



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



YEAR IN REVIEW

تقرير الأعمال

AED

1.1 Billion spent in 2021

91 Million beneficiaries in 2021

97 Countries reached in 2021

20
21

YEAR IN 20 REVIEW 21

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives
A comprehensive vision for the business of hope and building the future

Year In Review 2021

6th Volume



مبادرات محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم العالمية
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Humanity Is Our Compass

When the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** was launched in 2015 as an integrated institution comprising dozens of entities, initiatives and sustainable programmes in various humanitarian, health, knowledge and empowerment sectors, we set our sights on a single goal – to make a difference in people’s lives. To us, improving the reality of human life is improving an entire community, which summarises **MBRGI**’s mission. The Foundation seeks to invest in people, build their capabilities and skills, channel their energies and empower them to create a positive force for change in societies, as well as create the future we envision.

In 2021, we worked to alleviate the suffering of more than 91 million people in 97 countries around the world, providing them with support and helping them to become an effective, productive force in their communities.

Our work is ongoing, and we will continue to launch new initiatives and projects as we continue our efforts for the sake of humanity, which is our compass, our inspiration and our guide in everything we do.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



The Rewards of Institutionalised Humanitarianism

Within a few years of its launch, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** has made great strides in institutionalising humanitarian work and transforming it into a sustainable system built on pillars, tools and mechanisms that are constantly being updated and developed.

In 2021, the Foundation's total spending on dozens of initiatives, projects and programmes amounted to more than AED 1.1 billion. This is not just a number in a report. It is a long-term investment, which will reap exponential rewards in terms of the sustainable impact that we will see in the years to come. These returns will be the result of our efforts to empower talent and expertise, enhance capabilities, provide quality education, health and service environments, and train effective cadres that contribute to the development of their societies. Most importantly, we aim to inspire a movement under the unified belief that building healthy societies is based on empowering people.

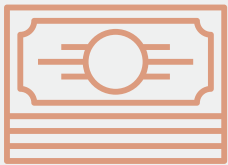
This year, we witnessed the launch of many new projects, as well as the continuation of existing ones, as part of a relentless effort by the entities under **MBRGI's** umbrella to monitor the most urgent needs and address the most pressing challenges. Our top priority has been accelerating recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that struck the world over the past two years.

If there is a single achievement that I will highlight this year, it is that we have assembled an army of nearly 145,000 volunteers, the most ever in **MBRGI's** history, who contributed to the implementation of the Foundation's various initiatives and projects in their respective areas of expertise.

These volunteers confirm that the system of giving the UAE has established over the years has become ingrained in its value system, and they will inspire still more volunteers to join us and become part of our mission. As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum confirms, the UAE was, is and will continue to be a pioneer in doing good because that is what this country was built on, and the secret of its prosperity lies in its dedication to ensuring the well-being of all people.

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

2021 Achievements



AED

1.1 Billion

spent across
all pillars in 2021



91 Million

beneficiaries of MBRGI's
initiatives in 2021



97

countries reached
in 2021



144,936

volunteers across all
initiatives, projects and
programmes in 2021



571

employees in 2021



AED

17.7 Million

awarded in total prizes
in 2021

91 Million

beneficiaries of
MBRGI's initiatives

AED



Billion

spent across all pillars



**Humanitarian
Aid & Relief**

22.9 Million
beneficiaries

AED

417

Million



**Healthcare &
Disease Control**

14.6 Million
beneficiaries

AED

51.2

Million



**Spreading
Education &
Knowledge**

48.4 Million
beneficiaries

AED

253

Million



**Innovation &
Entrepreneurship**

2.9 Million
beneficiaries

AED

337

Million



**Empowering
Communities**

2.1 Million
beneficiaries

AED

88.7

Million

Introduction

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** was established in 2015 as the largest regional body aimed at creating hope, changing lives and designing the future. Comprising a portfolio of humanitarian, developmental and social initiatives, projects and programmes, which have been launched and supported by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, for more than two decades, the Foundation's work is based on the belief that humanitarianism must be integrated and ongoing.

Over the past six years, **MBRGI** has increased its impact on beneficiaries' lives, expanded to new geographic areas, spread a culture of humanitarianism and encouraged volunteerism to attract more active volunteers every year to assist with its projects and campaigns.

Volunteers are inspired by the Foundation's mission to create an environment focused on giving and human compassion and to promote a sense of solidarity and social responsibility.

The 35 entities under **MBRGI**'s umbrella launch initiatives, programmes and campaigns to address pressing regional and global challenges such as poverty, hunger and unemployment, which hinder and threaten social advancement and stability. Particular emphasis was placed on the vital sectors of education and health, in addition to investing in the future through initiatives that promote the knowledge economy and prepare societies to tackle future challenges.

Human capital is equally important to **MBRGI**, with initiatives and programmes dedicated to training productive cadres in various service

and development sectors in targeted communities. It also focuses on empowering youth, investing in their abilities and building their expertise and skills so they can effectively contribute to their societies' advancement.

The **MBRGI** Year In Review 2021 highlights the achievements of its entities and initiatives throughout the year in the fields of humanitarian relief, aid and development work, as well as its continued support of communities around the world as they recovered from the difficulties caused by COVID-19 over the past two years. The Foundation activated all its campaigns and programmes, resumed previously suspended or reduced activities, and launched new initiatives, in line with its mission to establish a culture of positive change and improve lives.

The report details the Foundation's most prominent projects, programmes and initiatives in 2021, supported by statistics and inspiring stories that shed light on how they impacted the lives of individuals in less fortunate communities and disadvantaged groups in refugee camps and crisis-affected areas.

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

2021 Highlights

INTENSIFIED EFFORTS TO RECOVER FROM COVID-19

In 2021, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)** spent a total of AED 1.1 billion on the projects, programmes and initiatives within its five pillars, benefitting more than 91 million people in 97 countries. Nearly 145,000 volunteers specialised in a variety of fields joined hands with **MBRGI's** 571 employees to implement numerous projects which extended technical, logistical and operational support in targeted communities.

Throughout the year, **MBRGI** assisted many countries and communities in their recovery efforts through dozens of initiatives and campaigns aimed at overcoming the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within the Humanitarian Aid & Relief pillar, the **International Humanitarian City (IHC)** operated relief flights in response to an international call for the equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries. Essential medical supplies and urgent aid were also delivered to countries suffering from epidemics and natural disasters, including Sudan, Congo, Ethiopia and Bangladesh.

Globally, the '100 Million Meals' campaign distributed food in more than 47 countries in the Arab region and across Africa, Asia, Europe and South America, targeting families in need and low-income individuals. The campaign focused its efforts on assisting vulnerable groups who suffered most in the wake of the pandemic, which further exacerbated hunger, poverty and unemployment.

Under the Healthcare & Disease Control pillar, **Al Jalila Foundation** announced a project worth AED 750 million to establish the Hamdan bin Rashid Cancer Charity Hospital in the UAE, which will provide treatment for cancer patients who could not otherwise afford it.

As part of its efforts in the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar, **Dubai Cares** hosted its pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai under the theme 'The Future is Human', making it the first local humanitarian organisation to participate in the largest cultural event in the world. The pavilion's 47 events showcased the Foundation's projects and programmes focused on providing quality education for young people in underprivileged communities.

The **Museum of the Future**, Dubai's new architectural marvel and knowledge icon within the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar, opened its doors in 2021. The Museum will encourage knowledge exchange and cooperation among prominent scientific institutions, build partnerships with global research centres and think tanks, provoke in-depth dialogues on future trends shaping various developmental, economic, scientific, social and humanitarian sectors, and design sustainable solutions to current challenges.

Within the Empowering Communities pillar, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development** celebrated the graduation of the fourth cohort of the 'Impactful Leaders Program', and the first cohort of the 'Dubai Leaders Program', which benefitted 45 government professionals.



**As we continue our work every year, our
determination to fulfil our vision grows stronger.
We attract more partners and serve more people,
and our conviction that humanitarian work is
essential to reigniting civilisation burns brighter.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum





Humanitarian Aid & Relief

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives aim to achieve sustainable social, economic and structural development by institutionalising humanitarianism and expanding its scope, geographical reach and number of beneficiaries. Within this comprehensive vision, it dedicates numerous projects and initiatives to making a qualitative difference in people's lives, strengthening the welfare system, consolidating societal peace, prioritising the needs of the less fortunate and increasing quality of life for people wherever they are.

AED

47

MILLION

spent on Humanitarian
Aid & Relief initiatives
in 2021

22.9

MILLION

beneficiaries of
Humanitarian Aid & Relief
initiatives in 2021

220 MILLION

meals distributed by the
'100 Million Meals' campaign
in 2021

10,018
TONNES

of food distributed by the
UAE Food Bank in 2021

3.3 MILLION

beneficiaries of the Mohammed bin
Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian
& Charity Establishment in 2021



Institutionalising Sustainable Philanthropy & Improving People's Lives No Matter Where They Are



AED
417
Million
spent on Humanitarian
Aid & Relief initiatives
in 2021

The Humanitarian Aid & Relief pillar is one of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives' (MBRGI)** key drivers towards achieving its mission of advancing sustainable social, economic, humanitarian and structural development. By institutionalising humanitarian efforts and expanding its geographical coverage, scope of work and beneficiary groups, **MBRGI** strives to improve people's lives no matter where they are. As part of this primary objective, the Foundation focuses on enhancing well-being and consolidating social harmony, especially in disadvantaged, vulnerable and crisis-affected communities.

Within this pillar, **MBRGI** implements a wide array of sustainable humanitarian, development and community initiatives, projects and campaigns in partnership with regional and international organisations, in addition to urgent campaigns in response to crises, disasters and conflicts. These efforts are the manifestation of the Foundation's vision, which aims to alleviate the suffering of people in need, irrespective of race or religion.

In 2021, the initiatives and projects within this pillar were exceptionally important given the ongoing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the emergence of new strains of the virus, which directly impacted the lives of millions around the globe during 2020 and 2021. The pandemic and its repercussions created new humanitarian crises and exacerbated

existing ones. In the face of increased rates of poverty and unemployment, as well as the worsening of the global refugee crisis, **MBRGI** redoubled its efforts and expanded the scope of its initiatives to extend a helping hand and deliver urgent relief to millions of disadvantaged and crisis-stricken people.

Within this pillar, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, launched the '100 Million Meals' campaign during Ramadan 2021. Implemented by **MBRGI**, the campaign inspired massive participation, providing food support for beneficiaries in 47 countries. It strengthened the social solidarity of individuals and institutions in the UAE and abroad, while alleviating the suffering of communities in need, especially those most affected by the consequences of the pandemic.

The **International Humanitarian City (IHC)** joined hands with many local, regional and global organisations to address the critical need of distributing COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries where people have been severely affected by the pandemic. **IHC** also continued to carry out its humanitarian operations to send aid to countries dealing with the impacts of conflicts and natural disasters by chartering flights loaded with essential and urgent medical supplies and relief materials to ensure a rapid response to escalating crises around the globe.



In 2021, the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)** continued to provide clean drinking water to underprivileged communities suffering from water scarcity and pollution by establishing purification plants, implementing new water projects, and supporting the research and development of new technologies that use renewable energy to purify and desalinate water. In addition, the Foundation drilled manual and solar-powered artesian and surface wells in Somalia, Egypt, Mauritania and Gambia.

MBRGI's total spending within the Humanitarian Aid & Relief pillar in 2021 amounted to AED 417 million, benefitting 22.9 million people around the world.



22.9
Million

beneficiaries of
Humanitarian Aid &
Relief initiatives in 2021



GLOBAL SOLIDARITY IN THE '100 MILLION MEALS' CAMPAIGN



**220
Million**

meals distributed by
the '100 Million Meals'
campaign in 2021

During Ramadan 2021, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, launched the '100 Million Meals' campaign to support underprivileged families and individuals. The largest campaign of its kind in the region, it provided food parcels to people across 47 countries in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe and South America who were struggling most from the COVID-19 pandemic's economic, social, health and humanitarian repercussions.

The '100 Million Meals' campaign, implemented by **MBRGI** as an extension of the '10 Million Meals' campaign that was launched in the UAE during Ramadan 2020, constituted a remarkable social movement and the manifestation of the UAE's philanthropic vision to help all people around the world.

The campaign invited the participation of everyone in the UAE and abroad, offering a variety of ways for people and institutions to make donations to support vulnerable groups, especially women, children, displaced people, victims of disasters and crises and those suffering from malnutrition and hunger. It highlighted the values of giving, cohesion and solidarity as the essence of humanitarian work by focusing on providing food support through community funding.

MBRGI's teams worked tirelessly during the distribution drive to reach beneficiaries faster and more efficiently, while also ensuring optimal coordination with their partners in the various countries where the campaign was active. The teams conducted field visits to several refugee camps, slums and communities in cooperation with the relevant local authorities, as well as international and regional organisations.

The '100 Million Meals' campaign was a huge success, attracting significant contributions from institutions and individuals in the UAE and the rest of the world to provide 220 million meals through official donation channels to vulnerable people in underserved communities. The campaign's 385,000 donors comprised businesspeople, companies, organisations and individuals from 51 countries across four continents, including Kosovo, Sudan, Yemen, Tunisia, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Brazil, Sierra Leone, Angola, Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Senegal, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Burundi, Benin, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Nepal.

The campaign was implemented in cooperation with two **MBRGI** entities, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** and the **UAE Food Bank**, as well a number of local institutions and charities, including the Dar Al Ber Society and the Dubai Charity Association.

In 2021, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** funded and coordinated external operations in several countries for the ‘100 Million Meals’ campaign, distributing the equivalent of 6.3 million meals. The **UAE Food Bank** also distributed 120,760 food parcels in the UAE, benefitting 362,280 people from low-income families. In addition, 1,060 volunteers helped distribute the parcels, each of which contained enough basic food items to feed three people for one month.

MBRGI also partnered with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), the Food Banking Regional Network, the

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as well as humanitarian organisations and charities to distribute food baskets in all the campaign’s beneficiary countries.

As part of the ‘100 Million Meals’ campaign, the Food Banking Regional Network contributed to the distribution of 121 million meals, while the WFP distributed the equivalent of 56 million meals in various disadvantaged areas and refugee camps, and the UNHCR distributed the equivalent of 8 million meals. The remaining meals were distributed in cooperation with other campaign partners in various countries.



A DROUGHT IN AFRICA



In 2021, the crop yield of Amadu Dogo's farm fell dramatically when the Damongo region of Ghana suffered a devastating drought. Rain is the main source of irrigation in this region, and the drought affected many of the farmers.

The lack of rain and meagre crop brought heavy financial difficulties for Amadu, causing him to live in constant fear of not being able to support himself and his family.

Although Amadu's life is not always easy, this year's dry season was particularly challenging. Droughts in Ghana severely impact small farmers, threatening their crops, which often leads to bankruptcy. Without a means to make a living and secure their basic needs, millions of people become vulnerable to hunger and destitution.

After losing his livelihood, Amadu became overwhelmed by feelings of sadness, depression and anxiety. He saw hunger coming for him and his family as if it were a monster. However, his hope was soon restored thanks to the '100 Million Meals' campaign, which provides food to individuals and families in communities severely affected by drought, hunger and malnutrition. Amadu received food parcels from the campaign containing basic food items, so his family did not have to go hungry.

In addition to feeding Amadu and his family, the campaign also provided technical support to help him improve his farm's crop yield despite the harsh environment. Thanks to the '100 Million Meals' campaign, Amadu's heart, which was once weighed down by sorrow, now soars with happiness.

FOOD FOR A DECENT LIFE



Unable to work, Meimunato Coffie and her three friends, who live in Tamale, the capital of the Northern Region of Ghana, were forced to beg just to be able to eat. They were desperate, fearful of cramped living conditions and riddled with anxiety over how they would survive day after day.

The '100 Million Meals' campaign, implemented by **MBRGI** in partnership with local and international organisations, offered the four women a ray of hope. It extended a helping hand to them and other disadvantaged groups in their community as part of its mission to provide food support to those who need it most to reduce hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity for as many people as possible.

Soon, Meimunato and her friends received monthly food parcels, allowing them to prepare healthy and balanced meals for themselves and their families.

The '100 Million Meals' campaign's support did not stop there, however. It also assisted the four women in establishing and operating a successful small business to provide them with a sustainable income and improve their families' standard of living.



RESPONDING TO NATURAL DISASTERS & HEALTH EMERGENCIES



1.1

Million

beneficiaries of relief
campaigns organised
by IHC in 2021

Based in Dubai, the **International Humanitarian City (IHC)** is a global humanitarian hub hosting 87 members comprised of international organisations, institutions and companies working in the humanitarian field. **IHC** works in cooperation with the humanitarian community to implement speedy, efficient relief operations that meet the highest standards. In 2021, the City, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, mobilised its efforts to support countries suffering from epidemics and natural disasters, transporting essential medical supplies and urgent aid to countries such as Sudan, Congo, Ethiopia and Bangladesh to benefit 1.1 million people.

Sudan received the largest amount of humanitarian aid in 2021, as **IHC** established and operated an emergency airbridge to the country to transport relief and basic medical supplies in response to the health crisis and in support of the World Health Organization's (WHO) ongoing efforts to combat diseases and epidemics. The airbridge helped alleviate the suffering of 882,900 people in Sudan, which was caused by a critical shortage of essential medicine due to congestion at Port Sudan that delayed the delivery of vital medical supplies, in addition to an increase in refugees and internally displaced people. The rainy season in Sudan also increased transmission rates of water-borne diseases, further complicating the medical emergency.

