



مبادرات محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم العالمية  
Mohammed Bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum Global Initiatives

# YEAR IN REVIEW

## 20 22

AED  
**1.4 Billion**  
spent in 2022

**102 Million**  
beneficiaries in 2022

**100 Countries**  
reached in 2022

# YEAR IN 20 REVIEW 22

**Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives**

A comprehensive vision for the business of creating hope and building the future

## Year in Review 2022

7th Volume



مبادرات محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم العالمية  
Mohammed bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum Global Initiatives

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**Our aid has only humanitarian objectives.  
It is neither governed by politics nor limited by  
the beneficiaries' geography, race or religion.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





## Giving is Our Moral Foundation

Each year, our initiatives, projects and programmes are set out with the aim of building individuals and communities, consolidating their effective and qualitative presence in the field of humanitarian and development work regionally and internationally. They embody the UAE's mission to create an integrated system of giving that is based on the elements of sustainability, institutional efficiency, methodical approaches, swiftness and accessibility, cumulative results and unrestricted geographical reach. These efforts reflect our vision that alleviating human suffering, regardless of one's origin, race, colour, religion or belief, is our top priority.

This year, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** was able, through the various entities under its umbrella, to make a difference in the lives of more than 102 million people across 100 countries. We see this impact today in health projects that have helped lift entire societies out of the grip of hardship and disease, education and knowledge programmes that have contributed to the development of education systems and prepare young generations to support the future knowledge-based economy, and humanitarian aid and relief campaigns that have alleviated the suffering of tens of thousands of our brethren, preserved their dignity and granted them hope for a better tomorrow.

Our passion for humanitarian work will remain ignited, and our giving will not cease. Unconditional giving is foundational to our moral and value system. It is the core of our identity. It is what gives our existence true value and makes the UAE a global centre for hope – the most precious, lasting and noble industry.

**Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**  
**Chairman of the Board of Trustees**





## A Beacon for Humanity

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** concludes its seventh year with an impressive record of humanitarian accomplishments that translate into measurable achievements on the ground, innovative initiatives, fruitful projects, tangible results in the lives of people and communities, and inspirational stories.

In 2022, **MBRGI** spent AED 1.4 billion on the initiatives, programmes and campaigns across its five main pillars, enhancing **MBRGI's** position as the largest organisation of its kind in the region undertaking humanitarian work, as well as reinforcing its role as one of the nation's primary drivers in institutionalising and advancing a culture of giving locally, regionally and globally.

One of **MBRGI's** pillars that is closest to the vision of its founder, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, is Spreading Education & Knowledge. In 2022, it saw the launch of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Library**, Dubai's new iconic cultural landmark, which provides a unique reading and research environment through 10 specialised libraries. Within the same pillar, **The Digital School**, which provides quality and flexible education that combines digital and blended learning, continued to expand its reach by launching new educational centres in several countries.

The UAE remains a pioneer in helping the deprived and afflicted, as well as a beacon for humanity. As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum always affirms: "The UAE is not just a financial and economic centre or tourist destination; we are a central hub for global humanitarian action."

**Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**  
**Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees**



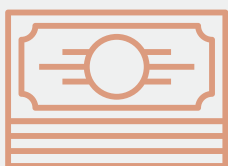


**Our humanitarian relief and community initiatives are ongoing. We will carry on launching new initiatives and projects and continue to work for humanity. It is what inspires and directs us in all that we do.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



# 2022 Achievements



AED

**1.4 Billion**

spent across  
all pillars in 2022



**102 Million**

beneficiaries of MBRGI's  
initiatives in 2022



**100**

countries reached  
in 2022



**150,266**

volunteers across all  
initiatives, projects and  
programmes in 2022



**847**

employees in 2022



AED

**18.4 Million**

awarded in total prizes  
in 2022

**102 Million**

beneficiaries of  
MBRGI's initiatives

AED  
**1.4 Billion**

spent across  
all pillars



**Humanitarian  
Aid & Relief**

**30.2 Million**  
beneficiaries

AED  
**910 Million**



**Healthcare &  
Disease Control**

**9.4 Million**  
beneficiaries

AED  
**42.5 Million**



**Spreading  
Education &  
Knowledge**

**55.1 Million**  
beneficiaries

AED  
**213 Million**



**Innovation &  
Entrepreneurship**

**4.6 Million**  
beneficiaries

AED  
**128 Million**



**Empowering  
Communities**

**2.3 Million**  
beneficiaries

AED  
**95.1 Million**

# Introduction

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** was established in 2015 as an incubator for the initiatives, projects and programmes launched and supported by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, for more than 20 years.

Operating within a system that promotes a culture of hope, strategic thinking and continuous action, **MBRGI** strives to institutionalise humanitarian work in a sustainable way to maximise its positive impact and benefit as many people as possible.

Over the past seven years, **MBRGI** has achieved sustainable results, implemented successful projects and invested its capabilities and resources in ways that contribute towards building societies. It takes humanitarian and relief work beyond simple acts of charity and positions the act of giving within a sustainable, systematic framework that empowers societies, enhances well-being and promotes stability and prosperity.

**MBRGI** comprises 35 entities and initiatives that work in various humanitarian, community and development sectors to address the challenges facing disadvantaged communities, including poverty, hunger and unemployment. They place particular emphasis on healthcare and education as essential elements of the development process, and provide support for those most affected by conflicts and natural disasters.

**MBRGI** also invests in knowledge initiatives that focus on future sciences and promote the role of advanced technology in building societies, fostering a culture of innovation and accelerating the transition towards a knowledge-based economy.

**MBRGI** invests heavily in youth, equipping them with the tools necessary to succeed in the future, enhancing their skills and experiences and translating their innovative ideas into reality in such a way that modernises the economy. The Foundation also offers training in several fields of service and development in targeted communities, and qualifies leaders capable of designing effective policies and work systems within their organisations.

The **MBRGI** Year in Review 2022 presents the Foundation's most prominent projects, programmes and initiatives implemented throughout the year, supported by statistics and inspiring stories that showcase the impact these efforts have on disadvantaged individuals and vulnerable groups affected by conflict, crises and natural disasters.

**MBRGI's** entities and initiatives are classified under the following five pillars:



**Humanitarian Aid & Relief**



**Healthcare & Disease Control**



**Spreading Education & Knowledge**



**Innovation & Entrepreneurship**



**Empowering Communities**

## 2022 Highlights

### HARNESSING CAPABILITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVES

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** spent a total of approximately AED 1.4 billion in 2022 to implement initiatives, projects and programmes within its five pillars, serving more than 102 million people in 100 countries. Additionally, more than 150,000 volunteers provided operational, technical and logistical support to **MBRGI**'s entities and initiatives, proving vital to the success of the Foundation's projects and an invaluable asset to its team of 847 permanent staff.

Within the Humanitarian Aid & Relief pillar, **MBRGI** provided food support through its '1 Billion Meals' campaign to disadvantaged individuals and families in 60 countries across four continents. The campaign supports efforts towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, particularly the goal aimed at eliminating hunger.

Under the same pillar, the **International Humanitarian City (IHC)** established an airbridge to alleviate the suffering of those affected by the floods in Pakistan, which left a third of the country under water, affecting millions of lives and destroying vast swathes of farmland. Within two weeks of the disaster, **IHC** facilitated 36 aid flights to the area.

In 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation**, a key entity within the Healthcare & Disease Control pillar, announced its AED 17 million investment to establish the first robotic biobank in the UAE. The biobank, which will open in 2023, will be a crucial resource for local research into genetic disorders, cancer, epidemics and other chronic diseases.

The **Digital School**, within the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar, launched several learning centres in seven countries. The centres are equipped with crucial teaching tools, such as tablets and an internet connection, to support students and teachers in areas confronting crises and economic and social challenges. It provided 40,000 learning opportunities and trained more than 1,500 digital educators.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Library** was also inaugurated in 2022. A new beacon for culture that aims to ignite a passion for knowledge, it ensures that everyone has access to its books, knowledge resources and services. In only six months, the Library had more than 300,000 visitors, including individuals, institutions, local and international media delegations and school, college and university student visits.

Within the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar, the **Museum of the Future** welcomed over one million visitors from 163 countries in its first year, and more than 1,000 international government officials and experts, including about 20 heads of state and official delegations. It hosted more than 180 global events, as well as several local and international forums in sectors such as technology, entrepreneurship, economics, space, tourism, culture and future innovation.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development**, within the Empowering Communities pillar, graduated the fifth cohort of the 'Impactful Leaders Program', which comprised 28 professionals. The flagship programme trains and enhances the skills of future Emirati leaders. The Centre also welcomed 20 government employees into the 'Dubai Leaders Program's' second cohort.



# Humanitarian Aid & Relief

Through its various Humanitarian Aid & Relief projects, programmes and initiatives, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** strives to alleviate human suffering and provide opportunities that make a difference in people's lives in order to transform the reality of less fortunate societies, build stable communities and promote social harmony.



AED

# 910

## MILLION

spent on Humanitarian  
Aid & Relief initiatives  
in 2022

# 30.2

## MILLION

beneficiaries of  
Humanitarian Aid & Relief  
initiatives in 2022

AED

# 50

## MILLION

in urgent relief sent by  
His Highness to Pakistan  
in 2022

# 1,000

## PROJECTS

providing clean drinking water  
implemented by the UAE Water  
Aid Foundation (Suqia) by the  
end of 2022

# 46.4

## MILLION

meals distributed by the  
UAE Food Bank in 2022

مبادرات محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم العالمية  
Mohammed Bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum Global Initiatives  
مليار وجبة  
1 BILLION MEALS



## A Sustainable Humanitarian Aid & Relief Vision in Service of Humanity



AED  
**910**  
**Million**

spent on Humanitarian  
Aid & Relief initiatives  
in 2022

Since its inception, the vision of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** has been grounded in the importance of institutionalising humanitarian efforts, which is the driving force behind its mission and objectives. It operates within this strategic framework to create a culture of hope, working tirelessly to ensure its vision is translated into reality. Taking humanitarian, developmental and social action beyond passive charity and translating it into a comprehensive mindset shift that prioritises sustainable planning, the Foundation empowers societies, enhances community stability and well-being and improves quality of life for people no matter where they are.

In order to promote sustainable community, economic and humanitarian development, **MBRGI** strives to expand its geographical coverage, scope of work and beneficiary groups. It extends its reach around the globe to anyone in need, regardless of race or religion, to improve their quality of life and advance their societies. The Foundation's efforts place particular emphasis on serving underprivileged communities facing challenges such as poverty, natural disasters and conflicts, and make a direct contribution towards establishing enabling environments for these groups to achieve a dignified standard of living.

In 2022, **MBRGI** launched a myriad of humanitarian programmes, projects and campaigns in partnership with a large group of local, regional and international organisations. It also provided ad hoc emergency aid and support for several

countries suffering from crises and natural disasters.

Within this pillar, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched the '1 Billion Meals' campaign during the holy month of Ramadan in 2022. **MBRGI** implemented the campaign, collecting enough donations to provide a record 600 million meals to support people in need across 60 countries in less than a month. Sheikh Mohammed personally contributed the remaining 400 million meals to achieve the initiative's target, constituting living proof of the leadership's commitment to alleviating suffering across the globe and that the UAE will remain an ally and advocate for the underprivileged everywhere.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed announced the '1 Billion Meals' campaign on 10 March 2022, which was implemented by **MBRGI** as an extension of the '10 Million Meals' and '100 Million Meals' campaigns, which helped establish a food safety net for the underprivileged. The UAE considers these initiatives to be a fulfilment of its moral responsibility and humanitarian commitment to the world.

On another note, the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)**, under **MBRGI**'s umbrella, supports communities internationally living in harsh conditions due to water scarcity by providing clean drinking water. Since its launch in 2015, it has been able to implement more than 1,000 sustainable water projects to benefit more than 132,000 people.



During 2022, the **International Humanitarian City (IHC)**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, provided urgent humanitarian and relief assistance to countries impacted by conflicts and natural disasters. It dispatched 43 relief flights loaded with about 747 metric tonnes of supplies to six countries.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment (MBRCH)** implemented several health, education and family empowerment

initiatives to provide opportunities and decent living conditions for individuals and communities in the UAE and abroad. Local and international partners cooperated with **MBRCH** to benefit about 1.6 million people in 2022.

**MBRGI's** total spending on Humanitarian Aid & Relief initiatives, programmes and projects in 2022 amounted to AED 910 million and benefitted 30.2 million people around the world.



**30.2  
Million**

beneficiaries of  
Humanitarian Aid &  
Relief initiatives in 2022







## '1 BILLION MEALS' LEADS A HELPING HAND



**1**  
**Billion**  
meals will be  
distributed across  
60 countries as part  
of the '1 Billion Meals'  
campaign

During the holy month of Ramadan in 2022, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched the '1 Billion Meals' campaign. The largest initiative of its kind in the region and the world, it provided funding to distribute one billion meals to underserved communities in 60 countries across four continents, surpassing its goal of 50 countries. The campaign is an important step towards achieving the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, especially the goal of eliminating hunger.

The '1 Billion Meals' campaign collected a record 600 million meals during Ramadan, and continued throughout the year to support the underprivileged, with a special focus on the most vulnerable groups such as children, refugees and those affected by conflicts and crises. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed personally contributed the remaining 400 million meals to stand in solidarity with people and communities in need.

Launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed on 10 March 2022, the '1 Billion Meals' campaign was implemented as an extension of the '10 Million Meals' and '100 Million Meals' campaigns to enhance food security for communities in need around the globe.

The '1 Billion Meals' campaign accepted donations from individuals, organisations, companies and businessmen to inspire the values of charitable giving and promote the concept of sustainable community financing in the UAE and the world. The initiative attracted 320,868 donors who

made contributions through the website, direct bank transfers, text messages and the dedicated call centre.

**MBRGI** organised the 'Most Noble Numbers' charity auction in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, which auctioned off car plates and exclusive mobile numbers to support the '1 Billion Meals' initiative. The auctions raised AED 53 million in Dubai and AED 111 million in Abu Dhabi.

The Foundation organised additional fundraising events to support the campaign, including the 'Giving Challenge' for government entities, companies, schools and educational institutions. The Challenge collected donations through participants' digital wallets created on the YallaGive crowdfunding platform.

Implemented in cooperation with numerous local and international charity organisations, the '1 Billion Meals' campaign offered assistance to beneficiaries in two ways. The first was by providing direct food support through food parcels, cash assistance and redeemable smart food vouchers. The second method involved executing sustainable projects that effectively raise people's standard of living and increase self-sufficiency.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, was a primary partner for the '1 Billion Meals' campaign. It contributed AED 30 million and distributed five million meals in 19 countries, including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Cambodia, Philippines, Mali, Uganda and India.

Within the framework of their partnership with **MBRGI**, the Food Banking Regional Network, local food banks and several community institutions and charities distributed more than 114 million meals in 20 countries, including 14.2 million in Sudan, 12 million in Jordan, six million in Mauritania, 4.5 million in Senegal, and 1.5 million each in Mali and Guinea. Through these efforts, the '1 Billion Meals' initiative achieved its objective to facilitate direct access to food support for the largest number of beneficiaries possible.

In partnership with the United Nations World Food Programme, the '1 Billion Meals' initiative distributed 98.7 million meals in nine countries in 2022, including 5.4 million in the Cox's Bazar camps in Bangladesh, which are home to nearly a million Rohingya refugees. The initiative also distributed 3.6 million meals in refugee camps in Jordan and a further 9.7 million in Palestine.

**MBRGI** also signed a cooperation agreement with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to support refugees and displaced communities in underprivileged parts of the world. Through the cooperation, **MBRGI** provided 29.7 million meals in six countries by the end of 2022, including 17 million in India, 8.4 million in Nigeria and three million in Namibia.

Similarly, **MBRGI** granted AED 5.5 million to the United Nations 'UNITLIFE' Trust Fund to help finance the development of innovative and sustainable solutions for agriculture, empowerment of women and mothers and

combatting malnutrition. Implemented in Senegal, Niger and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, more than 300,000 people will benefit from this grant.

Additionally, **MBRGI** collaborated with the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization to enhance food security for displaced individuals and communities affected by conflict in north-east Nigeria. The projects enacted as a result of this partnership, which will benefit 58,000 people, aim to empower farmers with knowledge, expertise, tools and smart technologies to increase their crop yields and the productivity of their livestock. Beneficiaries will also be equipped with the skills they need to be able to adapt to changes and challenges, and strengthen elements of sustainable food security for them and their communities.



# 320,868

## Donors

made contributions through the '1 Billion Meals' campaign's various channels



## '1 BILLION MEALS' ARRIVES IN NAMIBIA



Today, Mbuyi Kayembe lives with his family in the Osire refugee camp in northern Namibia. In 1993, he fled his home in the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the conflict that claimed the lives of his parents. He first fled to Zambia, where he met his wife, Mary, whose father had also been killed by rebels.

Unfortunately, their lives came under threat again when their daughter, Sarah, was born with albinism. They feared she would be kidnapped because of her unique colouring, so they fled once again, this time to the Osire camp in Namibia. Here, the family was granted farmland to grow fruit and vegetables and received food rations, enabling them to earn a small living selling surplus crops.

However, life continued to be difficult for Mbuyi and his family. Low rainfall led to drought and their farm became much less productive, resulting in dwindling food supplies. Mbuyi and the camp's other residents struggled as they were no longer able to provide for their children.

