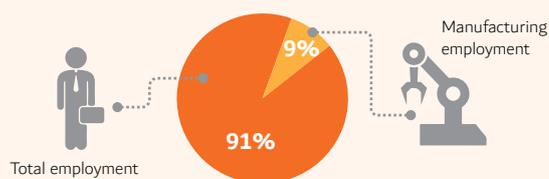
**Indicator 9.2.1:** Manufacturing value added as a percentage of GDP and per capita



Note: Calculation for manufacturing value add per capita is still in progress

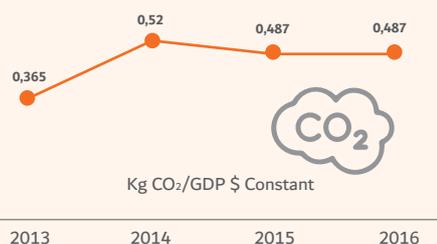
Source: FCSA

**Indicator 9.2.2:** Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment



Source: FCSA

**Indicator 9.4.1:** CO<sub>2</sub> emission per unit of value added



Source: FCSA and MOEI

**Indicator 9.5.1:** Research and development (R&D) expenditure as a proportion of GDP

**Indicator 9.5.2:** Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitant



Source: Ministry of Economy

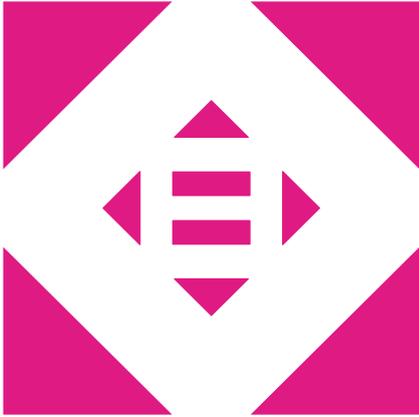
## Case Study: An overview of UAE's research centres

Khalifa University of Science and Technology (KU) works to be the UAE's single integrated university that addresses the strategic scientific and industrial challenges that will further position the UAE as a leading global knowledge and innovation economy. As such, it has established research priorities to achieve innovative and sustainable development, such as biotechnology, advanced materials, robotics, artificial intelligence (AI) and data science – sectors that the UAE is strategically targeting in recognition of the central role they are and will continue to play in critical and new functionalities and industries.

KU has launched research centers where relevant challenges in these areas are addressed in a systematic and targeted manner by innovative researchers working together in world-class facilities. While the institute currently has 16 such research centers, six of them – the Research Center for Renewable Energy Mapping and Assessment, the Aerospace Research and Innovation Center, Healthcare Engineering Innovation Center, Center for Biotechnology, Center for Autonomous Robotic Systems and the Center for Cyber Physical Systems – contribute more directly to research of relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – namely increased industrialization, innovation, sustainability, enhanced technological capabilities, etc. They, along with the other KU research centers, produce technology, systems, and solutions, while training the next generation of skilled engineers and scientists in high-demand disciplines. The result is valuable human and intellectual capital for the UAE and the world.

An example of a KU project that supports the SDGs is the Artificial Intelligence Lab at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA) that was fully developed by KU's Research Center for Renewable Energy Mapping and Assessment (ReCREMA). The lab utilizes AI techniques to calibrate and train algorithms used to identify and manage hazards and pollution warnings as part of a climate monitoring and forecasting system. The Dubai-based laboratory includes three main systems – satellite-based real-time solar mapping tool and live performance simulator for solar plant in the UAE, real-time operational system for air quality monitoring and forecasting, and a marine environment monitoring and forecasting system. It serves to protect the local environment by accurately monitoring and analyzing available information, which is then used to make appropriate decisions in the fields of monitoring, data analysis, communications and information storage and retrieval. The solar photovoltaic maps and the solar simulation system contribute to optimizing planning and the operation of solar plants for power generation, contributing to the mapping of an integrated system of the best locations for solar facilities, while the environmental monitoring system, which includes real-time monitoring and forecasting, provides concentrations of air pollutants and air quality index data derived from satellite data and atmospheric circulation models. It also includes a series of mapping images showing hourly concentrations of air pollutants and their direction in the UAE, in addition to a three-day pollutant concentrations forecast model for six main air pollutants – carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, ground level ozone, particles with a diameter of less than 10 microns, and a five-day model for predicting concentrations of particles with a diameter of less than 2.5 microns. The project intends to act as a smart and interactive system for real-time solar performance assessment and environmental monitoring at the MOCCA in Dubai. The smart monitoring system will display real-time and forecasted indicators for many environmental and renewable energy parameters.





REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN  
AND AMONG COUNTRIES



“

The UAE has supported the rights of people with disabilities and continues to participate in the global movement to empower them on the educational, economic and social front

”

Her Excellency  
**Hessa bint Essa Buhumaid**  
Minister of Community Development



## Overview

Reducing social inequality and ensuring social integration is key to achieving stability and harmony in society and is part of UAE's pledge on 'leaving no one behind'. Inclusion of vulnerable categories like People of Determination, Senior Citizens, Widows, Divorcees and Families in Distress are at the heart of UAE's Social Policies and Strategies. The UAE gives an importance to people with special needs, known as 'the people of determination'. The Ministry of Community Development (MOCD) provides them with special services to ensure they receive equal education opportunities, and vocational training.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Launch of the National Family Policy (2018) which aims to empower the Emirati family to achieve sustainable social development. The policy focuses on providing health care, education, housing, financial and family stability, human rights, security and safety, and expanding access to social services
- Launch of the National Policy for Senior Citizens (2018) which aims to improve the quality of social services and the well-being of the individual aged 60 and above, covering health care, community outreach and active life, investment of energies and civic participation, infrastructure and transport, financial stability, security and safety and quality of future life
- Launch of the National Policy to Empower People of Determination (2017) which aims to create a different understanding of empowering people with disabilities and enables them to play a proactive role in the UAE's development
- Launch of the Wadeema Law (2016) on children's rights which lays out the legal rights of minors such as access to health services, education, essential services without discrimination. The law also protects minors against physical and emotional abuse.

## Challenges

- Provision of education opportunities to support and accelerate social inclusion and support families of people of determination
- The accurate diagnosis of cases as well as protection from abuse
- Developing welfare & rehabilitation centers to support the social inclusion of people of determination.

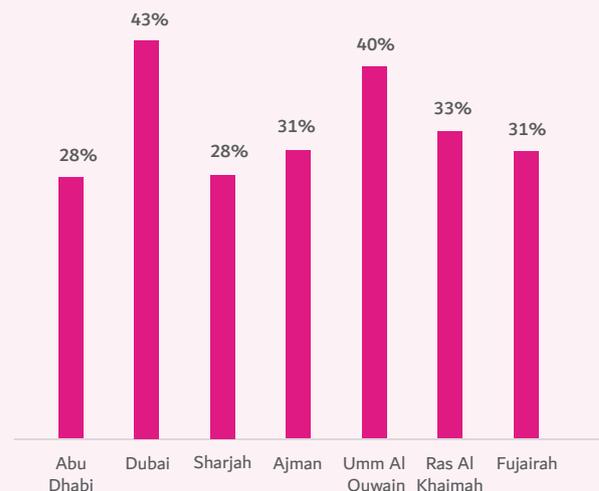


## Did you know?

- Under the UAE's national policy, people with special needs are referred to as 'people of determination'



**Indicator 10.4.1:** Labor share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers (%) in 2017



Note: This graph reflects labor share of GDP, calculation of the rest of the indicator is in progress

