

March 23-25, 2022 in Dubai

EMIRATES INNOVATION JOURNEY

“MEET THE PEOPLE WHO IMPACT THE FUTURE”

X·PM | A WIL GROUP MEMBER 
EXPERIENCED PEOPLE ► DELIVERING RESULTS



THE EMIRATES: A FAST GROWING REGION WITH GREAT EXPECTATIONS AND IMPACT

UAE has the second-largest economy in the Arab world (after Saudi Arabia), with a gross domestic product of US\$410 billion in 2021. A third of the GDP still is from oil revenues. Since independence in 1971, UAE's economy has grown by nearly 231 times.

Over the decades, the Emirate of Dubai has started to look for additional sources of revenue. High-class tourism and international finance continue to be developed.

In line with this initiative, the Dubai International Financial Centre was announced, offering 55.5% foreign ownership, no withholding tax, freehold land and office space and a tailor-made financial regulatory system with laws taken from best practice in other leading financial centers like New York, London, Zürich and Singapore.

DUBAI has also developed Internet and Media free zones, offering 100% foreign ownership, no tax office space for the world's leading ICT and media companies, with the latest communications infrastructure to service them. Many of the world's leading companies have now set up branch offices, and even changed headquarters to, there.

Recent liberalization in the property market allowing non citizens to buy freehold land has resulted in a major boom in the construction and real estate sectors, with several signature developments such as the 2 Palm Islands, the World (archipelago), Dubai Marina, Jumeirah Lake Towers, and a number of other developments, offering villas and high rise apartments and office space. Emirates (part of the Emirates Group) was formed by the Dubai Government in the 1980s and is presently one of the few airlines to witness strong levels of growth. Emirates is also the largest operator of the Airbus A380 aircraft.

In addition, to finding new ways of sustaining the national economy, the UAE has also made progress in installing new, sustainable methods of generating electricity. This is evidenced by various solar energy initiatives at Masdar City and by other renewable energy developments in parts of the country. Numerous plans also aim at taking a leading edge in the green economies.

Furthermore, the UAE is starting to see the emergence of local manufacturing as new source of economic development, examples of significant government-led investments such as Strata in aerospace industry, while there are also small scale entrepreneurial ventures picking up, such as Zarooq Motors in the automotive industry.

In August 2020, a nuclear power plant became operational.

In September 2021, the UAE announced its plans to aggravate its trade ties with other economies, particularly in Asia and Africa. The country indicated that it was looking for inward foreign investments of around \$150 billion in the next nine years, that is, by 2030. The Emirates aims to be one of the world's ten biggest investment nations.

THE INNOVATION JOURNEY

At X-PM we are joining forces with our international partner offices (WIL Group) to set-up a unique opportunity to our key business contacts to understand the region further and meet people who are impacting our future.

The journey, which integrates a day at Dubai Expo, aims at understanding the leading role that the Emirates is about to play in the Region, Middle East and Africa as well as Globally. It will also focus on the elements that allow an oil-based economy transform into a sustainable environment that impacts the rest of the world.

It will address key questions such as:

- What are the regions development plans
- Which industries are on the fast track
- Where do the resources come from
- Where are the opportunities for investments
- How do you enter this market, and
- Who are the investors.

The innovation journey will encompass meetings with local authorities, company visits, and meeting investors. The Dubai expo tour will focus on the most promising visions of future opportunities and sustainability initiatives. Participation will be restricted to form a multinational group of business executives, no larger than 30 people.

While tourism is not the main objective, a wide selection of pre/post journey optional tours will be recommended. Participants have a unique opportunity to:

- Get a concrete vision of what the future might look like
- Discover a region that is investing heavily in sustainable industries far away from the traditional petrol-based economy
- Mix with peers from different countries and make new connections, and
- Investigate further specific areas of interest with our Dubai Partner.

DAY 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE EMIRATES

MARCH 23

9:30 am - INTRODUCTION TO THE EMIRATES

by Sanjiv Goel

Partner X-PM resident in Dubai

10:00 am - DIGITAL & INNOVATION INITIATIVES IN DUBAI

by Priyanka Vijayan - Director-International Ventures
Private Office of Sheikh Saeed Bin Ahmed Al
Maktoum

12:00 pm - LUNCH

**2:00 pm - CERCLE INTERNATIONAL ROUND TABLE
UAE A PROMINENT INVESTMENT HUB IN THE MIDDLE
EAST**

by Antony Hobeika, CEO
MENA Research Partners

**5:00 pm - INTRODUCTION TO SMART CITIES AND TOP
EDUCATION IN THE UAE**

by Dr Sanjay Modak, Chair, Graduate Programs &
Research Department
Rochester Institute of Technology, Dubai Silicon
Oasis

7:30 pm - PRIVATIZED CRUISE WITH DINNER

DAY 2

DOING BUSINESS IN THE EMIRATES

MARCH 24

9:00 am - BARAKAT GROUP - EXCELLENCE IN DISTRIBUTION

A leading distributor of FMCG's, building materials and commodities in the Middle East, Central Asia and Turkey
by Kenneth A Dcosta, MD

11:30 am Drydocks - A world class facility for marine and offshore projects

The only large dry dock in the Persian Gulf with the largest Middle East floating crane
by Shrirang Makarand Kolaskar, Senior Finance Director