Thankfully, the suffering in the Osire camp did not last long, as the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)**, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, provided the refugees with regular food rations to end their suffering through the '1 Billion Meals' campaign. "I am grateful to **MBRGI** for their support. Not only is my family well fed, we are now able to spend our income towards our other needs such as education and healthcare," said Mbuyi.

## '1 BILLION MEALS' AIDS FLOOD VICTIMS IN PAKISTAN



Qayum Nawaz, 55, lives with his wife and nine children in the village of Dera Ismail Khan in Pakistan's Khyber Province. He worked as a labourer to support his family until disaster struck in the summer of 2022. Floods swept through the country, destroying most of the homes in his village.

Qayum and his family were forced to flee, surviving for weeks without any shelter. After the flood waters finally receded, they returned to their village, but their house had been destroyed. The family slept in a temporary tent amidst the ruins of their destroyed home. With no job, he spent his days rebuilding their house, but was unable to feed his family or meet their needs.

In response to this crisis, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** mobilised their '1 Billion Meals' project, in cooperation with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), to distribute food to Qayum's family, other residents in his village and flood-affected people across Pakistan. "It may take me two or three years to rebuild my house, but I am very grateful to receive food aid in these difficult times and I hope we continue to receive the food that we are currently receiving," Qayum said.





## REDUCING FOOD WASTE



**46.4  
Million**

meals distributed by  
the UAE Food Bank  
in 2022

As part of its efforts to support the '1 Billion Meals' campaign, **MBRGI**, in partnership with the **UAE Food Bank**, launched the '1 Million Saved Meals' initiative, which provided food support for those in need. It was implemented in cooperation with nearly 200 strategic partners, including more than 55 hotels, 65 food establishments, 35 grocery stores and produce markets, 13 charities and 10 central kitchens, and with the participation of more than 150 volunteers.

The initiative succeeded in distributing more than 2.3 million meals, as well as offering an innovative solution to recycle surplus food to create organic fertilizer and biofuel from excess cooking oil. This was achieved through a partnership with Reloop, a start-up specialised in circular economy applications, recycling and converting surplus food into compost to end food waste.

The **UAE Food Bank**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, continued to pursue its integrated

initiatives to collect and distribute meals and surplus food to those in need. These efforts were facilitated through the cooperation of more than 200 partners, including local authorities, local and international charities and many food establishments that provide access to efficient storage, packaging and distribution of fresh food. More than 46.4 million meals were distributed in 2022.

In 2022, the **UAE Food Bank** fridges distributed 1,040 tonnes of food through its network of fridges across Dubai, which facilitates access to safe, sanitary food for people in need.

The **UAE Food Bank** also cooperated with eight meat distribution applications, giving people the option to donate meat for Eid Al Adha directly to the Food Bank. Individuals and abattoirs alike appreciated this service. Six tonnes of meat were received and distributed to 1,384 families through charity organisations.

Through its strategic partnership with the 2022 Gulfood exhibition, the **UAE Food Bank** collected 18 tonnes of food left over from the event to reduce food waste. It was distributed to 18,000 people in line with the highest food safety and sanitation standards.

As part of its global activities in 2022, the **UAE Food Bank** sent food aid to the victims of the hurricane in the Philippines, distributing 13 tonnes of staple food items to feed 13,000 people. Additionally, a partnership with the International Charity Organization allowed the Food Bank to distribute five tonnes of baby food in Senegal.



## FLOOD RELIEF

**MBRGI**, together with the **UAE Food Bank**, implemented a campaign to assist those impacted by the exceptional weather conditions in the UAE's eastern region in July 2022, distributing more than 6.3 million meals through 50,000 food parcels and 10,000 ration cards that gave 119,000 people access to basic food items.

In partnership with the **UAE Food Bank** and the Fujairah Charity Association, the Foundation delivered direct support to families and individuals affected by the torrential rains, which was the highest amount of rainfall recorded anywhere in the country in 27 years.

## URGENT AID TO PAKISTAN

Under the directive of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, **MBRGI** distributed AED 50 million worth of urgent relief and aid to victims of the September 2022 floods in Pakistan.

**MBRGI** partnered with the United Nations World Food Programme, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** to provide food support to individuals and families affected by the floods that swept through the country. More than 1,136 people were killed, millions were displaced and over 3,450 kilometres of vital infrastructure was destroyed, leaving entire villages isolated.

These efforts to provide urgent relief reflect the UAE's commitment to always extend humanitarian aid to communities and individuals around the world affected by crises and natural disasters.



AED  
**50**  
Million

of urgent relief  
sent to Pakistan  
under the directive of  
His Highness Sheikh  
Mohammed bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum





## WARMER WINTER



USD  
**11**  
Million  
contributed towards  
the 'Warm Winter'  
initiative in 2022

In January 2022, **MBRGI** launched the 'Warm Winter' initiative, in cooperation with the 'World's Coolest Winter' campaign, to spread warmth to people in need and refugees living in tents in the Arab region and Africa as they suffered through the cold winter.

YouTuber Hassan Suleiman, known online as AboFlah, hosted a 12-day livestream campaign for the initiative, which received wide regional and global attention. More than 155,000 people from 120 countries contributed over USD 11 million (AED 40.4 million), which was provided as material aid to more than 110,000 families.

The 'Warm Winter' initiative is an innovative step within the framework of **MBRGI**'s partnerships with leading international humanitarian organisations, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Food Banking Regional Network, operating in 12 countries including Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Iraq and India.

The 'Warm Winter' campaign surpassed its \$10 million (AED 36.7 million) target and won two Guinness World Records – one for the longest livestream and another for the most viewers watching a humanitarian campaign livestream on YouTube. The live broadcast of AboFlah, one of the most prominent gaming content creators in the Arab region, lasted 268 hours, 14 minutes and 20 seconds.







**We send humanitarian messages from the UAE to the world – our goal is to be the most noble people in the world.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





## SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF CONFLICT & NATURAL DISASTERS



**747  
Metric  
Tonnes**

of aid dispatched  
by International  
Humanitarian City  
in 2022

Dubai's **International Humanitarian City (IHC)** is the only non-profit and independent humanitarian free zone authority in the world. It hosts a community of 87 members, including UN organisations, international NGOs, intergovernmental organisations and private companies.

In 2022, **IHC**, under **MBRGI**'s umbrella, provided urgent humanitarian aid and relief to countries impacted by war and natural disasters. It dispersed around 747 metric tonnes of supplies to alleviate the suffering of more than 1.6 million people.

In March 2022, **IHC** dispatched two relief flights to Warsaw, Poland, and Liège, Belgium, carrying urgent humanitarian aid for people fleeing the war in Ukraine, where military operations prompted civilians to shelter in neighbouring European countries. The two planes carried more than 124 metric tonnes of humanitarian aid, benefitting about 300,000 people.

The flights were operated in coordination with several UN organisations, including the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot, the International Medical Corps, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the World Food Programme's Fast Information Technology and Telecommunications Emergency and Support Team, and the World Health Organization (WHO), among other humanitarian organisations.

In June 2022, **IHC** sent a flight full of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan in the wake

of a 5.9-magnitude earthquake that struck the eastern part of the country. The flight carried more than 24.5 metric tonnes of essential medication, medical supplies and provisions for combatting cholera from WHO's warehouses in **IHC** to benefit 340,000 people.

**IHC** also dispatched two aeroplanes loaded with aid to Sudan in September 2022, after floods affected more than 200,000 people and claimed the lives of at least 112. The flights carried 192 metric tonnes of relief supplies and benefitted more than 796,000 people.

As part of the airbridge to Africa, the first flight to Khartoum carried more than 90 tonnes of aid sourced from the stocks of two **IHC** partners: the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and WHO. A second flight to the city carried an additional 100 tonnes of relief from IFRC.

In September 2022, **IHC**, in cooperation with Dubai Royal Air Wing and Emirates Airlines, established an airbridge to Pakistan with the aim of operating a total of 36 flights in a two-week period. The airbridge facilitated the transport of urgent humanitarian aid to relieve the suffering of those affected by the devastating floods that submerged a third of the country's land and destroyed vast areas of farmland.

In the airbridge's first phase, 24 flights carried more than 242 metric tonnes of supplies, benefitting 92,900 people. Meanwhile, 12 flights were dispatched in the second phase, carrying more than 100 metric tonnes of relief materials and benefitting 20,000 people.

## PARTNER APPRECIATION

**IHC** honoured 20 partners from governmental, private, academic and media agencies for their tireless efforts and exceptional achievements in providing relief and humanitarian assistance to affected people around the world in 2022.

In cooperation with its many partners, **IHC** dispatched 43 relief flights in 2022 through its partnership with Dubai Air Wing and Emirates Airlines, transporting hundreds of tonnes of aid in response to emergency

situations. **IHC** also sent two daily shipments of medicines and medical supplies to conflict areas thanks to the express approvals received from the Ministry of Health and Prevention, as well as Dubai Customs' efforts to facilitate border procedures.



**20**  
**Partners**

honoured by the  
International  
Humanitarian City  
in 2022





## A GRANT TO SERVE HUMANITY



19

### Applicants

for the International  
Humanitarian City  
Scholarship to pursue  
a master's in  
International Relations  
in 2022

In 2022, **IHC** and the University of Wollongong in Dubai announced the recipient of the **IHC** scholarship, which is awarded to one student pursuing a master's in International Relations. Following a thorough review of 19 applications, Afghan student Laila Qiamudin, who lives in the UAE, emerged as the laureate based on her academic performance, her interest in humanitarian work and the quality of her application essay.

Laila, who holds a bachelor's degree in Banking and Finance from UAE University, hopes to pursue a PhD and work with renowned international organisations after completing her master's.

The annual scholarship's curriculum offers an in-depth understanding of relations between countries and regions across areas such as globalisation, diplomacy, economics, international law, labour migration, culture, media, environment and security within the context of humanitarian action.





**Motivated by the shared bonds of humanity, workers and volunteers in humanitarian initiatives make the largest and most important impact on the lives of millions of people.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





## SERVING FAMILIES IN NEED



**1.6  
Million**

beneficiaries of the  
Mohammed bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum  
Humanitarian & Charity  
Establishment's  
initiatives in 2022

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment (MBRCH)** continues to harness its resources and capabilities to alleviate the suffering of those in need in the UAE and abroad, especially those affected by crises and natural disasters. As part of these efforts, it rolled out many humanitarian programmes and initiatives and constructed various facilities in communities around the globe.

**MBRCH** aims to implement initiatives targeting health, education and family empowerment, as well as provide a decent life for individuals and societies, in cooperation with local and international partners. Approximately 1.6 million people benefitted from its activities in 2022.

Among the Establishment's projects in 2022 was the construction of three primary schools in Kyrgyzstan and three in Tajikistan. It also built the Omar bin Al-Khattab Educational Complex in Indonesia.



In a related context, in 2022, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** implemented its 'School Bag' project in five countries. This project is activated annually at the start of the new academic year. School supplies, bags and uniforms were distributed to 11,640 boys and girls in several countries, including Benin, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.

As part of its efforts to provide housing for the poor around the world, **MBRCH** proceeded with its programme to build houses for the underprivileged in Tajikistan, where an integrated village with services and housing units for 103 families was constructed and fully equipped at a total cost of more than AED 3.3 million.

The Establishment also increased access to clean drinking water for 91,700 people across nine countries by building more than 30 wells at a total cost of more than AED 4.3 million. Twelve wells were built in Tajikistan, three artesian and two surface wells in Bangladesh, five artesian and surface wells in Benin, three wells in Uganda and three artesian and surface wells in Niger.

Additionally, **MBRCH** implemented its annual project to provide coal, heaters, winter clothes and blankets to 20,300 people in four countries.

## MEDICAL AID FOR NEEDY COMMUNITIES

Through its medical initiative 'Nabadat', meaning 'heartbeat' in Arabic, **MBRCH** seeks to treat as many disadvantaged children as possible with heart defects. In 2022, the initiative provided medical care for 1,377 children in four countries, including 351 in Egypt, 437 in Tajikistan, 494 in Mauritania and 95 in Kyrgyzstan, at a cost of more than AED 4.8 million.

The medical and administrative teams of the initiative, which is funded by **MBRCH** in cooperation with the Dubai Health Authority, performed free surgeries and catheterisation for sick children.

The Establishment also continued its annual efforts to establish medical clinics in remote areas. It opened four clinics and two hospitals, including three clinics and a central hospital for obstetrics and gynaecology in Tajikistan, a general hospital in Kyrgyzstan and an integrated clinic in the Philippines, at a cost of more than AED 4.2 million to benefit 44,800 people.

## SUPPORTING DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE

In 2022, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** launched several health and food initiatives to provide assistance for low-income families and individuals in the UAE. Through its annual 'Meer Ramadan' programme, the Establishment dispersed AED 4 million worth of food through dedicated smart cards, which benefitted 28,000 people.

As part of its local health programmes, **MBRCH** sponsored the medical treatment of 1,517 people with an investment of more than AED 15.8 million, which covered the cost of surgeries, cancer treatments, childbirth, premature infant care and treatment for kidney patients.



**1,377**  
**Children**

benefitted from the  
'Nabadat' initiative  
in 2022





## SUSTAINABLE ENDOWMENTS



AED  
**3.6**  
**Million**

donated to the 'Bread  
for All' initiative in 2022

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Global Centre for Endowment Consultancy (MBRGCEC)** was launched in 2016 as a consultative endowment institution. It implements endowment initiatives to meet social needs based on a vision grounded in international best practices for establishing and managing endowment institutions, while also leveraging crowdfunding to promote compassion and harmony. Its initiatives reached more than 60,000 people in 2022.

The Centre launched the 'Sukuk Al Waqf' initiative in 2022, in partnership with the Awqaf and Minors Affairs Foundation in Dubai and the National Bonds Corporation. The first charitable endowment of its kind in the region, it mobilises endowments to advance social development through an innovative and participatory system that is open to the public. **MBRGCEC** received AED 156 million in contributions as part of this initiative.

'Sukuk Al Waqf' allows donors to choose from several different 'funds', including: 'Social Affairs', which guarantees the endowment of funds in a savings account and the transfer of proceeds to support orphans, widows and people of determination; 'Health', which uses revenues to treat patients and support medical research; 'Education', which uses earnings to support education; and 'General Charity', which guarantees the transfer of endowed money in service of food, water and general charity projects.

The Centre also launched the first clothing endowment in 2022 to recycle and resell old clothes. It uses the financial proceeds to

build a permanent endowment that supports humanitarian work. The donation process begins through the 'Ataa' mobile application, in cooperation with a recycling company that provides the necessary logistical support to transport, collect and sell the clothing. Proceeds from the initiative benefit the education endowment, health endowment or the general charity endowment.

**MBRGCEC** awarded 10 government and private institutions with the 'Dubai Endowment Sign' in 2022, in recognition of their efforts in the field of innovative endowment and charity.

The Centre also continued to support students and education through their university seat endowment, which provided 15 scholarships to low-income students at a cost of AED 3 million. The scholarship is offered in cooperation with the Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University, the American University in the Emirates and the University of Sharjah.

In September 2022, **MBRGCEC** launched the 'Bread for All' initiative to supply families in need with free fresh bread around the clock through pre-programmed smart vending machines that quickly produce bread upon demand as part of a modern, sustainable model for charitable work.

During the project's first phase, the Centre set up the bread machines in 10 areas of Dubai. The initiative, which accepts contributions through the machines, SMS messages and online, received AED 3.6 million in donations. The machines distributed 200,000 loaves to people in need in less than four months.



## SUSTAINABLE WATER PROJECTS

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)** provided clean drinking water to communities around the world suffering from water scarcity. By end of 2022, the Foundation had positively impacted the lives of more than 13.7 million people in 37 countries and implemented more than 1,000 sustainable water projects.

In 2022, **Suqia**, in cooperation with the Emirates Red Crescent, launched water projects in several countries, including the construction of an artesian well and a water distribution network in Mauritania, which benefitted 500 people. It also established a water distribution network which benefitted 3,000 people in Kenya.

In cooperation with the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment, Suqia** also enacted several water projects across four countries. It built 30 wells in Benin, six artesian wells in Nigeria and five artesian wells in Mauritania. In Kyrgyzstan, it carried out restoration works and extended a water distribution network to benefit around 114,000 people.

In cooperation with **Dubai Cares, Suqia** contributed to the WASH initiative in Uganda, which is focused on securing clean water for students, supporting sanitation systems and raising community awareness on the importance of hygiene. The initiative benefitted 11,150 people.



**1,000  
Projects**

implemented by Suqia  
by the end of 2022





## NURTURING DREAMS



Shahbaz is a 15-year-old boy who lives with his family in a village in Tajikistan. While other children would normally be studying or playing, he spent most of his time collecting and boiling contaminated water to make it drinkable. Because it was scarce, clean water was an expensive commodity in Shahbaz's village, available only to those who could afford it.

During school hours, instead of learning, the students took turns walking up the hill from the school to collect about 24 litres of water for their daily needs. They split the task into shifts, with one fetching water for washing and another for drinking. It was as if collecting and boiling water was part of their school curriculum. Shahbaz and his schoolmates were frustrated and felt hopeless. They did not see how they could build a better future for themselves without easy access to clean water.

Fortunately, help was at hand for Shahbaz's village. The **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)**, in cooperation with the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment**, equipped the village with a network that delivered water directly to homes, schools and community facilities. The project restored hope and alleviated the suffering of 40,000 people in the village.

Now, with easy access to clean water, Shahbaz and his friends are free to pursue their education and follow their dreams without any distractions and restrictions.

