

DUBAI IS SILICON OASIS OF THE MIDDLE EAST

World is undergoing 4th Industrial Revolution and in the first half of the third millennia states are gradually shifting its priorities in tune with the current times. Information Technologies has not just become part of human life, but in addition, it became an essential tool to progress the states from the third world to the top.

In fact, a number of governments are trying to organize entrepreneurial environment, which identified by commercial innovation and IT inventions. To facilitate the development of such business environment, local laws and the conditions created therefrom play an important role.

Dubai, which is financial and business hub of the Middle East, works actively in the line of establishing favorable environment for IT start-ups and tech entities. It would be safe to say that, Dubai is the leading city amongst other cities of emerging states in regards to creation of advantageous business environment and attraction of investors and entrepreneurs.

Dubai government has initiated and established several free zones specialized in IT scope as well as initiatives and platforms to foster its start-ups.

Following free zones are the foundation of Dubai's "Silicon Valley" and there are 49 free zones, which allows setting up companies in the IT space, but here we would like to mention the most dedicated ones:

- Dubai Silicon Oasis;
- Dubai Internet City;
- Dubai Outsource City;
- The National Industries Complex.

The main peculiarity of these free zones are 100% ownership of the company; 100% foreign ownership; 100% repatriation of capital; Zero Income tax; Zero corporate tax.

Apart from that, each free zone has its own programs and funds to support IT startups. Tecom Investment Group, which owns and supervises Dubai Internet City and Dubai Outsource City free zones has its own In5 incubator.



The incubator is unique meeting platform for start-ups and investors with preferential terms. In5 suggests reasonable costs for license, visa and easy launch of business. Currently out of 120 active startup projects, more than a half have 50% growth. Currently, there is a business looking up in the areas of setting up the companies with activities related to artificial intelligence, e-commerce, data management and cyber security.

Dubai Silicon Oasis has launched its own division to support start up projects, which is Dubai Technology Entrepreneur Centre (DTEC) in 2015. Currently, DTEC admitted as the largest start up center with its own entrepreneurial ecosystem. Since its launch in 2015, DTEC has become home to more than 800 entrepreneurial start-up companies.

Dubai is not only favorable place to launch a start-up company, but also a place where you can get investment for further development. In 2017, UAE concreted its status as regional hub of IT start-ups. The industry attracted 500 MLN USD of investment, which is 76% of the total investment amount received by the companies in MENA region. The UAE has one-third of all investors in the MENA region. UAE along with Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Egypt invested 70% out of whole amount of regional investment in digital and IT start-ups in the region.

This year, UAE registered 298 new startups. The most eminent ones are CAREEM private taxi service and StarzPlay movies resource. Especially, CAREEM attracted USD 350 MLN and SOUQ.COM received USD 275 MLN of investment. We can name Dubai as the Silicon Oasis of the Middle East by right. As apart from the creation of favorable conditions and supporting start-up projects, UAE government, especially Dubai initiated scores of innovative projects.

The serious proof of UAE's approach to new technology is proved by the fact that it is the first time in the world a state has established Ministry of State for Artificial Intelligence of the UAE. By 2021, UAE is planning to become world capital of block chain technology. Dubai's Start up Hub project backed by local government is working actively to promote and to support start-up projects in Dubai.



Who we are?

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Garant has an extensive hands-on experience in advising on worldwide structuring assets as well as estate planning and wealth management.

Having supported establishment of more than hundreds of companies Garant is the best choice for those looking for well-trusted, diligent and quality-oriented business advisors.

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