Source: FCSA

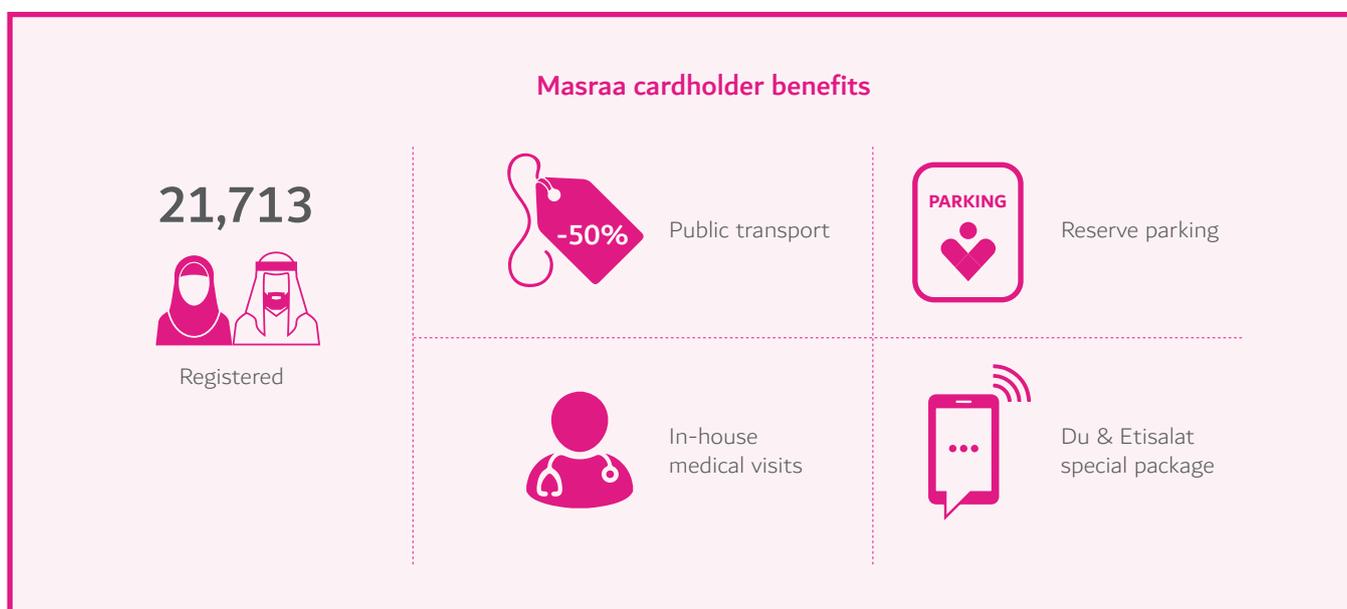


## Case Study: The Masraa card by Ministry of Community Development

To ensure all members of society can live a decent life, achieve happiness and wellbeing, MOCD has launched a number of initiatives, including the Masraa Card in 2016, to foster a sense of inclusion and belonging in Emiratis who are senior citizens. This is in line with the UAE's 2021 Vision, which calls for the achievement of a cohesive society that is proud of its identity. Masraa, which translates to happiness in Arabic, is a card given to Emiratis who are of ages 60 or over, which provides them with easier access to basic services such as health care, renewing official documents, and also provides access to activities they may participate in to make them feel like they are active members in UAE's society.

Since the launch of Masraa in 2016, over 21,713 Emiratis registered at MOCD. The ministry has collaborated with many federal and local entities as well as private sector companies to provide the services to all cardholders. MOCD gives priority to Masraa card holders in clinics and pharmacies and provides in-house medical visits and treatments whenever needed. In addition, the Road and Transportation Authority in Sharjah, Ajman, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Ras Al Khaimah is giving up to 50% discounts to card holders when using public transportation or taxis. Moreover, Emirates ID Authority also provides reserved parking and special service desk support to senior citizens to ease the process for them; and Du and Etisalat have offered special packages to Masraa cardholders. This list is by no means exhaustive and simply provides a handful of examples of the types of benefits Masraa cardholders receive.

The main aim of the initiative is to emphasize the importance of integrating UAE's senior citizens in society. Their presence in society is important as they help educate UAE's future generation, and can instill solid cultural and moral values in the UAE's youth.



# 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE



“

Ensuring integrity and inclusiveness in planning and implementing infrastructure projects is a strategic priority for the Ministry of Infrastructure Development to enhance the country's competitiveness and sustainability

”



His Excellency  
**Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed  
Belhaif Al Nuaimi**  
Minister of Infrastructure Development



## Overview

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development (MOID) has contributed to the urban development of the UAE through federal infrastructure projects such as government houses, buildings, in addition to developing a strong road network linking all seven emirates to facilitate the commute of UAE citizens and residents. In line with Vision 2021 and the National Agenda, MOID strives to achieve an excellent sustainable environment and integrated infrastructure to achieve a high quality of life to all residents.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Launch of the 'Establishment of PPP National Legal Framework Policy' (2018) to develop a public-private partnership policy to finance and implement infrastructure projects in order to enhance the competitiveness of the UAE, meet the needs and future aspirations of infrastructure and housing, and to stimulate the economy and the private sector
- Launch of the UAE's project of the Consensual Holistic Plan (2017) to develop a long-term integrated plan and roadmap for the UAE which incorporates environmental, urban, economic and social pillars
- Launch of the 'National Housing Strategy Initiative' in 2017. The project aims to develop a regulatory framework for the housing process and develop a long-term plan to ensure the provision of adequate housing in a fair and transparent manner.

## Challenges

- The UAE is among the countries with an increasing rate of car-owners that stands to rise by 3.9% (average increase over 10 years), almost twice as high as the world average. This high rate makes it increasingly imperative to develop an integrated future vision for road system and smart transportation
- Provision of financing needed to support the ambitious visions of developing the urban infrastructure of the UAE
- Due to the federal nature of the UAE, diverse standards, laws and policies need to be taken into consideration when planning in different emirates.



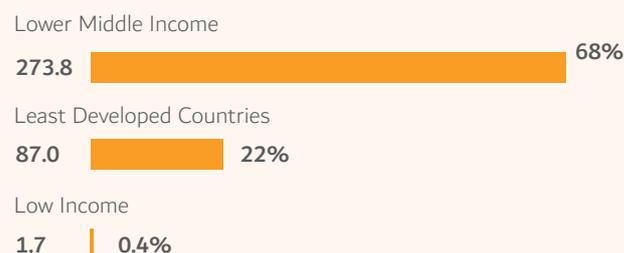
## Did you know?

- The UAE ranked 1<sup>st</sup> globally in Quality of Roads, Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report by WEF, 2017
- The UAE ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> globally in Quality Air Transport Infrastructure, Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report by WEF, 2017