In May 2021, **IHC** dispatched medical aid to Bangladesh to support its healthcare sector in combatting the cholera epidemic. The flight carried 50 metric tonnes of medical supplies, including cholera kits provided by the WHO logistics centre, to benefit 20,000 people. In cooperation with Emirates Airline, **IHC** also operated a humanitarian airbridge between Dubai and India to deliver 33.4 metric tonnes of medical and relief supplies and crucial medicines on six cargo flights to support India's efforts to combat COVID-19.

In June 2021, **IHC** chartered a flight loaded with urgent humanitarian aid from Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai to Kigali, Rwanda, to deliver relief materials to 40,596 people in the neighbouring city of Goma in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in the aftermath of a devastating volcanic eruption. The plane carried 93 metric tonnes of comprehensive aid including water purification kits from the WFP's UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) and shelter relief items and PPE from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), which had been stored in **IHC** warehouses in Dubai, to assist in the crisis.

In September, a cargo plane loaded with humanitarian aid left **IHC** bound for Ethiopia to support 157,000 people and the country's efforts to fight infectious diseases and epidemics and improve health conditions.



We do not live our lives separated from the world around us. On the contrary, we feel the suffering of others, we endeavour to alleviate their pain and we strive to make the UAE the world's capital for humanitarian work and a beacon of hope for everyone in need.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



DISTRIBUTING COVID-19 VACCINES



80%

of WHO's global
COVID-19 response
facilitated by IHC

In support of WHO's global COVAX initiative and its efforts to equitably distribute 2 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines in 2021, **IHC** launched the 'Dubai Vaccine Logistics Alliance' (DVLA) to expedite the distribution of vaccines around the world, especially in developing countries that face challenges in transporting and distributing medicines, and whose populations have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

During 2021, the DVLA leveraged Emirates Airlines' expertise and global reach, DP World's worldwide network of ports and distinct logistical abilities, and Dubai Airports' operational efficiency and high

handling capacity to transport, store and accelerate the global distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. It also mobilised the advanced capabilities of **IHC**, which is a major partner in the COVAX initiative and the operational launchpad of many international humanitarian organisations in the region.

From the onslaught of the global COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 until the end of 2021, **IHC** facilitated the distribution of over 80% of WHO's global medical response in the fight against the virus, and harnessed its humanitarian logistics expertise to transport relief materials, such as food and medicines, in countries with limited infrastructure.



ALLEVIATING HUMANITY'S SUFFERING

As part of its mission to alleviate the suffering of underprivileged people in the UAE and around the world, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** supports struggling and crisis-affected people through its humanitarian, development and service programmes and initiatives, as well as direct financial and material support. The Establishment also carries out international rescue and relief operations and implements reconstruction programmes to build and renovate schools, hospitals, places of worship and service facilities in underserved communities.

In 2021, the Establishment's various initiatives, programmes and projects positively impacted the lives of approximately 3.3 million people around the world.

In order to provide safe, stable education environments and assist communities in overcoming poverty and illiteracy, the Establishment's efforts include building schools in several developing countries. In 2021, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** built a school in Kyrgyzstan to serve 5,000 people, including students, faculty and community members.

Under its annual 'School Bag' project, the Establishment distributed school supplies, bags and uniforms to 5,800 students in 2021 across several countries, including Tajikistan, Bangladesh and Kazakhstan.

Additionally, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** continued to respond to the wintertime needs of people in disadvantaged countries to help them endure harsh conditions and extreme temperatures by providing coal, heaters, warm clothes and blankets in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, benefitting 16,450 people.

The Establishment's annual project aimed at making clean drinking water accessible in remote areas and villages around the world resulted in the drilling of 78 wells at a total cost of more than AED 5 million, benefitting 109,000 people. It included 50 wells in Tajikistan, eight in Bangladesh, six in Kyrgyzstan, three in Niger, Uganda and Benin, two in Senegal and Afghanistan and one in Indonesia.

In its continuous fight against hunger and poverty, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** also distributed meat during Eid Al Adha 2021 to feed 162,950 people in developing countries and underprivileged communities, valued at more than AED 1.4 million.



3.3
Million

beneficiaries of the
Mohammed bin Rashid
Al Maktoum
Humanitarian & Charity
Establishment in 2021



801

children benefitted through the 'Nabadat' initiative in Tajikistan in 2021

SUPPORTING THE MEDICAL SECTOR

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** continued to pursue its annual initiatives focused on building medical clinics in remote areas, completing 10 clinics in 2021, including nine in Tajikistan and one in Kyrgyzstan. Costing approximately AED 3 million, the clinics have benefitted 106,200 people.

The Establishment also covered the costs of heart surgeries and catheterisation for 801 children in Tajikistan, totalling more than AED 2.7 million, as part of its medical initiative 'Nabadat', which means 'heartbeats' in Arabic.

ASSISTING VULNERABLE & DISADVANTAGED GROUPS

During Ramadan 2021, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Humanitarian & Charity Establishment** implemented its annual Ramadan programme in the UAE, distributing AED 4 million worth of food to low-income families and individuals through dedicated smart cards. The programme benefitted a total of 48,840 people.

The Establishment also launched several community initiatives aimed at assisting people in particularly difficult financial situations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Among these projects was a medical assistance programme to cover the cost of surgeries, cancer treatments, delivery and care for premature babies, and treatments for kidney patients, which benefitted 795 people. It also covered school fees for the children of more than 5,300 families, and paid rents and electric bills. In total, these initiatives reached 331,593 people in 2021.



PROMOTING THE VALUES OF GIVING THROUGH SHARING FOOD

Within the Humanitarian Aid & Relief pillar, the **UAE Food Bank** works as an integrated humanitarian system to collect and distribute surplus food from partnering restaurants and other businesses in the hospitality industry, factories, farms and food establishments in the UAE.

In 2021, the Food Bank played a vital role in providing disadvantaged families and vulnerable groups with a total of 10,018 tonnes of food, in cooperation with partnering public and private-sector organisations and humanitarian institutions, to promote charitable giving and instil a culture of social solidarity in the UAE.

At Expo 2020 Dubai, the **UAE Food Bank** collected 50,375 meals worth of surplus food from participating pavilions and organisations, reflecting its objectives to entrench a culture of giving, promote social cohesion and solidarity and activate a sense of social responsibility.

As part of the Food Bank's annual local initiatives aimed at establishing a culture of food sharing and reducing food waste, the **UAE Food Bank** fridges distributed 1,550 tonnes of food in 2021 through its network of 104 fridges across Dubai, which are accessible to anyone in need. The safe, sanitary food is provided by families, restaurants, hotels and supermarkets in accordance with strict safety guidelines.

Reflecting the spirit of the holy month of Ramadan, the **UAE Food Bank** launched a

campaign to distribute 50,000 meals and food baskets to underprivileged individuals and families in the UAE in 2021, in cooperation with Dubai Municipality. It also implemented other initiatives in cooperation with local partners, including Noon and Amazon, Emirates Red Crescent and the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, that allowed individuals to donate food parcels or baskets containing non-perishables. The Food Bank's Ramadan initiatives also included a partnership with Careem to collect safe surplus food from homes and deliver it to the nearest **UAE Food Bank** fridge. Through these initiatives, the Food Bank distributed a total of 372,077 meals.

Internationally, the **UAE Food Bank** partnered with Emirates Red Crescent in June 2021 to send 25 tonnes of basic foodstuffs to feed 25,000 people in Senegal, in addition to seven tonnes of canned food to support 7,000 victims of Typhoon Rai, which hit the Philippines in December.



10,018
Tonnes

of food distributed by
the UAE Food Bank
in 2021





WATER PROJECTS



58

water projects
implemented by
Suqia in four
countries in 2021

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)** works to make clean drinking water accessible in underprivileged communities suffering from water scarcity and pollution. To this aim, the Foundation establishes water purification plants, builds water networks to pump and filter water from lakes, rivers and other sources, and drills artesian wells to extract drinking water from aquifers more than 100 feet below the surface.

In 2021, **Suqia** implemented 58 new projects that benefitted 70,900 people in four countries. The projects included two atmospheric water generators in Somalia to benefit 10,000 people, 50 wells and a water network serving 2,000 homes in Egypt where 21,000 people live, a solar-powered well for 16,000 beneficiaries in

Mauritania, and five solar-powered surface wells reaching 23,900 people in Gambia.

In line with its objectives to provide safe drinking water and find sustainable solutions to address water scarcity, **Suqia** worked with its strategic partner Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA) to implement several projects in Dubai, including a photovoltaic reverse osmosis (PVRO) desalination station at the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, which has the capacity to store electricity at 50 cubic metres per day to fulfil the needs of around 10,000 people. The Foundation and DEWA also established a portable PVRO desalination unit to purify water using solar energy with a daily production capacity of 7.7 cubic metres, which can fulfil the needs of 1,540 people.



SCHOOL HYGIENE AMBASSADOR



Rosia, 15, suffered from a lack of safe water and hygiene facilities at her school in Madagascar. Despite her passion for learning, she and her peers, who were enduring the same struggles, were faced with the impossible choice of either dropping out or suffering serious health issues from the lack of clean water and poor sanitation at the school.

Water pollution is one of the leading causes of child mortality in Madagascar and a major hinderance to children attending school. Young people miss an estimated 3.5 million days of school every year due to water-borne diseases.

However, Rosia and her classmates were filled with hope when **Suqia** and **Dubai Cares**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, partnered with Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP) to implement a programme to improve access to Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for a period of three years. The programme aims to build and rehabilitate WASH facilities in schools and health centres in Antananarivo and Mahajanga, Madagascar's two largest cities.

In addition to benefitting from the programme, Rosia also became a WASH ambassador in Antananarivo, where she plays an active role in raising awareness about the importance of hygiene among her peers and ensuring that WASH facilities are used properly. Thanks to these practices, Rosia has found that fewer of her schoolmates are falling ill. They can attend school every day in a safe, healthy environment.



We are more in need of giving than the needy. When you give, much is given back to you. Be humble, and you will be rewarded. Have mercy on others, and you will be filled with joy.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

FIRST SPORTS ENDOWMENT TO SERVE HUMANITY

As a consultancy endowment institution aimed at serving humanity, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Global Centre for Endowment Consultancy** seeks to activate awqaf and endowments to respond to urgent social needs, offering free services to individuals and regional and international organisations to fulfil Dubai's Global Vision for Awqaf and Endowments.

In 2021, seven institutions earned the 'Dubai Endowment Sign' in recognition of their innovative projects and initiatives, including a restaurant table endowment, a training endowment, a knowledge endowment, a legal endowment, a sports endowment and an educational platform endowment, benefitting a total of 251,524 people.

Within the sports category, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Global Centre for Endowment Consultancy** launched the first innovative sports endowment, in cooperation with the company 9714sports, as a means to encourage athletes to support humanitarian work and involve them in various sports challenges and activities. Part of the proceeds from the company's sports competitions will be put towards the innovative sports endowment, which contributes to meeting social needs in areas such as education, healthcare and medical research, among others.

The Centre designed the innovative endowment to give individuals and institutions the opportunity to contribute to their communities. This modern concept expands the scope of endowments beyond traditional endowment spending to focus on social development issues.

The innovative endowment is based on two pillars, endowed assets and endowed funding, and includes projects in areas such as children's culture, real estate consultation, advisory services, medical education, knowledge, legal consultation, environmentalism, business incubators and youth projects.



251,524

beneficiaries of the seven entities that received the 'Dubai Endowment Sign' in 2021





Healthcare & Disease Control

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives' efforts within the Healthcare & Disease Control pillar focus on addressing pressing health challenges, improving the healthcare sector in disadvantaged and crisis-affected areas and enhancing the quality of medical services in underserved communities, as well as combatting pandemics and infectious diseases.

AED
51.2

MILLION

spent on Healthcare
& Disease Control
initiatives in 2021

14.6

MILLION

beneficiaries of
Healthcare & Disease
Control initiatives in 2021

AED

350 MILLION

donated to establish the
Hamdan bin Rashid Cancer
Charity Hospital in 2021

14.5 MILLION

patients treated for trachoma by
the end of 2021

3,424

people underwent cataract
surgery in Katsina in 2021



Specialised Hospitals, Sustainable Healthcare & Preventive Programmes



AED
51.2
Million
spent on Healthcare
& Disease Control
initiatives in 2021

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives'** (MBRGI) Healthcare & Disease Control pillar comprises dozens of initiatives, therapeutic and preventive campaigns and sustainable healthcare programmes that address the most critical health challenges directly affecting the lives of people in disadvantaged communities around the globe.

The projects and initiatives within this pillar seek to improve the healthcare systems, enhance the quality of medical services and combat infectious diseases in underprivileged societies, with a focus on particularly disadvantaged groups, especially women and children.

MBRGI strives to design programmes that empower the health sector in regions that lack resources and expertise. To that aim, the Foundation trains and certifies professionals working in these communities in order to help build healthy environments, promote social harmony and increase productivity.

The repercussions of COVID-19 continued to be felt throughout 2021 with the spread of several new variants. This placed a heavy burden on the health sector in countries suffering the most from the pandemic, some of which were already struggling with deteriorating healthcare services and severe supplies shortages. **MBRGI** has played an important role in helping many of these countries manage the impacts of the

pandemic and provide vital medical assistance. It has also continued to implement its projects and sustainable health campaigns in line with the Foundation's vision of creating effective and efficient healthcare systems.

One of **MBRGI's** primary entities within this pillar, **Al Jalila Foundation**, announced in 2021 a AED 750 million project to establish the Hamdan bin Rashid Cancer Charity Hospital in Dubai. The new hospital will provide best-in-class cancer treatment free of charge for patients who cannot afford quality healthcare. The Foundation also pledged AED 8 million in annual funding to the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences to support its biomedical research efforts that seek to address the region's most pressing health challenges, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, mental health and infectious diseases.

Noor Dubai, as one of the main entities within the Healthcare & Disease Control pillar, continued to realise its goals of eliminating avoidable causes of blindness and implementing therapeutic, preventive and awareness programmes and campaigns in disadvantaged communities in countries such as Ethiopia, Nigeria and Bangladesh. It also sustained its national programme to help cover the medical costs for low-income UAE residents suffering from critical eye diseases.

In 2021, construction of the first floor of the world-class Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre in Egypt was completed. Supported by the **Arab Hope Makers** initiative, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the Centre is set to treat 120,000 patients every year and train more than 1,500 specialised doctors and surgeons.

Total spending within the Healthcare & Disease Control pillar in 2021 equalled AED 51.2 million, benefitting 14.6 million people around the world.



14.6
Million

beneficiaries of
Healthcare & Disease
Control initiatives
in 2021





THE FIRST CHARITY CANCER HOSPITAL



AED
350
Million

donated to establish
the Hamdan bin Rashid
Cancer Charity
Hospital in 2021

Since its launch eight years ago, **Al Jalila Foundation** has tirelessly pursued its goal of promoting biomedical education, research and innovation to improve treatment options in the UAE, in addition to providing quality healthcare to disadvantaged patients. The Foundation has also worked to nurture talents and local cadres in the medical field by awarding grants, developing exchange programmes and forging partnerships with regional and international institutions and organisations to create a generation of healthcare professionals who will contribute to the advancement of the UAE's medical sector.

One of **Al Jalila Foundation's** most distinctive initiatives launched in 2021 was the project to establish the Hamdan bin Rashid Cancer Charity Hospital in Dubai, the first hospital of its kind in the UAE offering free medical services to help ease the financial burden of cancer patients who struggle to afford healthcare.