## CLEAN WATER FOR KAYIRMA



As overseer of the water network in the village of Kayirma in Kyrgyzstan's Chuy Province, Ascia has witnessed first-hand the hardship that the 50-year-old system has caused. The damaged water tank and pipes had not been maintained for decades and, as a result, the people of her village were drinking polluted water which exposed them to disease.

Ascia was determined to help her community, so she submitted a request to the local authorities for the required restoration work. The **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)** received the application and, in cooperation with the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment**, responded to her plea for help.

Together, the two organisations installed a new water tank and network of pipes to distribute clean water to the village's homes, schools, health centres and mosque. Feeling incredibly grateful, Ascia followed the project's progress every step of the way.

Thanks to this initiative, 1,500 families in Kayirma can now turn on the tap and receive clean water. Alleviated of the fear of water-borne diseases, they can now focus on improving other aspects of their lives.



# Healthcare & Disease Control

Within this pillar, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** seeks to support the healthcare sector in disadvantaged areas, build healthy environments and provide services in vulnerable societies and combat infectious diseases through targeted projects, programmes and initiatives.



AED

# 42.5

**MILLION**

spent on Healthcare  
& Disease Control  
initiatives in 2022

# 9.4

**MILLION**

beneficiaries of  
Healthcare & Disease  
Control Initiatives in 2022

AED

# 17 MILLION

invested to launch the UAE's  
first robotic biobank

# 9.1 MILLION

patients received treatment  
for trachoma in 2022

# 163,701 BENEFICIARIES

of the 'Katsina School Eye Screening  
Program' in Nigeria in 2022





## Overcoming Threats to Human Health & Advancing Scientific Innovation



AED  
**42.5**  
Million

spent on Healthcare  
& Disease Control  
initiatives in 2022



**9.4**  
Million

beneficiaries of  
Healthcare &  
Disease Control  
Initiatives in 2022

Since its inception, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** has placed significant focus on Healthcare & Disease Control, one of its five key pillars. Within this pillar, the Foundation has launched numerous initiatives as well as treatment and preventive campaigns to serve underprivileged communities and vulnerable groups, especially women, children and the elderly. These projects aim to support the healthcare sector and combat common health challenges impacting people's quality of life and hindering development in many countries across the world.

Many programmes within this pillar are also dedicated to providing training and capacity-building opportunities for medical professionals and technicians. Through these efforts, **MBRGI** translates its vision of creating healthcare systems that are highly effective as well as sustainable, and which enhance social harmony and increase the productivity of individuals and societies.

The UAE's healthcare sector took a huge leap forward in 2022, when **Al Jalila Foundation**, one of the main entities within this pillar, launched the country's first robotic biobank with an investment of AED 17 million. Scheduled to open its doors in 2023, the biobank will revolutionise local medical research on pandemics, genetic diseases, cancer and other chronic conditions.

Another of **MBRGI's** primary entities within the Healthcare & Disease Control pillar, **Noor Dubai**, furthered its mission of achieving sustainable healthcare through its ongoing programmes and campaigns that raise awareness of avoidable causes of blindness and visual impairment in disadvantaged communities in countries such as Ethiopia, Nigeria, Bangladesh and Nepal. **Noor Dubai** also continued its local programme to provide financial support to UAE residents in need of surgery and treatment for critical eye diseases. The Foundation set up mobile eye clinics across the country to increase access to eye examinations in the UAE.

With support from the **Arab Hope Makers** initiative, construction continued in 2022 on the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre in Cairo. Since February 2020, 60% of the building phases have been completed.

Total spending on **MBRGI's** various Healthcare & Disease Control programmes, projects and initiatives in 2022 amounted to approximately AED 42.5 million, benefitting 9.4 million people around the globe.





## A WORLD FREE FROM PREVENTABLE BLINDNESS



**9.1  
Million**

patients received  
treatment for trachoma  
in 2022

Under **MBRGI's** umbrella, **Noor Dubai** serves disadvantaged communities around the globe by designing and implementing treatment, preventive and awareness programmes and campaigns, in line with its vision for a world free from visual impairment. It strives to make a sustainable impact on healthcare worldwide in order to control infectious eye diseases and eliminate causes of preventable blindness by increasing access to examinations, treatment, surgical procedures and medication, especially in areas where eye disease is endemic.



The Foundation focuses on training eye health professionals in remote communities to close the gap between the number of medical practitioners available and the number of residents in need of care in those areas. In addition, it supports medical research to expand the evidence base for planning and detection.

In 2022, **Noor Dubai** continued its strong partnership with The Carter Center as part of its mission to eradicate blinding trachoma, particularly in areas most affected by the disease, such as the Amhara region in Ethiopia. To control the disease, the Foundation and The Carter Center worked together to implement the SAFE strategy, which is endorsed by the World Health Organization and comprises providing eye surgeries, distributing antibiotics, organising awareness campaigns on the importance of personal hygiene, and maintaining a healthy community environment.

Through its Mass Drug Administration (MDA) programme, in 2022, **Noor Dubai** provided the antibiotic Zithromax, donated by Pfizer, to 9,142,612 people and trained 15,000 public health workers on treatment regimens to combat trachoma.

Over the next four years, **Noor Dubai** and The Carter Center aim to administer 43 million doses of Zithromax to 14.3 million people, in addition to conducting an impact assessment survey and supporting the training of more than 74,000 public health workers by 2025.



## COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE

**Noor Dubai** resumed its four-year comprehensive eye care programme in the Nigerian state of Katsina in 2022. The programme aims to provide sustainable preventive services and treatments to residents of Katsina and its neighbouring areas by enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the healthcare system. It also intends to double the number of operations to treat patients suffering from cataracts, one of the most common causes of blindness in Katsina.

The 'Katsina Eye Care Program' provides essential eye health services, including exams, diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases leading to visual impairment, such as allergies and conjunctivitis, through affiliated medical centres across the state. These medical centres also refer patients with refractive errors, cataracts and other conditions for surgery where required.

In 2022, the programme's medical centres conducted eye exams for 17,519 people, 51% of whom were women. Of these patients, 9,276 also underwent cataract surgery. An additional 12 examination centres were established, and a specialised workshop on vision was launched.

The programme has had a significant economic impact across Katsina, with one study revealing that the incomes of 75% of the people who received cataract treatments as part of the programme have risen above the poverty line, as it is defined by the United Nations.

**Noor Dubai** also launched a school eye screening programme in Katsina, Nigeria, which provided eye examinations for 161,524 students and 1,800 teachers, and saw the distribution of 289 pairs of prescription eyeglasses. Through a capacity-building workshop, the Foundation trained 80 teachers and eight nurses specialised in eye care.



**163,701**  
**Beneficiaries**

of the 'Katsina School  
Eye Screening Program'  
in Nigeria in 2022







## ELIMINATING BLINDNESS



**20,540**  
**Beneficiaries**

of the 'Barisal Eye Care Program' in Bangladesh in 2022

To uphold its commitment to eliminate common causes of blindness, **Noor Dubai** continued treating patients with refractive errors and diabetic retinopathy through its 'Barisal Eye Care Program' in Bangladesh. The programme serves residents of the state of Barisal and will continue operations until 2025. During this time, it will provide specialised eye care services and free mobile eye examinations, as well as organise awareness campaigns to educate the public on eye health.

The programme aims to treat 75,000 people, including 25,000 children, and provide treatment, preventive and educational services to nearly four million people across Barisal by its completion date.

In 2022, a total of 20,540 people benefitted from the 'Barisal Eye Care Program', including 3,703 people who were tested for diabetic retinopathy, 166 of whom underwent laser therapy. Eye examinations were conducted for 5,000 people, and of those, 500 were supplied with prescription eyeglasses. The programme focused heavily on young people, providing eye examinations for 10,000 children, 1,000 of whom received prescription eyeglasses.

Additionally, in line with the Foundation's mission to build capabilities in disadvantaged communities, 54 teachers and 117 people received training on essential eye care practices.



## TREATMENT CAMPS

**Noor Dubai** combats blindness in remote communities across developing countries through treatment camps, which provide examinations, medication, surgeries and prescription eyeglasses. These camps are the ideal way to reach communities in remote areas, where the lack of access to health services puts residents at a high risk of blindness. Inadequate infrastructure makes it incredibly difficult for people in these communities to receive even the most basic level of quality healthcare, as services are located too far from their homes.

In 2022, treatment camps provided eye examinations for 21,120 people, 2,107 of whom underwent surgeries. Medication was distributed to 15,619 people, and

4,780 prescription eyeglasses were supplied.

In Ghana, 8,298 patients benefitted from the programme, with 505 of them undergoing surgery and 255 receiving eyeglasses. In Bangladesh, 11,179 people received eye exams, 1,419 of whom also underwent surgery and 4,360 received prescription eyeglasses. And in Nepal, the programme succeeded in providing medical examinations for 1,643 people. Of these patients, 183 underwent surgery and 165 received prescription eyeglasses.



**21,120**  
**People**

received eye  
examinations through  
mobile treatment  
camps in 2022







**The UAE and Dubai have placed a high priority on advancing the capabilities of the country's healthcare sector to ensure it is among the best in the world.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

## COMBATTING EYE DISEASE LOCALLY

Locally, **Noor Dubai** implemented the 'UAE Treatment Program' to support disadvantaged patients suffering from critical eye diseases in the UAE. It aims to reduce the risk of visual impairment as a result of delayed access to or lack of financial resources to pay for necessary treatments for diabetic retinopathy, cataracts and eye injuries. In 2022, 18 people benefitted from the programme.

**Noor Dubai** continued its annual mobile eye clinic programme in the UAE, through which it provided free examinations for 4,927 people across the country and distributed 200 pairs of prescription eyeglasses.

Since the first mobile clinic was established in 2014, the initiative has aimed to deliver diagnostic, treatment and preventive services to patients in various regions of the country using buses outfitted with the latest medical equipment and which meet the highest quality and safety standards. These mobile examinations enable early disease detection and intervention to avoid visual impairment, raise awareness on eye health and support eye health research.



**4,927**  
**People**

benefitted from  
mobile eye clinics  
in the UAE in 2022





## RENEWED HOPE AT WORK



Lalku Shaikh, 48 years old, lives in Bangladesh. For more than 30 years, he has worked in construction in order to provide for his five sons.

His world suddenly fell apart when he lost his job due to an eye disease, which rendered him incapable of performing his duties at work.

Lalku struggled to find a new job given his health condition, but he never gave up. He did whatever he could to support his family, including taking on small farm jobs such as tending animals, helping with the harvest and selling crops. However, his eye condition prevented him from carrying out his work properly.

As soon as Lalku learned that there was a **Noor Dubai** mobile eye camp near his home, he signed up immediately to receive treatment.

The medical team at the camp examined Lalku, diagnosed his condition and provided him with the treatment he needed. This treatment saved his eyesight, enabling him to once again do the work he was skilled at and carry on living his life.

Thanks to **Noor Dubai**, Lalku's vision is no longer an obstacle to securing a decent job that will allow him to better provide for his family.

## LIFE RESUMES WHEN SIGHT IS RESTORED



Three years ago, Abu Hussein and his four children moved to the UAE in search of safety, stability and a better life. But fate was not on his side. Soon, Abu Hussein was suffering from a cataract, which left him unable to carry out his responsibilities and provide for his family.

Abu Hussein underwent surgery on his right eye, but then the retina detached in that same eye, requiring a second operation. After several surgeries, his right eye was still not completely healed.

In 2022, Abu Hussein developed a cataract in his left eye, which impaired his vision. He also lost his job, and was left feeling desperate and frustrated.

When he commenced treatment for his left eye, doctors discovered that it also had a retinal tear and detachment. He underwent a quick surgery to preserve what was left of his vision. However, Abu Hussein was unable to continue working due to his visual impairment, and was financially and physically exhausted from all the surgeries.

Abu Hussein's suffering finally came to an end when he was introduced to **Noor Dubai's** 'UAE Treatment Program', which treats critical eye diseases for patients with limited financial resources within the country. Thanks to the treatment he received through the programme, he was able to secure a new job and build a better future for his four children.



## ROBOTIC BIOBANK



AED  
**17**  
Million

invested to launch  
the first robotic  
biobank in the UAE

Since it was established in 2013, **Al Jalila Foundation** has supported education, scholarships, research and medical innovation in order to enhance medical capabilities across the UAE. The Foundation has nurtured scientists and local medical professionals by offering scholarship opportunities, exchange programmes and partnerships with international organisations and institutions. Its goal is to advance the healthcare sector in the UAE, improve quality of life and find new ways to prevent diseases that are threatening humanity.

Among **Al Jalila Foundation's** exceptional initiatives launched in 2022 was the announcement of plans to establish the first robotic biobank in the UAE. The Foundation invested AED 17 million to build a state-of-the-art facility to advance local medical research in the areas of genetics, cancer and other chronic diseases and epidemics.

The biobank, which is scheduled to open in 2023 at the Mohammed bin Rashid Medical Research Institute, will act as a biorepository for various types of human biological samples, such as blood, tissues, cells and DNA, as well as data related to these samples. It will also house other biomolecular resources that can be used in health research. The AI-enhanced robotic system will guarantee that biological samples are secured in cryogenic storage at a temperature of -80 degrees Celsius, maintaining proper sample integrity and retrieval.

The diversity of the UAE's population creates an opportunity for the biobank to become an exceptional platform for the comparative study of genetic, environmental, dietary and behavioural habits. The biobank will allow access to samples and data representing large numbers of people, which in turn could facilitate multi-purpose studies.



The biobank will collaborate with leading healthcare organisations and partners regionally and internationally, pioneering biomedical research and accelerating medical discoveries to improve patients' lives. It will follow industry best practices, while adhering to the highest standards of compliance and ethical guidelines for collecting, storing, processing, analysing and using biospecimens in research on genetic and environmental factors affecting human health.

## FUNDING CANCER RESEARCH

In 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation** announced the launch of a new grant cycle to support cancer research in line with Dubai's vision to advance health for humanity.

**Al Jalila Foundation** began accepting applications to conduct a two-year cancer study to address local and regional needs. The new grant cycle will provide UAE nationals and residents with up to AED 300,000 to support basic science, translational and clinical research projects. In addition to conducting their research in the UAE, applicants must hold a position at a university or institution that carries out clinical research activities.

The applications will be subject to an independent, international peer review process overseen by a scientific advisory committee. The process will involve input from regional specialists who work with international peer review panels to award research grants to deserving scientists.

**Al Jalila Foundation's** medical scholarship programme continued to empower the next generation of healthcare professionals, who will improve quality of life in the UAE by enhancing the country's healthcare sector. The 'Class of Khalifa' graduating from Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) in 2022 comprised 11 students who had benefitted from the Foundation's scholarship programme.

In 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation** partnered with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, an affiliate of the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH), as well as MBRU, Khalifa University and UAE University. Known as the UAE-NIH Collaborative Research Initiative (UAE-NIH-CRI), it aims to build UAE capacity in biomedical research by investing AED 14 million, to be disbursed over three years. Additionally, the UAE-NIH-CRI will offer six awards over the three years to support research collaborations between scientists in the UAE and the United States.



AED  
**14**  
Million

invested to support capacity building in biomedical research in the UAE over a period of three years







## AID FOR CANCER PATIENTS



AED  
**1.7**  
Million

in donations collected  
to support cancer  
patients in 2022

As part of **Al Jalila Foundation's** efforts to support and improve the quality of life for patients, the Foundation celebrated the first anniversary of the establishment of 'Majlis Al Amal', or 'Hope Lounge', in 2022. The first community centre specialised in enhancing the health and well-being of breast cancer patients, the Majlis was launched in cooperation with 'Brest Friends', the UAE's first support group for breast cancer patients. By the end of 2022, 500 women had joined 'Majlis Al Amal', participating in 161 activities throughout the year.

'Majlis Al Amal' is a haven for cancer patients and survivors, offering psychological and medical support, as well as access to specialists at any time

for questions and advice. Members can also participate in technical workshops and educational sessions presented by medical experts working in cooperation with the Majlis.

**Al Jalila Foundation** held its annual #PINKtober campaign to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer. Donations collected through the campaign helped fund treatment for 40 patients registered with the Foundation's 'A'awen' programme. During 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation** raised AED 1.7 million to support cancer patients through 244 activities organised by 209 partners from various sectors of society, including businesses, academic institutions, government agencies, sports clubs, the hospitality sector and private individuals.





We provide the best conditions to inspire innovation in pursuit of a better future for humanity, where everybody has an equal opportunity to lead the ideal life. The health of nations and peoples is the basis of their ability to give and progress.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



## ‘A’AWEN’ PATIENT SUPPORT PROGRAMME



AED  
**9.5**  
Million

provided in support through the ‘A’awen’ initiative to treat patients in 2022

In 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation’s** ‘A’awen’ programme helped ease the financial burden for people living in the UAE who are unable to afford quality medical care.

The programme benefitted 337 people in 2022, including 76 children, with a budget of more than AED 9.5 million. ‘A’awen’ seeks to provide tailored treatment plans for each patient so that they receive exceptional healthcare, regardless of their financial condition, and are able to focus on their treatment journey.

The Foundation also organised the annual ‘A’awen’ campaign during the holy month of Ramadan, in partnership with 35 entities from various sectors, raising 3.7 AED million to support patients across the country in need of medical treatment.



## ‘TA’ALOUF’ TRAINING FOR PARENTS

To affirm the Foundation’s commitment to people of determination, their families, caregivers and educators, in 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation** facilitated a free workshop through its ‘Ta’alouf’ programme titled ‘Nurturing Talent in Our Children of Determination’. The workshop aimed to support parents of children with mental disabilities and learning difficulties.