1:00 pm - LUNCH

2:30 pm - THALES - CYBERSECURITY HUB AND DIGITAL EXPERIENCE

At the Design Thinking Centre

4:30 pm - GULF PETROCHEM

The largest Chemical Distributor in the Middle East and Africa

7:30 pm - CARAVANSERAI DESERT DINNER (Buffet with local show)

DAY 3

ANOTHER VISION OF THE FUTURE



MARCH 25

9:00 am - ACE/AL-FUTTAIM UAE & QATAR

Ludovic Quentin, GM

11:30 am - DUBAI EXPO

1:30 pm - LUNCH

AFTERNOON AT DUBAI EXPO

Tour of the selected pavilions in Mobility, Opportunity and Sustainability Districts
Sponsored visits of the French and UAE pavilions

6:00 pm - CLOSING COCKTAIL AT THE EXPO

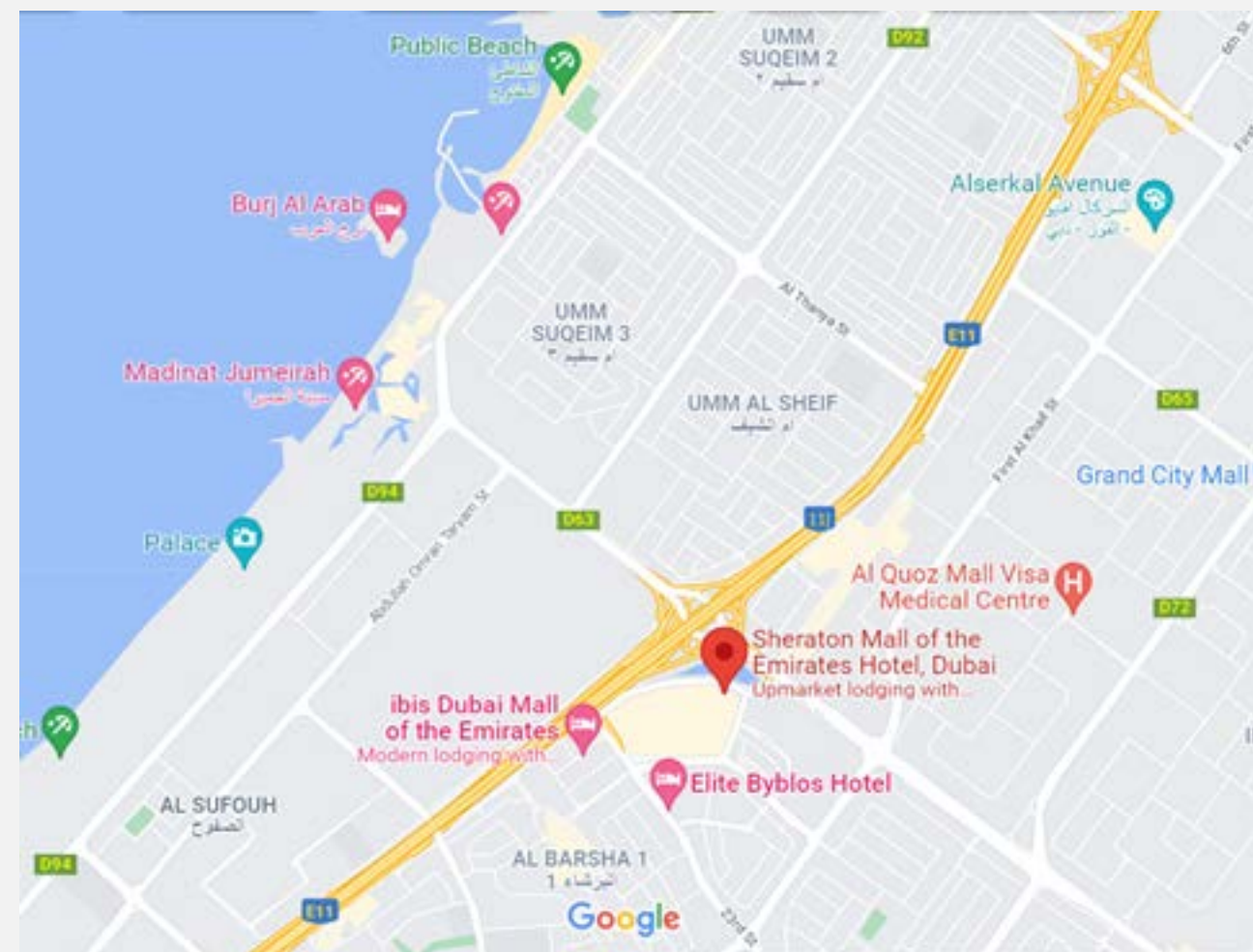
8:00 pm - END OF PROGRAMME

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATION

[5 star Sheraton Mall of the Emirates Hotel](#) has been chosen for its convenient location and to minimize transport time between the different sites.

3 nights - 22-23-24 March have been booked for the group of participants.



PRICE

1400\$ USD per person all inclusive, exclusive of air travel, personal expenses, and add-ons before or after the journey

The 3-day program is designed to maximize networking and communication among professional peers. Participation is required throughout the program and no individual customization is anticipated.

REGISTRATION / CONTACT PERSON

Ms Karlygash Abiyeva - kabiyeva@x-pm.com

We are using a local Agent in Dubai who will handle the payment as well as assist directly participants who wish to extend their stay and enjoy touristic activities on their own.

Amol Sharma, Manager - Groups

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