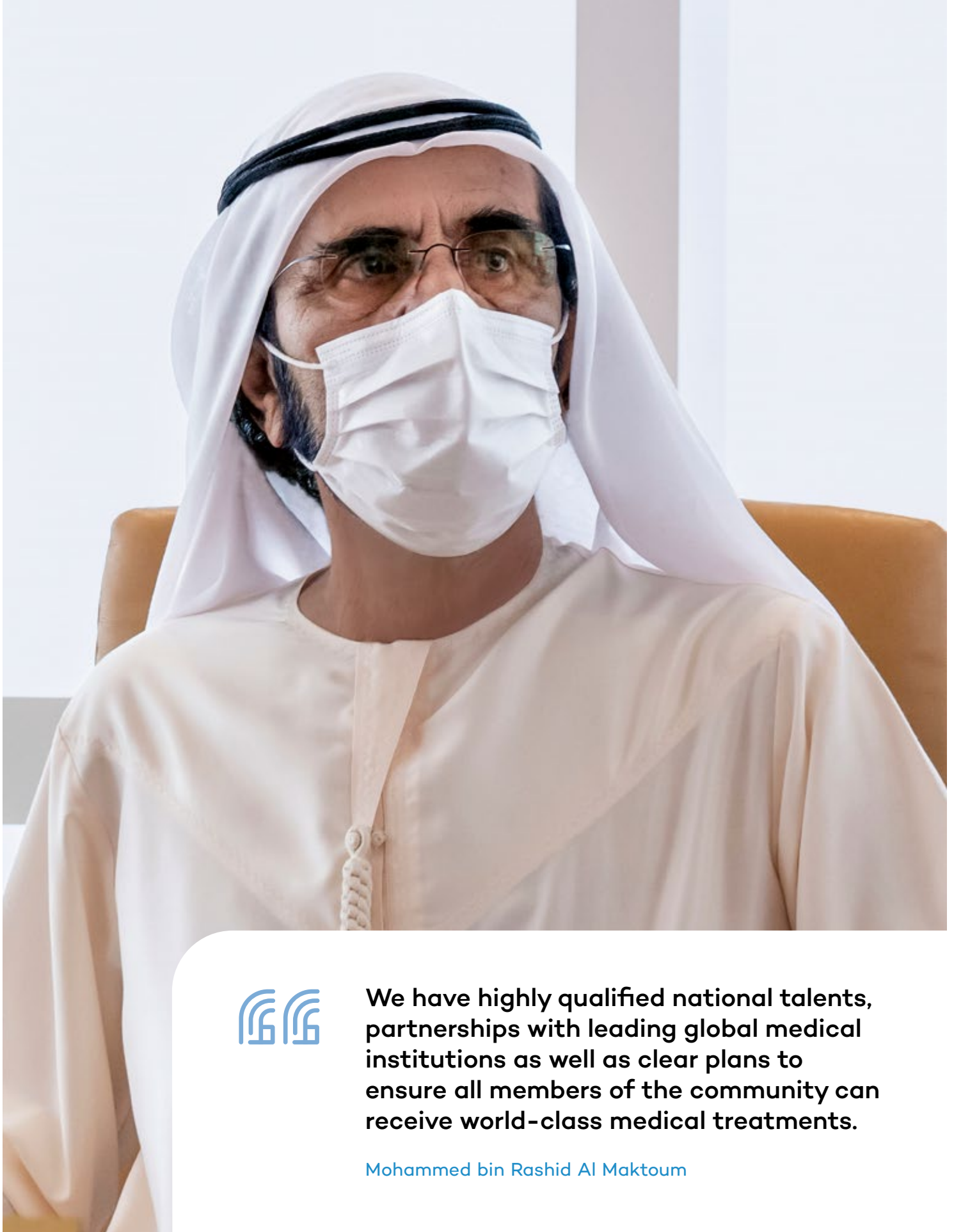
Named after the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum in recognition of his

passion for helping people and his interest in the healthcare sector, the hospital will be a world-class, comprehensive facility equipped with the latest technologies. It will attract a highly qualified team of specialised doctors and trained nursing staff, and will be an industry leader in researching and developing cutting-edge cancer treatments. Additionally, the hospital will have a strong capacity-building focus, investing in advancing its staff's expertise to both meet the needs of the hospital and scale up its efforts.

Built in two phases, the 50,000 square metre facility will be the first fully modular-built hospital in Dubai. Once complete, it will consist of seven floors and 250 beds and will have the capacity to provide medical services to 30,000 patients per year. The Hamdan bin Rashid Cancer Charity Hospital will further raise the UAE's profile as a pioneer in the fields of healthcare and medical innovation.

The hospital costs a total of AED 750 million, of which about AED 350 million has been collected through donations.





We have highly qualified national talents, partnerships with leading global medical institutions as well as clear plans to ensure all members of the community can receive world-class medical treatments.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



ADVANCING MEDICAL RESEARCH THROUGH COLLABORATION



AED
8 Million
in annual funding
provided by Al Jalila
Foundation to the
Mohammed bin Rashid
University of Medicine
and Health Sciences
to support the
research sector

In October 2021, **Al Jalila Foundation** announced a new partnership between its Mohammed bin Rashid Medical Research Institute and the Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) to advance biomedical research in the UAE.

As part of the partnership, **Al Jalila Foundation** will provide the university with AED 8 million in financial assistance to improve the quality of both partners' research programmes, ultimately enriching the UAE's medical research ecosystem and consolidating cooperation between the two influential institutes. The annual funding will allow 100 students, staff and scholarship recipients to continue their education at MBRU. The partnership solidifies the institutes' commitment to research and developing new treatments that benefit the UAE community as well as people who travel to the country to receive medical care.

In addition, **Al Jalila Foundation** has continued to support medical education by providing undergraduate and graduate scholarships to prominent universities and colleges locally and abroad. As part of the Foundation's commitment to developing a generation of healthcare professionals in the UAE, it provided more than AED 1.1 million in scholarships to 12 students in 2021 through its medical scholarship programme. Of these, 11 were given the opportunity to pursue a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at MBRU after graduating in

2022, while one student was awarded a scholarship to the University of Glasgow's School of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing in Scotland to work towards a Master of Science in Medical Genetics and Genomics.

Al Jalila Foundation's medical research grants programme provided seed grants to 36 researchers studying topics such as diabetes, COVID-19, obesity, cardiovascular diseases, cancer and mental health. In 2021, 23 research projects were completed and more than 49 articles were published in prestigious international scientific journals by scientists and medical researchers from the UAE's top universities and medical institutions.

Grant-winning projects included a study conducted by Dr Farah Benyettou, New York University Abu Dhabi, which focuses on developing a drug-delivery system that directly targets cancer and minimises side effects. Dr M Emdadul Haque, UAE University, received funding for his research on the role of Parkin proteins in neurodegeneration and the accumulation of damaged mitochondria, which can lead to oxidative stress and, eventually, cell death or cancer. Finally, Professor Sausan Al Kawas, University of Sharjah, received a seed grant to study the effects of smoking on a person's oral microbiome and its relationship to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity and cancer.

HOPE FOR CANCER PATIENTS

As part of **Al Jalila Foundation's** efforts to advance the healthcare system in the UAE and provide the best possible care for patients and improve quality of life, the Foundation established in 2021 the 'Majlis Al Amal', which means 'Hope Lounge' in Arabic, to be the country's first community centre of its kind dedicated to supporting the health and well-being of breast cancer patients. The Majlis was launched in collaboration with 'Brest Friends', which is considered to be the first group to support breast cancer patients in the UAE.

'Majlis Al Amal' offers discussion groups and educational workshops facilitated by volunteer specialists to support women whose lives have been affected by cancer. In 2021, 404 breast cancer patients and survivors benefitted from the Majlis's activities. The Majlis also established relationships with cancer support groups, hospitals and oncology teams across the UAE with the aim of referring women who need additional mental health and moral support.

In addition, **Al Jalila Foundation** participated in Breast Cancer Awareness Month through its annual #PINKtober campaign, which collected donations to help fund the treatment of 22 patients registered with the Foundation's programme 'A'awen'.

During October 2021, the Foundation raised about AED 1.7 million from 204 events and activities in cooperation with 166 partners from various sectors, including companies,

academic institutes, government entities, sports agencies and a number of institutions in the hospitality sector.

In recognition of World Kidney Day, which fell on 11 March 2021, **Al Jalila Foundation** and Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, in cooperation with Dubai Healthcare City, Mohammed bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences and Mediclinic City Hospital, launched a month-long campaign to raise awareness of kidney disease, organ donation and transplantation. The campaign included three virtual sessions in Arabic and English. Pritvik Sinhadc, Dubai's first recipient of a paediatric kidney transplant from a live donor, and his father Bhaskar, who donated his kidney to his son, participated in the sessions, alongside the surgical team from Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital's Organ Transplant Center that performed the operation.



404

participants in 'Majlis
Al Amal's' activities
in 2021





COOPERATING TO GIVE



AED
11 Million
provided through the
'A'awen' programme to
support patients'
treatment in 2021

Al Jalila Foundation's 'A'awen' programme has continued to help ease the financial burden of patients who are unable to afford quality medical care, especially those battling life-threatening diseases. In collaboration with partners, donors and the community, the programme provided aid to 278 people in 2021, including 97 children, at a cost of more than AED 11 million. This supported alleviating patients' suffering and improved their quality of life.

In July 2021, 'A'awen' launched 'A'awen Giving', an online crowdfunding platform to collect donations to support **Al Jalila Foundation's** programmes. The platform collected AED 600,000, which went towards the treatment of 10 patients suffering from heart disease, cancer, kidney disease, mobility issues and multiple sclerosis (MS).

During Ramadan 2021, Emirates NBD, one of **Al Jalila Foundation's** strategic partners, launched the #FastWithFriends challenge on social media to introduce the values of the holy month to UAE residents from different nationalities, cultures and beliefs. The month-long challenge called on non-Muslims to join their Muslim friends in fasting for one day in exchange for a donation, which Emirates NBD made to **Al Jalila Foundation**. #FastWithFriends was a great success, with more than AED 500,000 contributed to provide medical treatment for patients under the 'A'awen' programme.



SUPPORTING PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION

Al Jalila Foundation continued to deliver the free 'Ta'alouf' programme throughout the academic year to train public and private school teachers and principals in the UAE. These trainings equip them with the knowledge and skills necessary to better understand the unique needs of each student of determination, while expanding their knowledge of best practices for inclusive education and how to develop appropriate educational curricula and Individualised Education Plans (IEPs).

In its seventh edition, which concluded in June 2021, 'Ta'alouf' graduated 62 teachers and principals from 15 schools across the country. Each graduate proposed effective strategies to better support students with special needs in their schools, and received

specialised training on dealing with the students' intellectual challenges.

In 2021, the programme benefitted 9,400 students in grades 1, 2 and 3, allowing them to better integrate into the classroom. It also provided people of determination with equal opportunities to learn and develop their skills, thereby enhancing their participation in society.

As one of **Al Jalila Foundation's** most prominent programmes, 'Ta'alouf' receives full sponsorship from the Foundation in partnership with Zayed University, one of the region's top universities, with additional support from the Ministry of Education, the Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA) and the Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination.



9,400

students benefitted
from the 'Ta'alouf'
programme in 2021



RESTORING HOPE, RESTORING LIFE



Ali Kakaire came to the UAE from his home in Uganda to better provide for his wife and children. He worked very hard, always going above and beyond, but he soon fell ill. His pain and suffering continued to worsen, until his life became a daily struggle.

After visiting several doctors and undergoing a battery of tests, Ali was diagnosed with nodular sclerosing Hodgkin lymphoma (NSHL), a type of cancer that required immediate treatment. While his private health insurance covered several of the medications necessary to combat the disease, it did not cover two new, very expensive drugs that he desperately needed.

Given his small salary and financial responsibilities back home, Ali saw his chances of recovery begin to slip away, until his medical team advised that he apply for aid from **Al Jalila Foundation's** 'A'awen' programme, which helps patients suffering from life-threatening illnesses bear the cost of treatment.

When his application was approved, Ali finally saw the light at the end of the tunnel. He began his medication in February 2021 and has responded very well, which has allowed him to return to his normal life. Expressing joy and gratitude towards the help he received, Ali said: "I want to thank **Al Jalila Foundation** for its support and encouragement throughout my treatment journey. I would also like to thank the Foundation's donors for their generosity of heart and spirit, and their determination to make a difference in the lives of patients like me."

AN EYE ON THE FUTURE



In November 2018, when Youssef was only one year old, he was diagnosed with a retinoblastoma, a rare form of eye cancer. The resulting tumour had spread throughout his right eye socket.

One month later, Youssef underwent an emergency operation to remove his right eye, followed by six months of chemotherapy.

In addition to the many difficult side effects of his treatment, the operation left Youssef's eye socket empty. The doctors recommended fitting a prosthetic eye to help boost his self-confidence as he gets older.

Youssef's parents understood how beneficial the prosthetic would be to their child's long-term mental health and his life in the future. They immediately began trying to find support to cover the cost of the expensive procedure, eventually reaching out to **Al Jalila Foundation** for help.

As part of its 'A'awen' programme, **Al Jalila Foundation** worked with the Federal Authority for Government Human Resources to raise the necessary funds to provide the small boy with a high-quality prosthetic eye.

Youssef's mother openly voiced her concerns that her son would find it difficult to integrate into society because of his condition: "As a mother, I was afraid that he may be bullied by children, and we even avoided going out. Thanks to receiving the prosthetic eye, Youssef's natural facial features have returned, and today, Youssef is a happy, confident three-year-old who enjoys playing with his friends. We thank everyone who donated and are extremely grateful for all the support we received from **Al Jalila Foundation**."



SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMES TO ELIMINATE BLINDNESS



**14.5
Million**

patients received
trachoma treatment
by the end of 2021



25,000

health workers trained
in combatting
trachoma in 2021

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI, Noor Dubai** continues to achieve its objectives aimed at eliminating preventable causes of blindness. In line with its vision of a world free from visual impairment, the Foundation designs and implements sustainable therapeutic, preventive and educational programmes in disadvantaged areas around the world.

Through its campaigns and initiatives, **Noor Dubai** offers diagnostic and treatment services, including examinations, surgeries, eyeglasses and medicines. It also strives to control infectious diseases that cause blindness in endemic areas around the world and provide additional training to upskill eye care professionals. Furthermore, the Foundation supports scientific and operational research necessary to conceptualise effective strategies for monitoring cases in affected communities, as well as helping patients who have regained their sight to resume their role as active members of society.

In 2021, **Noor Dubai** continued its close partnership with The Carter Center to eradicate trachoma, an eye disease which impairs the vision of about 1.9 million people around the world, including 1.2 million people who have been rendered permanently blind.

Around 136.9 million people live in trachoma-endemic areas, with the Amhara region of Ethiopia being one of the most-affected. Since 2012, **Noor Dubai** has been working with

The Carter Center to implement the SAFE strategy, which is endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO), to control and eliminate the disease. The strategy includes eye surgeries, distributing antibiotics, organising awareness campaigns focused on the importance of facial cleanliness and maintaining a healthy community environment to limit the spread of trachoma.

In 2021, **Noor Dubai's** Mass Drug Administration (MDA) activities resumed in the Amhara region after a brief pause in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. By the end of 2021, the antibiotic Zithromax, donated by Pfizer, was administered to 14,508,467 people, while 25,000 public health workers were trained in dispensing medications and other strategies to combat trachoma. Over the next four years, **Noor Dubai** and The Carter Center aim to provide 43 million doses of Zithromax to approximately 14.3 million people, in line with the objectives of the SAFE strategy.



The health of a nation and its people determines its ability to progress. Strengthening the healthcare sector is one of the UAE's highest priorities, and we are confident that our efforts will contribute to advancing healthcare everywhere.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



EFFECTIVE HEALTH SERVICES



3,424

people underwent
cataract surgery in
Katsina in 2021

Noor Dubai resumed its comprehensive eye care programme in the Nigerian state of Katsina after a pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which limited crowds and gatherings to minimise the transmission of the virus. The Foundation was able to continue its activities after redesigning the programme to bring it in line with COVID-19 precautionary measures to ensure the safety of staff and patients while still allowing the provision of uninterrupted care.

The four-year programme, which runs from 2019 to 2023, aims to deliver comprehensive eye care services to Katsina residents and, as a result, improve their quality of life and socio-economic standing. The programme will also improve treatment services for patients suffering from cataracts, one of the most common causes of blindness, by doubling the rate and quality of surgical

procedures. It will also increase eye health service uptake across the state by about 50% by offering improved primary eye care as well as services for glaucoma and refractive errors.

As part of its efforts to build human resource capacities and develop healthcare infrastructure, **Noor Dubai** seeks to increase the number of health workers in Katsina by 50% by offering training and employment opportunities. In addition, the Foundation is renovating one main eye clinic, two clinics specialised in peripheral vision and 12 eye examination centres across the state, as well as three health check-up centres in three of Katsina's major cities. **Noor Dubai** is also providing treatment and rehabilitation services to at least 50% of the patients dealing with permanent vision loss and educating about 50% of adults in the state on the importance of eye health.



The 'Katsina Eye Care Program' provides basic eye health services, including exams, diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases and infections such as conjunctivitis and allergies. It also diagnoses and refers cases of refractive errors and cataracts, among other conditions which require surgical intervention, to treatment centres in the state.

In 2021, the programme's centres saw 3,424 patients who underwent cataract surgeries, and 4,400 people who received eye examinations.



COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE

As part of its fight against blindness-causing eye diseases, **Noor Dubai** signed a partnership agreement with The Fred Hollows Foundation to launch the 'Barishal Eye Care Program' in Bangladesh, which targets people in the state of Barishal who suffer from reduced vision due to diabetic retinopathy and refractive errors. The five-year project will provide specialised eye care services and free mobile examinations, as well as raise eye health awareness.

The programme aims to deliver therapeutic and preventive eye care services to 25,000

children and 50,000 adults, as well as educate nearly 4 million people across Barishal state. It will also establish two institutions led by women in the community to offer basic eye care services, especially for people suffering from refractive errors.

In 2021, 3,574 people benefitted from the 'Barishal Eye Care Program', of whom 1,520 underwent special eye examinations for refractive errors and 2,054 were screened for diabetes. As part of the programme, **Noor Dubai** equipped two health centres with retinal cameras and laser machines.



