The Future of Education in UAE

ICEF- Dubai
2016

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• Effect of expo 2020 on the UAE education market
• Effect of oil prices on the scholarships
• Increased number of universities and language schools in UAE
• Increased monitoring and quality assurance for old and new comers institutions
• "The year of reading” and its effect on the education overseas.
• Reduced pie for countries like UK, Australia and New Zealand and increased pie size for USA and Europe and Asia
• Preliminary estimates indicate that the economic impact generated by the Expo between now and 2021 will be approximately US$19.6 billion – much of this value is expected to be retained within the region.

• In the next six years, over 275,000 jobs are estimated to be created in and around the region to service the Expo, across sectors including tourism, aviation, construction and real estate, engineering and infrastructure, logistics and transportation, and hospitality and retail.

• The government is calling for education institutions to strengthen ties with UAE education and industry sectors.

Effect of expo 2020 to UAE education market-1
Hosting Expo 2020 in Dubai is likely to boost the attractiveness of Dubai as a base for overseas companies wishing to invest in the Middle East. “It is easy to forget that there are still a great many companies around the world that do not have operations in the Middle East and have never invested here, and Expo 2020 should be yet another important component of any strategy to give Dubai a more prominent place in the business world,” said Humphry Hatton, CEO of Deloitte Corporate Finance.

Basicallly E2020 has a positive effect. However?
General Information

• **Official Name:** United Arab Emirates

• **Number of Emirates:** 7

**Language:** Mainly Arabic, Iranian, Indian, Pakistani, Philipino, western languages

**Government Type:** Monarchy

**Population:** 11 million (in 2013 it was 9.2, and 23% UAE nationals)

**Ethnic Groups:** Asian, European, American, British, etc live and work in the MENA region

• **Economy:** Oil and gas and natural resource, tourism

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**UAE- Facts**


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Arab_Emirates
• Improved tremendously and quality assured (KHDA and ADEC)
• Meaningful compulsory education
• Coherent quality assurance mechanisms
• Professionalization of teachers
• Educational materials
• Higher education- abundance in the UAE
• Educational information- available and transparent

UAE- The Education System

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• Students finish schools lacking appropriate foreign language proficiency
• Most schools have 12 years of education, so certain universities will require the students to do a foundation year
• Students lose a minimum of 2 years before joining a university

The Education System of (Deficiencies)

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Effect of oil prices on the scholarships

- Reduced to a minimum
- Adec sent only 50 instead of 250 this year
- Employee scholarships abroad also reduced to a minimum
• Helping in providing curriculum, assessment, evaluation tools, teacher training and academic affiliation
• Information technology, quality assurance, text books, educational technology, MOOCs, etc
• School building and design, setup of research centers, academic exchange, science cooperation, and alumni communities
Increased number of universities and language schools in UAE

These statistics can be checked from both ADEC, CAA and KHDA websites

• Large investments in Higher education from Private as well as the government
• The accrediting bodies ensure that those that want to open are either renowned branches or are starting with ranked universities
• In total there are 144 universities and over a 100 colleges/language schools around the UAE. Many of them are based in Dubai (43)
• The accrediting bodies quality assure these universities so no one can place a false advertisement.
• Enrolment rates in higher education have been increasing at a very rapid rate for the last ten years. The forecast is that this will increase at about the same rate over the next ten years.

• Enrolment could increase by as much as 50% in ten years.

• Most of the scholarships are now directed to local public or private universities.

The Size of the Market
Scholarship Providers
Not a comprehensive list

- Ministry of Higher Education
- Ministries of Labour
- Ministries of Health
- The public universities
- Private foundations
- Multinational companies like EMAL
- Diwans
- Petroleum companies

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• Online and distance education is not approved in most of the MENA region. Only 30% of total curriculum can be by distance
• Many organisations provide qualifications for working adults, who represent 65% of the population
• Quality is not maintained so the working adults always face difficulties.
• Hence an area that is worth exploring

Adult Education
(corporate)

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Setting up in the UAE

• Visa and labour law challenges
• Accreditation challenges, and QAA in UAE is hard
• Setting up campuses without proper market research, or regional knowledge. Starting fast and with a bang, rather than starting slow, with niche programmes (e.g., environment and sustainability) and having a period for incubation,
• Universities that started did not have a strong home campus support nor did they measure the growth
• There is a need for vocational education
• Specialised higher education providers
• Professional and executive education
• Academic partner expansion
• Focus on quality vs. quantity
Which Programmes are Interesting for UAE Students?

- Medicine
- Engineering
- Business
- Journalism
- Graphic design/Interior Design/Architecture
- Law
- Very few undertake humanities and arts
CHOICE OF PROGRAMME

- Architecture
- Engineering
- Medical
- Language
- Law
- Business/Marketing/Finance/Accounting
- Science
- IT
- Others
- Summer Camp
- Multimedia
- Pilot
- Management
- Art/Design
• Going abroad is a tradition
• The Ministry of Higher Education provided lists of the recommended higher education institutions abroad. These institutions are evaluated according to a number of criteria for the recognition of higher education institutions abroad
• Students wishing to complete their higher education must obtain the approval of the ministry before the enrollment through online request of the program study

Trends & Tendencies of UAE Students that Study abroad
• This can be a good opportunity for camps based in the UAE
• Already few providers are doing this in April
• Encouragement to read is a mandate by the top officials
• I feel that it will encourage students to study more

"The year of reading" and its effect on the education overseas.
 Army cadets training

- Since three years now students after school they must complete a special training in the Army
- Thus, reduced number of boys travelling abroad.
- However this will catch up soon as those that started last year they will start travelling this year or next year
Students Data
(based on our records)
• From the destination below, Reduced pie for countries like UK, Australia and New Zealand and increased pie size for USA and Europe and Asia
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- Architecture
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- Language
- Law
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- Science
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Thank You