### 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

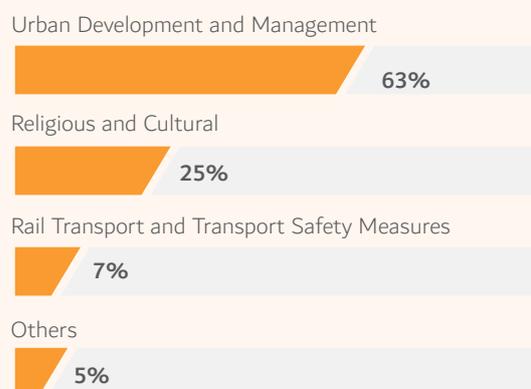


**Indicator 11.c.1:** Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials



Source: UAE Foreign Aid Report 2016

### UAE Assistance to Goal 11



Total Amount: USD 403.3 million

Source: UAE Foreign Aid Report 2016

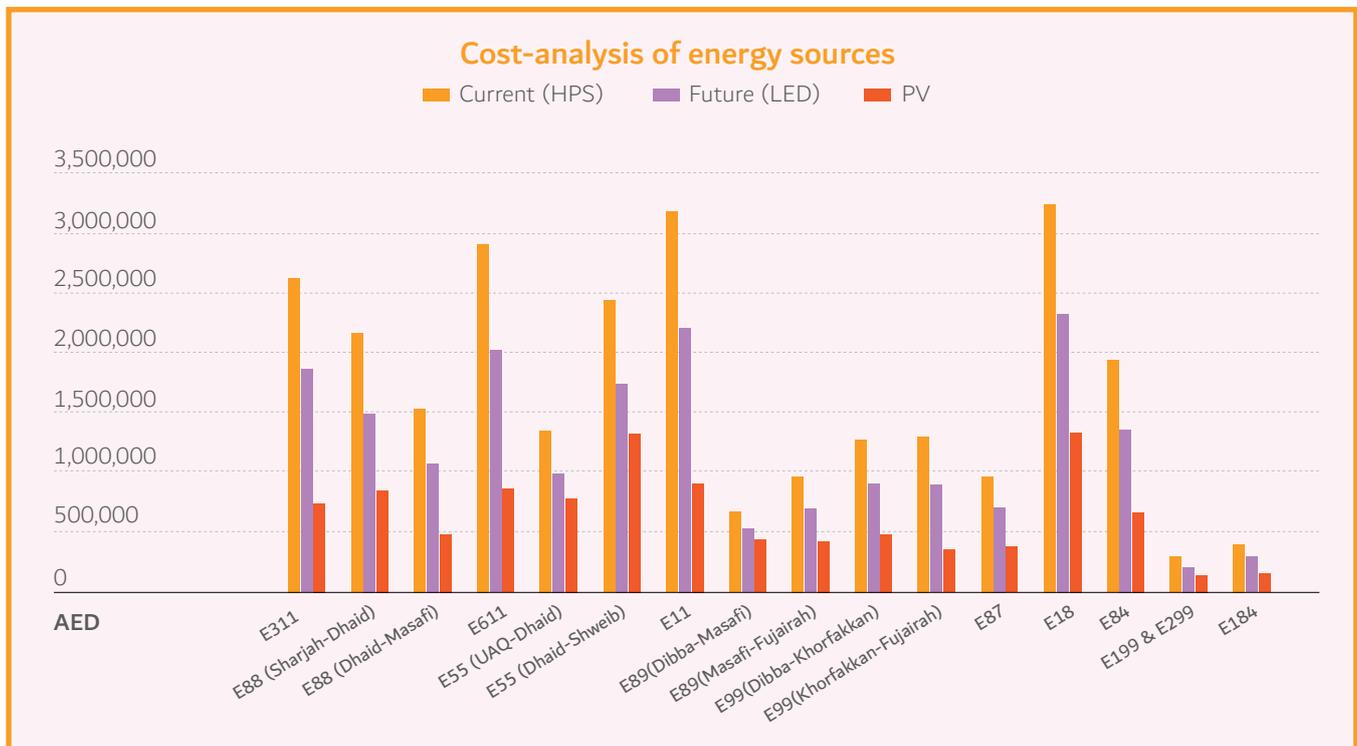
## Case Study: Pilot study for energy efficient roads

The MOID conducted a pilot study in 2017 and 2018 that reviews the production of energy from sustainable and renewable sources by clean energy being fed into the federal power grid. This project will officially be implemented in 2019.

This is driven by MOID’s vision to achieve a sustainable and integrated infrastructure in the UAE, and to realize the UAE’s strategic goals to achieve 24% of clean energy contribution to the power grid by 2021. The aim of the initiative is to reduce energy consumption and produce clean energy from renewable resources to be directly fed into the federal power grid. The reduction in electrical energy consumption will improve air quality in the UAE, given that yearly carbon emissions are estimated at 12,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> annually due to lighting the federal roads. In addition exploiting renewable and sustainable sources of energy will lead to the elimination of such emissions almost by 100%. This goes hand in hand with efforts targeting the diversification of the types of energy resources in UAE, reducing carbon emissions and establishing a reliable infrastructure to further support the services provided for the users of the federal roads. The federal road network consists of 19 federal roads and 3 links with a total length of 764 km and a total electricity consumption of 15 MW and 4.8 GWh.

Producing energy from renewable and clean sources will cover 45% of MOID’s electricity power requirements. The study also showed that the PV output potential from clean energy sources is at 877,705.83 kWh, surpassing MOID’s monthly streetlight requirements which stands at 365,571 kWh.

Therefore the project of producing energy from clean resources will have a multiplier effect, increasing overall rate of energy produced from clean energy sources and reducing overall carbon emission rates. MOID is in the process of developing and updating the streetlights system in the federal roads which will significantly support the electricity power management system as shown in the figure below.





ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS



“

We have been and are still committed to the principle of coexistence between humankind and nature. Although our population growth is accelerating and our ambitious programs require more resources, we continuously aim to achieve our goals in a sustainable way not for a year or two, but for many more years

”

His Excellency

**Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi**

Minister of Climate Change and Environment



## Overview

By virtue of Vision 2021, the UAE is striving to diversify its income resources to become a successful model of a green economy. In line with the nation's vision, the UAE Cabinet approved the Green Agenda 2030 as a framework to guide actions that support the transition. The framework is based on 5 strategic objectives and is supported by 12 main programs. In addition, to ensure the achievement of SDG 12, the Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MOCCA) is in the process of integrating the concept of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in a national plan to help streamline the concept in sectoral plans and strategies, sustainable business practices and consumer behaviour.

## Policies and Initiatives

- The UAE Green Business Toolkit (2018) is a guideline published on the occasion of the World Environment Day to help Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in greening their value chains
- The National Waste Database System (2018) supports the collection of waste related data from all relevant authorities within the UAE to manage the data analysis and reporting at local and national levels
- His Highness Sheikh Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, announced in 2017 the aim to become a zero food waste nation.

## Challenges

- More engagement is required from business in general to support the implementation of SCP, as strong business actions is required for its success
- Collecting waste data from all relevant authorities across the UAE to manage reporting at local and national levels proved to be a challenge that is being addressed through a national Waste Database System recently launched in 2018.

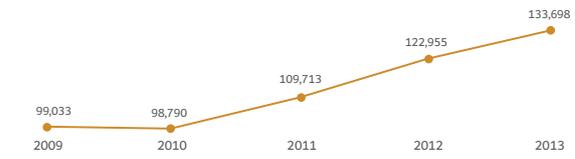


## Did you know?

- A group of major banks and financial institutions in the UAE launched the Dubai Declaration on Sustainable Financing in October 2016 during UNEPFI's Global Roundtable. Under the Dubai Declaration, the UAE will initiate a fundamental change in the traditional and Islamic finance sector and establish strategic partnerships with likeminded national institutions working in the field of sustainable investment and finance



Share of non-oil GDP



Note: The indicator was retrieved from MOCCA's Green Dashboard. The Green KPIs, a total of 41, were defined in 2015 by the UAE Cabinet as benchmarks to evaluate the progress of the nation's development toward a green economy as well as the implementation of the UAE Green Agenda 2030

Source: MOCCA



## Case Study: The Dubai Mall smart waste management initiative

The Dubai Mall is the world's largest and most-visited retail and entertainment destination, which welcomes more than 80 million visitors annually. With a total internal floor area of 5.9 million sq ft, The Dubai Mall has 3.77 million sq ft of gross leasable space, over 1,300 retail outlets and over 200 food and beverage outlets. Emaar Properties PJSC, the master developer of The Dubai Mall, is a member of the UAE's Private Sector Advisory Council to the National Committee on the SDGs.

Implemented by Emaar Facilities Management's Soft FM team and in line with Dubai Municipality's need for all shopping malls in the UAE to segregate their wastes to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill, and in respect to the financial, legal, and environmental implications associated with waste management, The Dubai Mall embarked on a journey to achieve a 60% landfill diversion rate by end of 2018, and a further 75% diversion rate by 2021. To achieve the 60% waste diversion, The Dubai Mall's mission/initiative is to maximize waste diversion strategies by promoting source segregation, prevention, reduction, reuse and recycling of waste.

As only 29% of all the total waste generated by The Dubai Mall was diverted from the landfill in August 2017, an effective system of enforcing segregation and monitoring compliance had to be put in place. The call for implementing the "Smart Waste Management System" was made – an initiative by The Dubai Mall Soft Services team as a new way of controlling, monitoring, evaluating and reporting waste segregation.

To increase the diversion rate, the involvement of tenants in segregating their waste at source is crucial. The kick-off of an awareness program to all stakeholders to participate started in early 2018. Focusing on all Food & Beverage tenants first, the training was soon expanded to all retailers, service providers, The Dubai Mall Management team, and Leisure & Entertainment department. Currently, a total of 1,414 retailers with all their staff have been trained and issued with Smart Recovery Cards which serves as identification of the tenants when disposing off their waste.

In addition, tenants are advised to have clear compostable transparent bags when disposing off their waste in the loading bays for easy identification of the type of waste and the segregation done. The waste is weighed using the smart card and rated according to how effective the segregation has been done. By providing an individual report of all waste generated at their area with specific numbers of each type of waste, the tenants are now able to immediately identify where improvement of segregation can be made and waste can be reduced. In 31 August 2018, the total waste diverted from the landfill at The Dubai Mall was at 57%.