It focused on strategies to identify talents of children of determination and encouraged parents to nurture and develop the unique strengths and interests of their children. Parents from all different backgrounds attended the workshop, where they shared their experiences and challenges, as well as their children’s success stories to spread optimism and hope.

‘Ta’alouf’ provided a forum for parents and caregivers of people of determination to communicate and share best practices. Collaboration opportunities with several government, private and higher education institutions were created in preparation for launching even more initiatives in 2023.

In 2022, **Al Jalila Foundation** continued offering the ‘Ta’alouf’ training programme free of charge for teachers and school principals throughout the academic year, equipping them with key knowledge and skills to understand the unique learning needs of students of determination. Around 70 teachers and principals from 35 schools graduated from the training programme in the 2021/2022 academic year, which impacted the lives of 11,764 students.



## A CENTRE FOR HEART HEALTH

Construction of the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre in Cairo continued throughout 2022. Supported by the **Arab Hope Makers** initiative, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, 60% of the construction stages have been completed since ground was broken in February 2020. The Centre's construction was supported by a live donation campaign held during the **Arab Hope Makers'** 2020 closing ceremony, which raised more than AED 88 million. The Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre was also selected as the Initiative's 'Humanitarian Cause of the Year'.

The Centre will open its doors to receive its first patient in April 2024. The first phase will see the opening of two operating rooms and three catheterization laboratories, including a hybrid cardiac catheterization lab, and the beginning of surgeries. This first phase will also include the provision

of 154 total beds – 64 intensive care beds for children, newborns and adults, and 90 inpatient beds. Additionally, the Centre will house 32 outpatient clinics, including 16 for children and 16 for adults.

The construction of the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre in Cairo aims to expand the number of beneficiaries to 120,000 outpatients and 12,000 inpatients. It particularly seeks to treat newborns suffering from congenital heart disease, giving them the chance at a normal life.

The Centre also intends to increase the number of graduates from the Foundation's medical training programme to 1,750 specialists and healthcare practitioners from across the Arab region, as well as establish an advanced scientific centre for research on cardiovascular disease.



# 120,000 Patients

to be treated at the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre's outpatient clinics upon completion





## A LIFE FULL OF POSITIVITY



Muhammad, 14, has autism and a very supportive family who surround him with love. While his school in the UAE ensures he is fully integrated with his classmates, his mother, Najia, felt that she could do more for Muhammad. She was always looking for opportunities to provide her son with more hope and support.

When Muhammad's mother heard about **Al Jalila Foundation's** 'Ta'alouf' programme, which equips parents of children of determination with life-changing skills to enhance their children's unique abilities, she registered right away. Through this programme, Najia gained more confidence in her ability to give Muhammad better opportunities and manage his day-to-day requirements.

Thanks to his mother's knowledge and nurturing, Muhammed made remarkable progress in controlling his emotions, movement and voice, evidenced by his increased confidence in maintaining eye contact and improved concentration. Najia also noticed that her son has gained more independence as he is able to move by himself, and has become more articulate and expressive during conversations.

Najia is delighted by the positive changes she's observed in her son: "There is a lot of ambiguity around autistic children, but we as a family are determined to learn how to be the best support for Muhammad. A child with autism is a beautiful person who only needs his surrounding world to highlight the beauty within him. Thank you, **Al Jalila Foundation**, for your tireless pursuit to serve children of determination."

## FOR THE SAKE OF MY CHILD



Four-year-old Aadvika's parents became concerned when they noticed a change in her behaviour. Once so energetic, Aadvika became lethargic and no longer wanted to play with the other children.

Her parents were shocked when she was diagnosed with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia. In addition to the overwhelming fear they experienced at receiving this diagnosis, they were also left feeling helpless when they discovered how much the treatment would cost to save their daughter's life.

Once **Al Jalila Foundation** learned of Aadvika's circumstances, it quickly launched a special campaign to collect donations through its digital 'A'awen Giving' platform. Within a short time, enough money was collected to pay for Aadvika's treatment in full, thanks to the generosity of the community.

Aadvika's parents were incredibly grateful for the support they received through **Al Jalila Foundation**: "It was heartbreaking to see Aadvika suffer. We felt so helpless. Now we feel so supported from our amazing community who are always by our side and have helped us get our precious daughter the treatment she needs. Now, Aadvika is once again our active and social girl who loves to play with her little sister."



# Spreading Education & Knowledge

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** launches initiatives and projects around the world within the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar to support learning and equip future generations with the science and knowledge they need to play an effective role in the advancement of their communities and prosperity of their countries.



AED  
**213**  
**MILLION**

spent on Spreading  
Education & Knowledge  
initiatives in 2022

**55.1**  
**MILLION**

beneficiaries of Spreading  
Education & Knowledge  
initiatives in 2022

**21**  
**MILLION**

recipients of support from  
Dubai Cares' programmes  
and initiatives

**22.2**  
**MILLION**

participants in the sixth  
Arab Reading Challenge

**3.2**  
**MILLION**

subscribers to Madrasa  
e-Learning Platform





## Exceptional Initiatives to Enrich Knowledge & Advance Education



AED  
**213**  
Million

spent on Spreading  
Education & Knowledge  
initiatives in 2022

The Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar reflects the importance that the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** places on education. Education is key to advancing societies, as it enables future generations to develop the skills and expertise required to build nations on a solid foundation of knowledge.

Within this framework, **MBRGI** designs and implements a variety of education and knowledge initiatives in the region and globally to build capacity for everyone involved in the education system, from students to teachers and administrators. Through its work in this pillar, **MBRGI** also aims to establish innovative e-learning platforms that keep pace with modern educational curricula and global technological developments.

The Foundation places a particular emphasis on supporting the educational ecosystem in underserved regions and communities by assisting these communities in securing the necessary skills and resources, renovating schools to facilitate access to education for young people of all ages, and promoting healthy school environments. **MBRGI** believes that caring for the mind and body drives nations and their economies further up the development ladder.

In 2022, **Dubai Cares**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, accelerated its efforts to foster an ecosystem that follows a whole-of-society approach within the 'Dubai Cares Framework for Global Education Transformation', which was launched during

the 2022 World Government Summit as part of Expo 2020 Dubai. The Foundation also provided specialised training programmes for education professionals, as well as comprehensive response programmes to address the urgent needs of children most impacted by crises and natural disasters.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation** launched a new version of its 'Arab Knowledge Project', within the framework of its strategic partnership with the United Nations Development Programme. Based on a common vision that positions knowledge at the centre of achieving sustainable development in the Arab region, the Project attracted 132 countries, including 11 Arab nations, and widened its scope to include 155 variables.

The **Madrasa e-Learning Platform** launched a project to create 200 new animated comics that use interactive elements to appeal to children and feature social and cultural characters in order to connect with a generation of young learners. This collection will be added to the 200 stories produced by the Platform last year as part of the educational content offered to Arab students around the world free of charge.

In 2022, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, inaugurated the **Mohammed bin Rashid Library**. Dubai's newest cultural icon, the Library aims to inspire a passion for knowledge. By ensuring that everyone has

access to exceptional books and resources, the Library seeks to preserve Arab culture and heritage and nurture a new generation of Arab readers.

In line with its goals to build capacity among teaching staff, **The Digital School** launched its 'Global Academy for Digital Teachers' in cooperation with Arizona State University. Leveraging high-quality collaboration tools vetted by teachers around the world, the initiative seeks to enhance educators' ability to equip future generations with advanced learning and cognitive skills.

In November 2022, the Arab world witnessed the closing ceremony of the sixth **Arab Reading Challenge**, which was held at Dubai Opera. In addition to the 2,000 people in attendance, including 360 champions from around the world, millions tuned in to watch Sham Al-Bakour, a Syrian student, be crowned **Arab Reading Challenge** champion.

In total, **MBRGI** spent AED 213 million in 2022 on its various Spreading Education & Knowledge initiatives, programmes and projects to benefit approximately 55.1 million people around the world.



**55.1**  
**Million**

beneficiaries of  
Spreading Education  
& Knowledge  
initiatives in 2022



## SUPPORTING EDUCATION IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES



**21  
Million**

beneficiaries of **Dubai Cares** programmes and initiatives

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, **Dubai Cares** continued its mission of providing comprehensive, quality education to children and youth from all backgrounds. It implements innovative and sustainable educational initiatives in underprivileged communities facing challenges that prevent students from completing their schooling, as well as specialised training for teachers. In addition, **Dubai Cares** operates comprehensive response programmes to address the urgent needs of children affected by crises and natural disasters. Since the Foundation's inception, its projects and initiatives have reached more than 21 million people.

In 2022, **Dubai Cares** succeeded in adding education and learning to human development efforts through a comprehensive ecosystem based on a whole-of-society approach within the 'Dubai Cares Framework for Global Education Transformation', which

launched during the World Government Summit 2022 at Expo 2020 Dubai.

In 2022, **Dubai Cares** also published the 'Rewiring Education for People and Planet' report at the Transforming Education Summit held as part of the 77th United Nations General Assembly. It presented key recommendations for reforming the education landscape, which were drawn from the discussions and insights that were shared during the RewirEd Summit at Expo 2020 Dubai. The report outlined six concrete solutions to encourage a multi-sectoral approach to align thinking and action linked to transformative education outcomes and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

During the 27th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2022, **Dubai Cares** focused on the pivotal role of education in addressing climate change and called for its inclusion on the agendas of all future COPs. It also underlined the importance of integrating education and climate into national agendas to transform education globally.

**Dubai Cares** received Room to Read's 2022 Global Champion Award for its efforts in promoting literacy and gender equality in education. It also received the Humanitarian Award at the 2022 Distinctive International Arab Festivals Awards in recognition of **Dubai Cares'** work in the humanitarian field to support children and youth access to quality education in developing countries.





## SOLIDARITY WITH FLOOD VICTIMS

Expressing solidarity with families affected by the floods in Pakistan, **Dubai Cares**, Emirates Red Crescent and Sharjah Charity International launched the 'We Stand Together' volunteering initiative in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah during 2022. Hundreds of volunteers from across the seven emirates packed 1,200 tonnes of food, health supplies and hygiene items, including 30,000 food packages to provide emergency relief to affected individuals.

**Dubai Cares** also continued its post-earthquake relief and recovery efforts for education in Nepal in 2022. The programme provided support to children who suffered psychological distress after their educational journey was abruptly suspended by the disaster. Reconstruction projects that created safe and child-friendly learning environments benefitted 10 schools and a total of 55,890 people.

## VOLUNTEERING IN THE UAE

Throughout 2022, **Dubai Cares** hosted three editions of its local 'Volunteer Emirates' initiative, which encourages community members in the UAE to donate their time in support of education. The initiative attracted 348 volunteers who worked on enriching the learning environments in three schools: Al Tafawoq School in Sharjah, the National Charity School for Boys in Dubai and the National Charity School for Girls in Sharjah.

In October 2022, **Dubai Cares** participated in the 26th edition of the World Volunteer Conference. The conference cultivates an enabling environment for communication, knowledge exchange and experience attainment for those who believe in the power of volunteering as a means of improving society. Participating delegations packed school bags for 2,800 students as part of the conference's central initiative in partnership with UPS.



**30,000**  
**Food**  
**Packages**

prepared by volunteers  
to support flood  
victims in Pakistan  
in 2022





## NOTHING STANDS IN THE WAY OF EDUCATION



Pratik, a ninth-grade student in Nepal, loved learning, but he struggled to continue his education at home during the COVID-19 pandemic as he lacked access to the internet and other necessary technologies.

Pratik's mother was distressed by the sadness of her son, who especially enjoys reading stories, explaining: "We were unable to assist him during the long school closure when he encountered difficulties with his reading sessions, as we had limited ideas on how to use his books or what tactics to use at home to keep him engaged."

Pratik's parents were worried about their son falling behind in his studies. He lives in Nepal's Syangja District, where the absence of e-learning opportunities and limited access to technology made it difficult for caregivers to utilise smartphones or computers, which in turn hindered students' academic achievement for the whole year.

However, Pratik's parents soon heard of the 'Post-earthquake Recovery Efforts for Education in Nepal' project, which **Dubai Cares** continues to implement in cooperation with the Room to Read organisation. Through this programme, 6,000 children have received a home learning kit containing worksheets with guided teaching, stationery, children's storybooks and colouring books.

Thanks to these learning kits, Pratik and his sister had plenty of books to read. Speaking about his experience, Pratik said: "I'd always wanted a storybook corner in my house, and the home kit came with enough books to start a little library for myself. My sister and I looked around the house for a well-lit spot, and the porch was the ideal location to place the books and read some stories to my family."

## SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS

In collaboration with Bangladesh's largest NGO, Building Resources Across Communities (BRAC), **Dubai Cares** implemented a programme to bolster the education system and provide opportunities for development in Bhatapara and its neighbouring communities. Under this initiative, a secondary school is being built in Bhatapara village, located in Bangladesh's Sunamganj district, to improve access to education for local children, and girls in particular. **Dubai Cares** will also cover the school's operating costs for five years after construction is completed. The six-year intervention will create both immediate and long-term benefits for the community of Bhatapara, especially for young girls who cannot afford to continue their education.

In Nepal, **Dubai Cares** supported the construction of two new primary schools and the development of adult literacy programmes. The initiative, which has benefitted 860 people, aims to increase girls' enrolment in primary school, reduce illiteracy and teach life skills to men and women in the local community.

In 2022, **Dubai Cares** continued building two primary schools and developing adult literacy programmes in Malawi, aiming to benefit 920 people. These efforts intend to increase access to education for girls and women, improve primary school infrastructure, provide safe and healthy environments for children and teachers and improve adult literacy rates.



**920**  
**Expected**  
**Beneficiaries**  
from two new schools  
built in Malawi







## IMPROVING HEALTH & EDUCATION



**112,500**  
**Beneficiaries**

of the programme to  
improve access to safe  
Water, Sanitation and  
Hygiene (WASH) in  
Bangladesh in 2022

**Dubai Cares** has successfully completed its programme to improve access to safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Bangladesh, which promoted hygienic behaviour among 112,500 school students and more than 25,000 parents by the end of 2022. Launched by **Dubai Cares** in 2019, the programme seeks to spread a culture of health in schools and communities to change behaviours, raise awareness on the concept of public hygiene, establish an institutional environment for developing water, sanitation and school hygiene policies, and encourage key decision-makers to reinforce the use of the Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor's hygiene manual.

Over the course of three years, the programme succeeded in making its plan a reality, as 125 sanitary facilities were built in

125 schools, with all members of the School Management Committees receiving training on how to use the facilities. It also developed a school WASH dashboard that included 482 primary schools with a collective enrolment of 217,354 students.

The Foundation's integrated health programme in Liberian schools combats intestinal worms and improves eye health for children. Implemented by **Dubai Cares** over a three-year period, the programme provided support in the aftermath of Liberia's Ebola outbreak. It benefitted 76,920 children from 50 schools across four counties, including 35,000 children in Grand Kru and 40,000 in Sinoe. Under the programme, children received medical examinations to protect them from intestinal worms, and those with vision impairments were referred for treatment.



## PROGRAMMES FOR ALL ACADEMIC LEVELS

In 2022, **Dubai Cares** concluded its 'Real Assets and Improved Skills and Education for Adolescent Girls' (RAISE) and 'RAISE Higher' programmes, which reached 848,246 girls in the Philippines. The two programmes provided girls with education opportunities and skills to enable them to make informed life choices.

**Dubai Cares** continued its efforts to increase access to comprehensive primary and secondary education in Uganda, benefitting 22,950 students. In addition to improving access to primary and secondary education, the programme facilitates the transition from primary to secondary school and reintegrates out-of-school children into formal education.

In partnership with the Global Fund for Children, a non-profit based in Washington, DC, **Dubai Cares** completed the 'Empowering Adolescent Girls' programme in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The four-year project enhanced the capabilities of 30,000 girls, including 9,000 in Nicaragua, 9,000 in Honduras and 12,000 in Guatemala. It promoted gender equality and girls' rights in education, youth empowerment and equitable access to job opportunities, and supported youth in fighting violence and exploitation.

In 2022, **Dubai Cares** also implemented its three-year programme to improve early childhood education (ECE) in India. In partnership with Pratham, an Indian charitable trust, the initiative benefitted 333,377 people by securing access to ECE for children aged three to six in six states across the country. It focused on improving children's developmental capabilities and school

readiness, strengthening mothers' role in that process and developing government infrastructure to guarantee quality ECE.

As part of the 'Leveraging Social Enterprise Models to Bring Quality Early Childhood Education to Rural Areas' programme in Tanzania, **Dubai Cares** established an innovative education centre in Zanzibar in 2022, in partnership with the islands' Ministry of Education and the State University of Zanzibar. The centre provides learning opportunities for students in and out of school and improves foundational learning in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics (STEAM). The programme helps students across all education levels develop 21st century skills and strengthens school-community ties. About 2,220 people benefitted from the programme in 2022.



# 848,246 Girls

benefitted from the 'Real Assets and Improved Skills and Education for Adolescent Girls' programme in the Philippines by the end of 2022







## TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH & TEACHERS



**75,000**  
**Beneficiaries**

of the 'Ejada'  
programme in  
Jordan in 2022

In 2022, **Dubai Cares** concluded the 'Making Youth Future Ready: Introducing New Vocational Educational Skills Training' (INVEST) programme in Tajikistan. In partnership with Mercy Corps, INVEST sought to address unemployment among the country's young people over a period of three years. By providing technical and vocational training, the programme focused on improving youth access to economic opportunities, benefitting 7,800 young people who had previously been unable to secure a job.

