

Investing in the Business of Hope

“We invest in the business of aiding humanity, the business of hope and in creating a better life for millions of people. We dedicate the best of the UAE to all humanity, without distinction between race, colour or creed.”

So said His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, recently as he attended the launch of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives annual report.

According to the report, Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives invested AED1.8 billion in humanitarian aid, alleviating poverty and sickness and building hope, tolerance and happiness in 68 countries, in 2017.

The foundation increased its expenditure to AED1.8 billion compared to the AED1.5 billion spent in 2016. Of this figure, AED961 million was spent on the programmes and initiatives of entities falling under MBRGI’s five pillars, which benefitted 69 million people in countries around the world.

MBRGI’s total 2017 expenditure on Humanitarian Aid & Relief was AED194 million, while expenditure on Healthcare & Disease Control was AED477 million. Spreading Education and Knowledge saw expenditure of AED634 million; Innovation and Entrepreneurship AED396 million; with AED129 million spent on Empowering Communities.



Another AED869 million was invested in establishing sustainable institutions, such as the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library, the Museum of the Future and other institutions.

HH Sheikh Mohammed praised the results achieved on the ground and the efforts behind them. “I am proud of my humanitarian team. Over 500 employees in the service of humanity and 90,000 volunteers help us in our journey of giving in over 60 countries,” he said.

“We have the resources, the will, the management, and no excuse for not being the first in humanitarian aid,” added Sheikh Mohammed. “Over the past 20 years, we have embraced many initiatives and projects in which we seek to make a qualitative difference in people’s

lives and communities. We believe that our real values lie in changing the lives of people for the better. The more we give, the more God gives us tenderness, comfort, safety and security.”

His Highness concluded: “We will continue to work, build and give in accordance with the vision we have set for ourselves and our team at the Mohammed bin Rashid Global Initiatives. It is the service of humanity first and last.”

The annual report was revealed at an iftar held at the Dubai Opera, attended by HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, the Board of Trustees of MBRGI and staff representing the 33 entities and initiatives under MBRGI. ♪





Arab Hope Makers Honoured

Mahmoud Wahid from Egypt is the winner of the 2018 Arab Hope Makers Award after judges were impressed with his Together to Save a Human initiative to help elderly homeless people. He was one of five finalists – picked from 87,000 entrants – to win AED1 million.

The other finalists included Fares Ali from Sudan, for empowering poor students who missed their school education because of hunger and suffering; Nawal Mustafa from Egypt, for her efforts

to help female inmates; Manal Al Musalam from Kuwait, for establishing the Dana Voluntarily Team to help Syrian refugees, and Siham Gerges from Iraq for devoting her life to assist Iraqi refugees.

Honouring the finalists, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said: “We heard some inspirational stories, came across some great human models, who give us great hopes in the future.”

During the award’s ceremony, Sheikh Mohammed also announced the launch of the Arab Hope Makers Academy, with a budget of AED50 million to support Arab philanthropist projects. “We invest in hope making because it is the most profitable investment for the future of the Arab World,” he said.

His Highness affirmed that the Arab Hope Makers Academy would work to transform the projects of hope makers into sustainable humanitarian projects. †

Sharing Knowledge to Inspire Future Leaders

A new knowledge platform seeks to accelerate the creation of a generation of Arab innovators and future leaders.

‘Ibtekr’ is the first interactive platform designed by the Mohammed bin Rashid Centre for Government Innovation (MBRCGI). It offers high-quality Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) developed by Arab experts, academics and UAE government leaders.

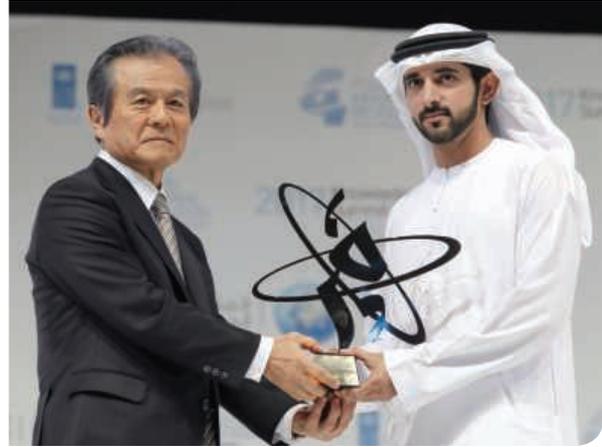
It provides the opportunity to enroll for free in a variety of courses for all Arabic speakers, and grants students accredited certificates from the MBRCGI. It also offers a set of scientific tools and

methodologies designed to raise awareness on the importance of innovation.