3,574

beneficiaries of the
'Barishal Eye Care
Program' in Bangladesh
in 2021



TREATMENT CAMPS TO COMBAT BLINDNESS



3,439

people treated at the mobile eye camp in Ghana in 2021

Noor Dubai continues to combat blindness in remote areas of Asia and Africa through its mobile eye camps, which offer screenings, medication, surgeries and eyeglasses. In 2021, 3,439 patients with cataracts and other blindness-causing eye diseases were treated at the camp in Tamale, Ghana. Of these patients, 500 received corrective surgeries.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, **Noor Dubai** implemented a number of precautionary measures in its camps to ensure the safety of patients and staff and reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

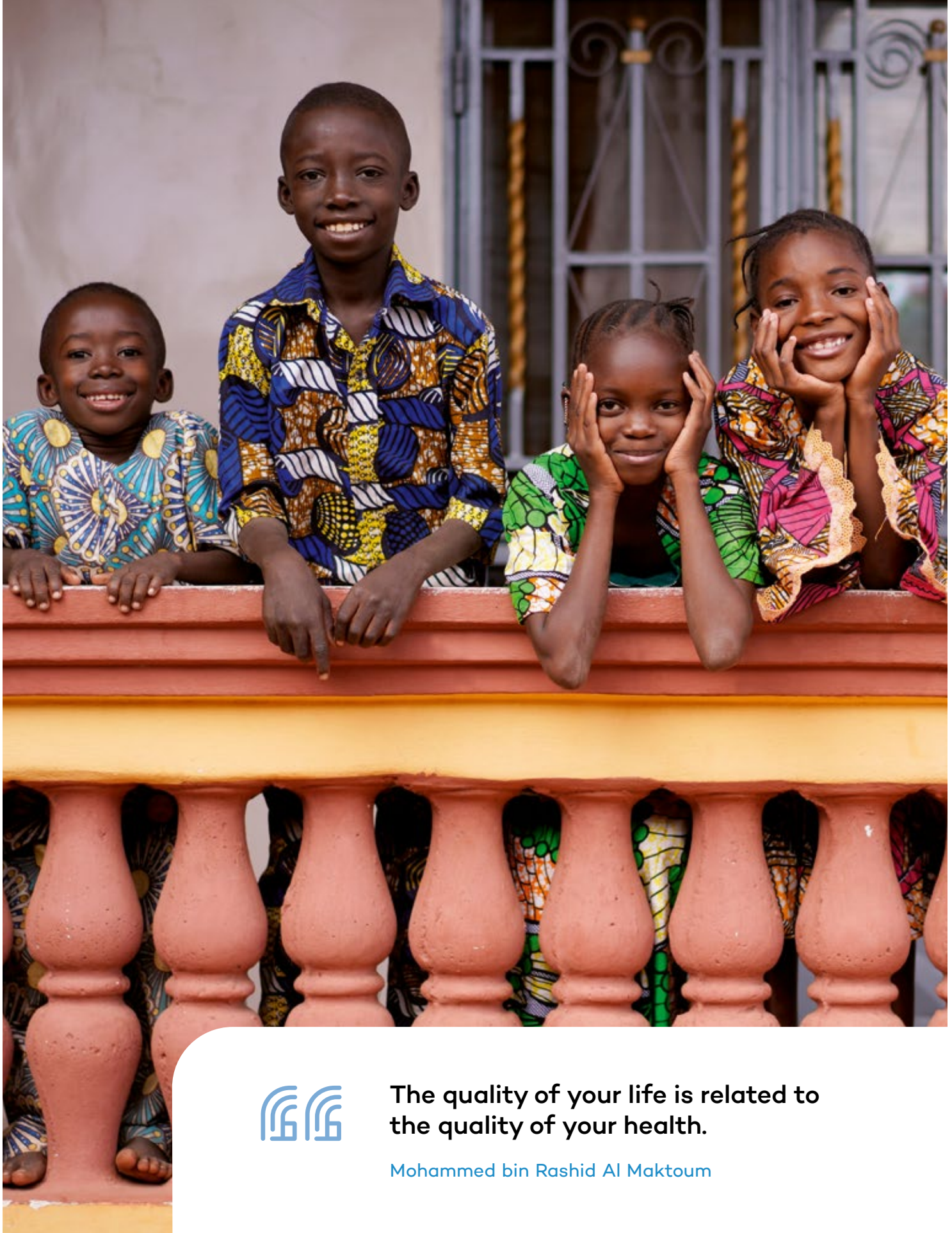
Mobile eye camps are one of the Foundation's primary international outreach programmes targeting remote areas and fragile communities. Through these camps, **Noor Dubai** is able to reach groups that are highly vulnerable to blindness due to extreme poverty, lack of resources and lack of infrastructure to provide quality healthcare services in their communities.

By organising training sessions and equipping them with supplies, the camps aim to empower local health workers to ensure that quality medical services will be provided continuously, even after the camps end.



Since the launch of the mobile eye camps programme in 2008, 289,306 people have received eye exams, 67,642 pairs of glasses have been distributed and 29,974 cataract surgeries have been performed. These interventions have improved the socio-economic status of the patients and their families and achieved sustainable results for long-term vision recovery.

According to a study conducted by **Noor Dubai**, about 3.2 million people suffer from vision loss in Ghana, of whom 100,000 are completely blind. According to the study, cataracts are one of the most common causes of blindness, but can easily be treated through a simple surgical procedure.



**The quality of your life is related to
the quality of your health.**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



TREATING SEVERE CASES



750

beneficiaries of the
mobile eye clinic
in 2021

Noor Dubai has invested AED 2.3 million into its 'UAE Treatment Program' that was launched in 2016, benefitting a total of 229 patients. The programme, which helps UAE residents of limited financial means cover the cost of treatment for critical eye diseases, aims to reduce patients' risk of developing visual impairments. In 2021, the 'UAE Treatment Program' provided aid to 15 patients suffering from complex conditions, including diabetic retinopathy, cataracts and eye injuries.

Noor Dubai's mobile eye clinic conducted free examinations for 750 patients in the UAE, using the latest medical equipment. In addition to providing examinations, the

mobile clinic also raises awareness of eye health among students, workers and drivers by implementing preventive campaigns for various social and age groups.

Since the first mobile clinic was launched in 2014, **Noor Dubai** has endeavoured to meet eye patients where they are. Using state-of-the-art buses that meet the highest standards, the mobile clinics deliver diagnostic, therapeutic and preventive services to people all across the country. In 2018, the Foundation expanded the scope of the mobile clinic's services to include testing for glaucoma, one of the most common conditions causing blindness.



FREE TREATMENT FOR HEART DISEASE

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the **Arab Hope Makers** initiative, the largest initiative of its kind to honour heroes of humanity in the Arab region, contributed the proceeds from its 2020 closing ceremony to the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre in Cairo, Egypt, which was its Humanitarian Cause of the Year. During the ceremony, the **Arab Hope Makers** hosted a live donation campaign, the largest of its kind for a humanitarian initiative in the Arab region, which attracted contributions from many of the UAE's most prominent entrepreneurs and institutions. The campaign raised AED 44 million for the Centre, which was then matched by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai, bringing the total donation to AED 88 million.

Since then, construction of the first floor of the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre, was completed in 2021, after finishing the project's first construction phase and laying the 22,000-square-metre foundations by the end of 2020. Once the Centre is fully operational in 2023, it will provide free treatment services to 120,000 heart patients and offer training for more than 1,500 specialised doctors and surgeons every year.

Under the supervision of the world-renowned heart surgeon Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub, the hospital's medical and research staff will work to develop a detailed genetic

map of heart disease in the Arab world based on case records, research results and the outcomes of scientific studies. The map will be used to develop diagnostic tools and early interventions for heart disease in the region.

Its support for the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre exemplifies **MBRGI's** commitment to backing humanitarian projects that make a positive impact on people's lives and create a better future. Investing in human health is the foundation for building stable and prosperous societies.



AED
88
Million

collected during the Arab Hope Makers ceremony for the construction of the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Centre



THE BLESSING OF SIGHT

Joshna Begum, a 40-year-old mother living in rural Bangladesh, suffered from an eye disease that impaired her vision. Her condition had slowly been deteriorating since 2019, until she was unable to perform routine house chores, move around or even meet her most basic needs without assistance.

Before she got sick, Joshna enjoyed sewing, reading books to her daughter and helping her with her schoolwork. As her eyesight worsened, however, she was no longer able to do these things that brought her joy. She was struggling to even manage her daily affairs and family life.

Joshna and her family rely on her husband's modest income to provide for their needs and cover the three children's school fees, and so for the past three years she couldn't afford to visit a specialist for her condition. However, she eventually learned about the free eye care services offered at the Ispahani Islamia Eye Institute and Hospital in Barishal, Bangladesh.

Joshna and her husband took the long, expensive journey to the hospital in hopes of finally getting her the treatment she needed. After undergoing a series of tests, Joshna was diagnosed with a severe uncorrected refractive error in her eye and was prescribed glasses to correct her sight.

She was thrilled that simply wearing glasses could restore her vision, but she was concerned about the cost and the social stigma in her community associated with women wearing glasses.

Fortunately, Joshna received advice and support from the hospital's specialists which helped her overcome her fear. In addition, **Noor Dubai**, in collaboration with The Fred Hollows Foundation, covered the cost of her new glasses.

Joshna will forever be grateful to those in charge of the eye care programme in Barishal. She expressed her happiness by saying: "I received beautiful glasses, which allow me to see. Now I can do housework, read and even move from one place to another on my own."



THE APPLE OF HER EYE



Aleema, 35, relies on a wooden stick to help her move about as she suffers from a physical impairment in one of her legs. To make matters worse, she lost her eyesight four years ago. These issues left her incapable of working, thus making it impossible to provide for her family or afford medical treatment.

Aleema lives in Ghana with her 20-year-old daughter, who studies and helps her mother with her daily tasks while also taking care of her own child.

Aleema's daughter described how dramatically her life changed after her mother lost her sight: "When my mother's condition began to deteriorate, I had to miss many days of school. After she completely lost her sight, I had to take my daughter to school with me because my mother could not take care of her. I ended up dropping out altogether, as we were no longer able to support ourselves, let alone bear any additional burdens and costs."

Fortunately, the family's suffering was short-lived. Aleema visited **Noor Dubai's** mobile eye camp in Ghana and underwent cataract surgery, which restored her vision. Thanks to the Foundation's efforts in providing free care and treatment to patients with eye disease, Aleema and her daughter's lives have vastly improved.

Not only did **Noor Dubai** help Aleema regain her eyesight, but also allowed her to see her granddaughter – the apple of her eye – for the first time.



Spreading Education & Knowledge

The Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar is one of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives' highest priorities, comprising dozens of education, knowledge and cultural projects and initiatives seeking to improve the quality of education systems, keep pace with the latest international curricula and provide accredited digital learning platforms to millions of young people in the Arab region and beyond.

AED
253

MILLION

spent on Spreading
Education & Knowledge
initiatives in 2021

484

MILLION

beneficiaries of Spreading
Education & Knowledge
initiatives in 2021

21 MILLION

beneficiaries of Dubai Cares'
programmes and initiatives

21.5 MILLION

students participating in the sixth
Arab Reading Challenge by the
end of 2021

2.9 MILLION

beneficiaries of the Madrasa
e-Learning Platform



Providing Quality Education, Investing in Arab Minds & Supporting Education Systems Around the World



AED
253
Million

spent on Spreading
Education & Knowledge
initiatives in 2021

Central to the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives' (MBRGI)** work, the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar is focused on investing in Arab minds and using science and knowledge to increase social awareness surrounding the role quality education plays in creating a better future for all.

Within this pillar, **MBRGI** designs and implements education, knowledge and cultural projects and initiatives to improve the quality of education across the region and keep pace with the latest international standards. The Foundation also develops accredited digital learning platforms to make modern curricula accessible to millions of young people in the Arab region and beyond.

MBRGI's Spreading Education & Knowledge initiatives seek to support traditional and digital education systems in various parts of the world, with a particular focus on underserved communities that are facing the most pressing education and development challenges and suffering from resource shortages. To achieve these aims, the Foundation equips teachers and education professionals with the proper training, tools and techniques, and facilitates access to approved educational platforms for targeted students.

Spreading Education & Knowledge is at the heart of **MBRGI's** mission to create education systems based on the latest concepts and approaches, which are in line with global standards at the local, regional and international levels. This ultimately contributes to nurturing a generation that understands the role of science and knowledge in building societies and advancing development to further the efforts in the region, led by the UAE, to consolidate the knowledge economy.

In 2021, distance learning remained vital, with digital education platforms comprising an integral part of education systems in many countries due to the ongoing repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, **MBRGI** enhanced its activities within this pillar to offer a smooth, effective digital education experience for students and teachers and enrich the Arabic learning resources available on the **Madrasa e-Learning Platform**, which provides free science and maths educational content as well as a complete Arabic language curriculum for millions of Arab students wherever they are located.

The Digital School, which was launched in 2020 with the aim of offering accredited digital education in a smart and flexible way for students of various socio-economic backgrounds and educational levels, is focused on shaping the future of global education. The School primarily targets the most vulnerable social groups and refugees in Arab communities and the rest of the world.



Through its pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, **Dubai Cares** organised a number of key events that highlighted the importance of learning at various stages of development and the value of volunteering in fostering community solidarity to enhance education environments. It also explored the future learning landscape and introduced visitors to the Foundation's sustainable education initiatives. In 2021, **Dubai Cares** launched six new programmes with a total value of approximately AED 18 million, covering a variety of vital areas, including youth skills, the future of work, health and school nutrition.

In 2021, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation** announced a new structure for the 'Global Knowledge Index' at the United Nations (UN) headquarters at Expo 2020 Dubai. The 2021 Index attracted 16 new countries, bringing the total number to 154, including 16 Arab countries, and 75 new variables were introduced to bring the total number of indicators to 155.

In 2021, **MBRGI's** total spending within the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar amounted to more than AED 253 million, benefitting over 48.4 million people around the world.



**48.4
Million**

beneficiaries of
Spreading Education &
Knowledge initiatives
in 2021



THE FUTURE IS HUMAN AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI



**21
Million**

beneficiaries of Dubai
Cares' programmes
and initiatives

Dubai Cares, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, works to implement integrated and sustainable educational initiatives and programmes to ensure that children and youth in disadvantaged communities have access to quality basic education, in addition to providing specialised training for teachers. It also seeks to address the challenges that crises and natural disasters cause in education systems, thus helping to achieve the United Nations' fourth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030.

In 2021, **Dubai Cares** overcame many of the ongoing challenges in the education sector caused by the continued spread of COVID-19 to bring its total number of beneficiaries to more than 21 million. The Foundation spent around AED 126 million on its various initiatives, including AED 18 million for the launch of six new programmes focused on a variety of topics, such as youth skills, the future of work, health and school nutrition.

Dubai Cares also earmarked more than AED 36 million for projects focused on strengthening education systems around the globe. It continued to support the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) by pledging more than AED 9 million to the 'GPE Case for Investment in the Middle East', part of the 'Raise Your Hand' campaign, which aims to raise at least \$5 billion (approximately AED 18.4 billion)

to help nearly one billion children access education in 90 underprivileged countries and territories.

Under the theme 'The Future is Human', **Dubai Cares'** pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai invited visitors of all ages to participate in an immersive experience about the future of education, skills and work. Through a visual journey, the pavilion told the story of Dubai as a city that is witnessing a continuous knowledge and humanitarian movement in which skills, experiences and philanthropy are combined to make a fundamental difference for the better. The pavilion also highlighted the importance of learning during the various stages of development, providing visitors with a glimpse into what lies ahead for our children and the skills required in the future job market.

Between October and late December, the **Dubai Cares** pavilion attracted 74,488 local and international visitors, and 4,461 students from more than 250 schools participated in educational workshops. It hosted 874 school visits, which gave teachers and students the opportunity to correct misconceptions about learning and explore the future of education.

The pavilion held 47 events that addressed critical issues, including education, girls' empowerment, and future skills, and hosted 58 delegations including United Nations representatives, government officials, high-level speakers and private institutions.

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

As part of its mission to reshape the education landscape for a sustainable, innovative and accessible future for all, **Dubai Cares** hosted the 'RewirEd Summit' from 12 to 14 December 2021 at Expo 2020 Dubai. Each day was held under a different theme focusing on one of three pressing issues in education: Youth, Skills and the Future of Work; Innovation in Education; and Financing Education. The Summit witnessed the launch of a series of major initiatives and programmes to accelerate the process of upgrading the global education system and draw attention to its current state.

The 'RewirEd Summit' was attended by 500 international speakers, including 38 former and current heads of state and ministers, as well as representatives of the public and private sectors from around the world. The sessions drew 2,810 physical attendees, and 1,376 people watched online from more than 90 countries.

Major initiatives launched during the Summit included the 'Passport to Earning', a digital education platform that allows young people from around the world aged 15 to 24 to access free and accredited education and vocational training; the 'RewirEd Global Declaration on Connectivity for Education'; the child-friendly nurseries standards; and UNESCO's 'Futures of Education' report, which acknowledges the power of education to bring about profound change.

Under the 'Innovation in Education' theme, five of Africa's most promising education innovators presented their ideas to a panel of specialists during the 'Innovating in Africa Pitch'. The winners will have the opportunity to implement their innovations as pilot projects in their home countries.

During the 'RewirEd Provocations Award Ceremony', a select number of experiments received seed funding for further development and roll-out in order to advance the education sector.

The outcomes of the 'RewirEd Summit' were outlined in a special report supervised by the Education Commission, which will contribute to enhancing the UN's Transforming Education Summit scheduled for September 2022. The report highlighted the need for investment in education and sent a clear call to action for achieving the SDGs in the countdown to 2030.



