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observatory**

Road to Expo: Big scenario & Updates

Dubai | September 2021

AGENDA

UAE

- **News & topics from the UAE**

EXPO PILLS

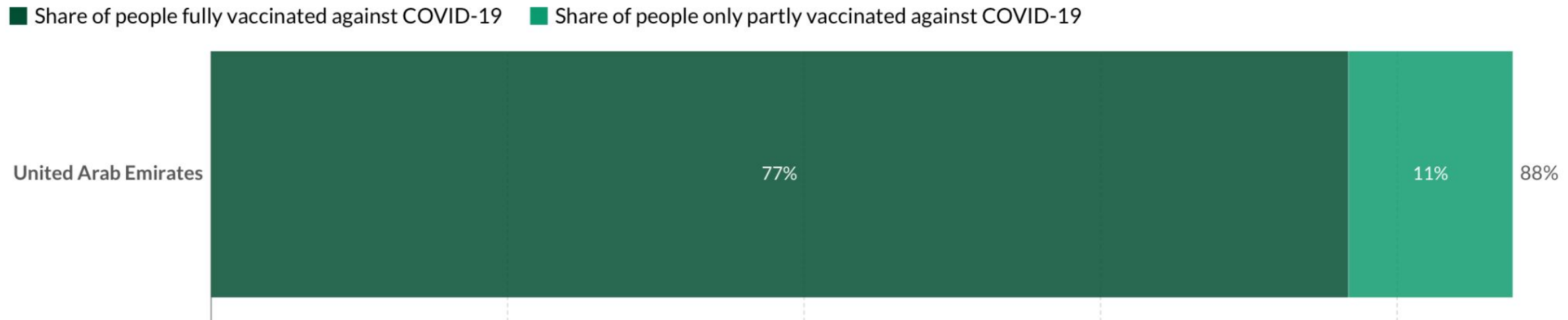
- **News & updates from Expo 2020 Dubai**

News & topics from the UAE

The UAE and Covid-19

In August, the United Arab Emirates reached almost **90% of the population covered** by at least one dose of vaccine. Infections are now below the 1,000 daily cases threshold.

Big Scenario



Abu Dhabi ranks first globally for its pandemic response

Based on a report by London-based Deep Knowledge Group (DKG), **Abu Dhabi ranked first among the top 50 cities for its response to the coronavirus pandemic.**

The report ranks the safest cities during the Covid-19 pandemic for the second quarter of 2021 and highlighted the capital's "outstanding performance in five key areas, including government efficiency, economic resilience, quarantine system efficiency, healthcare management and vaccination rates".

Source: [link](#)



مكتب أبوظبي الإعلامي @admediaoffice

#AbuDhabi continues to top the world's rankings for its response to the pandemic, topping a list of 50 leading world cities issued by London-based Deep Knowledge Group, confirming the emirate's pioneering healthcare sector.

Confirming the safety and resilience of the emirate
Abu Dhabi continues to top global rankings for its response to Covid-19
including the new Deep Knowledge Group ranking of 50 cities

8:04 AM · Sep 9, 2021

28 ⚡ See the latest COVID-19 information on Twitter **PLAY**

Covid-vaccinated travellers can now enter the country with a tourist visa

The UAE will resume issuing tourist visas to fully vaccinated people. The decision came into effect on 30 August and also includes countries that were previously banned from entering the country, such as India which is the UAE's largest source market for tourists and economic migrants.

Despite the entry ban, India continued to be Dubai International Airport's (DXB) top destination country by traffic volume in the first half of 2021 with passenger numbers exceeding 1.9 million. Pakistan was second with 700,074 travellers, followed by Russia (406,209) and Egypt (401,361). Flights to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, South Africa, Vietnam and Zambia are still suspended.

\$870m Dubai e-commerce hub now operational

Dubai CommerCity, a freezone providing strategic advice, guidance on e-commerce regulations and end-to-end logistics solutions including warehousing and last mile delivery, is now operational.

The new freezone stated it had managed to lease 30 percent of its facilities in just two months after the start of the first phase of development.

"Pandemic has created a truly resilient economy and the lessons learned are paving the way for creativity, problem solving and collaboration on a scale we have never seen before. The GCC e-commerce market alone is expected to be worth around \$50 billion by 2025 and this freezone will play a significant role in realising the true economic value of this sector," said Al Zarooni, DAFZA's managing director.

UAE bet on waste-to-energy plants

Dubai is building a \$1.1 billion facility that will burn waste to generate energy. A smaller plant – the first on a commercial scale in the United Arab Emirates – will come on stream in the emirate of Sharjah this year. Once two other projects in Abu Dhabi are completed, **the country could incinerate almost two-thirds of the household waste it currently produces.**

Waste-to-energy produces emissions, which is why it is generally considered suitable for disposing only of the final waste after all recyclable materials have been extracted. But the country has few options to prevent giant piles of plastic, paper and organic waste on the outskirts of its desert cities from piling up even higher. It has many waste sorting facilities and some for recycling building materials, tyres and electronics, but very few can convert household waste into new products.

Technology key to solve GCC food security riddle

Demand for food in the GCC will skyrocket over the next five to 10 years and all players, from governments and large institutions to agri-startups, need to develop solutions to meet growing food security concerns.