Aiming to attract over 30 million people worldwide, the Ibtekr platform will host an integrated knowledge database through an e-library that includes thousands of books, references, research papers, reports and international statistical reports in all disciplines in both Arabic and English languages. It will offer master classes with leading Arabic and international figures, live-streaming of specialized sessions, workshops that boost innovation skills, and talks with prominent experts from around the world.

“Knowledge is key to create a brighter future for the Arab world,” said His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, during its launch. “The progress of nations is linked to their ability to provide conducive environments that incubate modern sciences. We believe that government innovation is key for all progress and development, and an engine to build the future, where creating conducive environments that attract innovators will turn individual innovation into a government practice,” he added. †

Knowledge Award 2018 Open for Submissions



Local, regional and international submissions are now being accepted for this year's Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award. The closing date for entries is June 25.

Organised by the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF), and held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, MBRF Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Award, the award seeks to build a knowledge economy by stimulating creativity, and celebrating knowledge development and entrepreneurship across a variety of fields, including education, scientific research, communication technology, printing, publishing and documentation. Individuals and organisations from the public and private sectors are eligible to apply for the award.

"Since its inception, the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award has further established the UAE's role as a foremost advocate for embracing creativity and innovation," said His Excellency Jamal bin Huwairib, CEO of MBRF and Secretary-General of the Award.

"The country has established itself as a leading proponent for knowledge-oriented societies, setting an example by using knowledge to create plans and strategies that strive for a better future for all," he added.

HE bin Huwairib explained that the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award has inspired individuals and organisations from around the world to pioneer intellectual achievements, thereby helping them to become role models for their societies. He noted that the programme promoted a competitive eco-system that encourages a culture of creativity and innovation that advances the transmission and dissemination of knowledge.

Entries for the award can be submitted via the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award – knowledgeaward.org. Individuals or organisations applying should have made a significant and measurable contribution to knowledge dissemination

within one of its categories. Submissions should be accompanied by letters from referees with expertise in the field.

The content of the submissions must adhere to standards and ethics of scientific research, integrity and intellectual property rights, with written submissions accepted in Arabic or English only.

Last year's winners were Saudi Arabia's MiSK Foundation, which specialises in developing educational institutions and supporting scientific research; renowned Japanese scientist Hiroshi Komiya; and Wendy Kopp from the USA, Founder of Teach For America and CEO and Co-Founder of Teach For All. Kopp, Komiya and Bader al Asaker, secretary general of MiSK Foundation are pictured receiving their awards from His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai, during last year's Knowledge Summit in Dubai. †



Speaking Volumes at Abu Dhabi Book Fair

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF) was actively involved in the recent Abu Dhabi International Book Fair – “a major cultural event in the region”.

The Foundation displayed its latest projects and initiatives at the event, cementing its partnerships with knowledge organisations, leading Arab and international publishing houses and other institutions that work towards developing and disseminating knowledge.

MBRF’s CEO His Excellency Jamal bin Huwairib said it marked “an additional step forward in our journey to implement the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, to build a knowledge-based society and economy”. He added: “This participation also follows the directives of MBRF Chairman HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to develop new ways to produce and disseminate knowledge, all the while promoting creativity and innovation.”

H.E. bin Huwairib noted that The Abu Dhabi International Book Fair brings together a host of prestigious institutions, as well as authors and innovators from all knowledge-related sectors. He said it gave the Foundation “an opportunity to highlight our achievements, while we explore new ways to cooperate with various organisations to expand the scope of these initiatives, empower Arab talents, and allow them to be represented at all major knowledge forums”.

The Foundation’s agenda for the book fair, which was held at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, included workshops and discussions highlighting MBRF’s major initiatives and projects, including The Knowledge Summit, Literacy in the Arab World Initiative, Bil Arabi, Esteraht Sayedat, House of Poetry, Dubai International Programme for Writing and Qindeel Printing, Publishing and Distribution. †