4,186

attendees of the
'Rewired Summit'
in 2021





We aim to provide students, especially those living in refugee camps, war zones and disadvantaged communities, with the highest quality education in the best way possible.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



VOLUNTEERING IN THE UAE

As part of the local 'Volunteer Emirates' initiative organised by **Dubai Cares**, volunteers participated in its pavilion's activities at Expo 2020 Dubai, where 22 volunteers collected school supplies, packed more than 8,000 bags and distributed them to students aged 6 to 12. The volunteers also participated in the 'RewirEd Talks' and the 'RewirEd Summit'. In addition, 245 people registered as volunteers in the **Dubai Cares** pavilion to participate in future activities.

Dubai Cares also participated in the Global Volunteering Leadership Summit, held by the International Association for Volunteer Effort in partnership with the Emirates Foundation, as well as a webinar organised by the Emirates Schools Establishment to educate students on the importance of volunteering with the aim of boosting the UAE's position as a global leader for civic duty.



8,000
school bags prepared
by volunteers to
support **Dubai Cares'**
projects in 2021



NEW SCHOOLS & ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMMES



1,780

beneficiaries of Dubai Cares' school-building projects in Nepal and Malawi in 2021

Dubai Cares, in cooperation with the non-profit organisation BuildOn, supported the construction of two new schools and the implementation of an adult literacy programme in Nepal's western region. The project aims to increase girls' and women's access to education, improve basic school infrastructure and raise adult literacy rates. In addition, it provides parents and community members with the opportunity to contribute to building the schools and participate in **Dubai Cares'** capacity-building programmes. The project benefitted a total of 860 people, including primary school students and teachers, as well as women and adults in the local community.

The Foundation supported a similar project in Malawi that benefitted 920 people at a cost of more than AED 205,000. The two new schools will provide improved primary school classroom infrastructure and a safe, healthy environment for both students and teachers. The project, which will run from 2021 to 2024, seeks to improve access to quality primary and adult education, increase adult literacy and provide training for local facilitators to teach the fundamentals of reading and writing.



PROMOTING A CULTURE OF HEALTH IN SCHOOLS

Dubai Cares continued to support a programme to improve access to safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in schools in Bangladesh, which was launched in 2019, to improve the hygiene behaviours of 87,500 students and more than 25,000 parents by the end of 2022. The programme strives to promote a culture of health in schools and communities to enable sustainable behaviour change, raise awareness and launch education campaigns on the importance of good hygiene, establish an institutional environment for evidence-based policy-making in school WASH, and engage key decision-makers to reinforce the use of the hygiene manual and the Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor's (WSUP) school database.

The 'Improving Child Health and Education Outcomes' project in Madagascar achieved its goals in 2021 by providing safe water for 82,225 people. Launched in 2017 by **Dubai Cares** in partnership with WSUP, the WASH programme builds and rehabilitates sanitation and hygiene facilities in 30 schools in Madagascar, ensuring that the facilities are sustainably managed and maintained. It also seeks to cooperate with relevant health authorities and health education units in schools, communities and health centres to inspire sustainable behavioural change and build capacity for local institutions

and national ministries. In addition, it includes a comprehensive research component designed to build an evidence base that will support more effective policy investment in school WASH in Madagascar.

Additionally, **Dubai Cares'** ongoing school-based programme to combat intestinal worms in five locations in Pakistan, including Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Islamabad, Sindh, Punjab and Gilgit-Baltistan, continued to be successful. The three-year programme aims to reach 40,000 public schools and 26,000 private schools by the end of 2022.



82,225

people provided with safe drinking water through the 'Improving Child Health and Education Outcomes' programme in Madagascar in 2021





SUPPORT THROUGH EDUCATION



240,000

children benefitted from the programme to increase child-friendly libraries in Vietnam in 2021

Through the 'Empowering Adolescent Girls' programme in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, **Dubai Cares** continued to enhance the capabilities of 30,000 girls in partnership with the Global Fund for Children, a non-profit based in Washington, DC, in the US. The programme strives to advance girls' rights in education, promote gender equality, boost equitable access to employment opportunities and empower young people to fight violence and exploitation. Slated for completion in 2022, 'Empowering Adolescent Girls' focuses on building the capacities of 18 local non-profit organisations in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

In 2021, **Dubai Cares** also provided support for 177,000 students in Paraguay through the 'Educate, Learn & Innovate through an E-Platform' (ELITE) programme in partnership with Paraguay Educa. ELITE enhances learning among primary and secondary students and supports the professional development of teachers.

Additionally, the Foundation concluded a three-year programme to increase the number of child-friendly libraries in Vietnam, which scaled up a librarian training model to help underserved students adopt a habit of reading. In partnership with Room to Read, an international non-profit organisation, the programme benefitted 240,000 people and supported the Vietnamese government in establishing 320 child-friendly libraries and publishing five new books in Vietnamese.



INNOVATIVE EDUCATION FOR ALL

Dubai Cares remained committed to a number of innovative educational programmes in 2021 to meet the diverse needs of Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan across pre-primary, primary and secondary levels. It also supported teachers and provided early childhood care and development services through the 'Transforming Refugee Education towards Excellence' (TREE) programme, which is specifically designed for teacher professional development, with a special focus on improving their well-being and involving them in the curriculum design process. TREE benefitted 75,549 people by building teacher capacities, improving educational models to support child well-being and enhance teacher practices and student learning, as well as fostering a conducive learning environment.

In 2021, the Foundation completed the 'Recovery and Resilience in Education in Iraq' programme that supported the rehabilitation of education services in the country following its large-scale displacement crisis. The programme positively impacted the lives of about 154,000 people. It was launched in 2019 with the aim of establishing an advanced education system, improving early childhood care and services and providing children with psychological support and training. In addition, 16 schools were renovated, and two multi-purpose community centres were built, providing safe, inclusive spaces for youth empowerment activities. The centres' activities focus on early childhood care

and development, life skills for employability and psychosocial support.

In addition, **Dubai Cares'** 'Ensuring Supportive and Safe Quality Education for Girls' programme achieved its goals in the Assiut, Beni Suef and Minya governorates in Upper Egypt in 2021 by addressing challenges related to girls' education, improving the standard of education and providing a safe and encouraging learning environment. Since its launch in 2016, the programme has built and refurbished 32 schools and has served 39,565 students – at least 50% of whom are females – 712 teachers, 229 social workers, 20,176 parents, 30 child protection committees and 50 Ministry of Education supervisors.



154,000

beneficiaries of the 'Recovery and Resilience in Education in Iraq' programme in 2021



FATIGUE FOREVER GONE

Hidayatullah, a 10-year-old student in Pakistan, rarely missed class, until he started feeling so tired in the morning that he struggled to even get out of bed. He began missing school for weeks at a time for no obvious reason.

One morning, as he sat in his fifth-grade class trying to stay awake, the teacher began to explain intestinal worms. She said that these worms are one of the most common causes of digestive disorders, fatigue, malnutrition and stunted growth in school children, and that if anyone was showing these symptoms, they should seek treatment immediately.



When Hidayatullah heard this, he finally realised what was wrong with him and why he was not doing well in school. Shortly afterwards, the teachers met with the students' parents to discuss intestinal worms and answer any questions they may have. They also announced that the school would be holding a deworming day, supervised by **Dubai Cares**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**. At the meeting, Hidayatullah's father asked questions about the treatment and whether the medicine had any side effects.

"Some parents were afraid that their children would feel sick after taking the drug because they thought it wouldn't work," Hidayatullah's father said.

Thanks to the **Dubai Cares** school-based deworming programme, Hidayatullah and other children received the medicine they needed to treat their intestinal worms.

"Everyone was nervous, but excited. I watched my schoolmates take the medicine, and I was eager to take it as well. It tasted a bit bitter, but I was very happy when I didn't feel dizzy or sick," Hidayatullah said.

Hidayatullah woke up the next morning to discover that his worms were gone. He rushed to tell his parents and share his experience with his schoolmates, many of whom had similar stories. "The same happened with a lot of my classmates. It really worked!" he said excitedly. "They told us at school that if we get a dose of medicine every year, then our health would improve and we would feel strong and we would never feel tired again."

SELINA'S EDUCATIONAL MESSAGE

Selina Kafui Mensah, a kindergarten teacher at the Naval Base Basic School in Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis in Ghana's Western Region, is among those who successfully completed the Fast-track Transformational Teacher Training (FTTT). The programme, which is designed and implemented by Sabre Education, is part of **Dubai Cares'** 'Enhance Early Years Pre-Service Teacher Training' programme in Ghana.



When the Ghana Education Service (GES) launched a new kindergarten curriculum, Selina quickly noticed that it was very similar to what she was already doing in her classroom because of her FTTT training.

"I realised the new curriculum was all about the play-based approach I received from the FTTT training. My responses during the training to questions and demonstrations on how activities could be done in the classroom were quite revealing, and soon the facilitator began to use me as an unofficial co-facilitator to explain some concepts that were a bit challenging for the other teachers."

Following the five-day GES training, the teachers had a difficult time implementing the new curriculum in their classrooms as they had no experience with play-based education, and they lacked the appropriate teaching materials. Selina saw her colleagues struggling and took it upon herself to help them.

Selina helped them organise their classrooms, equipped them with child-friendly course materials and supported them so that they could develop their own teaching resources for their classes.

The skills and knowledge Selina gained through **Dubai Cares'** programme and her ability to use this knowledge to train her colleagues has made her proud to be a kindergarten teacher.

"I have become a resource person to a lot of teachers, and now they are able to comfortably implement the new curriculum. I am very grateful for the knowledge and experience that the FTTT programme has given me," she added.

INSTILLING A CULTURE OF READING



21.5 Million

students participating in the sixth Arab Reading Challenge by the end of 2021

Within the Spreading Education & Knowledge pillar, the **Arab Reading Challenge** seeks to instil a culture of reading among children and youth in the Arab region and make it an integral part of their lives. The initiative promotes reading as a tool for enhancing creative and critical thinking and nurturing a generation capable of building better Arab societies.

The Challenge targets students in schools in the Arab region, children of the Arab diaspora and other Arabic speakers between the ages of 6 and 18 and seeks to develop their critical thinking skills and expression, fuel their passion for Arabic as a language capable of conveying all kinds of knowledge, and encourage tolerance.

In September 2021, the closing ceremony of the fifth edition of the **Arab Reading Challenge**, which was postponed due to the pandemic, was broadcast live on MBC in Dubai. Millions of people across the Arab region tuned in to watch Jordanian student Abdullah Abu Khalaf be crowned the champion of the world's largest Arab literacy initiative.

Registration for the sixth Challenge is open, with 21.5 million students already signed up to participate by the end of 2021. With the gradual recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, the specialised committees and supervisors will resume their regular roles during the new edition, following the students' progress, reviewing book summaries, evaluating participants, supervising the interim and final rounds and helping students master reading and summarisation skills.

Abu Dhabi University (ADU), **MBRGI's** strategic partner for the **Arab Reading Challenge**, continues to support the initiative. In the fifth edition, ADU provided scholarships to the 15 semi-finalists to pursue a bachelor's degree at one of its two branches in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain. These scholarships reflect ADU's commitment to embracing creative Arab talents from all over the Arab region, as well as the role of the **Arab Reading Challenge** in building a mindful generation that understands the value of knowledge and reading.





History teaches us that the rise of civilisations and the prosperity of nations and peoples are linked to knowledge.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY THROUGH READING

Mai Salahuddin Elhassan, an eighth-grade student at Moadamiya High School in Quneitra, Syria, did not let her physical disability stand in the way of her participating in the **Arab Reading Challenge**. Confined to her wheelchair, books were Mai's constant companion. She read voraciously, finding joy in learning about science and absorbing as much knowledge as she could.

Mai read dozens of novels and books on science and culture to complete 80% of the requirements for Syrian participants in the **Arab Reading Challenge**, the largest initiative of its kind aimed at spreading the culture of reading among Arab youth.

She believes that self-confidence is the key to overcoming challenges and disabilities, a view that has made her a positive role model for her peers and motivated them to overcome their own difficulties.

Mai's desire to learn and determination to participate in the **Arab Reading Challenge** inspired the Challenge's supervisors in Syria, who gifted her an e-reader so she could continue pursuing her passion for reading and achieve her goal of participating in the various stages of the Challenge.



FINDING A ZEST FOR LIFE

Faisal Zaid Alshara'a, a fifth-grade student at the Ahl Al-Qur'an Islamic School & Academy in Ramtha, Jordan, was born without a right hand and only two fingers on his left, as well as a tongue tie for which he had to undergo surgery at a very young age. He also suffers from muscular dystrophy in his legs, which makes it difficult for him to walk.

These physical disabilities made Faisal feel shy, introverted and isolated from his peers, as he could not bear to see the looks of pity they would give him.

Books were Faisal's safe haven, where he could explore new worlds and lose himself in stories that made him feel alive. However, he struggled to find a way to nurture his passion for reading until his teacher introduced him to the **Arab Reading Challenge**.

Faisal participated in the Challenge's fifth edition, qualifying at both the school and district levels. He was ecstatic when his school district's director recognised him for his district qualification. He then went on to qualify at the country level.

Thanks to his success in the Challenge, Faisal finally felt comfortable with opening up and interacting with his classmates, who now look at him with pride and admiration rather than pity.

Faisal is now preparing for the sixth **Arab Reading Challenge** and is determined to reach the finals. The child who once refused to interact with others is now filled with hope and a zest for life. His constant smiles and laughs fill the room as he talks to friends he met through the **Arab Reading Challenge**.



KNOWLEDGE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



154

participating countries in the 'Arab Knowledge Project's' 'Global Knowledge Index' in 2021

As part of its efforts to develop the intellectual and cultural role of the Arabic language, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF)**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, continued the 'Arab Knowledge Project' in 2021. Implemented in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Project brings together several initiatives that share a unified vision for the role of knowledge in achieving sustainable development in the Arab region.

The 'Arab Knowledge Project', which promotes knowledge-based societies and policies, succeeded in restructuring the 'Global Knowledge Index' (GKI), preparing the GKI report and developing the 'Knowledge for All' portal. An important addition to the global repository of knowledge on development, the GKI aims to define development indicators and provide diverse and reliable data that can

help countries and decision-makers understand and respond to related transformations and challenges.

In 2021, the global knowledge landscape changed dramatically as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the Project undertook a comprehensive review of the GKI's structure to accommodate significant changes in the types of data available, updates in international databases and the suspension and substitution of many international indicators.

GKI 2021 attracted 154 countries, 16 more than last year, and comprised 155 variables, including 75 new ones. The Index's updated structure was launched in cooperation with international experts, decision-makers and youth from the Arab region at the UN headquarters at Expo 2020 Dubai in the presence of 3,000 people from 92 countries.



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE PLATFORMS

In 2021, **MBRF's** 'Digital Knowledge Hub' continued to build a comprehensive knowledge platform featuring more than 300,000 books, 3.5 million digital materials on a variety of topics and 1.6 million digital objects. In addition, the Hub serves as a central platform where entities can share digital resources and solutions to manage the knowledge economy, which benefitted more than 25 national institutions.

In an effort to enhance its services, which benefitted more than 465,000 people in 2021, and further develop its knowledge content, the Hub's 'Book in Minutes' section provided users with 210 summaries of the most renowned international books in Arabic in various fields, including three each month covering management, human resources and family.

As part of its commitment to building digital platforms to disseminate knowledge and encourage reading, the 'Digital Knowledge Hub' signed a partnership agreement with the University of Fujairah and the Fujairah Charity Association to establish the 'Fujairah Digital Library'.



465,000

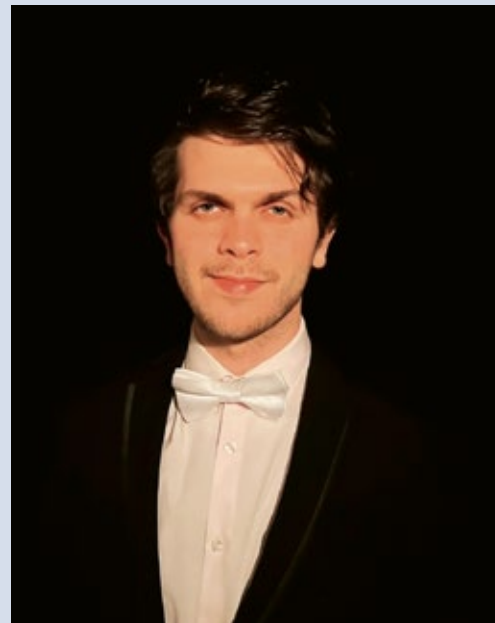
beneficiaries of the
'Digital Knowledge
Hub's' services in 2021



A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY AT OXFORD

Since its launch in 2016, the 'Oxford-Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Graduate Scholarship' programme has allowed many Arab students to complete their postgraduate education at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom. The scholarship programme aims to create the Arab scholars of tomorrow, benefitting the region through their contributions in science and research.

Scholarship recipient Karim Almahayni, from Syria, describes his experience by saying: "During my studies at Oxford, I developed my scientific knowledge in the field of pharmacology. I learned about diseases, medicines and the properties of drugs to help find treatments for addiction. I also made friends from all over the world and sought to enhance my social and managerial skills."



Asked about his life at Oxford, he added: "I enjoyed every second of my time there, and I even volunteered during the COVID-19 pandemic to help the elderly in my area, which made me feel good about being part of the solution in some small way."