TAKE URGENT ACTION TO  
COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND ITS IMPACTS



“

The national efforts to address climate change are essential to maintain the sustainability of our environment. This is translated through a range of preventive measures and policies to reduce and mitigate the risks associated with climate change

”



His Excellency  
**Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi**  
Minister of Climate Change and Environment



## Overview

The UAE government places climate change at the top of the government's list of policy priorities, evident from the establishment of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA) in 2016. Similar to all countries, the UAE is prone to the impacts of climate change if left unmanaged; ranging from increased numbers of extreme weather events, sea level rises, and indirectly, disruptions in food supplies due to other countries' vulnerability to climate change. For all those reasons, MOCCA is leading the way by proposing legislations, plans, strategies and policies to mitigate the impact of climate change in the UAE. In addition, MOCCA actively engages in international climate change negotiations through close coordination with all concerned stakeholders to address global climate challenges.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Launch of 'The Climate Project' (2018), in cooperation with the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the International Renewable Energy Agency, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Antigua & Barbuda and the renowned actor, Robert De Niro. The initiative intends to raise awareness on climate change and the importance of climate resilience, underpinned by a standard to mainstream the consideration of climate resilience in the UAE's foreign development assistance, and will cover the entire AED 18.35 billion (USD 5 billion) UAE aid portfolio
- Launch of the 'Climate Innovation Exchange Forum' (CLIX) at Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (2018) to facilitate the sourcing and funding of climate change solutions and technologies through partnerships with youth, entrepreneurs, innovators and investors
- Adoption of the National Climate Change Plan 2050 by the UAE Cabinet (2017). The plan is a comprehensive framework to support the transition to a climate resilient green economy, while managing greenhouse gas emissions, increasing climate adaptation capabilities, and engaging private sector and other stakeholders to support the mitigation and adaptation efforts of the government
- Launch of the 'National Climate Adaptation Program' (2017), to assess the climate adaptation potential of four key sectors (health, energy, infrastructure and environment) and outline the direct and indirect climate-related risks and the existing or possible actionable solutions for adaptation to be further implemented. Subsequently, in order to facilitate climate action to all relevant UAE stakeholders, the plan to develop a climate change law was announced at the UAE Annual Government Meeting (2018).

## Challenges

- Climate science expertise is a common challenge for all countries, yet fundamental to ensure that effective policies are devised and adaptive capabilities are enhanced. To this end, MOCCA is working with relevant UAE research institutions to enhance region-specific climate modeling, building on existing work such as those conducted by the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI). Similarly, socio-economic impacts of climate change are also being researched for informed decision-making.



### Did you know?

- The UAE was one of the first countries in the region to adopt the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (2016)
- The UAE, through Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, is a member of the One Planet Sovereign Wealth Fund (SWF) Working Group. The Group comprises of six SWFs, which manage in total AED 11 trillion (USD 3 trillion). In July 2018, the group completed a framework to promote the integration of climate change analysis in the management of large, long-term and diversified asset pools
- The percentage of ambient air quality monitoring stations reached in residential areas is 54% of total stations

13 CLIMATE ACTION



### 3 cyclones

Hit the Arabian Peninsula in 40 years; more frequent and severe extreme events are expected in the future



**48°C**

Temperature in summer months in coastal cities

**2-3°C**

Average projected increase during the months by 2060-2070



**50-60%**

Average humidity in coastal areas, reaching 90% in extreme cases.

**10%**

Likely increase over the Arabian Gulf in the future.



The major sources of **GHG** emissions in the UAE in 2014 were electricity and heat generation (**35%**), manufacturing industries and construction (**16%**), road transport (**15%**) and the oil and natural gas sector (**14%**)

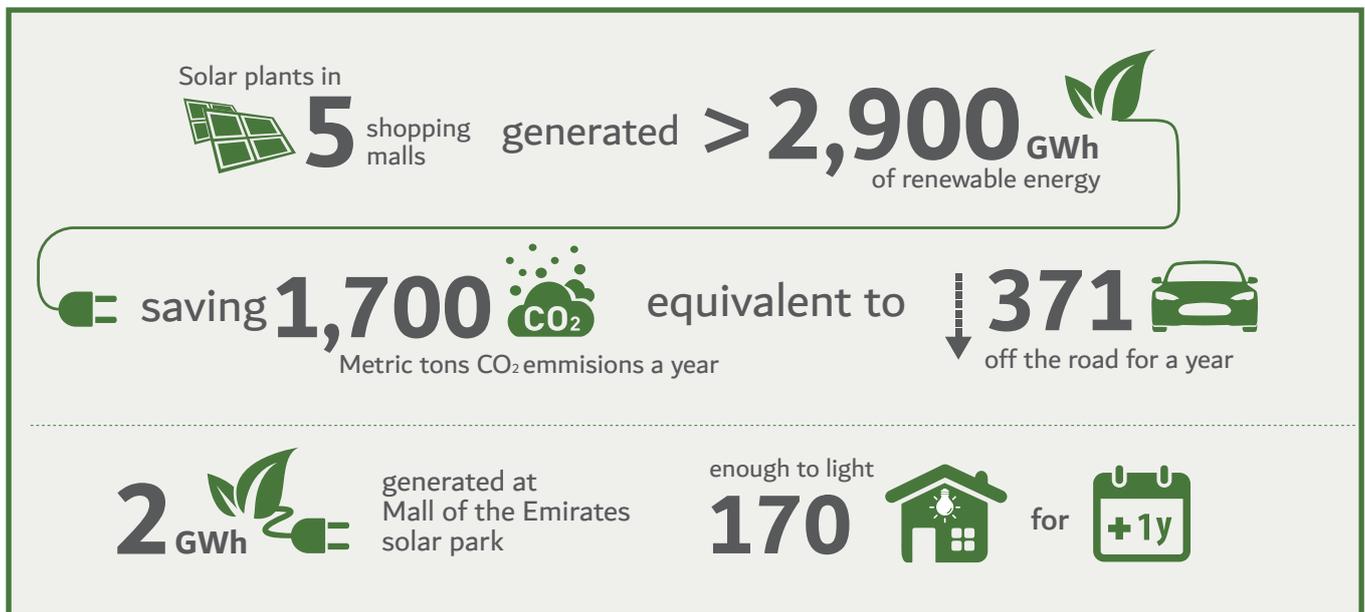
## Case Study: A Journey to a net positive future in Majid Al Futtaim

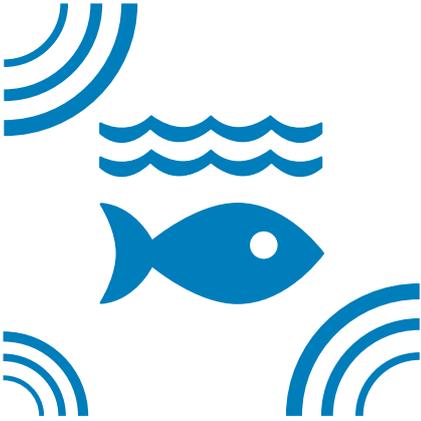
Founded in 1992, Majid Al Futtaim (MAF) is the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East, Africa and Asia. Majid Al Futtaim is a member of the UAE’s Private Sector Advisory Council to the National Committee on Sustainable Development Goals.

With natural resources depleting at an alarming rate, MAF is increasingly becoming more conscious of our impact on the environment. In 2017, MAF decided to take environmental commitments to the next level by committing to becoming Net Positive in water and carbon by 2040. This will allow MAF to positively contribute to the world by putting more back into the environment than MAF takes out. A commitment that is directly linked to and inspired by the UN’s SDGs.

A fundamental principle of MAF’s Net Positive approach is the commitment to making a positive impact in key material impact areas. In order to assess MAF’s material issues and impacts, MAF undertook a full materiality review in 2014 including a review of peer performance, debt market expectations, UNGC commitments, internal risk registers, and sustainability risks in the core markets. By undertaking this exercise, MAF was able to establish hotspots i.e. the areas with the largest proportional impact and therefore where we should focus most of our immediate attention.

