

The United Arab Emirates

1. *Industrial Strategy (Including Objectives/Goals)*

“Operation 300bn” the UAE’s is the UAE’s industrial strategy which is built on 17 initiatives and six objectives.¹ The strategy focuses on advancing sustainable economic growth, deploying clean energy solutions, driving industrial innovation and promoting responsible consumption and production. Its overall objective is to develop the UAE’s industrial sector and enhance its role in stimulating the national economy. The six main objectives of Operation 300bn are:

- Create a relevant and attractive business environment for local and international investors in the industrial sector
- Support the growth of national industries and enhance their global competitiveness
- Stimulate innovation by accelerating advanced technology adoption across the industrial value chain to upgrade systems and solutions, boost productivity and forge competitive advantages in new areas
- Build on the solid industrial foundations that have helped fortify the UAE’s position as a global leader in industries of the future
- Cultivate a culture of innovation in the ministry
- Provide a comprehensive array of administrative services in accordance with the highest standards of quality, efficiency and transparency

2. *Digital (Development) Strategy*

- The ‘UAE Digital Economy Strategy’ was launched in 2022²
- It aims to double the contribution of the digital economy to the UAE's gross domestic product (GDP) and to position the UAE as a hub for digital economy in the region and globally
- The Fourth Industrial Revolution and National Cybersecurity Strategy which was launched in 2017 aims to harness and create a safe infrastructure for cutting-edge technologies, such as blockchain technology in financial services and transactions, to enable its digital transformation³
- Initiatives like the Dubai Media City, Dubai Internet City, and Dubai Knowledge City aim to build and develop eco-systems conducive towards digital transformation and an overall digital economy

3. *Main Constitutional Provisions*

¹ Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, ‘Operation 300bn, the UAE’s Industrial Strategy’ <<https://u.ae/en/about-the-uae/strategies-initiatives-and-awards/strategies-plans-and-visions/industry-science-and-technology/the-uae-industrial-strategy>> accessed 12 February 2025.

² ‘Digital Economy’ (Updated 5 August 2024) <<https://u.ae/en/about-the-uae/economy/digital-economy>> accessed 12 February 2025.

³ UAE Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and the Future UAE’s Fourth Industrial Revolution Strategy (2017) <<https://u.ae/-/media/About-UAE/Strategies/UAE-4-IR-Strategy/En-UAE-4-IR-Strategy.pdf>> accessed 12 February 2025.

Not applicable

4. ***Main regulatory provisions and policy developments***

Main regulatory provisions include:

- Federal Decree Law No 25 of 2022 Regarding the Regulation and Development of the Industry
- Federal Decree Law No.32 of 2021 which updates and replaces the Commercial Companies Law of 2015. The law allows for 100% foreign ownership of companies in the UAE with limited exceptions
- Dubai Law No. 5 of 2021 - The Establishment of the Dubai International Financial Centre

Recent policy developments include:

- UAE's International Stance on Artificial Intelligence Policy (2024)
- The General Framework for Adopting Sustainable Digital Transformation (2024)
- 'We the UAE 2031' vision –a national plan development plan for the next 10 years with a focus on social, economic, investment and development aspects. The plan seeks to enhance the position of the UAE as a global partner and an economic hub.⁴
- UAE Centennial Plan 2071 - includes four main pillars: a future-focused government; excellent education offerings; a diversified knowledge economy; and a more cohesive society.
- Unified Digital Platform Policy – a plan to provide all government services from one unified platform, employing digital government enablers to integrate and connect digital systems of the UAE federal government and raising efficiency in providing digital services.
- The UAE Strategy for Government Services - Aims to provide 90 per cent of the public services through a single digital platform to ensure that by 2023 all government services will be accessible digitally
- National Policy for Quality of Digital Life – To ensure positive user engagement when using digital services.
- UAE Strategy for Artificial Intelligence – it aims to:
 - Boost government performance at all levels
 - Use an integrated smart digital system for problem solving
 - Make the UAE the first in the field of AI investments in various sectors
 - Create new vital market with high economic value
- Digital Customer and Digital Government Service Policy – it aims to:
 - Improve user experience in getting digital government services
 - Increase government efficiency in providing services

⁴ Prime Minister's Office at the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs, *We the UA 2031: Towards New Peaks* (2023) <[https://u.ae/-/media/Documents-2nd-half-2023/We-the-UAE-2031-\(2\).pdf](https://u.ae/-/media/Documents-2nd-half-2023/We-the-UAE-2031-(2).pdf)> accessed 12 February 2025.

- Enable integration and connection of digital systems of federal government entities
- raise trust in digital governmental services
- Digital Participation Strategy- Aims to foster public participation in governance by providing a digital platform.

5. ***(Regional) Economic Treaties to which the state is a signatory***

- Free Trade Agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) States
- GCC-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (GSFTA)
- The Arab Framework Agreement of Liberalization of Trade in Services Among Arab Countries
- Agreement to Facilitate and Develop Trade Among Arab Countries (by the Arab League)
- The Declaration of Greater Arab Free Trade Area (GAFTA) (In accordance with the Agreement for Facilitation and Promotion of Trade among Member Countries – the Arab League)
- Greater Arab Free Trade Area (GAFTA) Agreement
- Agreement on Trade in Services among the Arab Countries

6. ***Plurilaterals***

- The UAE is a participant of the Information Technology Agreement
- India Middle East Corridor (IMEC)

7. ***Proceedings initiated against the state, or by it, before international fora for the adoption/implementation of industrial policy measures (e.g., before WTO panels, the WTO's AB)***

- Not applicable

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