Under its 'Training Cambodian Youth for High-Skill Occupations in Hospitality' programme, which will continue until 2024, **Dubai Cares** offered training for mid-level and high-level culinary professionals in 2022, and supported the launch of a hospitality training high school programme at the Cambodian Ministry of Education during 2022 and 2023.

In Jordan, 75,549 people benefitted from the continuation of 'Ejada', a programme aimed at enhancing the capacities of teachers and engaging them – along with school principals, Ministry of Education representatives and other education professionals – in designing and testing a new curriculum for teachers' professional development. The focus is on improving well-being on the job, as well as enhancing the quality, creativity and resourcefulness of teaching practices.

Under the 'Teacher Training for Inclusive Girls' Education in Sierra Leone' initiative, **Dubai Cares** provided young women aged 18 to 26 living in rural communities with the practical experience to become teachers, as well as support for their entry into and completion of the Teacher Training College in order to be successfully accredited and employed as primary school teachers. The programme reached 35,010 young women in 2022.



## INSPIRING A PASSION FOR READING

Within the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar, the **Arab Reading Challenge** aims to consolidate a culture of reading in the Arabic language among children and youth in the Arab region. It promotes Arabic as a language capable of conveying all kinds of knowledge, and encourages reading as a tool to enhance critical thinking, raise awareness and mould individuals capable of advancing societies.

In November 2022, the Arab world witnessed the closing ceremony of the sixth **Arab Reading Challenge**. It was held at the Dubai Opera in front of an audience of more than 2,000, including 360 national and community Challenge champions. Millions of people across the Arab region tuned in to watch Syrian student Sham Al-Bakour be crowned champion of the largest Arab literacy and knowledge initiative. The sixth edition was the largest in the Challenge's history, with more than 22.2 million participants. Adam Al Qassimi, from Tunisia, came in second, while Rashid Al Khatib, from Jordan, ranked third.

The audience attending the closing ceremony was treated to an operetta titled 'National Anthem of the Arab Countries', which featured various Arab artists and excerpts from the national anthems of Arab countries to celebrate the champions. Mariam Amjoun, Moroccan champion of the third **Arab Reading Challenge**, addressed the audience via a recorded video, encouraging students to participate in future Challenges.

The Community Champion Award, which is granted to a candidate from one of the 26 competing non-Arab countries, went to Nada

Al Satri, from Belgium. Marwa Al Bakri, from Spain, won second place, while Nadia Al-Bahnasi, from Austria, came third.

Out of the more than 92,000 participating schools, Al Mokhtar Gazoulit School in Morocco was honoured with the Best School Award. Al Tarbiyah Al Ahliyah Intermediate and Secondary Private Schools in Saudi Arabia came in second place, and Al Ahed Al Zaher Secondary School in Bahrain came third. The Outstanding Supervisor Award went to Noor Mohammad Al Jboor, from Jordan, with Abdulrahman Al Harthi, from Saudi Arabia, coming in second place. Third place was awarded to Hanin Al Abdallah, from Syria.

In 2022, the sixth **Arab Reading Challenge** attracted more than 22.2 million students from 92,000 schools across various academic levels, and awarded more than AED 9 million in prizes.



# 22.2 Million

participants in the sixth  
Arab Reading Challenge

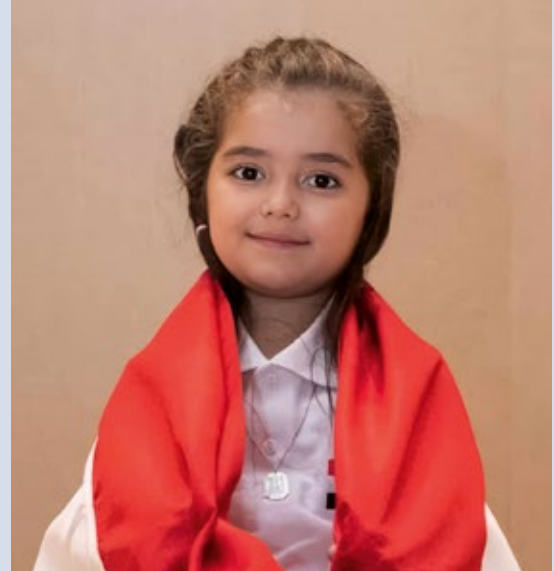


## A BUDDING READING CHAMPION

Seven-year-old Sham Al-Bakour is from Atarib, Syria, a western suburb of Aleppo. Her story began when she miraculously escaped an explosion that killed her father during the war in Syria, which prompted her mother to move the family to Aleppo, where Sham enrolled in school.

Despite her young age, Sham spent much of her time reading books. Noticing her daughter's talent for reading and reciting poetry, Sham's mother helped enhance her knowledge and provided her with

an environment where she could pursue her favourite hobby. Sham was able to read about 100 books in classical Arabic on a variety of topics.



In 2022, the **Arab Reading Challenge** announced the opening of registration for its sixth edition. This was the beginning of hope for Sham, who, with her mother's support, did not hesitate to join the competition. She competed against more than 22.2 million participants from across the Arab region and the world. Thanks to her knowledge, education and charm, Sham was crowned champion of the 2022 **Arab Reading Challenge**.

Upon receiving the award, Sham thanked His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, describing him as an inspiration to future generations and a strong advocate for education. She praised the hospitality she received in Dubai and highlighted the importance of the **Arab Reading Challenge**, which brings generations together in a race to enhance their knowledge and literacy skills. She also expressed her immense happiness and gratitude at being named the champion of this esteemed Challenge.



## READING: THE GATEWAY TO OPPORTUNITY

Khalil Amin, from Damietta, Egypt, was the 2018 **Arab Reading Challenge** champion of Egypt's Al-Azhar school district. He did not stop working after receiving the award but continued to pursue his religious studies. Inspired by the values of fairness and tolerance, he sought to contribute to his country, his religion and all of humanity.



The **Arab Reading Challenge** was a positive turning point in Khalil's life. It led to him being discovered, and he soon became famous across Egypt and the Arab world. He created and presented the programme 'The Quran is Life' during Ramadan 2020, which was broadcast on several satellite TV channels, to educate young people on religion and 'fiqh' (Islamic jurisprudence) in a friendly and accessible way.

Khalil also worked on several episodes of a programme with Al-Azhar, which was broadcast on social media. In addition to his media activities, he wrote and published his first religious book, 'Satisfied with God's Love'.

Khalil continues to succeed year after year, confirming that Arab youth have great potential and promising talent. They just need support and encouragement from their communities and governments. The **Arab Reading Challenge** provides exactly that, highlighting the skills of its young participants and encouraging them to pursue their dreams.



## KNOWLEDGE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



**345,000**  
**Registered**  
**Users**

on the 'Knowledge for All' portal by the end of 2022

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF)** continued the 'Arab Knowledge Project' in 2022 as part of its strategic partnership with the United Nations Development Programme. The Project represents a common vision that places knowledge at the centre of efforts to achieve sustainable development in the Arab region. In line with **MBRF's** objectives, it promotes the role of knowledge in social development by improving the quality of education, supporting scientific research and entrepreneurship and advancing the cultural and intellectual role of the Arabic language.

In its efforts to promote knowledge-based societies and policies as transformative means to achieve sustainable development, the 'Arab Knowledge Project' comprises several initiatives: restructuring the 'Global Knowledge Index' (GKI), preparing the GKI report, developing the 'Knowledge for All' portal and organising knowledge dialogue sessions.

In 2022, the GKI covered 132 countries, including 11 Arab nations, and comprised 155 variables. The UAE ranked first in the Arab world, followed by Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman, and 25th globally, with an average score of 58.9, surpassing the global average GKI score of 46.5.

Many countries use the GKI's data to develop new strategies for building knowledge societies, including Egypt, which established its Knowledge Authority, as well as Jordan, Bangladesh, Thailand, Morocco, Germany, Japan and Singapore. Because of their efforts, these countries made remarkable progress in their global rankings.

**MBRF's** 'Knowledge for All' portal is a digital platform and bilingual application that gives researchers, academics, professionals, students and the general public access to knowledge products created under the 'Arab Knowledge Project', as well as knowledge-related data and publications. Globally, the portal has registered 345,000 users.





**Education never stops. What is new today will become old tomorrow. For older generations, a diploma was the end of the journey, but for younger generations, education is a never-ending ride.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





## ARABIC CONTENT DEVELOPMENT



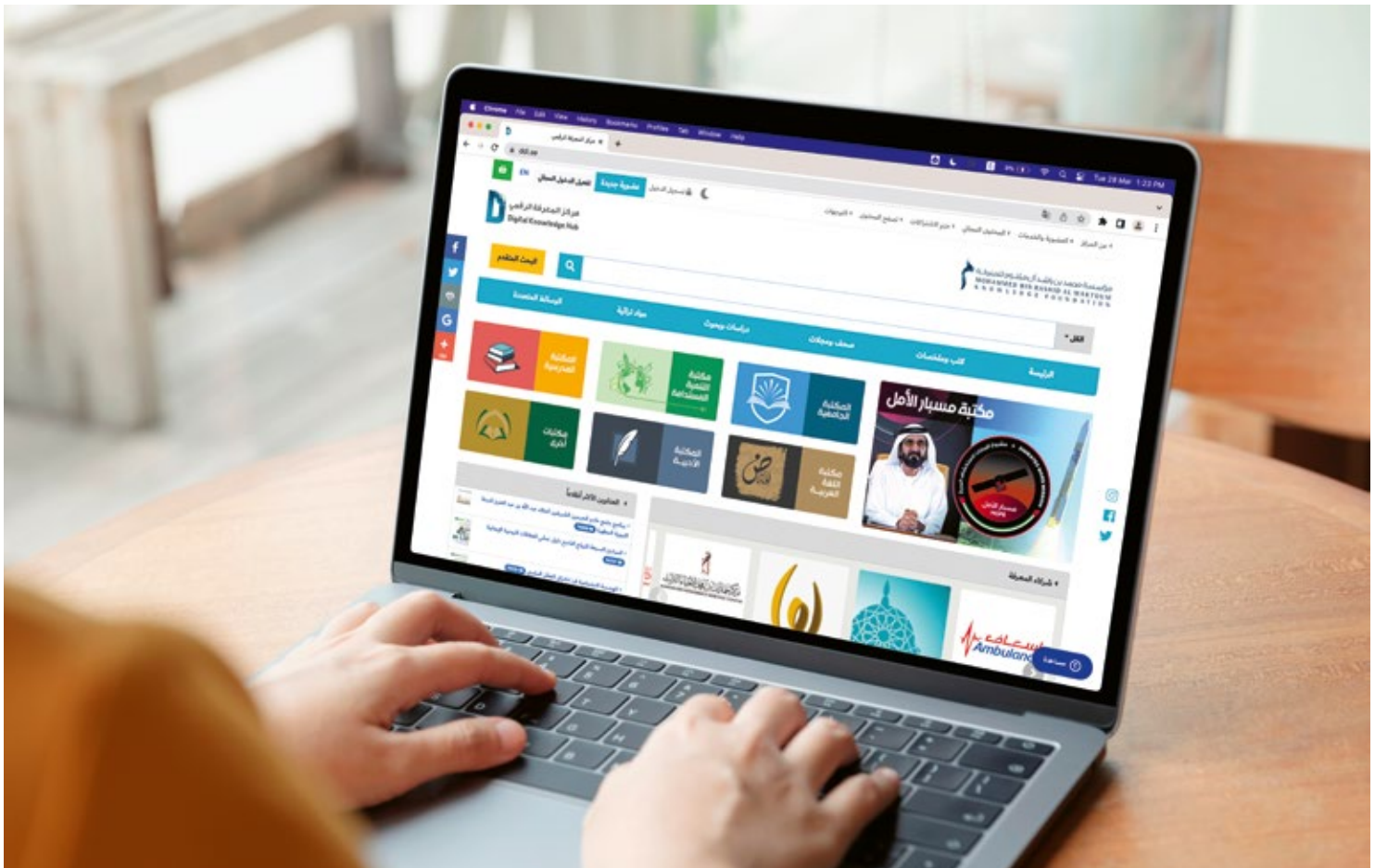
**3.5 Million**

digital materials  
available on the 'Digital  
Knowledge Hub'

In 2022, **MBRF's** 'Digital Knowledge Hub', which is one of the largest digital incubators for Arabic content, reached one million hits by 235,000 users, who viewed 820,000 pages. The Hub combines books, articles, studies, reports, manuals, videos and audio files, offering approximately 3.5 million digital materials and 245,906 publications on various knowledge-related topics.

of students at all levels, researchers, post-graduate students, readers, professionals, decision-makers and the general public. It also provides a platform for the most prominent Arab publishing houses, thereby supporting Arabic content development and authors, and highlights the role of the Arabic language as an important vessel for knowledge sharing within the digital space.

As an increasingly integrated knowledge portal and comprehensive source for information across different fields, the 'Digital Knowledge Hub' meets the needs



## CELEBRATING THE ARABIC LANGUAGE

**MBRF** has launched the 10th edition of its annual week-long 'Bil Arabi' initiative in December 2022, coinciding with the United Nations World Arabic Language Day on 18 December, to target native and non-native Arabic speakers.

The 2022 edition of 'Bil Arabi' created a broad Arabic-language movement to encourage youth, who are often reluctant to use Arabic, to use the language in their daily lives, especially on social media. The campaign seeks to confirm Arabic's status as a language that strengthens Arab identity, culture, values and heritage.

More than 104,000 people followed 'Bil Arabi' on various social media platforms, where it attracted the attention of young people who were curious about the Arabic digital content the initiative was publishing on its accounts.

**MBRF** also participated in the Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, Al Ain, London and Frankfurt book fairs, where it showcased its Arabic publications and translated works. **MBRF** held 85 events and workshops in the three local exhibitions, as well as 15 in Frankfurt and nine in London.



**104,000**  
**Followers**

of 'Bil Arabi' on social media in 2022





**With ambitious, persistent and knowledgeable youth, the Arab nation will be capable of reviving the status it deserves in the world.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



## EMPOWERING WRITERS

To encourage young, talented creative writers, **MBRF's** 'Dubai International Program for Writing' organised two writing workshops in July 2022: 'UAE Tomorrow' for children and 'Dubai Future' for young people. The workshops are part of **MBRF's** plan to support and empower young talents across various writing genres as a means to fulfil its objective of empowering future generations.

The Programme also launched four training workshops that attracted 38 participants, including the 'Translation Club' and 'Travel Journal' workshops which were held at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

The 'Dubai International Program for Writing' aims to enrich the intellectual

and literary movement in the UAE and around the world by empowering young writing talents. The aspiring authors are enrolled in specialised training programmes, which are grouped by genre, and are mentored by top Arab and international writers.

Since its launch in 2013, it has attracted more than 300 participants who were trained in writing in a number of disciplines. The Programme included many workshops in the UAE, Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt and Kuwait. Adding to the Programme's accomplishments is a number of books that received prestigious awards. In addition, many of the Programme's alumni have also received awards and become popular public figures.



**38**  
**Participants**  
in the 'Dubai  
International Program  
for Writing' workshops  
in 2022



## KNOWLEDGE SUMMIT FOR HUMANITY



# 1.1 Million

attendees and viewers  
of the Knowledge  
Summit in 2022

In March 2022, **MBRF** organised the seventh **Knowledge Summit** in an effort to mobilise a global knowledge movement and advance the role of the knowledge sector in protecting societies from future challenges and pandemics. The event acknowledged the urgent need to create better economic and environmental systems, as well as to employ new knowledge technologies and artificial intelligence in the service of humanity.

In light of the global repercussions experienced over the past two years, the 2022 Summit was held under the theme, 'Protecting Humanity and the Planet in the Pandemic'. Its five-day agenda emphasised issues of common global concern and impact across several themes, with sessions focused on devising solutions to current and future challenges based on the opportunities the knowledge sector presents. The aim was to paint a clear picture of the best practices that must be adopted in the coming years

to mitigate and confront these obstacles. Discussions also highlighted the importance of building inclusive societies, exploring the future and its role in reducing human vulnerability, reinforcing the role of knowledge in energy transition and encouraging dialogue on science-related policies. Other key thematic areas that were touched on include the importance of artificial intelligence and technology in developing natural solutions to future problems and the global knowledge incentives space exploration has to offer.

The Summit welcomed 1,137 physical attendees, while 1,154,761 people watched it via live broadcast and social media channels. It hosted 40 in-person and virtual sessions, with more than 108 keynote speakers, including experts, leaders and government officials from all over the world. Seventy people took part in the Summit's interactive sessions, both in person and virtually.



## HONOURING GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE INNOVATIONS

Under **MBRGI**'s umbrella, **MBRF** seeks to enhance knowledge expertise and capacities in order to build societies that contribute to global knowledge. As part of these efforts, **MBRF** recognises distinguished contributions in the production and dissemination of knowledge at the regional and international levels. It also supports knowledge-based economic growth and promotes sustainable development for individuals and societies.

In December 2022, the seventh **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award** ceremony gathered more than 600 people to witness the presentation of awards with a value amounting to USD 1 million (AED 3.7 million). Dr Zhang Yongzhen was recognised for his remarkable contributions in controlling and preventing rabies and haemorrhagic fever, as well as for sequencing and publishing the genome of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes

COVID-19. This helped expedite research efforts in many places and accelerated vaccine development, which helped slow the pandemic. The Award was also presented to Dr Katalin Kariko for her contributions to mRNA technology and COVID-19 vaccine development, and Dr Drew Weissman for his role in developing the modified mRNA technology used in COVID-19 vaccines.