The UAE government has a goal to be among the top 10 countries for food security this year and achieve zero hunger by 2051. According to Alpen Capital, food consumption is expected to grow by 2.3% to reach 52.4 million tonnes by 2025, with an increased emphasis on domestic production. Outside of the UAE and Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait and Bahrain are expected to grow by 4.2% and 4.1%, with higher growth rates in the region. But the road to food security is full of hurdles, and the pandemic has put a strain on the shortcomings of the current system, such as the disruption of transport and logistics networks that spurred higher costs for sourcing goods, ultimately hitting consumers' pockets. According to Alpen Capital, in the region, more than 85% of food is imported.

UAE's Fourth Industrial Revolution programme to add AED25bn to economy

The launch of a **fourth industrial revolution programme in the UAE** will add \$6 billion to the country's national economy within 2031, according to Sarah Al Amiri, minister of state for advanced technology and president of the UAE Space Agency.

Al Amiri was speaking to local and international media at the inauguration of the UAE's "1950s Projects" campaign to create a strategic roadmap for the country's new era of economic, political and social growth.

He said the programme will focus on two key areas: building the foundation for technology within the UAE's existing industries today; and promoting the development of technology-intensive industries throughout the country's economy.

UAE to announce "Projects of the 50"

The UAE has revealed **the key principles behind its 'Projects of the 50' campaign, which has been launched to plot the country's economic, political and social growth over the next 50 years.**

The ten principles will act as guidelines for all institutions in the UAE as the country approaches a new phase of development, as directed by Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and envisioned by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai; and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Principles of the 50

The UAE's 10 Principles for the Next 50 Years

As the United Arab Emirates (UAE) approaches its Golden Jubilee, the country is entering a new phase in its history, a new era of its development path, and a new cycle of economic, political and social growth. This document summarises the new guidance for the UAE in its upcoming historical phase as directed by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and envisioned by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

This document sets forth 10 principles for the UAE, which all government agencies, including the legislative system, the police and security institutions as well as the scientific entities, must adhere to and use as guidelines for all their decisions, and strive to implement through their frameworks and strategies. These principles are as follows:

The First Principle

The major priority shall remain the strengthening of the union, its institutions, legislations, capacities and budgets. The urban, developmental and economic development of all parts of the country is the fastest and most effective way to consolidate the union of the UAE.

The Second Principle

To completely focus, over the upcoming period, on building the best and most dynamic economy in the world. The economic development of the country is the supreme national interest, and all state institutions, of all sectors and across different federal and local levels, shall bear collectively the responsibility of building the best global economic environment and maintaining the gains achieved over the past 50 years.

The Third Principle

The UAE's foreign policy is a tool that aims to serve the higher national goals, the most important of which is the UAE's economic interests. The goal of our political approach is to serve the economy. And the goal of the economy is to provide the best quality of life for the people of the UAE.

The Fourth Principle

The main future driver for growth is human capital. Developing the educational system, attracting talents, retaining specialists and continuously building skills are what shall keep the UAE at the top.



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The Fifth Principle

Good-neighbourliness is the basis of stability. The geographical, social and cultural vicinity of the country is the first line of defence for its security, safety and its future development. Developing stable and positive political, economic and social relations with this vicinity is one of the most important priorities of the country's foreign policy.

The Sixth Principle

Cementing the reputation of the UAE globally as one nation is a national mission for all institutions. The UAE is one economic destination, one tourist destination, one industrial destination, one investment destination, and one cultural destination. Our national institutions must combine their efforts, and together benefit from the capabilities, and work to build global enterprises and partnerships across the world.

The Seventh Principle

The digital, technical and scientific excellence of the UAE will define its new development and economic frontiers, and the solidification of its position as a capital for talent, companies and investments in these sectors will make it the capital of the future.

The Eighth Principle

The value system in the UAE shall remain based on openness and tolerance, the preservation of rights, the consolidation of the rule of law, the preservation of human dignity, the respect of cultures, the strengthening of human fraternity, and the respect of national identity. The country will remain supportive, through its foreign policy, of all initiatives, pledges and international organizations that promote peace, openness and human fraternity.

The Ninth Principle

The UAE's foreign humanitarian aid is an essential part of its own vision and moral duty towards less fortunate nations. Our foreign humanitarian aid is not tied to religion, race, colour or culture. Political disagreement with any country should not stop us from providing swift relief for those in need.

The Tenth Principle

Calling for peace, harmony, negotiations and dialogue to resolve all political disputes is the basis of the UAE's foreign policy, and striving with regional partners and global friends to establish regional and global peace and stability is a fundamental driver of our foreign policy.

ExpoPills

News & updates from Expo 2020 Dubai

Sheikh Mo: “We are ready to welcome the world”

"We are ready to welcome the world and herald a new era of international collaboration," says Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum a month before the doors will open to the world's biggest cultural event.

"We look forward to receiving delegations from 191 countries, as well as businesses, multilateral organisations and educational institutions, who will join in creating a better tomorrow for humanity. Amid this critical phase in the history of mankind, Expo 2020 Dubai will provide a unique opportunity for the world to come together, exchange knowledge and develop innovative solutions for a better future," said Sheikh Mohammed.

"The world will soon meet in Dubai to discover new paths for progress and prosperity and shape a future that will enable communities to thrive and overcome various challenges," the Sheikh added.



Look: Expo 2020 site then and now shows how Dubai realised a dream in 5 years

Emirates will offer a daily pass to all its travellers to Dubai

Emirates announced back in August that they will offer **free passes** for Expo 2020 to all its passengers travelling to Dubai between the 1st October and the 31st March 2022.



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