



EXPO 2020 إكسبو 2020
دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة
DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

For Immediate Release
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Press Release

Could your development project have a global impact? Expo 2020 Dubai wants to share it with the world

- **Expo 2020 Global Best Practice Programme to support pioneering solutions for development**
- **Open to all, successful applicants to showcase their projects to millions at next World Expo**
- **Programme will support progress being made to achieve 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda**

DUBAI, 20 March, 2019: Pioneering development projects with global potential are being sought by Expo 2020 Dubai as part of its Global Best Practice Programme, which aims to enhance visibility of best practices for the benefit of all.

The programme provides projects being delivered by governments, businesses, international organisations, academia, communities and individuals around the world with the opportunity to showcase their results on a global stage, while connecting with millions of people and charting action for greater results.

Under the theme ‘Small Steps, Big Leaps: Simple Solutions for Sustainable Impact’, the Global Best Practice Programme is built on the belief that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 requires local solutions within nations, communities, neighbourhoods and households to ensure no one is left behind.

A prestigious international selection committee has been formed to choose projects for the programme, including representatives from the Bureau International des Expositions (the governing body of World Expos), the University of Cambridge, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, World Bank, UN-Habitat, UN-Water, UNDP, UNICEF, Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Renewable Energy Agency, Abu Dhabi Fund for Development, and the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth.

Applicants are encouraged to submit projects that show tangible solutions and real results that address any of the 17 SDGs – a collection of goals that, if achieved, will ensure a good basic quality of life for everyone. The projects should highlight simple but effective solutions that can be adapted, replicated and scaled to achieve global impact.

Projects could include local actions such as providing mobile toilets in rural communities to improve sanitation access for nomadic communities; empowering smallholder women farmers by providing financial literacy and marketing skills; establishing a municipal government project that prepares the community for unexpected natural and human-made disasters; or a banking app for the unbanked to improve their financial empowerment.

Shahbano Tirmizi, Senior Manager – Global Best Practice Programme, Expo 2020 Dubai, said: “In 2015, the world set out the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – a plan underpinned by the SDGs to ensure individuals and communities everywhere have the opportunity to thrive. We believe the Expo 2020 Dubai Global Best Practice Programme can add value and advance our collective impact towards achieving these goals by acting as a platform to showcase solutions to some of the world’s most pressing challenges.

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“The programme is also another opportunity at Expo 2020 for countries to tell their stories of success and for those nations with strong foreign aid policies and programmes to celebrate how they support development globally.”

A feature of every Expo, the Global Best Practice Programme resonates with Expo 2020’s theme of *‘Connecting Minds, Creating the Future’*, and its three subthemes, *Opportunity, Mobility* and *Sustainability*. It also aims to inspire millions of Expo 2020 visitors to create their own ideas for a more sustainable future.

Applications are open until 30 May, 2019, and should align with one of five priority development areas:

- **Inclusive and sustainable service delivery:** A reliable service provision in urban and rural areas, as well as in fluid environments such as informal, nomadic, post-disaster, emergency, and refugee settlements
- **Livelihoods and enterprise development:** Promoting alternative employment and income opportunities, women in the workplace, competitive products and services, and improved market access
- **Resilient habitats:** Better protecting human, economic and natural assets in urban, rural and fluid environments
- **Social development:** Reliable, affordable and appropriate healthcare and education systems and delivery
- **Water, food and energy security:** Smarter consumption and resource management to better meet increasing water, food and energy requirements for a growing global population

Applicants can find out more information about the programme and apply via the Expo 2020 Dubai website:

<https://www.expo2020dubai.com/en/programmes/best-practice-programme> or via email: bestpractice@expo2020.ae.

Expo 2020 Dubai will be the first World Expo in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region. It expects to welcome 25 million visits between 20 October, 2020 and 10 April, 2021, with approximately 70 per cent of visitors projected to come from outside the UAE – the largest proportion of international visitors in the 168-year history of World Expos.

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About Expo 2020 Dubai

Expo 2020 Dubai is guided by the belief that innovation and progress are the result of people and ideas combining in new ways. For six months from 20 October, 2020, Expo will bring together 190 countries and millions of people to celebrate human ingenuity: *‘Connecting Minds, Creating the Future’*.

- During the six months from 20 October, 2020 to 10 April, 2021, we expect to welcome 25 million visits
- About 70 per cent of all visitors are anticipated to come from outside the UAE – the largest proportion of international visitors in Expo history
- We aim to create and deliver an inclusive and global Expo with more than 200 participants, including nations, multilateral organisations, businesses and educational institutions
- Expo 2020 also has an ambitious volunteer programme, which aims to include more than 30,000 volunteers from a wide range of ages, nationalities, cultures and backgrounds
- The Expo site covers a total of 4.38 sqkm, including a 2 sqkm gated area. It is located adjacent to Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai South
- Expo 2020 Dubai is the first World Expo to take place in the MEASA (Middle East, Africa and South Asia) region

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About World Expos

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In 1851 the Crystal Palace was the centrepiece of London's Great Exhibition – the first World Expo. It celebrated the man-made industrial wonders of a rapidly changing world. Architecture, contents and a theme, 'Industry of All Nations', were combined to create a big idea of nations meeting nations in shared technological and commercial progress. In more recent years, participants in World Expos, including governments, international organisations and companies, have gathered to find solutions to universal challenges and to promote their achievements, products, ideas, innovations, their national brand, and their nations as destinations for tourism, trade and investment.

World Expos are held under the auspices of the [Bureau International des Expositions \(BIE\)](#), the intergovernmental organisation responsible for overseeing and regulating international exhibitions ('Expos') and for fostering their core values of Education, Innovation and Cooperation. Today, four types of Expos are organised under the BIE's auspices: World Expos, Specialised Expos, Horticultural Expos and the Triennale di Milano.

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