Making the transition from oil-based energy to renewable energy is a massive challenge across the world but it is especially acute in the MENA region. Throughout the first year of MAF’s Net Positive commitment, MAF found various innovative opportunities to add to MAF’s growing portfolio of renewable energy projects. Some of the key highlight are showcased in the box below.





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CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY  
USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND  
MARINE RESOURCES FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is constantly searching for ideal sustainable solutions in response to environmental issues that threaten our future

”

His Excellency  
**Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi**  
Minister of Climate Change and Environment



## Overview

The marine and coastal environment of the UAE is important for economic, social and environmental reasons. The coast is populated; it is utilized by various industries, such as port operations, petrochemical industries, as well as for desalination. To respond to these competing demands, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA), in collaboration with its partners in the public and private sectors continuously work to improve the protection of marine resources for sustainable development. Based on international standards, MOCCA is aiming to have by 2020 at least 10% of coastal and marine areas conserved through effective and equitable protected areas and other conservation measures.

## Policies and Initiatives

- The UAE National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (2018-2021) was launched as a response mechanism to conserve the UAE's sharks and rays
- Coastal Oil Spill Clean-up Guide (2017) aims to help decision makers field teams, and volunteers select methods for clean-up operations based on type and nature of beaches.

## Challenges

- Lack of information on species diversity, distribution, biological data, composition, and quantities of catches due to a limited number of dedicated research programs. Since 2010, more research programs were initiated to ensure the creation of viable management plans for the conservation of maritime species
- Limited awareness concerning the importance of biodiversity can lead to misuse or overuse of species and their habitats.

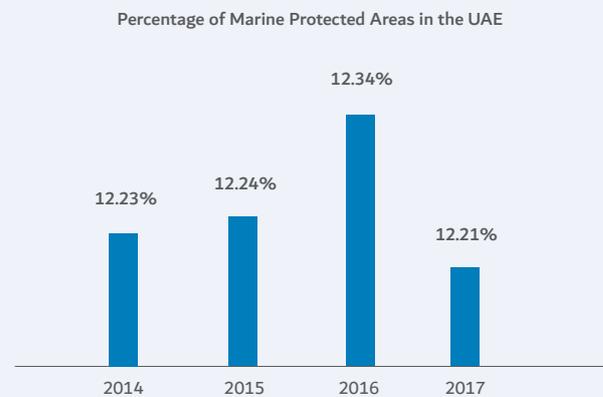


## Did you know?

- The UAE achieved the Aichi Biodiversity Target<sup>13</sup> No. 11 with a total of 12.21% of coastal and marine areas, exceeding the recommended 10%
- The UAE established the world's first research facility in 2016 that explores the commercial viability and scale-up potential of an integrated, sustainable bio-energy system that produces food and fuel without using arable land or fresh water
- The UAE implements seasonal fishing bans on five species



**Indicator 14.5.1:** Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas



Source: MOCCA

<sup>13</sup> The 'Aichi Biodiversity Targets' are a set of 20 targets under 5 strategic goals that were adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Target 11 falls under Strategic Goal C that aims 'to improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity' (Source: <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>).



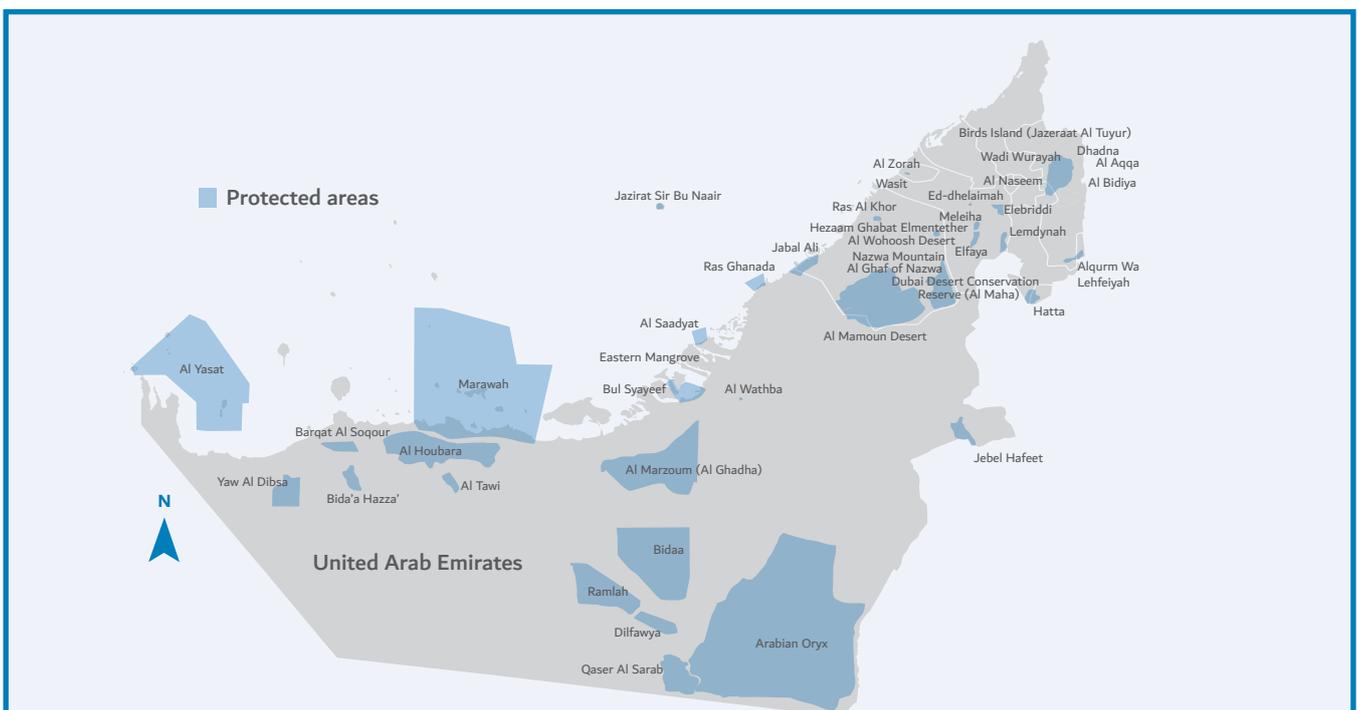
## Case Study: The UAE natural capital smart map

The 'UAE Smart Map of Natural Capital' initiative has been adopted in the governmental innovation lab held in 2014 under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. It aims to evaluate the environmental and economic services of the UAE's natural resources to empower decision makers in order to make relevant decisions to land uses and opportunities for business improvements and investments. It would provide tools to better manage our natural resources which contribute to the achievement of international Aichi Targets under the Convention of Biological Biodiversity specifically targets 1 and 14, as well as achieving national targets under the national biodiversity strategy. Natural capital is a fundamental form of capital since it provides the basic conditions for human existence, delivering food, clean water and air, and essential resources. It sets the ecological limits for our socio-economic systems, which require continuous flows of material inputs and ecosystem services. Yet, it is not accounted for in nations' wealth accounting systems. Mismanagement of natural capital often occurs because its full value is not reflected in policy, trade-offs and economic choices. This issue pervades decision-making at all scales, from the microeconomic (e.g. via market prices that fail to reflect a product's full costs and benefits), up to the macroeconomic (e.g. in excluding environmental values from national accounts).

The initial conception of the UAE Smart Map of Natural Capital was carried out by MOCCA in 2015 & 2016 in collaboration with AGEDI. It was followed by a consultation workshop with concerned stakeholders to identify the requirements and the outcome of the project. It was agreed on to carry out the project in two phases.

**Phase 1:** The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment in cooperation with UAE Space Agency, Environment Agency Abu Dhabi and Khalifa University is working on developing a detailed terrestrial habitat map for the UAE. As for the Marine habitat map, it will be provided by EWS-WWF. Phase one of the project is expected to be concluded by quarter 1 of 2019.

**Phase 2:** The second phase of the initiative is to develop an integrated all-sectors inclusive valuation of ecosystem services and their distribution in the UAE. Each emirate faces unique planning challenges and would benefit from actionable information identifying opportunities for managing natural resources in accordance with future projections of climate change and human activities. Ecosystem Services Assessment (ESA) will be used as an innovative research project to support near term planning dialogues and inform climate adaptation strategies.





PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND RESERVE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS



“

The Ministry has launched in alignment with Vision 2021 and UAE Centennial 2071, a series of important strategies, plans and initiatives, including the National Climate Change Plan 2050, the UAE Green Growth Strategy, as well as other environmental awareness and educational initiatives

”



His Excellency  
**Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi**  
Minister of Climate Change and Environment



## Overview

The UAE's major terrestrial habitat is a sandy desert that supports different amounts of sparse seasonal vegetation and animals. In line with the UAE's Vision 2021, of pursuing economic growth whilst preserving the environment, MOCCAЕ seeks to promote the sustainable use of vital resources through the adoption of plans, strategies and policies. The target is to combat desertification and preserve the UAE's biodiversity in the interest of our future generations.

## Policies and Initiatives

- The Important Bird Areas (IBA) Project (2018) aims to identify, monitor and protect a global network of sites critical for the conservation of the world's birds and other wildlife
- The National Ecotourism Project (2018) will raise awareness about the 43 protected areas in the UAE and encourage sustainable tourism to minimise impact on biodiversity
- The CITES e-permitting program (2017) is an electronic service designed to regulate the international trade in endangered animals and plants covered by the CITES convention in a more effective manner.

## Challenges

- Limited valuable historic data on biodiversity may cause implications when developing projects specific to terrestrial biodiversity, hence MOCCAЕ adopted several projects which utilize today's expertise to track historical knowledge on biodiversity through back-casting exercises
- Limited awareness concerning the importance of biodiversity can lead to misinformation about species and their habitats. A national awareness strategy has been developed to increase public awareness on environment & biodiversity
- Invasive species are recognised as one of five most important direct drivers of biodiversity loss and change in ecosystem services globally. Invasive species can impact in a number of ways, including competition, predation, hybridisation, and disease transmission, parasitism, herbivory and trampling and rooting. The outcomes of these impacts lead to biodiversity loss, habitat degradation and loss of ecosystem services.



## Did you know?

- 30 Important Bird Areas (IBA) were announced in 2018
- Wadi Wuryah National Park received recognition as a UNESCO – Man and Biosphere Programme (MAB)
- Al Wathba Wetland Reserve is the first site in the UAE to be placed into the IUCN Green List for Protected and Conserved Areas
- The UAE ranked 1<sup>st</sup> globally in Preservation Efforts by Legatum Prosperity Index, 2018

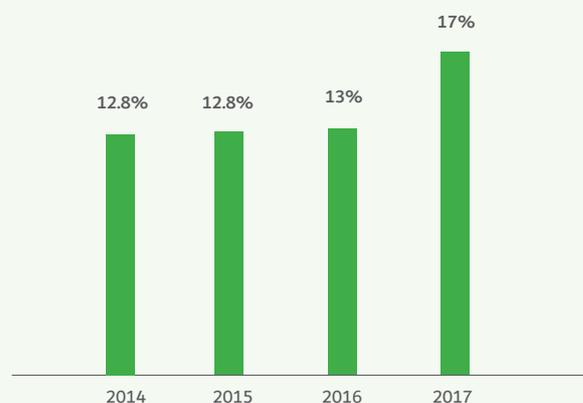
15

LIFE ON LAND



**Indicator 15.1.2:** Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

Percentage of Terrestrial Protected Areas in the UAE



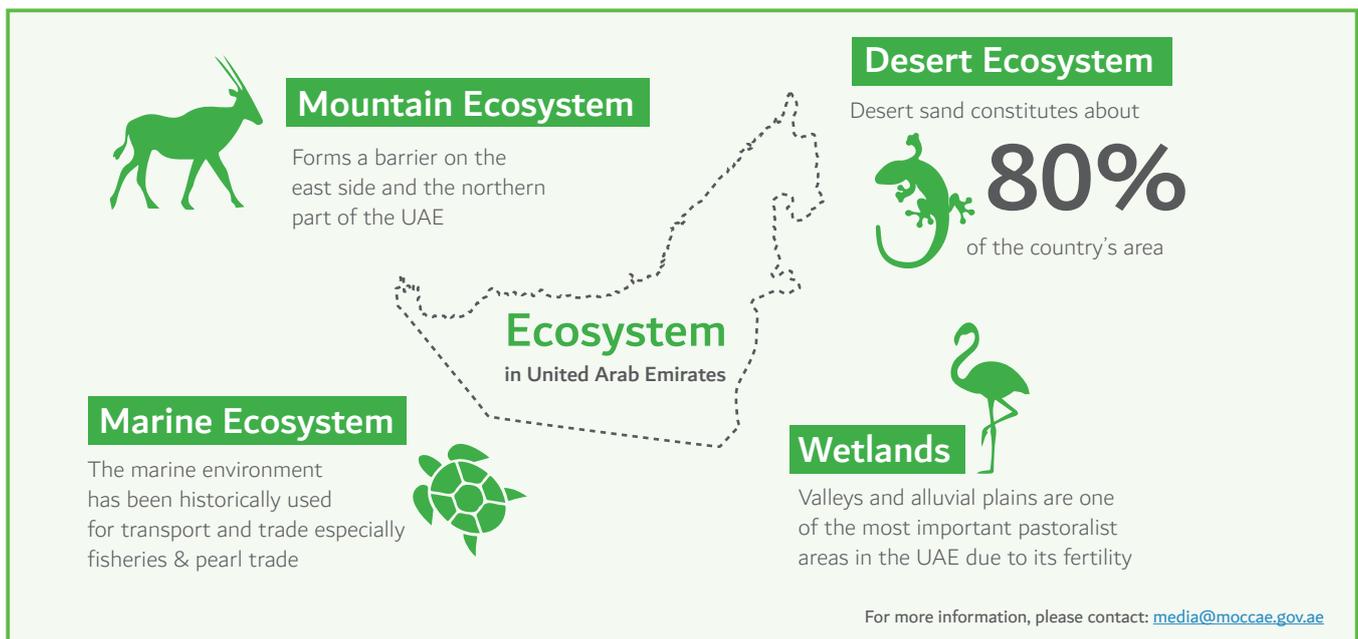
Source: MOCCAЕ

## Case Study: Conservation of the most threatened species

The UAE has developed several projects to protect threatened species within the national biodiversity strategy of the country. The objective is for programs to improve the conservation status of 70% of the more threatened species by 2021 and contribute to achieving Aichi target number 12.

Some of the key initiatives are outlined below:

- Oryx Leucoryx:** The Arabian Oryx once was scattered in the western region of the United Arab Emirates. It was the late His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, founding father of the UAE, who established early on a herd of Arabian Oryx in Abu Dhabi, which was the main core for the future re-launch programs of the Arabian Oryx in the UAE. There are currently two programs implemented for the rehabilitation of the Arabian Oryx in the UAE. The first is in the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve in Dubai and the other is by the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD) in Abu Dhabi. Many of the Arabian Oryx populations also exist in other areas of the UAE, including Al Ain Zoo and Breeding Centre for Endangered Arabian Wildlife in Sharjah. Recent data indicates the presence of more than 10,000 Arabian Oryx in the UAE.
- Panthera Pardus Nimr:** Arabian leopard is one of the largest Felidae. Its appearance in the UAE is rare. However, the UAE has taken important steps in the implementation of breeding and conservation of wildlife in the Arabian Peninsula, especially the breeding of the Arabian Leopards, clear by the success of the breeding program of the Arabian Leopards at the Breeding Centre for Endangered Arabian Wildlife in Sharjah. The UAE, represented by the emirate of Sharjah, launched the 'conservation of the Arabian leopard in the Arabian Peninsula' initiative, aimed at inviting researchers and interested international organizations for the conservation of the Arabian leopard in its natural habitats. In addition, the initiative aims to save the animal in critical conditions as a prelude to its rehabilitation later on in the Arabian Peninsula.
- Oryx Dammah:** The scimitar-horned Oryx has been brought back from extinction in the wilds of Chad thanks to the late Sheikh Zayed and the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency. Repopulating the Oryx, believed to have been poached to extinction in the wild 25 years ago, was one of the conservation passions of the UAE's founding father. As part of EAD's reintroduction program, 25 Oryx bred in captivity in the UAE were released in the central African country and are being monitored by the Sahara Conservation Fund to see how they adapt to life in the wild. The reintroduction project is possibly the world's most ambitious large mammal reintroduction program and a huge step in the field of conservation. The project will build a self-sustaining population by releasing between 300 and 500 Oryx over the next five years.





PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILT EFFECTIVE ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS



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The security and stability of the nation and the welfare of its community is a top priority for the UAE’s leadership to keep the country at the forefront of the world’s most secure, stable and safe nations, and to continue its path of development towards further progress and prosperity

”

His Excellency Lieutenant General  
**Saif Abdullah Al Shafar**  
Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Interior



## Overview

The UAE government upholds a ‘Safe Public and Fair Judiciary’ as one of the cornerstones of Vision 2021. The UAE’s commitment to the rule of law has maintained order, eradicated violence, and contributed to a sense of justice and security for UAE nationals and residents alike. The Ministry of Interior (MOI) continuously works on establishing and strengthening public institutions to ensure the UAE remains amongst the safest and most secure countries to live in by 2021. MOI’s commitment is widely acknowledged with the UAE reaching 90% in the SDG Index indicator related to people feeling safe walking alone at night.

## Policies and Initiatives

- Adoption of Facebook’s Missing Child Alert system (2018) to declare alerts when investigating abductions
- Implementation of the Smart Tower initiative (2017) to monitor traffic, screen wanted vehicles and provide traffic information to motorists. The aim is to reduce deaths by half (from 6 to 3 per 100,000) by 2021
- Creation of a Joint Framework for Drug Control (2017) to prevent and detect drug smuggling
- Adoption of a Crime Scene Management Policy (2017) to promote cooperation and coordination between partners in scene management (fingerprints and samples)
- Unification of criminal systems in 2017 to standardize criminal records and databases related to relevant sectors
- Launch of the National Intelligence Model (2017), a unified approach for the collection, coordination and dissemination of intelligence across all forces and law enforcement agencies
- Launch of Hassantuk (2017), the largest integrated system in the region to monitor emergencies related to fire and public safety using smart techniques in artificial intelligence (see case study on page 71).

## Challenges

- Landscape is increasingly complex due to increases in the number of people from different social and cultural backgrounds living in the UAE (more than 200 nationalities)
- The tremendous technological developments to achieve security require changes in legislations and policy changes to deal with a changing operating landscape.

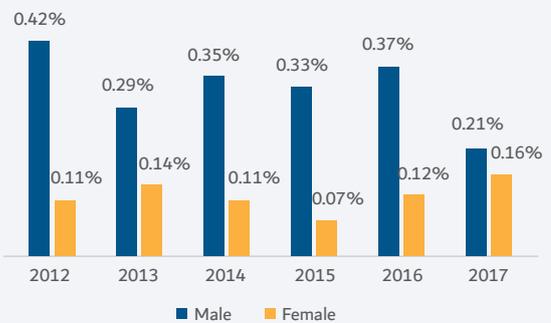


## Did you know?

- The UAE ranked 1<sup>st</sup> globally in (effectiveness of) Government Decisions, the World Competitiveness Yearbook by IMD, 2018
- The UAE ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> globally in Immigrants Tolerance, Legatum Prosperity Index, 2018
- According to the SDG Index by Bertelsmann and Stiftung, 100% of children under 5 years of age births has been registered with a civil authority (SDG 16.9.1)



**Indicator 16.1.1:** Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex (in %)



Source: MOI

**Indicator 16.1.3:** Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months



Source: MOI



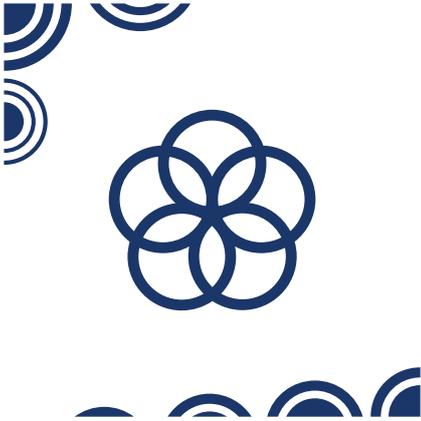
## Case Study: 'Hassantuk', an initiative by Civil Defense

Hassantuk is a program designed to translate the UAE government's ambitious plans to provide the highest levels of safety throughout the UAE and to ensure that the country is one of the safest in the world by 2021.

'Hassantuk', inspired by the UAE National Anthem and signifying 'we secure and protect you', is an initiative launched by the Civil Defense in 2017, under the guidance of MOI to respond to fire emergencies and protect all lives by ensuring and maintaining safety requirements in public and private buildings. The initiative represents the region's largest smart control and alarm system for accelerating emergency responses and building system repairs. Flexibility is intrinsic to the Hassantuk program. It is capable of connecting millions of devices and is fundamentally scalable. Additional building management systems, health monitoring alarms, aircraft alerts, intruder detection and personal attack alarms as well as CCTV streams can be seamlessly integrated to the platform as the UAE's requirements expand.

In 2018, the Civil Defense signed two strategic partnerships with fire control specialized organizations, checking fire alarm systems and safety of lives across all types of establishments in the UAE. For instance, 'Hassantuk for Buildings' covers commercial buildings; 'Injazat Data Systems' covers towers and Etisalat monitors homes under 'Hassantuk Home'. All buildings are connected to an Alarm Receiving Center installed in the building, which immediately sends an alarm to 'Hassantuk' via an Alarm Transmission Equipment (ATE) in case of a fire or life-threatening event. Operators will then proceed to verify the legitimacy of the alarm after which emergencies are reported to emergency services within seconds therefore providing information and making our cities smarter and safer. MOI, in collaboration with Etisalat, have launched the website of Hassantuk Scheme to encourage the public to participate in this initiative.





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STRENGTHEN THE MEANS  
OF IMPLEMENTATION  
AND REVITALIZE THE  
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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The objectives of the 2030 Agenda, driven by the aspiration to maximize the impact of our foreign assistance on communities, includes working with partner countries to achieve their development priorities and plans in order to promote global peace and prosperity

”



Her Excellency  
**Reem bint Ebrahim Al Hashimy**  
Minister of State for International Cooperation  
Chairwoman of the National Committee  
on Sustainable Development Goals



## Overview

The UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MOFAIC) leads the nation's international development cooperation agenda. The UAE Foreign Assistance Policy for 2017 – 2021 provides the strategic direction of the UAE's support to developing countries in their quest to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, strengthening universal peace, empowering women and protecting girls, improving infrastructure and transportation, and government effectiveness, as outlined in the 17 SDGs.

## Policies and Initiatives

- More than 90% of the funding for projects within SDGs 8 and 17 was allocated to augment government budgets in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), giving flexibility to governments to allocate funds according to their plans and priorities
- UAE provided AED 1.7 billion (USD 460 million) to International Organizations for multilateral funding that covered social, economic and environmental programs
- UAE provided AED 1.8 billion (USD 490 million) to International NGOs, national NGOs and civil society institutions across 130 countries
- To support SDG 17 and its target 17.3 'Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources', MOFAIC setup a solutions-driven dialogue with key actors from the UAE-based private sector and development community to mobilize resources for women empowerment
- In collaboration with the UN, the World Bank and the UN Foundation, the UAE organized the SDGs in Action workshop at the 2016 and 2017 World Government Summit (UAE), which brought together stakeholders from around the world to discuss key challenges and initiatives to support SDG 17 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development.

## Challenges

- Lack of awareness which the ministry is working on through increasing UAE Donors' knowledge of and commitment to the 2030 Agenda in order to achieve the SDGs globally and improve the process of effective coordination.



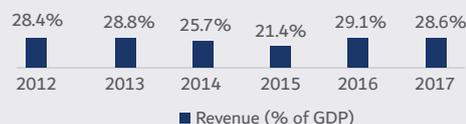
## Did you know?

