



مكتب أبوظبي للاستثمار  
ABU DHABI INVESTMENT OFFICE

# Abu Dhabi Investment Office Overview

February 2021



“  
**I dreamt of our land keeping  
pace with the growth of the  
modern world.,,**

The Late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan  
Founding Father of the United Arab Emirates (1953)



# Abu Dhabi's enabling business environment

Abu Dhabi is a proven expansion ground and a gateway to the world's fastest growing economies

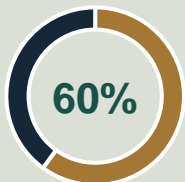
## A strong and stable economy

GDP of **\$249B** in 2019<sup>1</sup>



UAE's economy is among the top **30** globally<sup>2</sup>

Abu Dhabi's contribution to the UAE's GDP<sup>3</sup>



1 2019, SCAD Yearbook GDP at Current Prices (AED 915bn)  
2 2018, World Bank GDP rankings  
3 2018, UAE MoE Annual Economic Report

## Established infrastructure

**80%** of the world within an 8-hour flight

**1<sup>st</sup>** capital in the world to have 100% fiber-to-the-home connection<sup>4</sup>


**1<sup>st</sup>** smartest city in MENA in terms of Smart City Development<sup>5</sup>

4 2016, Abu Dhabi Competitiveness Report 2016  
5 2020, IMD Smart City Index

## Business friendly

**12<sup>th</sup>** globally for ease of doing business<sup>6</sup>.  
#1 in the region

**100%** foreign ownership across locations and activities<sup>7</sup>

**0%** income tax 

6 2020, World Bank Doing Business Subnational Report  
7 2020, Federal Decree Law No. 26 of 2020; restrictions may apply in certain sectors

## A place residents love to call home

**#1** happiest city in the Arab region<sup>8</sup>

**10<sup>th</sup>** best city for expats<sup>9</sup>



**#1** safest city in the world (fifth year running)<sup>10</sup>

8 2020, World Happiness Report  
9 2020, InterNations  
10 2021, Numbeo

# Abu Dhabi's innovation ecosystem

Abu Dhabi's ecosystem is the ideal testbed for innovation and advanced manufacturing



## Entrepreneurial Mindset

#12 globally for ease of doing business, no restriction on repatriation of capital, 0% income tax



## Enabling Environment

Ghadan 21 accelerator programme, UAE Strategy for Artificial Intelligence, Hub71, Abu Dhabi Global Market RegLab, Masdar City



## Funding Sources

ADIO's Incentive Programme, ADQ, Mubadala Ventures, the region's second largest bank (FAB), established capital markets (ADX)



## Integrated Infrastructure

Ranked #12 worldwide for quality of infrastructure: 5 specialised free zones, 5G internet, international airport connects to 100+ global cities



## Research Universities

16 universities including Khalifa University, INSEAD, NYU Abu Dhabi, Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence



## Talent Pool

Multinational workforce with a 93.4% literacy rate, substantial government support for gender balance



# Your Abu Dhabi growth partner

The Abu Dhabi Investment Office (ADIO) is the central government hub supporting private sector investment in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

We support investors and businesses with innovation at the core to help ensure long-term, sustainable success in Abu Dhabi and across the region.



## PROMOTE

Abu Dhabi as a preferred investment destination.



## ATTRACT

Innovation-focused companies to Abu Dhabi and create investment opportunities.



## FACILITATE

An open, thriving and sustainable business environment, and a robust public-private partnership model.



# Driving private sector investment

ADIO is committed to the innovation-led growth of Abu Dhabi's private sector



## Investor Care Services

Managing the end-to-end investor journey, ensuring the seamless establishment of new legal entities, the mobilisation of employees and the efficient start of your journey in Abu Dhabi.



## Incentive Instruments

Supporting eligible businesses with innovation at the core using financial and non-financial incentives to help ensure long-term, sustainable success in the market and across the region.



## Infrastructure Partnerships

Facilitating transparent, long-term arrangements between private sector entities and government partners to design, build, finance and maintain or operate public assets.

# Investor care

ADIO provides investors with end-to-end support during the business setup phase of their investor journey



## Data

Providing information on all aspects of doing business in Abu Dhabi, including data on the economy and focus sectors.



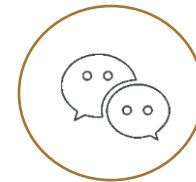
## Real Estate

Identifying cost-effective solutions for office space, industrial activities and connection to brokers for employee accommodation.



## Networks

Connecting innovation-focused companies to the Abu Dhabi ecosystem and investment opportunities.



## Talent & Visas

Helping investors tap into sources of local talent, as well as obtain residency visas for their international workforce.



## Licensing & Permits

Providing insight into applicable laws and regulations, as well as assistance obtaining economic licences and operating permits.



## Banking & Finance

Introduction to local banking partners to expedite setting up bank accounts and financing options.

# Incentives

ADIO, directly or together with Abu Dhabi ecosystem partners, offers a range of financial and non-financial incentives to eligible investors



## Financial Incentives



ADIO: Rebates and grants to support investments in innovation



Ecosystem partners: Equity investments and other incentives through partner entities

## Non-Financial Incentives



Assistance to access land, office space and other facilities



Regulatory assistance including visas, select trial licences and others



Potential exemptions for select government fees and requirements



# ADIO financial incentives

Abu Dhabi is home to a variety of industries and ADIO provides additional incentives to sectors with high-growth opportunities



## Qualitative assessment

- Abu Dhabi strategic priority
- Disruptive technology focus
- Priority cluster alignment
- Proof of concept



## Quantitative assessment

- Number of high-skilled jobs created
- Number of Emirati jobs created
- Planned innovation capital expenditure
- Economic impact on Abu Dhabi



## Rebates

- Salaries
- Capital expenditure
- Operating expenditure



## Grants

- Feasibility study
- Product development
- Capability building

# Infrastructure Partnerships

ADIO facilitates transparent, long-term arrangements between private sector entities and government partners



# Get in touch

Our team welcomes your enquiries



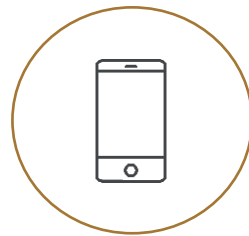
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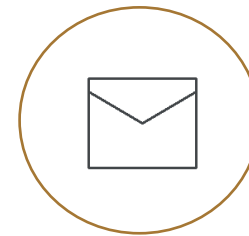
## Reach us

9th floor, Al Khatem Tower,  
ADGM Square, Al Maryah  
Island,  
P.O. Box: 767692,  
Abu Dhabi, UAE



## Call us

+971 2 403 1003







## Email us

[inquiries@adio.ae](mailto:inquiries@adio.ae)



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