Karim expressed his gratitude for the opportunity the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation** provided him. "Thanks to the Foundation, I joined the best university in the world and overcame many obstacles I was facing along the way," he said. "My dream came true when I became the first student on this scholarship to graduate from Oxford. I have learned a lot, and I will work hard to harness what I have learned to give back to society and support the less fortunate. I will take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to develop treatments for incurable diseases."

ARABIC: THE LANGUAGE OF KNOWLEDGE

MBRF's annual 'Bil Arabi' initiative persisted in promoting the use of Arabic on social media platforms and encouraging Arab youth to use their mother tongue in their everyday life. The initiative's activities drew more than 710,000 participants from all walks of life across many countries.

To celebrate the Arabic language and its ability to be used effectively to communicate all types of knowledge, 'Bil Arabi' launched a digital campaign under the theme 'Arabic: The Language of Knowledge'. The campaign coincided with the UN World Arabic Language Day on 18 December, which drew approximately 700,000 participants from all over the world in 2021.

Additionally, the initiative partnered with 24 experts and specialists to deliver nine webinars addressing a variety of topics, which attracted 27,790 participants from several countries.

In 2021, **MBRF** also participated in the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair and Sharjah International Book Fair with a number of projects and events, including the ongoing 'Knowledge Lounge' initiative, which is active in various parts of the UAE and other Arab countries. The initiative hosted 206 meetings and activities, which attracted 5,000 people, including many writers, intellectuals and influential Arab personalities, who discussed 180 books over a total of 540 hours.

During the Abu Dhabi International Book Fair, **MBRF** broadcast its 'KnowTalks' series, organised in cooperation with UNDP. The 14 Talks featured 28 international experts who spoke on the themes of 'Get Your Facts Straight: COVID-19 Vaccines Demystified', 'Touring the World through Turning Pages', and 'Reading During the Pandemic: Digital Versus Traditional Libraries', drawing 12,497 viewers from 60 countries.


12,497
people watched the
'KnowTalks' in 2021





19

participants in the
'Dubai International
Program for Writing'
in 2021

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FUTURE LEADERS

The 'Oxford-Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Graduate Scholarship', which aims to support distinguished students and foster influential global leaders capable of producing and disseminating knowledge, was awarded to six students in 2021, allowing them to pursue higher education at one of the world's most prestigious universities.

Since 2015, the 'Oxford-Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Graduate Scholarship' programme, a partnership between **MBRF** and the University of Oxford, has enabled students from the UAE and the Arab region to enrol in Oxford, which is ranked among the world's top three universities. Provided by **MBRF**, the grant contributes to building knowledge societies in the Arab world based on the latest advancements in science and knowledge.

EMPOWERING CREATIVE TALENT

As part of its efforts to empower young talents, **MBRF**'s 'Dubai International Program for Writing' aims to enrich the intellectual and literary movement in the UAE and the region by supporting authors in various fields of knowledge, from science and research to literature and poetry, and honing their creative, literary and research skills.

In 2021, the Programme comprised four categories: Writing, Writers' Exchange, My Story (Qesaty) Competition, and Translation. It organised several activities, including two writing workshops on fiction and science-fiction books for children, which hosted 19 participants in total.



INTEGRATED DIGITAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The Digital School was launched by **MBRGI** in 2020 to help mitigate the challenges in education created by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for the most vulnerable social groups, such as refugees, in Arab societies and the world. The first-of-its-kind integrated digital platform offers flexible distance learning solutions through modern curricula to students wherever they are using cutting-edge technologies and artificial intelligence applications.

The Digital School, which targets 20,000 students in its first year and more than one million in its first five years, provides digital study materials that are compatible with national and international curricula. The School's digital classrooms, where students can engage with licensed teachers and classmates, and smart evaluation mechanism allow students to become autonomous learners, acquire new skills and earn accredited certificates through international educational entities and organisations.

In 2021, **The Digital School** launched its pilot phase in the Emirati-Jordanian camp for Syrian refugees in Jordan's Mrjeb Al Fhood area to evaluate its content and digital operating system. The test took a total of 60 hours, at a pace of two hours per day, with the participation of 60 students from grades 5 and 6. The students were divided into two groups under four supervisors, and the camp's classrooms were equipped with 60 computers or tablets, digital content and internet access.

The Digital School also established its first education centre in the camp to create an integrated digital learning environment, introduce students to the new system, provide devices and internet access for 1,000 students and train 200 teachers on how to use the digital school system effectively.

In a related context, **The Digital School** organises teacher trainings on developing digital education plans and to help them understand how the School works. In Egypt's Luxor Governorate, 50 teachers benefitted from this training, while 50 more teachers participated in a similar training programme in Mauritania. The programme was developed in conjunction with Arizona State University in Arabic, Spanish and French with the aim of training 1,500 teachers at a pace of 500 per year.

The Digital School was also able to forge crucial partnerships through the 'Alliance for the Future of Digital Learning', which includes more than 30 international institutions, organisations and education technology companies, to help unify efforts to develop the future of digital education systems. The Alliance's Advisory Council comprises 11 of the most prominent educators, academics, educational entities and humanitarian institutions working to support new trends and practices in digital education and launching projects and initiatives capable of achieving a qualitative leap and constituting real opportunities to meet the digital education needs of countries in the region and the world.



TOMORROW'S KNOWLEDGE FOR CHILDREN



**2.9
Million**

beneficiaries of the
Madrasa e-Learning
Platform

The **Madrasa e-Learning Platform**, a free digital education platform available to Arab students anywhere in the world, continued to enrich its Arabic content in subjects such as physics, chemistry and biology. The Platform provides a complete Arabic curriculum through 6,800 video lessons that have been professionally designed and produced and quality assured for scientific accuracy. The Platform benefitted 2.9 million students, and its YouTube channel attracted 58 million views.

As part of 'UAE Innovates 2021', the **Madrasa e-Learning Platform** announced the launch of the 'Future Sciences for Children' series to present the knowledge of tomorrow to students in an accessible, innovative and engaging way that piques their scientific curiosity, encourages research and enriches the Arabic digital content with modern and reliable scientific knowledge.

The series tackles various topics that are divided into main sections: The Future of Information Technology, Modern Electronic

Applications, Future Medicine, Aviation and Space, Modern Architecture, Materials in Our World, Modern Optoelectronics Applications, Energy, and Environment.

'Future Sciences for Children' uses interactive storytelling and attractive visuals and animations to make the content engaging and create characters children can relate to. It has received about 215,000 subscribers and 2.5 million views from 10 countries, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Algeria, Oman, Iraq, Morocco, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine.

As part of a cooperation agreement between **MBRGI** and Dubai Media Incorporated in 2021, Sama Dubai TV presented **Madrasa e-Learning Platform's** Arabic lessons in the form of a narrative for three days a week during its Mesbar Al-Maarefa programme, which attracted 100,000 viewers. The programme sought to support and encourage creativity through initiatives aimed at advancing the Arabic language.



A BEACON OF CULTURE & KNOWLEDGE

Under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Library Foundation** plays a vital role in enhancing the position of Dubai and the UAE as a top cultural destination in the region. The Library continues to amass its collection to cater to writers, researchers, thinkers and bibliophiles from all over the world. It consists of nine floors and covers more than half a million square feet, which cost nearly AED 1 billion to build.

Once complete, the Library will be home to 1.5 million print, audio and video titles, including about 160,000 English titles and 120,000 Arabic titles, in addition to 1,500 books, manuscripts, maps, atlases, periodicals and rare writing tools from the ninth to the 19th centuries, as well as 60 religious, scientific and literary manuscripts that include Qurans from the 13th to the 19th centuries.





Innovation & Entrepreneurship

The Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar reflects the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives' vision of establishing a culture of entrepreneurship led by innovation and forging new pathways to development through science, advanced technology and the new economy to build societies rooted in well-being, while placing particular emphasis on investing in youth and arming them with the skills of the future.

AED
37

MILLION

spent on Innovation
& Entrepreneurship
initiatives in 2021

29

MILLION

beneficiaries of Innovation
& Entrepreneurship
initiatives in 2021

3,621

Emirati entrepreneurs supported
by the Mohammed bin Rashid
Establishment for SME
Development in 2021

1.7 MILLION

participants in the 'One Million
Uzbek Coders' initiative by the
end of 2021.

228

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



Promoting a Culture of Innovation & Pushing Towards a Knowledge-based Economy



AED
337
Million

spent on Innovation & Entrepreneurship initiatives in 2021



2.9
Million

beneficiaries of Innovation & Entrepreneurship initiatives in 2021

A central focus of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI)**, the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar seeks to establish a culture of entrepreneurship led by innovation and forge new pathways to development through science, advanced technology and the new economy. Within the framework of this vision, the Foundation implements several projects and initiatives that aim to build societies rooted in well-being and place particular focus on investing in youth and arming them with the skills of the future. The programmes within this pillar are designed to support the shift towards a knowledge-based economy and supply the local and regional labour market with innovative ideas and creative talents, which will work towards modernising the economic system and creating new business sectors and investment opportunities.

Many of the initiatives launched within this pillar are geared towards nurturing young entrepreneurs in the UAE and equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to start their own businesses, as well as providing supportive environments that offer technical, advisory and financial services.

In 2021, the entities within the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar administered a variety of academic programmes and training workshops, as well as competitions, such as the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award**, to recognise successful companies that set

new standards for business excellence in the UAE and GCC.

To cultivate a culture of entrepreneurship among youth, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Establishment for SME Development (Dubai SME)** launched the 'Dubai NEXT' crowdfunding platform, which provided youth across the country of all nationalities the space to showcase their project ideas and gather the funding they need to implement them. The platform reflects Dubai's status as a leading regional and international incubator for young, ambitious, creative entrepreneurs.

The Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar also seeks to mobilise youth, innovators and inventors to drive positive change in the world and improve quality of life in less-fortunate communities, particularly in the face of water scarcity. To this end, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** offers technical and material support to researchers examining solutions and emerging technologies in the fields of water production, distribution and purification using renewable energy. In 2021, the 'Innovative Crisis Solutions Award' category was introduced to honour innovations that provide rapid relief within 48 hours to communities that have been ravaged by crises and disasters. Now in its third cycle, winners of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** will be recognised in 2022.



The **One Million Arab Coders Initiative**, overseen by Dubai Future Foundation, concluded in April 2021, after successfully training more than one million young men and women from 80 countries. In August 2021, it invited its graduates to participate in the 'One Million Arab Coders Challenge', where coders submit the projects they developed during the Initiative for a chance to win \$1 million and other awards. Winners will be announced in 2022.

In 2021, construction on Dubai's new knowledge icon, the **Museum of the Future**, was completed. Inaugurated on 22 February 2022, it is the largest museum of its kind, showcasing scientific and technological achievements and future innovations.

Within the Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar, **MBRGI** spent approximately AED 337 million on various projects and initiatives and benefitted 2.9 million people in 2021.



The Museum of the Future is a message of hope, a global scientific platform and an integrated institutional framework to shape a better future for all of us.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



A KNOWLEDGE ICON & ARCHITECTURAL MARVEL

Construction on Dubai's **Museum of the Future** was completed in 2021, and it was inaugurated on 22 February 2022. The opening ceremony was a huge celebration that captured the public's attention and attracted live-stream viewers from around the world. Light displays projected onto the Museums' façade showcased the creativity of the building's engineering. Considered one of the most beautiful structures in the world, the Museum is a testament to what's possible in architecture and the embodiment of innovation.

The largest laboratory for inspiring bold ideas, the **Museum of the Future** is an incubator for great minds, scientists, researchers, innovators and experts from around the world, and acts as a platform for launching initiatives that seek to stimulate development in various aspects of life and work.

In addition to creating a regional scientific and creative movement, the **Museum of the Future** will build bridges of cooperation and knowledge exchange with a selection of prominent scientific institutions and build a

network of partnerships with several research centres and think tanks around the globe.

The Museum will also cultivate in-depth dialogues about future trends shaping various developmental, economic, scientific, social and humanitarian sectors, and design sustainable solutions to current challenges.

The **Museum of the Future** is an architectural and cultural icon, and the most streamlined building in the world, as it rises without any columns inside. Its external design forms a human 'eye', representing the knowledge we seek to foresee, while its façade consists of 1,024 stainless-steel panels that were manufactured by robotic arms – a first in the region.

The Museum's façade also features three inspirational quotes by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in calligraphy, making it the only building in the world with a surface entirely covered with calligraphy. The quotes summarise Sheikh Mohammed's vision of the Museum's role in contributing to designing the future and enriching the human experience.



1,024

panels create
the Museum of the
Future's façade



CAPACITY-BUILDING IN CODING



**1.7
Million**

participants in the
'One Million Uzbek
Coders' initiative by
the end of 2021

Three years after its launch, the **One Million Arab Coders Initiative**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, announced its successful conclusion. The largest training initiative of its kind, it achieved its goal of training more than one million young men and women from 80 countries in the language of coding, honing the skills of Arab youth, equipping them with the experience necessary to pursue job opportunities in advanced technologies, and allowing them to become a part of the future digital economy.

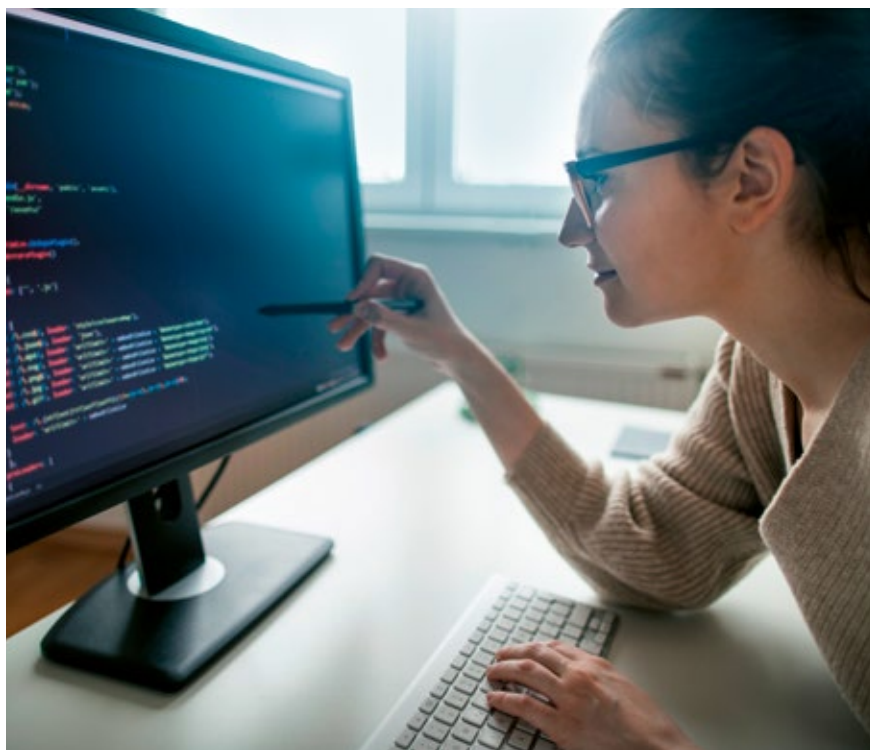
Over the course of the Initiative, participants undertook more than five million hours of study and work, attended 76,000 workshops and successfully completed 100,000 graduate projects. The Initiative awarded a total of 1,000 grants to distinguished trainees to attend

Nanodegree coding courses. It also supported coding enthusiasts through its platform, with the participation of 3,600 certified trainers from around the world who provided technical support and advice to help trainees bring their ideas to life.

The **One Million Arab Coders Initiative** gave participants the chance to learn coding skills and apply them in areas such as website design, mobile app development, blockchain, artificial intelligence, data and cloud computing, among others.

Not limited to training only Arab youth, the Initiative also launched the three-year 'One Million Uzbek Coders' initiative in 2019, as part of the strategic partnership between the UAE and Uzbekistan. The initiative, which attracted more than 1.7 million participants by the end of 2021, provided Uzbek youth with training programmes and accredited degrees in coding to help nurture digital transformation in their country across various sectors.

The 'One Million Jordanian Coders' initiative was also launched in 2019 and ran for three years within the framework of the strategic partnership between the UAE and Jordan in the field of government modernisation. The programme offered young people in Jordan the necessary training to keep pace with the rapid development in computer science and software, building a talent pool and knowledge base in the field of advanced technology. By the end of 2021, approximately 62,000 people had participated in the initiative.



ONE MILLION ARAB CODERS CHALLENGE

In August 2021, the **One Million Arab Coders Initiative** invited its graduates to participate in the 'One Million Arab Coders Challenge', which gives them the opportunity to compete for prizes worth more than \$1 million. Coders could submit their projects, which had to be complete and ready for use, through the Challenge's website until 30 October.

From these submissions, 20 projects will be selected to qualify for the finals and compete for the grand prize of \$1 million. Five runners-up will be awarded \$50,000 each, while the four best tutors will receive \$25,000 in recognition of their contributions to the Initiative. The winners will be announced in 2022.



SUPPORTING SMES

Within **MBRGI's** Innovation & Entrepreneurship pillar, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Establishment for SME Development (Dubai SME)** aims to boost the innovation and leadership of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as support young Emirati entrepreneurs on every step of their journey, from helping with financial planning to streamlining the processes required to launch their businesses.

