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Expo 2020 Dubai – Connecting Minds, Creating the Future



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THE EMIRATES



Embark on an educational journey at the Germany Pavilion Themed around a university experience, the German Pavilion at Expo 2020, named 'Campus Germany', presents a wonderful array of creative environmental ideas with real-life results. Located in Expo 2020's Sustainability District, the pavilion has been designed by the Laboratory for Visionary Architecture (LAVA) [Read more on page 3](#)



Since their inception at London's Crystal Palace in 1851, World Expos have united nations, governments, academia, innovators, entrepreneurs and people in a spirit of hope and collaboration for a better future. Many of the things we see and use in our daily lives today – colour television, ketchup, ice cream and more – were all first seen at World Expos.

Taking place from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, Expo 2020 Dubai will welcome the whole world in one place, bringing together people, communities and nations to build bridges, inspire action and deliver real-life solutions to real-life problems.

Expo 2020 Dubai coincides with the UAE's 50th anniversary in 2021, marking an important milestone for the country. Expo 2020 aims to inspire the next gen-

eration and, together, spark innovations that will underpin the next 50 years of human progress.

Under the overarching theme of 'Connecting Minds, Creating the Future', more than 200 participants – including countries, multilateral organisations, educational establishments and companies – will come together to showcase their progress and innovations, as well as unique architecture, gastronomy, art and music, to the world.



An extraordinary experience for everyone

As the first World Expo to be held in the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (MEASA) region, Expo 2020 will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience; a celebration of creativity, innovation, humanity and world cultures. After Expo's doors shut on 31 March 2022, organisers will transform the event site into District 2020, a sustainable, mixed-use community, with a human-centric ethos behind its design, that will become a hub of innovation, creativity and collaboration.

With up to 60 live events every day, including a full events programme for children and families as well as businesses, and 200-plus F&B outlets featuring more than 50 global cuisines, there will be something for everyone. Under the three subthemes Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability, Expo 2020 will also address topics of global relevance, including health and wellness, climate change and biodiversity, urban and rural development and travel and connectivity.

Expo 2020 Dubai will offer an extraordinary opportunity for the global tourism industry, and is working closely with a global network of online travel agents, tour operators, hotel groups and airlines to make tickets more accessible to people from around the world.

The UAE is shaping a global economic future

Expo 2020 will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the UAE, a cross-continental gateway whose ambition and determination have seen it emerge on the global stage as the largest trading hub between South East Asia and Northern Europe, home to more than 200 nationalities and one of the world's fastest-growing, most dynamic and future-focused economies.

As a safe global hub for trade, logistics and tourism, an eight-hour flight from two-thirds of humanity, linking East and West, North and South, the UAE is uniquely positioned to unite the world and inspire action-driven solutions that leave no one behind. Through Expo 2020,



the country is applying the vast resources and expertise of Dubai and the UAE to help catalyse recovery at a critical time for the global economy.

Building on the UAE's reputation as a land of opportunity and a global hub for small businesses, Expo 2020 is diverting spending to support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as key drivers of future economic prosperity and job creation. In addition, its global innovation and partnership programme, Expo Live, supports projects with creative solutions to pressing challenges across the world, helping to improve people's lives or preserve the planet.

Expo 2020 will benefit a wide range of other sectors in the UAE and across the region, from construction, retail and transport to the restaurant and hotel sectors, and with 80 per cent of its infrastructure living on as part of District 2020 – a smart, mixed-use urban environment designed to promote an innovation-driven business ecosystem and balanced lifestyle – it will have an enduring impact well beyond the event itself.

Expo 2020 is a long-term investment in the future. It will deliver a meaningful economic legacy by contributing to both domestic and international economies, bringing businesses together in a spirit of optimism and catalysing a stable, sustainable and diversified economy.



Embark on an educational journey at the Germany Pavilion

Themed around a university experience, the German Pavilion at Expo 2020, named 'Campus Germany', presents a wonderful array of creative environmental ideas with real-life results.

Located in Expo 2020's Sustainability District, the pavilion has been designed by the Laboratory for Visionary Architecture (LAVA).