- In 2016 and 2017, Development assistance represented nearly 90% - AED 36.7 billion (USD 9.99 billion) of total of UAE Foreign Assistance of which AED 20.35 billion (USD 5.54 billion) contributed to SDGs 8 and 12
- Humanitarian Assistance represent 8% of the overall foreign assistance mainly via SDGs 1.2 and 3; addressing needs to the most vulnerable, ensuring food security and improved nutrition, providing medical care and education in emergencies via SDG 4
- In 2016 and 2017, the UAE contributed respectively 0.36% and 0.28% of GNI as ODA to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), also surpassing the UN target range of 0.15% to 0.20%

### 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



**Indicator 17.1.1:** Total revenue as a proportion of GDP



Source: MOF

**Indicator 17.2.1:** Net ODA, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of OECD/Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income



Source: OECD

**Indicator 17.8.1:** Proportion of individuals using the Internet



Source: FCSA

## Case Study: Innovation and partnerships in the humanitarian field

The International Humanitarian City (IHC) was founded by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in 2003 as a result of the merge of the AID City and Humanitarian City. Chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Haya bint Al Hussein, wife of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, IHC is a non-profit and independent humanitarian hub hosting a community of more than 80 members comprising humanitarian organisations and commercial companies. It is established as a designated free zone.

Given that IHC exists to support the global humanitarian operation through its members, the core of its work is bound to the achievement of the SDGs, specifically SDG 17 through IHC's role as a platform to bring aid agencies and commercial entities together. However, the work of IHC and its community also contribute in supporting SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 4 (Quality Education), and 6 (Cleanwater and Sanitation), respectively. Between 2017 and November 2018, IHC attracted more than 20 new members and operated 37 airlifts transporting relief items supplied by various humanitarian organisations.

Driven by partnerships between humanitarian organisations, government agencies, and private sector companies, IHC developed an innovative platform that allows real-time data sharing on prepositioned humanitarian aid stocks to enhance emergency preparedness and response. The platform was launched in Dubai in early 2018 and encompasses data from six international humanitarian organisations: World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The collection of data for this platform was made possible through the commitment of the head of agencies to share information, and the partnership IHC forged with the Customs Authorities. The Databank relies on official Customs records as its data source, as any aid locally procured, entering, or exiting a humanitarian hub needs to be processed through a customs transaction. Such transactions are then reflected into dashboards, which are made available to humanitarian actors.

The importance of the Humanitarian Logistics Databank relies also on the network it creates between different humanitarian hubs across the globe, allowing it to not just track the stocks but also the flow of aid. The Databank first covered the stocks of International Humanitarian City in Dubai, UAE. The system is being replicated in, and connected to hubs in other countries, starting with Panama. By the first quarter of 2019, the Humanitarian Logistics Databank is set to reflect data on aid prepositioned in 10 different countries.

Partnerships are at the heart of IHC's modus operandi, and the main instrument we deploy to help achieve SDGs for a brighter tomorrow.



المدينة العالمية للخدمات الإنسانية  
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN CITY





## Appendix

The following table lists the 2030 Agenda indicators included in this report

SDG 1: NO POVERTY End poverty in all its forms everywhere					
Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 1.3.</b> Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable					
<b>Indicator 1.3.1</b> Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/ systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	2	2017	Per 10,00 inhabitant	MOCD	ILO

SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture					
Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 2.c</b> Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility					
<b>Indicator 2.c.1</b> Indicator of food price anomalies	2	2017	Index	MOFS	FAO

SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages					
Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 3.2.</b> By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births					
<b>Indicator 3.2.1</b> Under-5 mortality rate	1	2016	Deaths per 1,000 live births	FCSA	UNICEF
<b>Indicator 3.2.2</b> Neonatal mortality rate	1	2016	Deaths per 1,000 live births	FCSA	UNICEF
<b>Target 3.b.</b> Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all					



<b>Indicator 3.b.1</b> Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national program	1	2017	Percentage	MOHAP	WHO,
<b>Target 3.c.</b> Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States					
<b>Indicator 3.c.1</b> Health worker density and distribution	1	2016	Per 10,000 inhabitant	MOHAP	WHO

<b>SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION</b>					
<b>Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</b>					
Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 4.a.</b> Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all					
<b>Indicator 4.a.1</b> Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)	2	2018	Percentage	MOE	UNESCO-UIS
<b>Target 4.c.</b> By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States					
<b>Indicator 4.c.1</b> Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country	2	2018	Percentage	MOE	UNESCO-UIS



SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY					
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls					
Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 5.5.</b>					
Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life					
<b>Indicator 5.5.1</b> Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments <small>Note: UAE has available data for part (a) of the indicator</small>	1 (a)	2015	Percentage	UAE GBC	IPU, UN Women
<b>Indicator 5.5.2</b> Proportion of women in managerial positions	1	2017	Percentage	MOHRE	ILO
<b>Target 5.b.</b>					
Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women					
<b>Indicator 5.b.1</b> Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	1	2017	Percentage	TRA	ITU

SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION					
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all					
Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 6.1.</b>					
By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all					
<b>Indicator 6.1.1</b> Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	2	2015	Percentage	MOEI	WHO, UNICEF
<b>Target 6.2.</b>					
By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations					
<b>Indicator 6.2.1</b> Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water <small>Note: UAE has available data for part (a) of the indicator</small>	2	2015	Percentage	MOEI	WHO, UNICEF



**SDG 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**  
 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 7.1.</b> By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services					
Indicator 7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity	1	2015	Percentage	MOEI	World Bank
Indicator 7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	1	2015	Percentage	MOEI	WHO

**SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**  
 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 8.2.</b> Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors					
Indicator 8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	1	2017	Percentage	FCSA	ILO
<b>Target 8.5.</b> By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value					
Indicator 8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	1	2017	Percentage	FCSA	ILO
<b>Target 8.10.</b> Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all					
Indicator 8.10.1. (a) Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults and (b) number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults	1	2017	Per 100,000 inhabitant	FCSA and Central Bank	IMF



## SDG 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 9.2.</b>					
Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries					
<b>Indicator 9.2.1</b> Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita	1	2017	Percentage	FCSA	UNIDO
<b>Indicator 9.2.2</b> Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	1	2017	Percentage	FCSA	UNIDO
<b>Target 9.4.</b>					
By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities					
<b>Indicator 9.4.1</b> CO <sub>2</sub> emission per unit of value added	1	2016	Kilograms per dollar	FCSA & MOEI	UNIDO, IEA
<b>Target 9.5.</b>					
Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending					
<b>Indicator 9.5.1</b> Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP	1	2018	Percentage	Ministry of Economy	UNESCO-UIS
<b>Indicator 9.5.2</b> Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants	1	2018	Per million inhabitant	Ministry of Economy	UNESCO-UIS

## SDG 10: REDUCE INEQUALITY

**Reducing inequality within and among countries**

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 10.4.</b>					
Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality					
<b>Indicator 10.4.1</b> Labor share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers	2	2017	Percentage	FCSA	ILO



**SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**  
 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 11.c.</b>					
Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials					
<b>Indicator 11.c.1</b> Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials	3	2016	Percentage	MOFAIC	UN-Habitat

**SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**  
 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Data collection is still in progress

**SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION**  
 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Data collection is still in progress

**SDG 14: LIFE BELOW WATER**  
 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 14.5.</b>					
By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information					
<b>Indicator 14.5.1</b> Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	1	2017	Percentage	MOCCAIE	UNEP-WCMC, UNEP, IUCN

**SDG 15: LIFE ON LAND**  
 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 15.1.</b>					
By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements					
<b>Indicator 15.1.2</b> Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	1	2017	Percentage	MOCCAIE	UNEP-WCMC, UNEP, IUCN



## SDG 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 16.1.</b>					
Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere					
<b>Indicator 16.1.1</b> Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	1	2017	Percentage	MOI	UNODC, WHO
<b>Indicator 16.1.3</b> Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months	2	2017	Percentage	MOI	OHCHR

## SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Indicator	Tier	Latest Year	Unit	Source	Custodian Agency(ies)
<b>Target 17.1.</b>					
Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection					
<b>Indicator 17.1.1</b> Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source	1	2017	Percentage	MOF	IMF
<b>Target 17.2.</b>					
Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries					
<b>Indicator 17.2.1</b> Net official development assistance, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income (GNI)	1	2017	Percentage	MOFAIC	OECD
<b>Target 17.8.</b>					
Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology					
<b>Indicator 17.8.1</b> Proportion of individuals using the Internet	1	2017	Percentage	FCSA	ITU

## **Tell us how you are contributing to the SDGs**

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