In 2021, 3,621 Emirati entrepreneurs took advantage of **Dubai SME's** services, bringing its total number of supported entrepreneurs since it was established in 2002 to 45,819.

Dubai SME also provided incentives and facilities to 2,031 start-ups in 2021. Since it was launched, the Establishment has provided more than AED 214 million in assistance to 11,296 start-ups.

As part of its capacity-building efforts, **Dubai SME** provided training and diploma programmes through the 'Dubai Entrepreneurship Academy', benefitting 5,776 entrepreneurs. It also offered consultative and administrative services to help entrepreneurs test their products in the real business environment and identify their projects' strengths and weaknesses. It gave them the opportunity to deal with customers directly and acquire marketing and negotiation skills through commercial initiatives, such as a cooperation agreement with Global Village that allows start-ups to market and display their products at the Village for 16 years.



3,621

Emirati entrepreneurs
supported by Dubai
SME in 2021



DUBAI NEXT: COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR YOUTH



1,391

campaigns registered on the 'Dubai NEXT' crowdfunding platform in 2021



394

companies funded by the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Fund for SME Support' in 2021

As part of its primary objective of encouraging young entrepreneurs to start their own businesses, in May 2021 **Dubai SME** launched 'Dubai NEXT', the first official government online crowdfunding platform which allows the community to finance young people's innovative and ambitious projects. Through the platform, individuals and start-ups in Dubai create crowdfunding campaigns through which they request support directly from community members, including individuals, private companies and government agencies, to turn their ideas into reality.

The 'Dubai NEXT' platform registered 1,391 campaigns and collected approximately AED 300,000 from financiers, with the participation of 310 supporting entities. The registered projects included innovative solutions in sectors such as business, food, technology, education, arts and health.

To offer integrated support, the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Fund for SME Support' financed several promising innovative projects on the platform. Since it was launched, the Fund has provided more than AED 188 million in funding for 934 SMEs, including 394 in 2021.



NEW BUSINESS INCUBATORS

The 'Hamdan Innovation Incubator' (Hi2), an affiliate of **Dubai SME**, supports emerging projects and works to build partnerships with innovation sponsors to launch specialised business incubators for entrepreneurs. It also establishes incubators in partner colleges and universities aimed at empowering students to start businesses while still in school. By joining these incubators, students have the opportunity to transform their innovative ideas into successful companies while enhancing their planning and creative thinking capabilities.

In 2021, Hi2 licensed four new business incubators, bringing the total number to 15 since the service launched. It also

incubated 83 projects from different sectors, including information technology, robotics, cybersecurity, design and marketing, bringing the total number of beneficiaries of Hi2's services to 690.

Hi2 also announced several achievements and initiatives in 2021, including welcoming the BITS Pilani Dubai Campus to the list of accredited business incubators in free zones. In addition, Hi2 worked with strategic partners to provide legal services and advice regarding intellectual property to **Dubai SME** members, and provided financing worth over AED 4 million to more than 60 projects that were supported by investors and strategic partners of business incubators.



83

project owners
benefitted from Hi2's
incubation services
in 2021





EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS THROUGH TRAINING



5,776

beneficiaries of the
'Dubai Entrepreneurship
Academy's'
programmes and
initiatives in 2021

'Dubai Entrepreneurship Academy', **Dubai SME's** educational arm, supports start-ups and SMEs through training programmes and various initiatives, including 'Medyaf Entrepreneurship', which facilitates practical training courses for Dubai College of Tourism students with the aim of promoting entrepreneurship culture in tourism. It also encourages participants to establish local projects in the tourism sector, which is a vital component of the UAE's economy.

In addition to the 'Medyaf Entrepreneurship' initiative, in 2021 the Academy introduced the 'Certified Agri-Entrepreneurship Professional Diploma', a specialised programme focused on building the capabilities of entrepreneurs and enabling them to establish their own agriculture projects. It also launched the 'Pride' initiative in cooperation with the Dubai

Police to train and encourage police personnel to pursue future business ventures. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Academy trained school students on how to start a business and register their projects on the 'Dubai NEXT' platform to obtain the necessary seed funding.

Through the 'Istisharat' initiative, the Academy advised and qualified more than 20 graduates, adding to the list of people who have benefitted from **Dubai SME's** services.

In 2021, 5,776 people participated in 'Dubai Entrepreneurship Academy's' various training programmes and initiatives, which have benefitted a total of 39,171 people since the Academy was launched.





The future belongs to those who can imagine it, design it and execute it. It isn't something you await, but rather create.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



HONOURING THE GCC BUSINESS COMMUNITY



33

companies honoured
by the Mohammed bin
Rashid Al Maktoum
Business Award
in 2021

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, seeks to recognise distinguished and successful companies in the UAE and the GCC that contribute to sustainable economic development in their countries. The annual Award, which is supported by the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award Program', seeks to instil a world-class business culture and ensure the implementation of best practices to create a competitive business environment in the region.

The Award's 11th cycle took place in 2021, organised by Dubai Chamber, along with the third cycle of the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Innovation Award' and the first cycle of the

'Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Customer Excellence Award'.

The awards ceremony was held at the Dubai Exhibition Centre at Expo 2020 Dubai in December. It hosted 421 attendees from the UAE and GCC business community and honoured 33 winning companies from a variety of commercial and industrial sectors.

Since the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award** was launched in 2005, it has benefitted more than 1,800 companies and recognised over 181 institutions for their outstanding achievements.



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR THE WATER CRISIS

As part of its efforts to identify innovative technologies and pioneering solutions to the global water crisis, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award**, organised by the **UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)**, encourages leading organisations, companies, research centres, institutes, youth and other innovators around the world to develop sustainable solutions to water scarcity, especially in communities at highest risk for disasters and those suffering most from environmental challenges and resource shortages.

Since its launch in 2016, the \$1 million **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** has supported research and development in cutting-edge technologies for the production, distribution, storage, control, desalination and purification of water using renewable energy, with the primary objective of finding solutions to the challenges underserved communities around the world are facing.

The Award's third cycle, the winners of which will be announced in 2022, introduced a new category related to disaster relief. The 'Innovative Crisis Solutions Award' honours innovations that provide aid to affected communities within 48 hours of an internationally declared emergency situation in order to save lives. The Award, which is held every two years, received 228 nominations in 2021 for projects that use renewable energy to offer sustainable, cost-effective

solutions to meet the needs of communities struggling to obtain basic necessities, such as clean drinking water.

During its first two cycles, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award** honoured 20 individuals, institutions and research centres across three main categories in recognition of their pioneering innovations that seek to produce clean water using solar energy.



228

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



SUPPORTING EGYPTIAN WOMEN

After having her second child, 35-year-old Eman Wagdy Selim felt that she had a bigger purpose in life. Although her background was in language and translation, the young Egyptian woman, with her husband's support, had an idea to create a platform called 'Al Faraza' to provide high-quality fruits and vegetables at competitive prices. After listing 150 products, the platform began offering meat and cheese as well through start-up companies.



In 2019, Eman developed the project further into an app that allowed Egyptian women and other small-business owners who sold homemade meals, as well as local farmers, to bring their products to a wider audience.

Today, 'Al Faraza', an Egyptian word that refers to careful and attentive selection, supports Egyptian women in particular, providing them with job opportunities and income to secure decent lives for themselves and their families. They also have access to training opportunities to learn how to best prepare, market and sell homemade food to customers in Egypt through the app.

Eman's idea only became a reality after she heard about the **One Million Arab Coders Initiative**, which provides online training courses to help Arab youth build and master coding skills so they can pursue jobs in digital technologies and develop their own high-tech projects.

She enrolled in the Initiative's Data Analysis track, where she learned how to transform data into successful ideas. Acquiring these skills was a vital step towards the success of 'Al Faraza', and Eman is proud of the personal growth and achievements she has experienced thanks to the Initiative.

Overjoyed at the success of her project, Eman says: "Al Faraza' has helped change the lives of 800 Egyptian women, and we will continue to grow and develop our project. We promise that we will expand the app's reach to be accessible to all Egyptian women, wherever they are, so that we can grow together as one team."

UNDYING PASSION

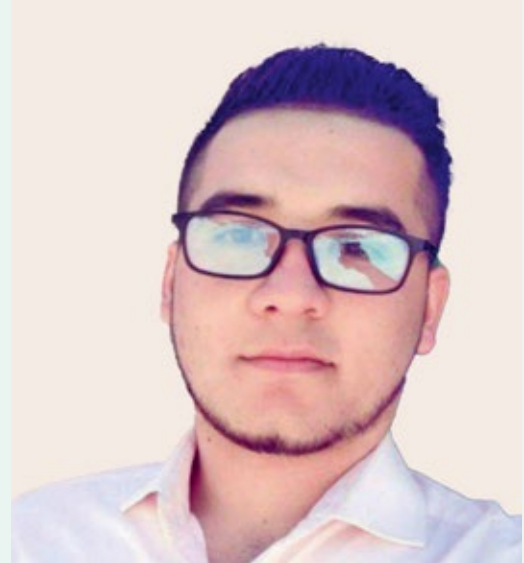
After successfully completing all training requirements, 25-year-old Saidabbos Khudoykulov graduated from the 'One Million Uzbek Coders' initiative, launched through a strategic partnership between the UAE and Uzbekistan to help youth learn the language of the future and support the country's digital transformation.

Upon joining the Initiative, Saidabbos realised he was passionate about IT and programming and was confident the field would change his life. He was eager to work alongside his peers to employ cutting-edge technologies, software and creativity in their efforts to advance development in their community and craft innovative solutions for challenges in Uzbekistan.

Thanks to the Initiative, Saidabbos met many other young people with similar interests and built strong friendships with people who shared his passion for IT and coding.

Saidabbos says: "I am very grateful for the 'One Million Uzbek Coders' initiative and its organisers. It was a step in the right direction for me, and I can't imagine working in a field other than coding."

Still an active part of the 'One Million Uzbek Coders' initiative even after graduation, Saidabbos now supports new participants and encourages them in their studies so they can one day shape the future of their country.





Empowering Communities

Through its work within the Empowering Communities pillar, the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives seeks to create future leaders, instil a culture of hope, promote the values of tolerance and coexistence, celebrate sporting achievements, invest in sports talent and highlight the media's role in supporting development and social mobility.

AED

887

MILLION

spent on Empowering
Communities initiatives
in 2021

21

MILLION

beneficiaries of
Empowering Communities
initiatives in 2021

2,692

participants in the Mohammed
bin Rashid School of
Government's executive
education programmes in 2021

32,400

beneficiaries of the Sheikh
Mohammed Centre for Cultural
Understanding's activities in 2021

1,364

trainees participated in the Real
Madrid Social Sports Academies
in 2021



Creating Leaders, Empowering Talents & Consolidating a Culture of Positive Change



AED
88.7
Million

spent on Empowering
Communities initiatives
in 2021



2.1
Million

beneficiaries of
Empowering
Communities initiatives
in 2021

Establishing a culture of hope and driving positive change is at the heart of the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives' (MBRGI)** mission. To this aim, the Foundation implements numerous sustainable projects and initiatives within the Empowering Communities pillar focused on promoting tolerance and coexistence, encouraging civilised dialogue and advocating respect for people of different cultures and nationalities.

Many of **MBRGI's** Empowering Communities programmes seek to support various social groups, especially youth and women, and reintegrate the unemployed in the Arab region into the job market. They also aim to celebrate Arab and international sports achievements, invest in sports talents, highlight the media's role in supporting development and social mobility and empower leaders to play a fundamental role in policy-making and developing action plans for their organisations.

In 2021, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development (MBRCLD)** celebrated the graduation of the fourth cohort of the 'Impactful Leaders Program', which included 28 leaders from public and private institutions. The first cohort of 45 government professionals also graduated from the 'Dubai Leaders Program'.

The **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government (MBRSG)** continued to offer master's degrees under its 'Future Government Programs' to support the professional development of employees in various sectors. The Programme graduated 132 students in 2021. Additionally, the School awarded scholarships to nine outstanding students within the Programme, two of whom were people of determination. The School's intensive open enrolment programmes, which aim to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills in the areas of politics, leadership, negotiation and management, also continued in 2021, attracting 837 government employees.

MBRGI intensified and mobilised its projects and initiatives within the Empowering Communities pillar in several areas as restrictions imposed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic finally began to ease around the world. In 2021, the Foundation activated its 2019 partnership agreement with the Real Madrid Foundation to establish and manage 10 Real Madrid Social Sports Academies in four countries.



As sporting events resumed and life returned to normal, the 16th edition of the annual **Dubai International Sports Conference** welcomed 500 football professionals, including international players, renowned coaches and leaders of international federations and clubs. Conference attendees exchanged expertise and experiences, and discussed ways to develop the sports sector locally, regionally and internationally.

The 20th edition of the **Arab Journalism Award** was also organised in 2021. The Award aims to recognise distinguished journalists and media professionals in the UAE and the Arab region and encourage journalistic excellence.

In 2021, **MBRGI's** spending on Empowering Communities initiatives and projects totalled around AED 88.7 million, benefitting more than 2.1 million people.



We look forward to creating leaders who can keep pace with a constantly changing world, building teams continuously and consolidating the UAE's global position in all fields.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

NURTURING FUTURE LEADERS

The **Mohammed bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development (MBRCLD)** equips Emiratis with leadership knowledge and expertise through qualitative training programmes that teach them how to refine their skills, manage challenges with flexibility and intelligence and make speedy, confident decisions.

In 2021, **MBRCLD** celebrated the graduation of the fourth cohort of its 'Impactful Leaders Program'. As part of the programme, the 28 graduates participated in the 'Designing the Next 50' project, which aims to shape the future of the UAE for upcoming generations. They presented their ideas for innovative initiatives in 14 public sectors, such as education, health, security, government development, the future of the economy and government, infrastructure, community development and environment, in line with the objectives of the 'UAE Centennial 2071' plan.

MBRCLD also prepared its 'Impactful Leaders Program' in partnership with some of the most prestigious universities in the world, including UC Berkeley in California, US, the Imperial College London and the Swiss International Institute for Management Development, as part of its advanced courses. The Programme simulates the latest global trends in developing and nurturing distinguished leaders. Its new design includes core courses and virtual activities designed to cope with the

changes imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic and achieve the Programme's goals of empowering young, mindful Emirati leaders and equipping them with the tools of the future.

The first cohort of the 'Dubai Leaders Program' graduated in 2021, which included 45 government professionals nominated by senior leaders of various Dubai Government departments. The Programme trained participants for the new role of Deputy Director General and familiarised them with the government's leadership culture.

The participants underwent intensive theoretical and practical training for six months that provided them with the framework, tools and skills necessary to prepare for the changes and new normal brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Programme included courses on digital and systemic leadership, crisis management and the ability to adapt to new norms and standards in various government sectors, as well as techniques for foreseeing future solutions.



45

graduates of the
Mohammed bin Rashid
Center for Leadership
Development's 'Dubai
Leaders Program'
in 2021

ENHANCING GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE



2,692

participants in the Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government's executive education programmes in 2021

As the Arab region's first academic research institution specialised in governance and public policy, the **Mohammed bin Rashid School of Government (MBRSG)** seeks to support government excellence in the UAE and the region. The School maintains strategic partnerships with academic institutions in the field of public policy-making to allow for the exchange of experiences and students, create scholarship opportunities, support joint research, hold specialised conferences and cultivate learning environments with a broad global perspective.

MBRSG offers master's degrees through its 'Future Government Programs', including a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Public Administration, among others.

In 2021, 132 students graduated from the 'Future Government Programs'. In addition, the School offered scholarships valued at AED 1.2 million to nine outstanding students, two of whom were people of determination, to enhance government performance in the UAE and support the professional development of employees in various sectors.

The School continued to offer its intensive open enrolment programmes to equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills in the areas of politics, leadership, negotiation and management, as well as training government officials and introducing them to the latest tools and techniques

to achieve individual and institutional excellence. In 2021, the programmes enrolled 837 government employees.

In addition, 1,413 employees joined the bespoke executive education programmes specifically tailored towards the unique needs of each institution to provide them with integrated solutions for developing their staff's skills and filling administrative gaps.

As part of its educational programmes, **MBRSG** supervised dozens of studies in 2021, in cooperation with distinguished local and international institutions, examining vital economic topics such as the future of start-ups and SMEs in the UAE, the Global Economic Diversification Index, and the future of the digital economy and artificial intelligence ecosystems in the UAE.

Established with the goal of keeping pace with global changes and developing a smart education platform to ensure uninterrupted trainings during emergencies, **MBRSG's** 'Smart Executive Education Platform' offered 10 innovative training courses in 2021. The Platform uses the latest technologies to deliver integrated training programmes to leaders virtually. The courses, which attracted 445 government leaders, included 'Strategic Leadership in a Challenging World', 'Reimagining the Role of Governments in Times of Crisis', 'The 10 Commandments of Governmental Administration' and 'Agility in Government Administration'.

In December 2021, **MBRSG** hosted the seventh annual Academy of International Business Middle East and North Africa (AIBMENA) Chapter Conference under the theme 'Exploring Resilience and Agility within International Business in the MENA Region'. The conference brought together 75 delegates of 46 different nationalities and shed light on the unique challenges and opportunities that the MENA region presents for multinational enterprises.