In the Organisations category, the Emirates Mars Mission's 'Hope Probe' was honoured for being the first Arab mission to reach Mars' orbit in 2021, and the Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings was recognised for its important role in facilitating cross-cultural and cross-border knowledge exchange.



USD

1

Million

in prize money  
presented during the  
Mohammed bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum Knowledge  
Awards in 2022







## EDUCATION FOR ALL



### 10,000 Teachers

targeted in the first phase of the 'Global Academy for Digital Teachers'

Launched in 2020, **The Digital School** represents a global initiative to provide distance learning and blended education opportunities through a smart and flexible approach, as well as to empower communities and encourage skills development for teachers and other education professionals through integrated training programmes. It aims to create a modern education system, primarily targeting the most vulnerable social groups such as refugees.

Using advanced digital technology and artificial intelligence, the School enables students to continue their education journey despite the challenges present in remote and developing areas that lack access to resources. **The Digital School's** work is in line with global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals linked to education, combatting poverty and spreading knowledge.

In 2022, **The Digital School** launched the 'Global Academy for Digital Teachers' in cooperation with Arizona State University. The initiative provides development programmes for digital educators in several languages, including Arabic, English, French and Spanish. In its first phase, the project will target 10,000 teachers around the world, while additional programmes are being prepared to launch in the coming stages.

**The Digital School** also launched affiliated learning centres in six countries in order to provide support for teachers and students in communities suffering from crises and economic and social challenges. The centres were equipped with vital teaching equipment, including tablets and internet access, and have benefitted 41,000 students and teachers.



## DIGITAL EDUCATION IN ACTION

To translate its vision into reality, **The Digital School** launched several education centres equipped with learning resources, such as tablets and a stable internet connection, to serve communities experiencing crises or economic and social obstacles and offered support for students and teachers. The School established several centres in seven countries, which provided 40,000 learning opportunities and trained more than 1,500 digital educators.

In March 2022, **The Digital School** launched its first education centre in the Emirati-Jordanian camp for Syrian refugees in Jordan's Mrjeb Al Hood area. It uses digital technology to provide learning opportunities for Syrian youth and connects them to teachers and students around the world.

The School also launched its educational programmes in Mauritania, in cooperation with the country's Ministry of Education. It opened the first of eight centres in

Nouakchott to provide access to education for students whose circumstances prevent them from enrolling in formal schooling.

In July 2022, **The Digital School** opened its first digital learning centre in Colombia, which aims to support the country's education and technology sectors and advance digital education. Students are provided tablets, monitors and internet access, and a specialised hall is equipped with the latest smart technologies to allow students to avail the School's other digital services. The School hosted a total of 4,000 public school students who benefitted from its amenities.

**The Digital School** also opened 500 education centres in Egypt, six in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, two in Bangladesh and three in Lebanon, in cooperation with civil and governmental institutions. It plans to open 1,000 more centres in other countries in the next five years.



**41,000**  
**Beneficiaries**  
of The Digital School's  
centres across  
seven countries





## EDUCATION WITH AN ARAB IDENTITY



3.2

Million  
subscribers to  
the Madrasa  
e-Learning Platform

The **Madrasa e-Learning Platform** was launched in 2018 to promote Arabic as a language of science, education and culture, as well as to advance its development and facilitate its dissemination. The Platform offers more than 6,900 educational videos in Arabic, produced in cooperation with experts such as teachers, supervisors and specialist curriculum designers. Designed by an experienced creative team, the lessons are based on international best practices and standards to provide integrated educational content for learners in kindergarten to grade 12 in science, mathematics, physics, chemistry and Arabic using a simplified, easy-to-understand style.



Only four years after its launch, and coinciding with World Arabic Language Day, the Platform announced that its free lessons had reached 100 million views. This reflects its vital role in supporting Arab communities, especially those affected by conflicts and crises, with the purpose of raising an Arab generation that is open to knowledge and education. The Platform also has more than 3.2 million subscribers from the Arab region and beyond.

As part of its 2022 activities, the **Madrasa e-Learning Platform** announced a project to create 200 new animated stories, in cooperation with a group of leading cultural institutions and publishing houses, using animation that is appealing to children and featuring social and cultural characters to connect with young learners. These will be added to the 200 animated stories that the Platform launched in 2021, as part of its exciting educational content that is available free of charge to Arab students around the world. The first phase of the 'Madrasa Stories' project recorded more than 20 million views in 2022.

In recognition of the prominent role it plays in the lives of Arab students, the **Madrasa e-Learning Platform** received the 2022 UNESCO International Literacy Prize for its achievements in eradicating illiteracy and empowering students with free Arabic learning choices, no matter where they are or what their circumstances may be.

The Platform also won the ESCWA Digital Arabic Content Award for Sustainable Development in 2022.



## A BEACON OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE UAE

In June 2022, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, inaugurated the **Mohammed bin Rashid Library**. Dubai's newest cultural landmark, the Library seeks to ignite a passion for learning, ensure everyone has access to quality books and resources and preserve Arab culture and heritage. By promoting a culture of reading and supporting the development of creativity, knowledge and art, it provides a platform for intellectual, literary and imaginative minds from across the region and the world, as well as nurture a new generation of Arab readers.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Library** offers an environment that stimulates knowledge and is open to everyone, including youth, public and private institutions, writers, researchers, academics and artists, as well as readers and literary figures from all over the world. From 16 June to 31 December 2022, the Library welcomed more than 300,000 visitors, including individuals, institutions, local and foreign media delegations and visits from school, college and university students. It is also accessible to people of determination, catering to their knowledge needs through its Information Centre, which offers resources to provide them with the appropriate environment for reading and research. The Library offers nearly 1,800 books for the blind, as well as eight devices to convert written text into Braille.

Members and visitors have access to the Library's catalogue of nearly 22 million pieces of content, including digital books, songs,

films, historical articles and master's and doctoral dissertations. The **Mohammed bin Rashid Library** consists of 10 main sections: the General Library, the Young Adults Library, the Children's Library, the Information Centre, the Maps and Atlases Library, the Media and Arts Library, the Business Library, the Emirates Library, the Periodicals Library and the Private Collections Library. In addition to printed books, it also has a range of e-books and other digital media, as well as millions of publications, information resources and content from around the world. Its collections comprise over 1.1 million printed and digital books in Arabic and other languages, more than six million letters, about 73,000 musical compositions, 57,000 videos, around 13,000 articles, more than 5,000 printed and digital periodicals, about 35,000 printed and digital newspapers and around 500 rare collectibles.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Library** also houses many other facilities, such as the Languages Garden, which serves as a 'place of wisdom'. It features 60 columns displaying dozens of quotes from His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum that reflect his vision of leadership, government, national development and the promotion of culture, knowledge and education. The quotes have been translated into more than 170 modern and ancient languages.

Over a period of six months in 2022, the Library hosted more than 50 literature and art activities, with the participation of writers, intellectuals, media professionals and poets. They targeted various social and age groups and attracted 3,500 participants.



**300,000**  
**Visitors**

to the Mohammed bin  
Rashid Library in 2022



# Innovation & Entrepreneurship

The Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar reflects the vision of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** to inspire entrepreneurial thought, empower innovators and invest in supporting advanced science, technology and artificial intelligence with the aim of developing proactive solutions for the future.

AED

# 128

## MILLION

spent on Innovation  
& Entrepreneurship  
initiatives in 2022

# 4.6

## MILLION

beneficiaries of Innovation  
& Entrepreneurship  
initiatives in 2022

# 1

## MILLION

visitors to the Museum of  
the Future in its first year  
of operation

AED

# 224

## MILLION

in incentives and facilities  
provided to entrepreneurs by  
the Mohammed bin Rashid  
Establishment for Small &  
Medium Size Enterprises  
Development in 2022

# 5

## MILLION

hours of study and work  
undertaken by participants of the  
One Million Arab Coders Initiative





## Supporting Talent & Entrepreneurship While Promoting Innovative Technology



AED  
**128**  
Million

spent on Innovation & Entrepreneurship initiatives in 2022



**4.6**  
Million

beneficiaries of Innovation & Entrepreneurship initiatives in 2022

Through its Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** enacts projects and campaigns that accelerate the trend towards a knowledge-based economy, contribute to a modernising economic system and establish new business sectors for the benefit of society.

Within this pillar, **MBRGI** continues to launch innovative initiatives and programmes and equip young people with the skills they need to transform their ideas into pioneering projects that positively impact society and the economy. It also aims to provide these young innovators with optimal incubating environments which offer the tools and advisory, financial and technical support they need to succeed.

In 2022, entities and initiatives within the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar dedicated various training programmes to support young entrepreneurs in the UAE. As part of these efforts, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Establishment for Small & Medium Size Enterprises Development (Dubai SME)** launched the new 'Concept +' business incubator to support digital technology start-ups.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** continued in 2022 to encourage research institutions, individuals and innovators to drive positive change by developing sophisticated new technologies in the field of water production and purification. The Award strives to combat

water scarcity in disadvantaged communities around the world using sustainable solutions powered by renewable energy.

In addition, more than one million people participated in the **One Million Arab Coders Initiative**, overseen by the Dubai Future Foundation. The Initiative provides youth with the opportunity to learn coding and enhance their digital skills, enabling them to keep pace with global technological developments and access the future job market so that they may play a role in advancing their communities.

The **Museum of the Future** opened its doors in 2022 as a beacon of knowledge in Dubai, as well as an international hub for experts and institutions that are dedicated to shaping the future. A global symbol of innovation, the Museum is the embodiment of the progress of science and knowledge both regionally and internationally.

**MBRGI's** total spending within the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar in 2022 reached AED 128 million, benefitting more than 4.6 million people.







**The Museum of the Future, with its ethereal design and unique concept, reflects Dubai and the UAE's philosophy that there are no limits to our ambitions and nothing will stop our accelerated march towards the future.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



## ONE MILLION VISITORS IN ONE YEAR

The **Museum of the Future** is a centre for knowledge exchange and a leading platform for studying, forecasting and designing the future. It mobilises great minds, researchers and scientists, and attracts creative concepts from across the globe. It also aims to partner with the world's largest scientific and research institutions and facilitate discussions about future trends shaping the developmental, economic, scientific, social and humanitarian sectors.

In 2022, the **Museum of the Future** was inaugurated by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. The ceremony showcased the design and engineering of the iconic building, which is considered one of the world's most beautiful structures, embodying a creative architectural concept which translates scientific innovation into its astonishing form.

In its first year, the **Museum of the Future** welcomed over one million visitors from

163 countries and more than 1,000 global government officials and experts, as well as delegations from South Korea, Estonia, Luxembourg, China, Greece, Hong Kong, Thailand, Rwanda and Mauritius.

In 2022, more than 3,000 people participated in 15 Museum Programming events, 225 training hours and a series of global dialogues held as part of the 'Dubai Future Talks' initiative, which convened prominent visionaries and thought leaders. The **Museum of the Future** also hosted more than 180 global events and several local and international conferences on technology, entrepreneurship, economics, space, tourism, culture and future innovation.

In its inaugural year, the **Museum of the Future** won 10 international awards in the areas of museum content quality, future sciences and engineering design. The building earned a LEED Platinum certification for its operational sustainability and use of advanced technologies.



**1  
Million**

visitors to the Museum  
of the Future in its first  
year of operation





## A NEW GENERATION OF ARAB CODERS



**5 Million**

hours of study and work undertaken by participants of the One Million Arab Coders Initiative

The **One Million Arab Coders Initiative**, overseen by the Dubai Future Foundation, has attracted more than one million participants over four years. Since its inception, the Initiative has provided young people with the opportunity to learn the language of coding, in cooperation with Udacity.

Through five million hours of study and work and 76,000 training workshops, the Initiative will include 100,000 graduation projects and 1,500 scholarships for outstanding students, creating a quantum leap in the world of digital learning and programming and bridging digital literacy gaps among Arab youth.

At the May 2022 closing ceremony, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Dubai Future Foundation, celebrated the entry of one million Arab programmers into the

digital economy. These young programmers will pursue their dreams using the coding skills they acquired through the Initiative. To honour their achievements, the first-place winner of the 'One Million Arab Coders Challenge' received a grand prize of USD 1 million (AED 3.7 million), while the creators of the top five projects received USD 50,000 (AED 184,000) each, and the four best trainers won USD 25,000 (AED 92,000) each. The 'One Million Arab Coders Challenge' was launched in 2021 to honour Arab programmers and provide graduates with an opportunity to showcase their innovative projects and experience.

The Challenge attracted 257 submissions from Initiative alumni representing 50 countries who work in programming and entrepreneurship sectors, where coding is used for website and mobile application development. The winning projects were selected based on creativity, quality and user-friendliness.



## CHALLENGE WINNERS

Mahmoud Chahoud, a 33-year-old programmer from Syria, was named the best Arab coder and won the 'One Million Arab Coders Challenge' grand prize of USD 1 million (AED 3.7 million). He developed a mobile application, 'Habit 360', which helps people develop new habits, achieve their goals and manage their emotions. More than 200,000 global users have accessed the service.

Among the top five projects was the 'Muaahal' programme developed by Egyptian programmer Muhammad Al-Iskandarani, which serves as a simplified educational application that trains individuals in several fields and makes it easier for companies to hire talent.

Iman Wagdy, an Egyptian, was also a finalist for her '3lfraza' application, which delivers fresh, home-cooked meals prepared by women at home.

Iraqi university professor Ammar Salem was among the finalists for his application 'Qeraaty Alnateqa'. The application designs a new sign language using a programme that converts signs into letters and spoken words.

In addition, Egyptian developer Andrew Makram created the 'Najeb' programme to facilitate and standardise the process of submitting and marking exams.

Finally, engineer Hassan Mohamed, also from Egypt, created a chat translation application that instantly translates messages in more than 36 languages, allowing users to communicate in different languages at once.

## EQUIPPING YOUTH WITH FUTURE SKILLS

The 'One Million Uzbek Coders' initiative operates under the strategic partnership between the UAE and Uzbekistan in the field of government modernisation. Since its launch in November 2019, it has attracted more than 2.5 million participants to support Uzbekistan's digital transformation by training the country's youth in computer science, software engineering and artificial intelligence. By accelerating skill development, the initiative helps enhance opportunities for young people to serve their communities and meet the demands of the future.

Similarly, the 'One Million Jordanian Coders' initiative continued in 2022, training more than 70,000 youth in computer science and software engineering. The initiative aims to enable Jordanians to keep pace with global development and provide access to job opportunities where they can use their skills to advance the digital economy.



**2.5  
Million**

people registered as  
part of the 'One Million  
Uzbek Coders' initiative





## LIKE SON, LIKE FATHER

Mazen El Helwani, from Lebanon, began his journey into the field of programming when he noticed that his son, Najeh, was immersed in the digital world behind the screens of his smartphones and computers. This prompted Mazen to see for himself what was happening in this virtual realm, eventually leading him to develop 11 applications that are now available on the Google Play store.



When Mazen asked his son about programming, Najeh convinced him that it is not limited to a certain age group or educational or professional background. It is an inspiring discipline that enhances skillsets and allows people to bring their dreams to life.

Mazen not only encouraged Najeh to follow his passion for programming, but even considered it a great example of perseverance, success and hard work: "Every generation has its geniuses, and you will discover your child's ingenuity in this field. Support them and don't obstruct their way." He decided to follow in his son's footsteps and learn how to code himself by participating in the **One Million Arab Coders Initiative**.

However, Mazen's programming journey was temporarily put on hold when his mother passed away. He was overtaken by grief, and reading the Holy Quran was the only thing that gave him comfort. He became fascinated with the numerical phenomenon found in the Quran, which reignited his innovative spirit and inspired him to complete his training.

After graduating from the **One Million Arab Coders Initiative** and determined to create his own unique innovations, Mazen developed his first application, which specialises in Quranic numerology and mathematics. He has since developed an additional 10 applications. Mazen credits his success on his programming journey to his son, Najeh, who he affectionately refers to as his 'teacher'.

## A CENTRE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Under **MBRGI's** Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar, **Mohammed bin Rashid Establishment for Small & Medium Size Enterprises Development (Dubai SME)** has succeeded in establishing an optimal competitive environment that fosters entrepreneurship, project development and the launch of successful innovations since it was established in 2002. Over the last 20 years, it has continued to support emerging Emirati entrepreneurs in the process of establishing their businesses, from the conceptualisation and planning phases to implementation and completion.

In 2022, 3,126 Emirati entrepreneurs benefitted from the Establishment's advisory services, bringing the total number

of entrepreneurs supported since its inception to 48,945.

Approximately 2,210 start-ups took advantage of the packages and facilities offered by **Dubai SME** in 2022. Since it was launched, the Establishment has provided assistance to 13,506 Emirati companies.

**Dubai SME** invested a total of AED 224 million in 2022 to provide entrepreneurs with incentives and facilities.

In 2022, the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Fund for SME Support' financed 415 innovative companies. Since the Fund was launched, it has benefitted 1,349 projects, with a total investment exceeding AED 245 million.



AED  
**224**  
Million

in incentives and facilities provided to entrepreneurs by Dubai SME in 2022





## PIONEERING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES



**5,359**  
**Beneficiaries**

of 'Dubai  
Entrepreneurship  
Academy' training  
programmes in 2022

During 2022, **Dubai SME** delivered capacity-building and certification programmes to around 5,359 entrepreneurs through the 'Dubai Entrepreneurship Academy'.

It also provided marketing services to 258 start-ups, allowing them to test their products in the real business environment. This gave emerging companies the opportunity to build marketing and negotiation skills and learn about the latest technologies in the sector.

