



Unlock the UAE

**Develop your business and
#GoBeyond**

2024



Expanding your business in the UAE

Navigating new international markets offers exciting opportunities. With careful consideration and resolution, it can pave the way for success and growth. Our Unlock the UAE guide service is designed to provide expert advice and insights, supporting your expansion journey in the UAE.

Whether finding the best location or facilitating setting up a branch or subsidiary, we are committed to providing pragmatic and timely advice, enabling you to focus on achieving your business objectives.

Venturing into global markets is a crucial step. However, by having a dedicated international business adviser who understands your business and customises services to your specific needs, you will gain confidence in effectively managing risks and maximising the potential a new market offers your business.



We can help you with the following services



Audit

- Statutory audit
- Limited review
- Agreed upon procedures



Advisory

- Business consulting
- Business risk services
- Regulatory advisory services
- M&A and transactions advisory
- Restructuring advisory
- Technology advisory and cybersecurity
- ESG services
- Forensics



Tax

- Corporate tax
- VAT
- Transfer pricing
- International tax and tax due diligence
- Economic substance requirements
- Customs and international trade
- Excise tax



Business process solutions

- Incorporation and PRO
- HR and Payroll Services
- Outsourcing Advisory Services

Why choose UAE?

Market opportunity

- The UAE is the world's 2nd most economically stable country, with a GDP per capita comparable to top Western European nations. Additionally, it has the most competitive economy in the Arab world
- The UAE is one of the most fastest growing ecommerce markets in the world
- Global ecommerce players have expanded to Dubai given its robust focus on an investment as a digital innovation hub

Business friendly environment

- The UAE is ranked 1st in the Middle East and North Africa Region in the 2020 World Bank "Ease of Doing Business" Rankings and 16th in the world
- The UAE ranked 10th at the 2023 IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook
- The UAE is ranked in the top in the Arab States Region on the World Economic Forum's Networked Readiness Index 2023
- The UAE has a complete VAT system, with most supplies of goods and services being tax at 5%

Access to finance

- Over 40 freezones operate in the UAE each offering 100% foreign ownership, and favourable terms for setup, taxes and leasing
- SME friendly environment and government policies
- Home to one-third of region's investors and the highest number of venture capitalists
- Dubai ranked as 21st in the Global Financial Centre Index 34 and the top regional financial centre, followed by Abu Dhabi



The United Arab Emirates is the number one destination for foreign direct investment in the Middle East.

Why choose UAE? (continued)

Innovation hub

- The UAE ranked 1st in the MENA region and 31st worldwide in the Global Innovation Index 2022, improving by 2 places from the 2021 ranking
- As per the UAE National Innovation Strategy 2015, total investments in innovation are estimated at AED 14 billion annually, of which half is allocated to Research and Development
- The UAE is the regional fintech hub and start-up hub

Magnet for talent

- The UAE ranks in the top 22 worldwide in the INSEAD Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2023
- A large pool of expatriate labour skills – modern growth in the workforce, from 7.4 million workers in 2018 to 7.7 million workers in 2019
- Strong investment in education as the economy transitions to a knowledge-based one

Quality of life

- Home to over 200 nationalities, the UAE is a peaceful, diverse, welcoming, and tolerant country
- One of the world's safest countries – the UAE ranks number 1 in the 2022 MENA region, and 25th globally according to the 2021 travel and tourism index
- Dubai and Abu Dhabi both rank as cities with the highest quality of Living across the Middle East region

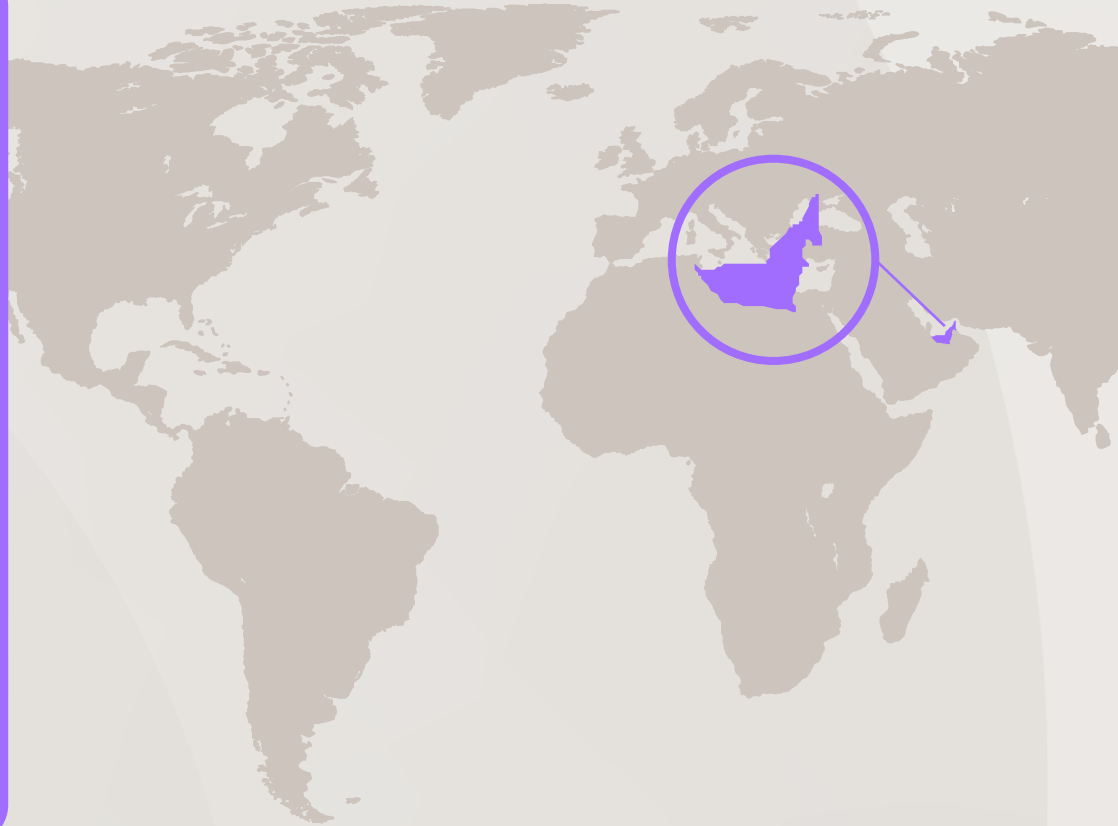


With state-of-the-art infrastructure, easy access to smart government services, highly transparent financial services, a tax-efficient business environment, and a vibrant open economy, the UAE is the ideal location to grow your business.

Grant Thornton – A truly global network

Grant Thornton is one of the world's leading organizations of independent assurance, tax and advisory firms.

Wherever you choose to do business, you want access to people with the best ideas and critical thinking that will enable you to grow your business at home and abroad. To ensure continuity of service, we have 23 international business centres (IBCs) led by experts from around the world, that work together to provide and co-ordinate the gateway to the resources of Grant Thornton.



UAE

5
Offices

59.04m
Revenue (USD)

590
Employees



Global

+700
Offices

7.5bn
Revenue (USD)

+150
Markets

+73,000
Employees

Contact

For more information about how we can help you unlock the UAE, please contact:



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