A key feature of the pavilion will be a ropeless lift that can travel horizontally and vertically. Instead of using ropes, the multi cabins are powered by magnetic technology. Known as maglev, this technology is similar to that used in high-speed trains in Japan and Germany.

Visitors to the Germany Pavilion will enrol in Campus Germany, as though they were starting a university course, then embark on a curriculum that takes them through a Future Energy Lab, a Future City Lab and a Biodiversity Lab.

Each visitor will play an active role in a mission to use their newly acquired knowledge to shape the future. For example, they will choose from 155,000

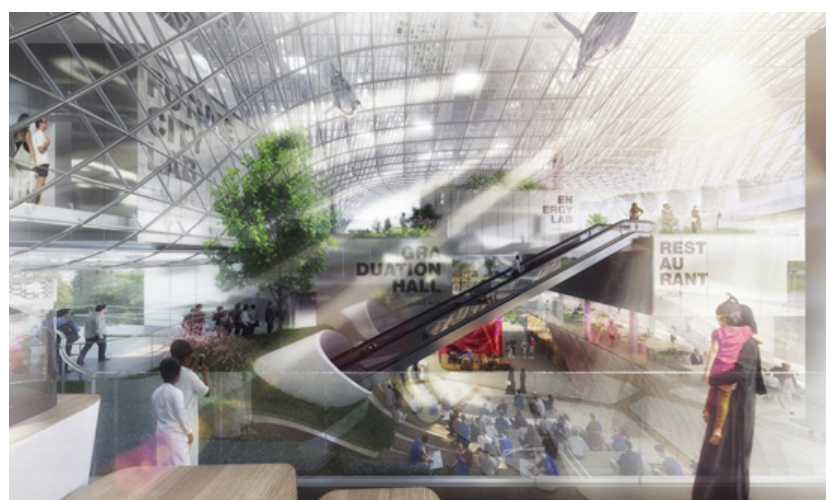
balls in the colours of Germany's flag to explore the nation's pioneering sustainability efforts.

Visitors will 'graduate' in an exciting show at the end of the tour, where they will be invited to sit on one of several swinging seats and tasked with swinging them in unison. The message Campus Germany hopes to deliver is that even the smallest of movements can achieve great things – if we act together.

As part of its cultural programme, the pavilion's Culture Lab is bringing to life Beethoven's music via classical, rock, acoustic and electronic performances by robots.

German industrial flagships and Premier Partners of Expo 2020, Siemens and SAP, along with many more German companies, will participate in the Germany Pavilion. The country will also showcase cutting-edge sustainability projects developed by the country's scientists, including a solar-powered concrete developed by a team from the University of Kassel, which invented a system that turns the components of concrete into mini-power stations.

More information on the Germany Pavilion can be found at www.expo2020germany.com.



Sheikh Hamdan simplifies rules for private businesses in Dubai



Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum on Wednesday issued directives to reduce government procedures for doing business by 30%.

The move is part of efforts to reduce the cost of doing business and further boost economic growth in the emirate as part of the vision of Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum to consolidate Dubai's status as a global investment and business destination. The directives will be implemented within the next three months.

Sheikh Hamdan issued the directives on Wednesday at a meeting chaired by him in the presence of Sheikh Maktoum Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and First Deputy Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai. The meeting, also attended by senior officials of relevant government entities, reviewed ways to support the private sector in the current environment. The move is the latest in a series of initiatives that have included the introduction of several stimulus packages to enhance the sustainability of businesses.

The meeting also evaluated various measures being taken to promote economic and business recovery and simplify and reduce procedures for the business sector that will help enhance Dubai's competitiveness and investment attractiveness.

Sheikh Hamdan said Dubai will continue

to help the business sector overcome any impact from the current situation and unlock new growth opportunities, in addition to launching new initiatives that can accelerate recovery. "Under the guidance of Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, we have made significant progress in strengthening Dubai's economic recovery. Normal life has resumed and the increased stability of businesses will help raise the sustainability of Dubai's economy. We are determined to further support businesses and deepen the confidence of investors as part of ensuring a win-win partnership," he said.

Highlighting the strong partnership between the public and private sector, Sheikh Hamdan said: "Government flexibility and efficiency are key to attracting businesses and enhancing the investment environment. The streamlined procedures followed by Dubai Government have further reinforced its position as a leader in ease of business as well as an entrepreneurial hub and an incubator for promising business ventures. We will continue to work on unlocking new opportunities for businesses and investors to help them grow. Promoting partnerships with the private sector is a key strategic objective for Dubai. As a key stakeholder in Dubai's development, the private sector is a critical partner for government projects. Our efforts will ensure that Dubai continues to be the leading investment destination in the region."

The move to reduce government procedures for doing business by 30% is part of

strategic initiatives to accelerate economic recovery and enhance Dubai's status as a business hub. This move complements the 'Invest in Dubai' platform launched last February by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum to enable investors to obtain trade licences and launch their business in only a few minutes. The centralised portal offers commercial licensing services as part of which government permits and approvals can be obtained without the need to visit any service centre.

Dubai's wide-ranging support measures since the onset of the pandemic, especially its five stimulus packages worth Dhs7.1 billion, helped the private sector ease financial pressures and reduce operating costs and ensure the impact of the pandemic did not translate into long-term challenges.

EDB closes \$750m five-year bond: Emirates Development Bank (EDB), a key financial enabler of the country's economic diversification and industrial transformation agenda, has successfully closed its \$750 million five-year bond issue, priced at a fixed re-offer yield of 1.639 per cent per annum in the Regulation S markets.

This was the second USD transaction issued under EDB's \$3 billion Euro Medium Term Note (EMTN) programme part of the bank's mandate to boost its accessibility to capital markets and strengthen its funding profile.

The bond issue follows EDB receiving 'AA-' long-term issuer credit ratings with Outlook Stable by S&P Global Ratings and Fitch. The bank's \$3bn EMTN programme has been assigned a 'AA-' issuer rating by Fitch. The ratings are a major endorsement of EDB's new strategic mandate to support the UAE's economic diversification plan.

The bond issue received a strong investor appetite, resulting in the order book reaching over US\$3 billion (4 times oversubscription). EDB also announced that it hosted virtual roadshows for local, regional and international investors as part of its outreach on the transaction.

<https://www.gulftoday.ae/business/2021/06/09/government-to-cut-procedures-for-doing-business-by-30-per-cent>

UAE receives upgrade on key AML/CFT ratings



The UAE continues to develop a world-class anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CFT) regime in line with the standards established by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the global AML/CFT watchdog.

Owing to the practical measures implemented by the UAE in recent months, in June 2021 the UAE received improved re-ratings from MENAFATF, FATF's regional body for the Middle East and North Africa, on three key technical measures:

» FATF recommendation 6 – on targeted financial sanctions related to terrorism and terrorist financing: the UAE was

upgraded two levels, from Partially Compliant to Compliant, the highest compliance rating within the FATF technical assessment framework.

» FATF recommendation 7 – on targeted financial sanctions related to proliferation: the UAE was upgraded two levels, also from Partially Compliant to Compliant.

» FATF recommendation 25 – on transparency of beneficial ownership and legal arrangements: the UAE was upgraded from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant, the second highest compliance rating within the FATF technical assessment framework.

This places the UAE among just a few jurisdictions that has achieved a 'pass' rating on 37 out of 40 recommendations on FATF's technical compliance assessment, reflecting the UAE's progress on this issue as a critical national priority.

Following the publication of the Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) by FATF in April 2020, the UAE is continuing to work closely with international counterparts in key jurisdictions, including Germany, to combat illicit finance and bring its AML/CFT framework in line with FATF standards.

MindSphere and Expo 2020 Dubai

A new cloud-based app which will support Expo 2020 Dubai in becoming a blueprint for future smart cities is being developed by Siemens, and has already connected part of the site's infrastructure to the Internet of Things.

The app is designed to digitally optimize Expo 2020 Dubai, enhancing the visitor experience and reducing energy and water use during the six-month event. Initially operating across two domains – environmental monitoring and irrigation – the app will collect, monitor, correlate and analyze data from the site, and visualize it to allow real-time monitoring and control of infrastructure from static and mobile devices.

<https://new.siemens.com/global/en/company/topic-areas/expo-2020-dubai/press/images-infographics.html>

Siemens smart city app connects Expo 2020 Dubai to the Internet of Things




OFFICIAL PREMIER PARTNER





MindSphere app collects, analyzes and visualizes data for intelligent decision making

Supporting Expo 2020 Dubai's targets for:

- Energy efficiency
- Visitor comfort
- Safety and security

Demonstrates potential to connect an entire city to the Internet of Things with MindSphere

Siemens works with Expo 2020 Dubai to create a blueprint for future cities




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3. MindSphere IoT cloud technology analyzes data for intelligent decision-making
2. Data integrated into Operational Centers for monitoring and control
1. Collection of data from:
 - 130+ buildings connected to Navigator
 - 200,000+ data points connected to Desigo CC
 - 3,500+ doors connected to Sipass Integrated
 - 6,500 cameras connected to Siveillance VMS

DP World is said to weigh sale of stake in Jebel Ali Free zone

The port operator is working with advisers to gauge interest in the sprawling industrial park



DP World is considering offering international investors a chance to buy into the Jebel Ali Free Zone, a prized asset that helped transform Dubai into a hub of global trade, as it looks for ways to cut its debt pile.

The Dubai-based port operator is working with advisers to gauge interest in the sprawling industrial park, according to people familiar with the matter. DP World is considering options including selling a stake in the free zone or some assets based there, the people said, asking not to be identified discussing confidential information.

Any sale is likely to attract interest from infrastructure funds and strategic suitors, the people said. Deliberations are ongoing, and no final decisions have been taken on the structure of a potential deal, according to the people.

A representative for DP World declined to comment.

The Jebel Ali Free Zone attracts almost a quarter of foreign direct investment into Dubai, with more than 8,000 companies having set up operations in the trade zone since its foundation in the mid 1980s, according to its website. Dubai saw Dhs24.7bn (\$6.7bn) of foreign direct investment in 2020, according to government figures.

State-owned DP World has been exploring the sale of equity stakes in certain assets as it works to reduce leverage to about 4 times earnings by 2022 and maintain its investment-grade rating. It agreed to buy the operator of the free zone in a \$2.6bn deal in 2014.

Dubai took DP World private in early 2020 to alleviate its debt burden and avoid a repeat of the economic crisis that forced a bailout in 2009. In exploring the possible sale of a stake in Jebel Ali Free Zone, Dubai is also joining regional neighbours Abu Dhabi and Saudi Arabia in looking to open

up to overseas investors by offering the chance to buy into state assets.

DP World is one of the world's largest operators of marine ports and inland cargo terminals, stretching from gateways in London and Antwerp to hubs in Africa, Russia, India and the Americas. It's been on an acquisition spree in recent years, buying assets from P&O Ferries and P&O Ferry-masters in Europe to Puertos y Logistica in Chile.

<https://gulfbusiness.com/dp-world-is-said-to-weigh-sale-of-stake-in-jebel-ali-free-zone/>

ArabianBusiness.com
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#UAE sees big increase in registration of #foreign #investment #funds



UAE sees huge rise in registration of foreign investment funds Securities and Commodities Authority says it registered a total of 114 foreign investment funds in 2020, up 147%
arabianbusiness.com

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#UAE #CentralBank launches #whistleblowing portal to target #financial #misconduct



UAE Central Bank launches whistleblowing portal to target financial misconduct Central bank says portal is part of plans to uphold 'the highest standards of integrity and transparency'
arabianbusiness.com

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The National
@TheNationalNews

Emirates airline set to fly up to 90% of pre-pandemic routes



Emirates to operate 90% of its pre-pandemic network by end of July Airline plans to add its A380 network to more cities as countries reopen borders and ease travel restrictions
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UAE's retail industry nearing pre-pandemic levels, Middle East's biggest mall operator says



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UAE Central Bank and ADGM invite FinTech firms for an innovation challenge



UAE Central Bank and ADGM invite FinTech firms for an innovation challenge Successful companies will receive a grant of \$20,000 each to develop a proof-of-concept solution to a problem statement
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CT Connecting Travel
@connectingtrav

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