Additionally, 'Dubai NEXT', which was launched by **Dubai SME** in 2021, became the first official government online crowdfunding platform that mobilises

community support for young people of different nationalities residing in the UAE. To date, 'Dubai NEXT' has more than 1,078 registered projects, and more than AED 700,000 has been raised through the platform.





## BUSINESS INCUBATORS

The 'Hamdan Innovation Incubator' (Hi2), an affiliate of **Dubai SME**, supports emerging projects through business incubators for entrepreneurs and in collaboration with innovation experts. Hi2 also cooperates with colleges and universities to empower students with exceptional ideas to establish their businesses during their studies, giving them the opportunity to transform their concepts into pilot projects. In 2022, Hi2 incubated 41 projects across various sectors.

One of **Dubai SME**'s key initiatives in 2022 was the launch of the new business incubator 'Concept +', which supports digital technology start-ups and creative initiatives developed by young people.

'Concept +' is the 15th incubator in the UAE accredited by **Dubai SME**. These incubators provide a variety of services, packages and events that support entrepreneurs within an ideal work environment. Alongside incubators, specialised laboratories assist entrepreneurs and innovators in designing and developing their prototypes. Through these various activities, **Dubai SME** supports the launch of innovative projects, enhances competitiveness in the local job market and elevates projects to a global level. Finally, it provides best practices for business incubation programmes in the UAE and encourages private sector investment in business incubators and accelerators.



**41**  
**Projects**

incubated by Hi2  
in 2022





## NEW TECHNOLOGIES TO PROVIDE CLEAN WATER



228

Participants

in the third cycle of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award**, organised by the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)** under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, seeks to develop new and innovative technologies that supply clean water to low-income communities. The Award offers a total prize of USD 1 million (AED 3.7 million) and comprises four main categories: the 'Innovative Projects Award', the 'Innovative Individual Award', the 'Innovative Research and Development Award' and the 'Innovative Crisis Solutions Award'. The Award attracted 228 competitors from 56 countries in its third cycle and named 11 winners from eight countries.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, accompanied by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, welcomed winners of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** to Zabeel Palace, where they were honoured for their role in addressing one of the most pressing challenges of the era. The Award seeks to encourage research institutions, individuals and innovators worldwide to develop sustainable and innovative solutions in the fight against water scarcity.







The rapid changes the world is witnessing requires governments to be well prepared and proactive in adopting advanced technologies, developing work models and changing mindsets to be more flexible and aligned with major transformations.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





## THIRD CYCLE WINNERS



11

### Winners

selected in the third cycle of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award

The joint first-place winners in the Large Projects category of the 'Innovative Projects Award' included the Agua Para El Pueblo project from Honduras and India's South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE) projects. Agua Para El Pueblo's electricity-free technology removes turbidity from contaminated surface water sources, while the SAFE project developed a solar-powered vending machine that uses reverse osmosis to dispense water.

In the Small Projects category, the University of Illinois in the United States and Safe Water, in partnership with the Aids Project in Kenya, came in first place with their solar-powered drinking water ozonation project.

Malaysia's University of Malaya won the 'Innovation in Research and Development Award' for a smart auto-backwash membrane system that does not use chemicals.

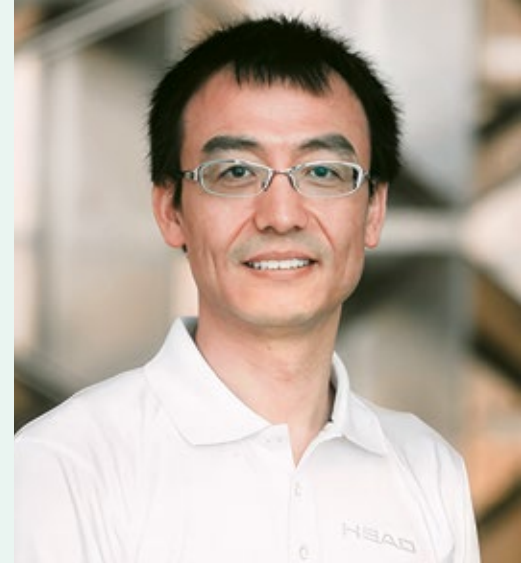
The 'Innovative Individual Award' went to Professor Peng Wang of China for developing three technologies to produce inexpensive, clean drinking water for small to medium-sized communities.

Finally, France's Mascara NT won the 'Innovative Crisis Solutions Award' for its preconnected, containerised, desalination project that is powered by solar energy and can be deployed in less than two hours.



## SUSTAINABLE WATER PRODUCTION

Professor Peng Wang, an environmental scientist and engineer from China, has an impressive track record of producing clean water. In 2022, he won the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** 'Innovative Individual Award' for his research that produces clean water using renewable energy.



For the Award, Professor Wang presented three technologies to produce inexpensive, clean drinking water to meet the needs of small and medium-sized communities. The first innovation is a photovoltaic (PV) membrane distillation technology that uses waste heat from standard PV panels to desalinate seawater through several stages of membrane distillation. The second technology involves collecting atmospheric water vapor to produce clean water, a process that is both cost and energy efficient. This technology extends to cooling PV panels, with field tests revealing that it increases the panels' electricity generation by up to 19%. His third technology comprises a new process for desalinating brackish seawater that uses solar energy and has zero liquid discharge.

Professor Wang is adamant about the importance of renewable energy: "Renewable energy is unlimited in its amount and duration. The amount of solar energy the Earth receives in one hour is already more than what is needed to power the world for an entire year. I am, therefore, confident that sustainable technologies can lead us out of the crisis of global warming and freshwater scarcity altogether."

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award**, organised by the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)**, aims to support innovative projects that spread hope and play a vital role in addressing water-related crises by using renewable energy sources, such as solar energy, to find sustainable solutions and produce large quantities of clean drinking water.



# Empowering Communities

Through its work within the Empowering Communities pillar, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** nurtures future leaders, establishing a culture of hope and promoting the values of tolerance and coexistence. It also seeks to invest in sports talent and promote the media's role in supporting development and social mobility.





AED

**95.1**

**MILLION**

spent on Empowering  
Communities initiatives  
in 2022

**2.3**

**MILLION**

beneficiaries of  
Empowering Communities  
initiatives in 2022

**1,142**  
**TRAINEES**

enrolled in the Real Madrid Social  
Sports Academies in 2022

**64,741**  
**BENEFICIARIES**

of the Sheikh Mohammed bin  
Rashid Al Maktoum Centre for  
Cultural Understanding's  
programmes and initiatives  
in 2022

**6,872**  
**GRADUATES**

of the Mohammed bin Rashid  
School of Government's  
programmes in 2022



## Nurturing a New Generation of Leaders, Rewarding Talent & Celebrating Multiculturalism



AED  
**95.1**  
Million

spent on Empowering  
Communities initiatives  
in 2022



**2.3**  
Million

beneficiaries of  
Empowering  
Communities Initiatives  
in 2022

Within the Empowering Communities pillar, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** designs and implements numerous programmes, projects and initiatives aimed at empowering individuals and institutions to build better societies, promote tolerance and multiculturalism and engage in civilised dialogue.

These initiatives and projects support and build capacity across all social groups, as well as train leaders and professionals and develop work systems that reflect positively on institutions' administrative and organisational frameworks. Activities within this pillar also celebrate athletic achievements and promote the role of the media in furthering national public interests.

In line with this vision, the **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government** continued to support the professional development of staff in various sectors, with 6,872 graduates across its numerous programmes in 2022, including 93 master's graduates.

In 2022, the fifth cohort of the 'Impactful Leaders Program' included 28 graduates as part of **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development's** flagship programme, which is designed to train and enhance the skills of future Emirati leaders. In addition, the Centre's 'Dubai Leaders Program' welcomed 20 competent government employees into its second cohort.

The 2022 edition of the **Arab Media Award** honoured 14 media professionals across several categories in recognition of the constructive role Arab media plays in serving the public interest, as well as the contributions of media professionals in bringing the Arab perspective to the world.

Meanwhile, the 17th annual **Dubai International Sports Conference** convened 600 high-profile decision-makers and international stars from the world of football to discuss various sports issues. Football's most distinguished athletes were also honoured during the Conference as part of the 13th edition of the 'Dubai Globe Soccer Awards'.

**MBRGI** and the Real Madrid Foundation were able to resume their activities and trainings in 2022 in accordance with their partnership agreement, which was put on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic, with 1,142 trainees benefitting from its programmes once restrictions were lifted.

In total, **MBRGI** spent AED 95.1 million in 2022 on its various Empowering Communities programmes, projects and initiatives, serving more than 2.3 million people.









## A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING SYSTEM



**6,872**  
**Graduates**

of the Mohammed  
bin Rashid School  
of Government's  
programmes in 2022

The **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government (MBRSG)** supports government excellence and shapes future leaders through its integrated system of research, academic studies and evidence-based training programmes. Grounded in the reality of Arab administration, the School's programmes address issues prevalent in public policy and equip future leaders with the tools to overcome these challenges. A pioneer in the Arab world in the fields of governance and public policy, **MBRSG** developed its programmes in line with international best practices, in partnership with the Harvard Kennedy School. Its applied approach to government administration makes the School a unique model for other institutions.

In 2022, 6,872 people graduated from **MBRSG**, including 93 from its Master's programmes in Public Administration, Innovation Management and Public Policy, as well as the Executive Master of Public Administration.

**MBRSG** continued to offer its intensive open enrolment programmes in 2022. The courses included leadership, negotiation and management skills training, and benefitted 3,949 government employees.

Six cohorts graduated from the School's Executive Diploma in Public Policy programme, including 125 employees from 59 federal, local and regional institutions. The programme aims to introduce students to the policy-making process, its importance and methodology, and teach them how to develop proactive, effective and innovative policies. Its training modules examine public policy, the future of

government, UAE governance models, public policy innovation and behavioural science.

Additionally, 2,600 employees enrolled in **MBRSG**'s executive education programmes. Tailored to the needs of each institution, the programmes provide solutions to build capacity and bridge administrative gaps using a three-stage approach. First, the institutions' needs and goals are identified. Second, strategies to meet those needs are designed. Third, implementation plans and tools are developed.

In pursuit of its educational mission, **MBRSG** also supervised a number of studies and research projects, in cooperation with local and international institutions. The studies explored critical economic themes and included the environmental research project titled 'Green, Resilient and Just Recovery in the Middle East', the '2022 Arab Region SDG Index and Dashboards Report', the 'Global Economic Diversification Index 2022' and the 'Policy Analysis Exercise Series'.

Within the framework of its training activities in cooperation with international institutions, **MBRSG** implemented a training initiative in partnership with the Otto Beisheim School of Management in Germany. Three trips to the UAE were organised for three groups of MBA students from the German school. On these trips, they experienced institutions' internal processes, as well as the latest administrative systems and business approaches.

In line with the government leadership's vision to achieve a complete transformation in the UAE, 230 people benefitted from **MBRSG**'s

'Executive Education Smart Platform', which delivers 10 innovative courses of robust scientific and training content. Trainers can supervise student progress through a smart management system, which enables them to determine the appropriate training plan for each student and monitor their progress.

As part of **MBRSG**'s research activities, it hosted the World Association for Public Opinion Research's 75th Annual Conference in November 2022. The Conference examined topics such as good governance; public opinion research; policy-making; new technologies and national surveys; big data, sentiment analysis and machine learning; digitisation of societies; and best practices for stakeholder research and expert surveys.

In December 2022, **MBRSG** hosted 55 delegations during the 10th annual Academy of International Business Middle East and North Africa (AIB-MENA) Chapter Conference under the theme 'Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Stakeholder Involvement in International Business in the Middle East'. The conference

discussed topics such as investment decisions and sustainability in international business; SMEs and globalisation; education; development and international business; and sustainability and institutions in international business. On the second day, sessions focused on the metaverse and future areas in international business research. The AIB-MENA General Meeting was held virtually as part of the conference, which concluded its activities by recognising winners of the 'Best Paper Awards' and the 'Best Impact in Terms of Sustainability and Stakeholders Award'.

Digital knowledge solutions developed through the 'Government Knowledge Gate' benefitted 12,041 people. Launched in 2019 by the Emirates Center for Government Knowledge, operating under **MBRSG**, the Knowledge Gate is a pioneer in providing standards, guidelines and knowledge reports documenting best practices in government work issued by UAE government entities. The documents cover topics such as governance and administration, strategy and institutional performance, and knowledge and innovation management.



**12,041**  
**Beneficiaries**

of the 'Government  
Knowledge Gate'  
in 2022



## MEDICAL EXPERTISE & LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Dr Mohammad Abdul Aziz Al Olama, an Emirati consultant neurosurgeon, is renowned in the UAE and abroad. In 2015, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum recognised him as part of the UAE Pioneers initiative as the first surgeon to implant a brain pressure measuring device and monitor pressure through a wireless device. He was among the first to use a simplified procedure for implanting the monitoring device into the brain. In addition to his medical career, Dr Mohammad joined the Executive Master of Public Administration programme at the **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government**, due to his confidence in its ability to enrich his knowledge and leadership skills.



Dr Mohammad believes that doctors are leaders, and management skills go hand-in-hand with medical expertise. Every leader must be able to manage their responsibilities in a professional manner.

Dr Mohammad said: “My experience in the Executive Master of Public Administration programme at the **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government** was unique because I was able to enhance my leadership and administrative knowledge, enabling me to excel in my work as a team leader and a doctor working with a large number of other doctors.” The UAE’s ambition knows no boundaries, and the pursuit of excellence is a lifestyle for the country’s future leaders.



## LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Since it was established in 2003, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development (MBRCLD)** has certified more than 700 Emirati leaders in public and private institutions who help advance the UAE's development and achieve its future goals.

In 2022, **MBRCLD** celebrated the graduation of 28 students in the fifth cohort of the 'Impactful Leaders Program'. A flagship **MBRCLD** initiative, the 'Impactful Leaders Program' was designed to train and empower future Emirati leaders based on the Mohammed bin Rashid Leadership Framework. Aligned with international standards and prepared in partnership with some of the most prominent international universities, the Programme offers participants a pioneering experience in

various fields through courses that have been tailored to ensure they are relevant to the local context and in line with the UAE's vision to achieve leadership status at all levels.

In 2022, 20 government professionals also enrolled in the 'Dubai Leaders Program', which prepares individuals who have been nominated by senior Dubai Government officials for the role of deputy director and equips them with the skills required for future leadership roles. The Programme focused on empowering and supporting leaders, enhancing leadership talents based on each individual's unique needs and capabilities, and building the personal and practical skills necessary to perform tasks within innovative, sustainable frameworks that keep pace with global development.



# 28

## Graduates

of the 'Impactful Leaders Program' in 2022





## CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION



**64,741**  
**Beneficiaries**

of the Sheikh  
Mohammed bin Rashid  
Al Maktoum Centre for  
Cultural  
Understanding's  
programmes and  
initiatives in 2022

Since its inception in 1998, the **Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU)** has sought to achieve **MBRGI**'s vision of achieving social harmony and building bridges of understanding between different cultures and nationalities. Through various cultural initiatives and events, **SMCCU** introduces the UAE's visitors and residents to authentic Emirati heritage and customs.

Under its slogan of 'Open Doors, Open Minds', the Centre continued to organise daily tours of heritage sites and famous landmarks in Dubai, including Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood and Jumeirah Mosque, to introduce visitors to the UAE's vibrant culture.

**SMCCU** provided 28,118 visitors with the opportunity to learn about the teachings of Islam and the role mosques play in society through visits to Jumeirah Mosque,

which is known for its iconic architecture. Through these tours, visitors experienced the feeling of coexistence and brotherhood that permeates the local community. The tours also convey a message of tolerance and spread awareness of Emirati customs and traditions.

The Centre also organised special educational and training programmes that benefitted 22,291 people from different sectors and nationalities. Participants were introduced to Emirati culture and taught skills to facilitate their integration into UAE society.

**SMCCU** welcomed 9,742 people as part of its ongoing educational programmes that seek to raise awareness of the UAE's history, culture and heritage, challenge stereotypical views of Arab culture and enhance residents' sense of belonging in the UAE. In total, 64,741 people participated in the Centre's activities in 2022.



## ARAB MEDIA FORUM

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI** and in line with its objectives to support Arab media professionals and organisations, the **Arab Media Forum** celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2022. Throughout its tenure, the Forum has succeeded in promoting the outlooks and approaches necessary to empower the Arab media sector, overcome the challenges it faces and discover new opportunities for growth and development, and keep pace with changes in the region. Through these efforts, the Forum aims to advance the role of the media and its positive impact on Arab societies.

The 2022 edition attracted more than 3,000 government officials, leaders of local, regional and international media organisations, newspaper editors-in-chief, thought leaders and stakeholders in the media sector from across the Arab world.

Held under the theme 'The Future of Media', the rigorous agenda of the Forum's 20th

edition highlighted the most pressing issues facing the region's media professionals, whether they work in print, audio-visual or digital media. Specialised dialogue sessions and workshops primarily focused on new trends that will shape Arab media in the next era. As part of these discussions, high-profile media experts from the world's most prominent media organisations shared their insights on the industry's latest tools and techniques.



**3,000**  
**Attendees**  
of the Arab Media  
Forum in 2022





## SUPPORTING JOURNALISM



14

Winners

of the Arab Media  
Award in 2022

The annual **Arab Media Award**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, celebrates creative and distinguished Arab media professionals, emphasising the constructive role they play in highlighting community issues and communicating the Arab perspective to the world. The Award also aims to highlight the professional achievements of Arab journalists and introduce their work to Arab audiences.