In conjunction with the conference, the Academy's MENA Chapter recognised its best research papers that address one of four specific tracks: International Management, International Human Resources and Human Capital Management, International Policy Relations and Historical Studies, and International Sustainability and Responsibility.

Also on the conference's agenda were five professional development workshops on Research Methods, Reviewing Case Studies, Use of Evidence for International Business Policy, International Business in Crisis Management, and Encouraging MENA Research in Journal of International Business Studies.

As part of its education and leadership activities, **MBRSG** hosted a training programme titled 'Emerging Voices for Global Health' in November 2021 to examine global and regional health issues. More than 30 speakers participated in the programme, including managers and officials representing local and

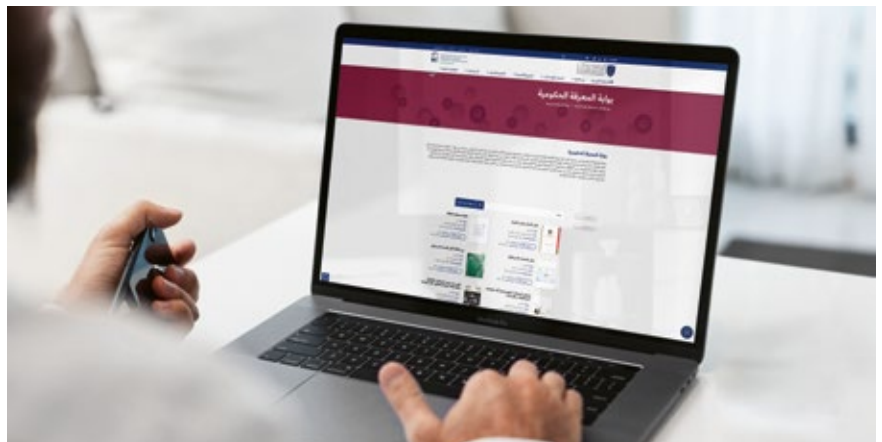
international institutions, as well as **MBRSG** faculty members, and 60 people attended, representing all six World Health Organization (WHO) regions. Additionally, several alumni were trained to become facilitators for the 'Emerging Voices for Global Health' programme, a virtual training course for emerging health policy and systems researchers, decision-makers and other health professionals interested in becoming influential global voices in the industry.

In 2021, the School continued to provide innovative digital knowledge solutions through the 'Government Knowledge Gate', launched in 2019. A one-stop-shop for standards, guidelines and other government-related knowledge documents, the Knowledge Gate highlights the best public management practices in the areas of governance and organisational development, strategy and corporate performance, human resource management, knowledge management and innovation management, and makes it available to anyone interested in learning about government administration.



12,000

beneficiaries of the
'Government
Knowledge Gate'
in 2021



HONOURING FOOTBALL STARS



500

attendees of the Dubai International Sports Conference in 2021

Organised by the Dubai Sports Council, under the umbrella of **MRBGI**, the 16th edition of the **Dubai International Sports Conference** welcomed elite football personalities, including players, decision-makers, coaches and leaders of major international clubs, to exchange expertise and discuss potential solutions to challenges facing the game, as well as how they can develop the sports sector locally, regionally and internationally.

The annual Conference was held in December 2021 with the participation of 500 football professionals, which restored the world's confidence in the return of sporting events after they were halted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the Conference's dialogue sessions brought together two of the world's biggest football names – Kylian Mbappé, striker for Paris Saint-Germain and the French national team, and Robert Lewandowski, striker for

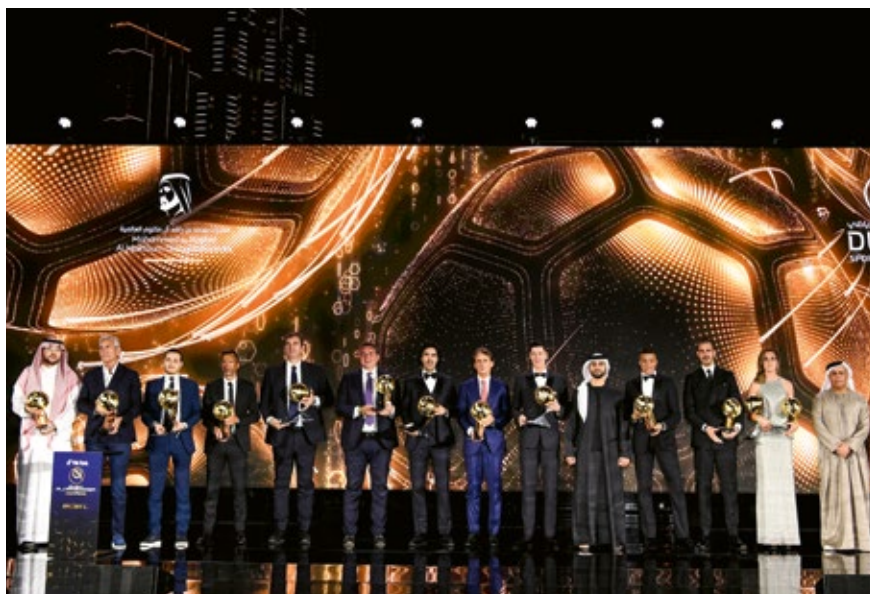
Bayern Munich, to shed light on several issues within the sport, including setting up young football players to excel, building successful teams and how world-class professional players interact with referees.

The 12th edition of the annual 'Globe Soccer Awards' was held on the Conference's sidelines to recognise legendary players, coaches, clubs and agents, attracting nearly one billion viewers on international TV channels.

Kylian Mbappé, from France, was named the Best Men's Player of the Year, while Polish player Robert Lewandowski bagged two awards – TikTok Fans' Player of the Year and the Maradona Award for the Best Goal Scorer of the Year. The latter award is named after the late football legend Diego Maradona, former Honorary Ambassador of Sports for the Dubai Sports Council.

Spanish national and captain of the FC Barcelona women's team, Alexia Putellas was named the Best Women's Player of the Year. Her club, FC Barcelona, received the Best Women's Club of the Year award, while Italy's national team won Best National Team of the Year.

Other award winners on the night included the Italian Serie A League, which received the Special Innovation Award; Giza-based Egyptian football club ZED FC, awarded the Grassroots Academy Award for 2021; and Saudi Arabia's 2018 FIFA eWorld Cup winner Mossad Aldossary, who was named eSports Player of the Year.





I want my people, young and old alike, to be physically fit. If you are in good shape, you can contribute to society.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

SUPPORTING THE SPORTS COMMUNITY



28

winners of the
Mohammed bin Rashid
Al Maktoum Creative
Sports Award in 2021

As part of its mission to support and consolidate the concept of sports innovation, **MBRGI** empowers young sports talents and international federations to continue their creative efforts in the pursuit of excellence. In line with its goal of supporting athletes and sports professionals to actively promote sports locally, regionally and internationally, the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award**, established in 2008, honours individuals, teams and entities with significant contributions to the sporting scene, which encourage fair competition and highlight the importance of sports as a valuable expression of human creativity.

The 11th edition of the Award saw a record total of 409 applications, an increase of 14% over the previous editions. The number of winners also increased to 28, reflecting the Award's importance and the sporting community's enthusiasm to participate.

As an inspirational sports icon, His Excellency Imran Khan, former Prime

Minister of Pakistan, was honoured with the International Sports Personality Award, while Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani, President of the Qatar Olympic Committee, received the Arab Sports Personality Award.

The Algerian national football team received the Arab Team Award for winning the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt and breaking the African record for the longest winning streak. The UAE National Endurance Team earned the Local Team Award for winning the gold medal in the World Championships for Youth and Juniors for endurance races over 120 kilometres in Italy.

Ali Ahmed Mabkhout received the Local Athlete Award for his achievements as the all-time top scorer for the UAE national team with 78 goals and the UAE League's all-time leading scorer with 175 goals. Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination also received the Local Organisation Award in recognition of its success in organising the 2021 Paralympic Shooting World Cup for the fifth time in a row.



FROM VEGETABLE SELLER TO CHAMPION ATHLETE

Paralympic champion Jarrah Nassar lives in Nasiriyah in southern Iraq, where he works hard selling vegetables to provide for his family and cover his ill son's medical expenses, despite his own physical challenges.



Jarrahs' physical condition, long work hours and difficult circumstances left him exhausted, but he did not give in to hopelessness. Instead, he faced his challenges with patience and persistence, standing up to those who bullied him and dismissing the looks of pity from people around him.

He trained hard in the courtyard of his father's modest home, where he lives, to become a world champion in shot put and a hero everyone in Iraq could admire.

Describing his keys to success, Jarrah says: "There is a tremendous source of strength inside each one of us, which stems from our self-confidence. Sports is an ideal path to self-fulfillment and is not restricted to a limited group of people. Anyone can practice any sport and become good at it. Anyone can become a hero and role model for others, provided he is equipped with unbounded determination, which is the key to success. He must work until he achieves his goal, which will inevitably lead to reaching even greater goals."

Jarrah participated in several international competitions and won many awards, including a gold medal at the 2016 Summer Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro, a gold medal at the 2017 World Para Athletics Championships in London and a silver medal at the 2020 Summer Paralympics in Tokyo, Japan. His latest and most important achievement, however, was receiving the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award**.

Jarrah visits Dubai often to participate in competitions, and he describes his relationship with the UAE as being always "associated with joy, success and achievements".

"I was honored to receive the award named after His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the first innovator," he said. "It is the most important sports award in the world given to creative champions, and I am humbled to be one of them."



NURTURING ARAB FOOTBALL TALENTS



1,364

trainees participated in the Real Madrid Social Sports Academies in 2021

MBRGI strives to nurture and empower young Arab sports talents to become role models, as well as sharpen their science, knowledge and training skills.

Following a temporary slowdown due to precautions imposed to limit the spread of COVID-19, the Foundation activated its 2019 partnership agreement with the Real Madrid Foundation to establish and manage 10 non-profit football academies in four countries, including Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Uzbekistan. The Real Madrid Social Sports Academies are set to welcome 4,500 young football talents from 6 to 17 years old. The players are assigned certified coaches from the Spanish club to train them, nurture their talent and encourage them to inspire their peers.

The Academies are now focused on improving the training of local coaches, delivering sports and educational material and increasing the number of beneficiaries per academy.

In 2021, 1,364 trainees benefitted from the Real Madrid Social Sports Academies, including 640 junior coaches in Jordan, 240 of which are being trained through a partnership with the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, the West Bank and Jordan in the cities of Madaba and Fuheis. In addition, 400 refugees are being trained in the Baqa'a and Irbid camps through a partnership with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

In Morocco, 624 participants are being trained at three academies in Tangier, Marrakech and Ben Guerir, in partnership with the local Paideia NGO, while 100 participants are being trained in Egypt through an agreement with FAME Academies that aims to develop the programme across the country. Additionally, the first two academies are scheduled to begin in Tashkent and Samarkand in Uzbekistan in collaboration with El Golazo Academy.



SOCIAL & CULTURAL HARMONY

For more than two decades, the **Arab Strategy Forum** has consolidated its global and regional position as an open and creative platform to exchange ideas between leaders, decision-makers, thinkers, researchers and academics from all over the world.

The Forum focuses on forecasting the future and achieving a deeper understanding of the main geopolitical and economic issues affecting the Arab region and the international community. In cooperation with high-profile experts, researchers, specialists and research centres, it enables leaders to develop strategic plans to address the most pressing challenges of our time.

Working with subject matter experts, researchers and scholars, the Forum also provides a clear, forward-looking picture of the geopolitical and economic trends shaping the region and the world, enabling leaders to develop proactive strategies

and policies to address anticipated challenges and crises.

In 2021, the **Arab Strategy Forum** published analysis on various geopolitical and economic issues on social media, highlighting the most important current issues and enhancing their audiences' awareness of future trends in preparation for expected scenarios. These publications achieved more than 208,000 views and attracted more than 30,000 followers, who learned about the most important future challenges and how to deal with them based on accurate and balanced scientific knowledge in light of political and economic changes in the region and the world.



30,000

followers of the Arab Strategy Forum's publications on social media in 2021





PROACTIVE SOLUTIONS FOR FUTURE CHALLENGES



32,400

beneficiaries of the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding's activities in 2021

The **Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding (SMCCU)** was established in 1998 as a pioneering heritage centre in the heart of Dubai to spread its message of harmony and coexistence and build bridges of understanding between people of different nationalities and cultures living in, working in and visiting the UAE. In pursuit of this goal, the Centre organises activities that introduce visitors to Emirati culture, heritage and history, which benefitted more than 32,400 people in 2021.

Under the motto 'Open Doors, Open Minds', the Centre hosts daily visits and tours to heritage sites and famous Dubai landmarks, such as Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood and the local souks, as well as Jumeirah Mosque, which is characterised by its unique urban design. In 2021, the mosque alone saw more than 15,000 visitors.

SMCCU also organises annual awareness events to promote the concept of global citizenship among individuals, including cultural and recreational programmes for students and new UAE residents. Through these events, participants learn about Arab and Emirati traditions and customs to help them integrate into UAE society and enhance their sense of belonging in a value system based on coexistence, tolerance and acceptance.

One of the Centre's most significant events in 2021 was a performance by the German band Red Sparks alongside traditional Emirati Al-Ayyala performers. Held against the backdrop of Dubai Creek and Al Fahidi Historical Neighbourhood's wind towers, this exceptional cultural exchange sent an impactful message of harmony to all who witnessed it.



In October 2021, **SMCCU** hosted a joint event between **Al Jalila Foundation** and the Brest Friends organisation as part of the Centre's commitment to spreading awareness about early cancer detection and supporting the Foundation's efforts. The event provided the participating women with an opportunity to experience the Emirati culture and learn about its rich history.

BUILDING BRIDGES OF LOVE



Young Emirati Yousef Al Mannaei grew up in an insular family and social environment where he did not have many opportunities to interact with people of different nationalities. He often heard inspiring stories about diverse cultures living in harmony with the local Emirati culture, but most of his friends and colleagues were Emiratis, so he never experienced this himself.

All that changed when Yousef volunteered with the **Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding** in April 2021 to help with the Centre's Ramadan activities.

During his time volunteering at the Centre, he enthusiastically shared his Emirati culture and customs with guests from all over the world. The enriching experience was a turning point for Yousef, inspiring him to return after Ramadan as an intern. Within a short time, he became a cultural speaker, sharing his thoughts and ideas with the Centre's visitors and talking about the legacy of his ancestors through moving stories that build bridges of love between people of different ethnicities, cultures and backgrounds.

Thanks to his passion for what he does at the **Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding**, Yousef has become very popular with the Centre's guests and staff.

After developing his skills, Yousef joined the Centre as a permanent team member, where he continues to share his Emirati culture in his distinct, authentic style.

AWARDING CREATIVITY IN JOURNALISM



15

winners of the Arab
Journalism Award
in 2021

Since its launch in 1999, the **Arab Journalism Award**, under the umbrella of **MBRGI**, has supported Arab journalists and stimulated creativity by emphasising the constructive role the press plays in highlighting community issues and celebrating excellence in journalism. The Award recognises journalists' contributions to communicating the Arab perspective to the world, showcasing their achievements and introducing their work to Arab audiences.

In 2021, the Award's 20th session honoured outstanding and distinguished journalists from the UAE and the wider Arab region at a ceremony at Expo 2020 Dubai under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, 600 editors-in-chief of Emirati and Arab newspapers, senior writers, prominent Arab media figures

and leaders of media organisations in the region.

The Award recognised 15 journalists in categories including Political Journalism, Economic Journalism, Sports Journalism, Humanitarian Journalism, and Cultural Journalism, as well as the Young Journalist Award, Investigative Reporting and Smart Journalism, among others.

Egyptian media figure Emad El Din Adib was named the Media Personality of the Year for his contributions to journalism in Egypt and enriching the Arab media scene, while author and journalist Dr Abdelilah Belkeziz received the Best Column Award. Dr Belkeziz published hundreds of articles and op-eds in major Arab and regional newspapers and dozens of books in a variety of genres including philosophy, humanity and literature.





We value the role of the media and always want it at the forefront to analyse and present the facts. The UAE is in a race against time to achieve progress, and the media must develop its capabilities and improve its performance just as quickly.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

ANNEX





Humanitarian Aid & Relief



INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN CITY

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 with 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 therapeutic and preventative 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 preventative programmes 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 hosts 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 math 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 SME 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 CENTRE FOR CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

Founded in 1998, the **Sheikh Mohammed 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 JOURNALISM AWARD

Launched in 1999, the **Arab Journalism Award** is the first and largest award of its kind in the region to honour journalistic excellence. The annual Award aims to inspire and stimulate creativity, celebrate outstanding content and encourage journalists to use media as a platform to highlight important issues in their societies. The Award recognises achievements across several categories, including Investigative Reporting, Economic Journalism, Sports Journalism and Cultural Journalism.



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.

مؤتمر دبي الرياضي الدولي
Dubai International
Sports Conference



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.

مركز محمد بن راشد لإعداد القادة
Mohammed Bin Rashid Center for
Leadership Development

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 ندير ظهرنا للإنسانية أياً كانت التحديات.. وسنواصل
غرس بذار الأمل في كل بقاع المعمورة.. وسنكون عوناً
وسنداً للإنسان في كل مكان

محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم

**We will continue creating hope across the world,
regardless of any circumstances. We will heed
the call of humanity wherever it takes us**

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum