



Make it in the Emirates Forum - Driving Sustainable Economic Growth

“Majra” National CSR Fund White Paper Report 2023

Content:

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
3. Themes at a Glance
4. Exploring Key Dimensions
 - a. UAE Industrial Growth
 - b. Commitment to Sustainable Industrial Development
 - c. Progressive Policies and Initiatives
 - d. Collaboration & Outlook
5. Policy Recommendations
6. Conclusion

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This white paper on the second session of the Make it in the Emirates Forum highlights the critical role of the industrial sector in the UAE's economic growth and sustainable development. It explores the government's efforts in fostering an attractive business environment, enhancing the national industrial sector's competitiveness, and promoting advanced technologies. The paper emphasizes the UAE's achievements in various industries, as well as its commitment to sustainable industrial development. It also discusses the challenges faced by the sector and the UAE's progressive policies and initiatives to address them. The paper concludes by inviting investors, innovators, and entrepreneurs to capitalize on the investment opportunities, enablers, and incentives available in the UAE.

Introduction

This paper provides an in-depth analysis of the industrial sector's importance within the UAE's economic landscape. It delves into the government's strategic initiatives, policies,



and efforts aimed at fostering an attractive business environment, enhancing the industrial sector's competitiveness, and promoting advanced technologies as addressed in the second Make it in the Emirates Forum.

The paper acknowledges the industrial sector's pivotal role in the UAE's economic growth and sustainable development agenda, aligning with the country's long-term vision. Furthermore it highlights the importance of enhancing the UAE industrial sector's competitiveness and export capabilities, positioning industry as one of the foundational pillars for accomplishing targets UAE Vision 2031 targets.

Drawing attention to the UAE's achievements, the paper showcases success stories in various industries and highlights the UAE's reputation in international markets. It also examines the government's sustained efforts to enhance the UAE's quality infrastructure, its commitment to advanced technologies, and the environmental challenges faced by the industry.

Moreover, the paper explores the progressive policies, initiatives, and legislation implemented by the UAE government to drive the deployment and development of green technologies and attract talent, entrepreneurs, and innovators. In conclusion, it underscores the UAE's commitment to transform UAE's industrial base into a globally competitive, productive and sustainable sector , emphasizing the collaborative efforts between government entities and the private sector in realizing the country's vision .

Session 2 Themes at a Glance

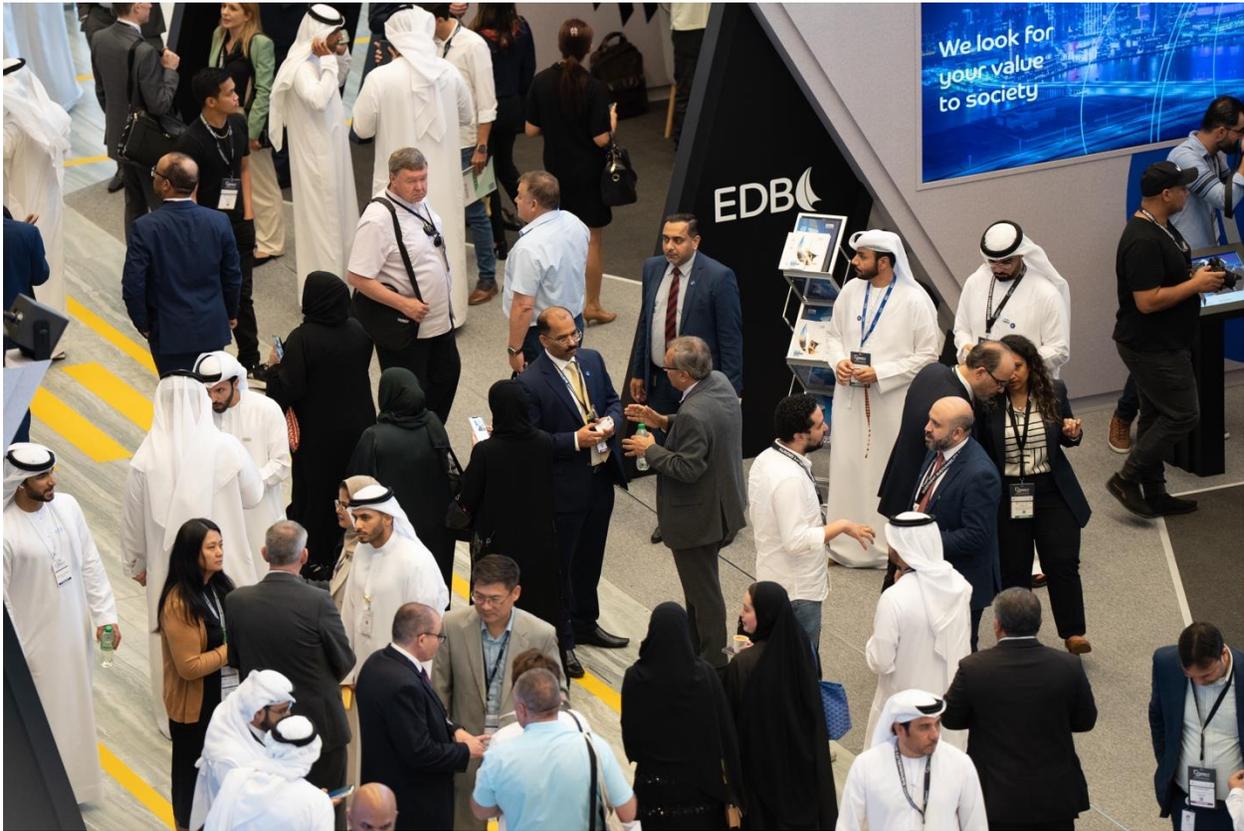
1. **The Industrial Sector:** Highlighting the pivotal role of the industrial sector within the UAE's economic landscape.



2. UAE Industrial Sector Growth: Showcasing the

remarkable accomplishments and growth of various industries in the UAE.

3. **Sustainable Industrial Development:** Emphasizing the commitment to sustainable practices, green growth, and addressing environmental challenges.
4. **Progressive Policies and Initiatives:** Discussing the supportive policies and initiatives implemented to enhance industrial competitiveness.
5. **Collaboration and Outlook:** Emphasizing the importance of public-private sector collaboration and outlining plans for industrial development.



Exploring Key Dimensions

1. UAE Industrial Sector Growth

The UAE takes great pride in its national industries across various sectors. Notably, industries such as aviation, transportation, logistics services, renewable energy, mining, food, petrochemicals, and pharmaceuticals have garnered global recognition. National industrial sector growth is evident in its substantial contribution to the country's Gross



The Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology issued 263 new industrial production licenses in 2022 – a 20% increase over 2021, which, demonstrates the upward trajectory of the sector's development.

2. Commitment to Sustainable Industrial Development

The UAE recognizes the environmental challenges faced by the global manufacturing sector, including the preservation of natural resources, sustainable resource allocation, and climate change concerns. In response, it is committed to sustainable industrial development and has embraced green best practices. Initiatives are underway to enhance supply chains, promote the circular economy, and accelerate the adoption of advanced technologies. In line with sustainable development goals, the UAE aims to achieve economic growth in commitment to environmental sustainability.

3. Progressive Policies and Initiatives

The UAE government has implemented progressive policies and initiatives to enhance the national industrial sector's competitiveness. The country boasts a supportive business ecosystem and offers investment opportunities that attract global investors. Policies are in place to support vital industrial sectors, encourage innovation, and facilitate the ease of doing business. A world-class industrial development framework provides a favorable environment for industrial growth. Additionally, the UAE has implemented residency systems and other initiatives to attract talented individuals, entrepreneurs, and innovators to contribute to the development of the industrial sector.

4. Collaboration and Outlook

Collaboration between the public and the private sectors is a cornerstone of the UAE's industrial development model. Partnerships drive innovation, create synergies, and ensure sustainable industrial development. The UAE is committed to fostering a collaborative environment, where the private sector can actively contribute to industrial development. Future plans and strategies focus on further strengthening the industrial sector, expanding collaborative efforts, and capitalizing on emerging opportunities. Through public-private sector collaborations, the UAE aims to become a regional and global hub for future industries .

Policy Recommendations



the following additional policy recommendations are proposed to further enhance the national industrial sector:

1. **Strengthen International Partnerships:** Continue to forge strategic international partnerships to facilitate access to global markets, particularly those with large markets consumer and low trade barriers. Collaborate with partners to develop mutually beneficial trade agreements and eliminate or reduce custom duties on products.
2. **Attract and Retain Talent:** Further develop and promote the newly introduced residency systems to attract and retain talent, including skilled professionals, entrepreneurs, and innovators.
3. **Expand Industrial Enablers and Incentives:** Strengthen and expand policies that incentivize and promote sustainable industrial growth, including the transition to a circular economy. Introduce additional measures such as tax incentives, grants, and subsidies to encourage industries to adopt sustainable practices, reduce waste generation, and accelerate decarbonization.
4. **Increase Support for Research and Development:** Allocate additional resources to increase the efficiency and sustainability of production cycles and supply chains by driving research and development (R&D) in the industrial sector. Provide competitive financing as a key enabler, facilitate grants, and build partnerships with academic institutions and research centers to foster innovation, advanced technology adoption, and local product diversification.
5. **Foster Collaboration between the Public and Private Sectors:** Foster collaboration and synergy between government entities at the federal and local levels, and the private sector. Strengthen public-private collaboration to jointly develop and implement industrial projects, initiatives, and programs. Streamline regulatory processes and provide incentives for private sector investment in key industrial sectors.
6. **Establish Industry-Specific Regulatory Frameworks:** Develop industry-specific regulatory frameworks that address the unique needs and challenges of various sectors within the industrial landscape. Ensure that regulations are streamlined, transparent, and supportive of innovation and market competitiveness while upholding sustainability standards.
7. **Foster Entrepreneurship and the Start-Up Ecosystem:** Create a supportive environment for entrepreneurship and start-ups by providing access to funding, business incubation programs, and mentorship opportunities. Foster a culture of innovation and boost specialized industrial clusters or zones to facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange among entrepreneurs and established industrial players.



- 8. Invest in Skills Development:** Implement comprehensive skills development programs to bridge the gap between industry requirements and the workforce. Collaborate with educational institutions to enhance technical and vocational training programs that align with the needs of the industrial sector. Foster partnerships with industry associations and organizations to provide apprenticeship and internship opportunities for students and graduates.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the UAE places great importance on the industrial sector as a key driver of economic growth, diversification, and sustainability. The country's leadership recognizes the pivotal role of industry in building a knowledge economy and enhancing the nation's competitiveness in international markets. Through strategic initiatives, policies, and partnerships, the UAE aims to position itself as a global leader in advanced technologies and sustainable industries.

The UAE's achievements in various fields, including aviation, transportation, logistics, renewable energy, and more, have established its industries as globally competitive and renowned for quality and innovation. The government's continuous efforts to develop infrastructure, create an attractive business environment, and promote investment have led to the development of the industrial sector. With its strategic geographic location, ease of doing business and open market, the UAE offers immense opportunities for both local and international investors and entrepreneurs.

To further strengthen the industrial sector and align with the goals of the UAE Vision 2031, certain policy recommendations are proposed. These include promoting sustainable industrial practices, enhancing talent attraction and retention, expanding green growth incentives, increasing support for R&D, fostering collaboration between the public and the private sectors, establishing industry-specific regulatory frameworks, strengthening the entrepreneurship and start-up ecosystem, and investing in skills development.



By implementing these policy recommendations, the UAE can accelerate industrial development and increase industry's contribution to GDP to AED 300 billion by 2031 . The UAE's commitment to proactive legislation for emerging economic sectors, supportive investment climate, and focus on green and sustainable development goals will ensure a transformative shift towards a new economic model.

The UAE stands ready to further embrace opportunities for growth, innovation, and investment in the industrial sector. It welcomes investors, innovators, and entrepreneurs to leverage the country's favorable business environment, strategic partnerships, and advanced quality infrastructure. With continued collaboration among government entities, private sector engagement, and a forward-thinking approach, the UAE is well-positioned to realize its plans and developmental strategies, propelling its national economy towards sustained growth and prosperity for the next 50 years and beyond.