In a concerted effort to evolve alongside the Arab media sector and maintain the great success it has achieved in its more than 20 years of operation, the Arab Journalism Award was renamed as the **Arab Media Award** and restructured to include three main categories: Journalism, TV and Digital Media.

The 21st edition of the **Arab Media Award**, held in 2022, honoured creative media professionals in the UAE and the wider Arab region. His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum attended

the ceremony at Madinat Jumeirah, along with 1,550 editors-in-chief of Emirati and Arab newspapers, senior writers, thinkers, Arab media personalities and leaders of media organisations in the region.

The Award recognised 14 media professionals in its various categories, including Political Journalism, Economic Journalism, Sports Journalism, Cultural Journalism, Humanitarian Journalism, Young Talent in Journalism, Investigative Reporting, Digital Media and TV.

Among the most prominent winners was journalist and media personality Khalid bin Hamad Al-Malik, who was named the 'Media Personality of the Year', in recognition of his five decades of service to the Arab and Saudi media. The 'Best Column Award' was given to Dr Rasheed Al-Khayoun, a journalism icon in the Arab world who has published many books on history and philosophy.





Media organisations today are leveraging technology to expand their audience and their reach, but they should also invest in developing their talent to better tap into the power of new advancements.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



## HONOURING FOOTBALL'S BIGGEST STARS



**600**  
Attendees  
of the 2022  
Dubai International  
Sports Conference

Organised by the Dubai Sports Council, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the **Dubai International Sports Conference** is a global platform for supporting the development of football, the world's most popular sport. Its 17th edition was a meeting place for the game's top players, coaches, managers, decision-makers and fans.

Held in November 2022 under the theme 'The Road to Championships', the Conference welcomed 600 international stars and senior football figures. Sessions showcased best practices in managing talent, scouting star players, training and establishing club policies that attract and enhance the skills of talented footballers, in line with Dubai's aim to become an incubator for talent.

With 200 global media channels broadcasting the event, viewers from more than 225 countries watched the sessions, and 30 million people voted for the 'Dubai Globe Soccer Awards'. More than 1.3 billion people followed the event on social media, including one billion views of the event tag and 200 million views of Conference videos on TikTok.

The 'Dubai Globe Soccer Awards' honours legendary individuals across football's various specialisations, including players who have left an indelible mark and become role models for millions of footballers around the world.

The 13th edition of the 'Dubai Globe Soccer Awards' recognised Mohamed Salah, star of the Egyptian national team and Liverpool FC in England, as 'TikTok Fan's Player of the Year'. Meanwhile, Sergio Ramos, who plays for the French club Paris Saint-Germain and Spain's national team, took home the 'Best Defender of All Time Award'.

Karim Benzema, of Real Madrid and the French national team, was named the 'Best Men's Player of the Year', while Alexia Putellas, from FC Barcelona, won 'Best Women's Player of the Year'. The 'CNN Off the Pitch Award' was given to Didier Drogba, former player for Chelsea FC and the Ivory Coast national team. The 'Best Men's Club of the Year Award' went to Real Madrid, while Lyon was recognised as the 'Best Women's Club of the Year'.





## ARAB STRATEGY FORUM

In line with its objectives to educate societies and individuals on global changes and provide content that elevates Arab culture's position in the economic and political arenas at the local and global levels, 5.5 million people worldwide engaged with the **Arab Strategy Forum's** publications in 2022.

The Forum's various social media platforms attracted about 300,000 followers. Additionally, its 2022 publications focused on spreading awareness of the most important local and global events and their impact on the current economic and geopolitical climate.



**300,000**  
**Followers**

of the Arab Strategy  
Forum on social media  
in 2022





## TRAINING YOUNG FOOTBALL TALENTS



**1,142**  
**Trainees**

enrolled in the Real Madrid Social Sports Academies in 2022

**MBRGI** acknowledges the important role sport plays in empowering societies, enhancing the skills of youth and channelling their energy into positive, productive activities. Within this context, the Foundation signed a three-year partnership agreement with the Real Madrid Foundation in 2019 to establish and manage non-profit football academies in several countries of the Middle East and North Africa region, including Morocco, Egypt and Jordan.

Since its launch, more than 2,000 children and young people between the ages of six and 17 have joined the Real Madrid Social Sports Academies, where they have received free training from the Spanish club's accredited coaches, in cooperation with organisations and social institutions operating in those countries.

After the precautions that were imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic were lifted

in 2022, the Academies resumed their activities, benefitting 1,142 trainees. In Morocco, 792 young footballers joined the Academies in Tangier, Marrakech and Ben Guerir, in cooperation with the non-profit Paideia Foundation.

In Jordan, the Academies enrolled 230 trainees in 2022 in its programmes organised in the Baqa'a and Irbid Palestinian refugee camps run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and in the schoolyards of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, the West Bank and Jordan in the cities of Madaba and Fuheis.

Meanwhile, women's Academies implemented in Cairo, Egypt, in cooperation with the FAME Foundation, attracted 120 participants. Moving forward, the intention is to expand the women's programmes into other major cities in Egypt, such as Alexandria.



## NOURA'S TRIUMPH



After the death of her parents, Noura Dmim, a 14-year-old girl from Morocco, moved to live with her aunt. She joined the Dar Al-Tifl institution in Marrakech, where she continued her studies and participated in educational activities such as language lessons, arts, music and sports. She also joined the Real Madrid Social Sports Academy that was operated in cooperation with the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives**.

After such a difficult time, the football training brought joy back into Noura's life. The training sessions helped her come out of her shell, transforming her from a shy and isolated girl into a confident, active young lady who worked hard and did not give up.

Thanks to the professional training she received, Noura's talent has emerged remarkably, enabling her to represent her school in many sports competitions where she was nominated to reach the finals. Noura also contributed to the qualification of her school to the semi-finals of the National Sports Championship for Social Institutions in Morocco.

The Academy's programme restored Noura's hope and presented her with many opportunities. She now aspires to play for her national team one day. "I am determined to achieve my dream," she said. "I thank my friends, my coaches, the Real Madrid Social Sports Academy and the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives** for this self-fulfillment opportunity."



# ANNEX





# Humanitarian Aid & Relief



## INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN CITY

The **International Humanitarian City (IHC)**, established in 2003, is a global humanitarian hub based in Dubai, which hosts United Nations agencies, non-profits and non-governmental organisations. Its mandate is to facilitate international aid operations using its transport and logistics capacity to enable aid agencies to provide swift and efficient emergency relief items to victims of crises. **IHC's** strategic geographic location enables the humanitarian community to reach two-thirds of the world's population within eight hours or less.



## UAE FOOD BANK

The **UAE Food Bank** was launched in January 2017 as the country's first comprehensive humanitarian, social, economic and cultural ecosystem that aims to provide food support for disadvantaged communities in the UAE and abroad. The Food Bank collects surplus food from hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, farms and other food establishments, and distributes it to people in need in the UAE and abroad, in coordination with a network of local and international charities.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM HUMANITARIAN & CHARITY ESTABLISHMENT

Since its inception in 1997, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** has worked to improve the quality of life in the UAE and around the world. It implements sustainable development and relief projects, with a special focus on initiatives that promote health, education and family empowerment, in addition to supporting infrastructure projects in many developing countries.



## UAE WATER AID FOUNDATION (SUQIA)

The **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)** was established in 2015 to provide clean drinking water to underprivileged communities by drilling wells, providing water pumps and purification equipment and undertaking desalination projects. The Foundation also invests in research to address water scarcity. It has established the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** to recognise individuals and organisations that have made outstanding efforts to find sustainable and innovative solar-powered solutions for water scarcity.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID GLOBAL CENTRE FOR ENDOWMENT CONSULTANCY

Launched in 2016 to help achieve the Dubai Global Vision for Awqaf and Endowments, the Centre offers free consultancy services to individuals and regional and international organisations, with the aim of stimulating and empowering awqaf and endowments to respond to urgent social needs. It works with partners to define a clear legislative framework, identify urgent needs and encourage crowdfunding of awqaf and endowment projects.



# Healthcare & Disease Control



## NOOR DUBAI FOUNDATION

**Noor Dubai** was launched in 2008 with the vision of a world free from avoidable causes of blindness. It implements treatment and preventive programmes to combat blindness and visual impairment in the UAE and around the world, focusing on remote areas that lack healthcare resources and infrastructure in Africa and Asia. The Foundation also provides mobile eye clinics, runs awareness and preventive campaigns and invests in training programmes for medical personnel.



## AL JALILA FOUNDATION

Established in 2013, **Al Jalila Foundation** seeks to invest in medical education and research to improve people's lives and position the UAE at the forefront of medical innovation. To achieve its vision, the Foundation focuses on advancing the country's healthcare services and research capabilities, as well as providing scholarships to nurture the next generation of healthcare professionals in the UAE.

# Spreading Education & Knowledge



## DUBAI CARES

Since its inception in 2007, **Dubai Cares** has been working towards providing children and young people in developing countries with access to quality education through the design and funding of programmes that aim to be integrated, impactful, sustainable and scalable. To date, **Dubai Cares'** education programmes have touched the lives of 21 million beneficiaries in more than 60 countries. **Dubai Cares** plays a key role in helping achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4, which aims to ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning by 2030.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Library** was announced in 2016 to support and boost the UAE's comprehensive strategy to be a cultural beacon. The Library, one of the largest facilities in the Arab world, houses millions of printed, digital and audio books. The one-million square-foot Library aims to play an active role in disseminating knowledge through several initiatives to attract writers, researchers and thinkers from across the region and the world.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM KNOWLEDGE FOUNDATION

Established in 2007, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation** aims to empower future generations to develop innovative solutions that facilitate knowledge and research in the Arab world. Committed to the creation of knowledge-based societies, the Foundation funds projects and initiatives that address development, education, research and development, translation and publishing. It also organises international knowledge and science awards to strengthen the UAE's status on the knowledge map.



## KNOWLEDGE SUMMIT

Organised by the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation**, the annual **Knowledge Summit** brings together international experts, researchers and thinkers to discuss programmes and ideas that support knowledge and address ways to disseminate knowledge around the world.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM KNOWLEDGE AWARD

Launched in 2015, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award** seeks to highlight the importance of sharing and disseminating knowledge as key to global development and, ultimately, the prosperity of nations. It aims to encourage those working in knowledge-related fields to innovate and create new ways to spread knowledge around the world, as well as honour outstanding knowledge contributions that have benefitted humanity globally.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID ARABIC LANGUAGE AWARD

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Arabic Language Award** was launched in 2014 to recognise outstanding contributions to support the Arabic language in the areas of education, media, Arabisation, technology, preservation and dissemination of the Arab linguistic heritage.



## ARAB READING CHALLENGE

As the largest-ever Arab knowledge initiative, the **Arab Reading Challenge (ARC)** seeks to instil the habit of reading Arabic-language literature among young students. The annual Challenge was launched in the 2015/2016 academic year, initially inviting students from grades 1 to 12 across the Arab region to participate, before expanding in scope to include Arab and Arabic-speaking students from all over the world. The Challenge runs throughout the school year in staged qualifiers, beginning at class level, to school, country and regional levels, leading up to crowning the **ARC** Champion at the final ceremony in Dubai.



## MADRASA E-LEARNING PLATFORM

The **Madrasa e-Learning Platform** was launched in 2018 to provide free, high-quality Arabic educational content to millions of Arab students across the world. The Platform hosts more than 5,000 high-tech science and maths video lessons and 1,000 Arabic-language lessons, custom designed based on the latest international curricula, to promote self-learning and improve the learning outcomes for students from kindergarten to grade 12. With aims to develop the wider educational system in the Arab world, the digital Platform also features more than 200 illustrated children's stories.



## THE DIGITAL SCHOOL

Launched in November 2020, **The Digital School** provides smart and flexible remote learning opportunities, powered by cutting-edge technologies and artificial intelligence, to enable students in underserved communities to have access to quality education. As the first comprehensive online school in the Arab world, it will work to chart new milestones in the future of digital learning globally, with aims to reach one million students within five years.



# Innovation & Entrepreneurship



متحف المستقبل  
MUSEUM OF THE FUTURE

## MUSEUM OF THE FUTURE

An architectural and engineering marvel, the **Museum of the Future** was conceptualised in 2016. Today, it is a novel scientific and intellectual centre and the region's largest platform for understanding, designing and building the future. Part of a wider vision to mobilise researchers, academics and experts from all over the world, the Museum intends to build a network of partnerships with leading scientific and research institutions around the globe to host and encourage in-depth dialogues surrounding future trends in various developmental, economic, scientific, technological and humanitarian sectors.



## ONE MILLION ARAB CODERS INITIATIVE

The **One Million Arab Coders Initiative** aims to empower young Arabs with the digital skills required to thrive in the future labour market. Launched in 2017, the Initiative provides specialised training courses in computer programming to enable one million young Arabs to lead the digital economy in their societies and, ultimately, improve lives.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID ESTABLISHMENT FOR SMALL & MEDIUM SIZE ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT (DUBAI SME)

Launched in 2002, **Dubai SME** supports entrepreneurs in the UAE and promotes innovation and leadership among the nation's youth. It develops effective strategies to enhance the role of small and medium enterprises in economic development and create a pro-business environment in Dubai, which in turn strengthens the city's position as a global hub for entrepreneurship.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AWARD FOR YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS

Founded in 2003 under the umbrella of **Dubai SME**, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Award for Young Business Leaders** encourages entrepreneurs to transform their ideas into projects that enhance the efficiency of doing business in the UAE and across the Arab world. It recognises outstanding entrepreneurs and organisations that drive business projects across the region.



### MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM BUSINESS AWARD

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award**, launched in 2005, recognises and celebrates organisations with outstanding practices that contribute to the sustainable economic development of the UAE and GCC. Supported by the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award Program', the Award seeks to establish a world-class business culture in the GCC and implement cutting-edge international best practices.



### MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM GLOBAL WATER AWARD

Launched in 2016, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** encourages companies, research centres, institutions, inventors and innovators from around the world to develop sustainable solutions to water scarcity in poor and disaster-stricken regions.

# Empowering Communities



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

Launched in 2005, the **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government** is the first research and teaching institution focused on governance and public policy in the Arab world. It collaborates with government and private institutions, regionally and internationally, to develop academic and training programmes that aim to help future leaders meet public administration challenges, ultimately supporting world-class governance across the UAE and the region.



## SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CENTRE FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Founded in 1998, the **Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Centre for Cultural Understanding** continues to be the bridge between the different nationalities living, working and visiting the UAE from all over the world. The Centre promotes Emirati heritage, culture, customs and traditions.



## ARAB MEDIA FORUM

The annual **Arab Media Forum** brings together leading media figures to discuss and exchange ideas on vital media-related issues affecting the region and beyond. Launched in 2001, the Forum has attracted leading media personalities, as well as political, academic and intellectual leaders from all over the world. Every year, media representatives, editors-in-chief, columnists, academics and senior government officials attend the event to address challenges and future media trends.



## ARAB MEDIA AWARD

The Arab Journalism Award was launched in 1999, and was renamed the **Arab Media Award** in 2021. It was the first annual Arab award to honour creativity and celebrate outstanding content across all fields of media and journalism. The Award includes four major categories: Arab Journalism, TV Media, Digital Media and, to increase inclusivity, it now includes Media Personality of the Year. The board members of the Award include top media professionals from across the region.



## ARAB SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCERS SUMMIT & AWARD

Launched in 2015, the **Arab Social Media Influencers Summit** provides a knowledge and culture exchange platform, with sessions covering a range of positive and constructive social media topics that capture the essence of Arab societies. As part of the Summit, the **Arab Social Media Influencers Award** honours outstanding social media initiatives and content creators to promote positive online dialogue.





## DUBAI INTERNATIONAL SPORTS CONFERENCE

The annual **Dubai International Sports Conference**, established in 2006, brings together sports-related speakers and audiences including referees, managers, agents and world-famous athletes to address key challenges affecting global sports. The Conference proposes sports governance solutions to support the success of clubs, professional associations and international bodies.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM CREATIVE SPORTS AWARD

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award**, founded in 2009, honours individuals, teams and entities with significant contributions to the sporting scene, encouraging further creative efforts in promoting sports on local, regional and global levels.



## ARAB STRATEGY FORUM

Established in 2001, the **Arab Strategy Forum** provides a premier platform for world leaders, thinkers and decision-makers to discuss regional and international geopolitical and economic trends, as well as forecast challenges and crises. The Forum provides a clear forward-looking picture on the future of many issues, enabling leaders to develop proactive strategies and policies aimed at creating a better world.



## MOHAMMED BIN RASHID CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development** was launched in 2003 with the vision of creating leaders for tomorrow. Through comprehensive theoretical and practical programmes, the Centre equips participants with the knowledge and expertise needed to become effective leaders capable of taking the helm of the nation's public and private sector institutions and boosting performance. It works to consolidate the UAE's competitiveness across various service and development sectors and drive the nation's journey towards the future.



## ARAB HOPE MAKERS

The **Arab Hope Makers** initiative was launched in early 2017 as the largest of its kind to celebrate humanitarian efforts that improve lives, alleviate suffering and make a difference in societies. The Initiative aims to highlight the stories of unsung heroes and provide financial support to expand the scope of their humanitarian endeavours to touch as many lives as possible.



لن يجد الإنسان معنى الحياة الحقيقي إلا عندما يبدأ  
في منحها لمن يستحقها.. لا يمكن أن يشعر الإنسان  
بالاكتمال إلا عندما يبدأ بالعطاء

محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم

**A person will not find the true meaning of  
life until he starts giving to those in need.  
A person can only feel satisfied when he  
starts giving.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





