



Rwanda Mission in UAE

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 17 – March 2022

The Embassy of Rwanda in Abu Dhabi

The General Consulate of Rwanda in Dubai

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## Equality is a right, not a favour- H.E President Kagame on IWD 2022



On 8th March 2022, H.E President Paul Kagame said the ruling party, the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF-Inkotanyi), has from the beginning put the rights of women at the forefront, ensuring that it puts in place an environment in which women and girls can freely thrive. The Head of State in his International Women's Day message wishing Rwandan women and all women across the globe happy celebrations, said that equality of all genders is a right and not a favour and a lot more needs to be done to ensure the progress is sustained, for the betterment of future generations.

"Happy #IWD2022 to women in Rwanda and beyond. Today, we celebrate the resilience of Rwandan women who have been at the centre of Rwanda's transformation journey,"

"From the beginning, RPF has walked the talk by creating an environment that enabled women to take their rightful place. Gender equality has always been central to the politics of RPF. The progress we see in Rwanda today is the result of this commitment to inclusivity," President Kagame tweeted.

"Equality is a right not a favour. We must challenge ourselves to do even more and better to ensure that the next generations of our daughters and granddaughters inherit a nation where their aspirations have no limits," he emphasized.

At the national level, IWD 2022 celebrations were held in Nemba Sector, Gakenke district, under the national theme "Gender equality to address climate change", alongside the international theme "Break the bias".

Read more: [Equality is a right, not a favour- President Kagame on IWD 2022](#)|KT Press

## Gender equality enshrined in Rwanda and UAE longstanding vision- Amb. Hategeka



55% of Rwandan cabinet members are women

On 8 March 2022, Rwanda joined the United Arab Emirates and the rest of the world in spotlighting the remarkable progress in gender equality as the global community marked the International Women's Day on Tuesday.

The celebration comes in a time when gender equality has gained momentum in the two friendly countries, H.E Emmanuel Hategeka, Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda to the UAE said, underscoring that women are trailblazing in politics, business, science and technology, agriculture, education, among many more critical fields of sustainable development.

"Rwanda and UAE are gender champions. Our two countries were ranked in top three for women representation in parliament globally, according to the 2021 Women in Parliament report by the Inter-Parliamentary Union. Gender equality is enshrined in the longstanding vision of our two countries and is backed by good leadership. We learn from each other and we have something in common to share to the rest of the world." Ambassador Hategeka said.

Rwanda and the UAE have unleashed women potentials through strong policies and regulatory frameworks. With Rwanda's constitutional requirement of a minimum quota of at least 30% of women in decision making institutions, women exceptional leadership in public and private sectors has contributed to Rwanda's development and global positioning. Constituting 51.8% of Rwandan population, women representation in decision making institutions grew considerably. Currently, Rwanda is ranked the first country globally to have the highest women representation in Parliament at 61.3% while 55% of cabinet members are women.

On the other side, the directive by H.H Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE providing that Emirati women must occupy 50 % of the Federal National Council's (Parliament) seats is one of testaments to UAE commendable commitment to gender equality.

Read the full statement on [RwandaInUAE](#) and [Al Ittihad](#)

## WGS2022: PM Ngirente rallies govts to collaborate on Covid-19 recovery efforts



Rt. Hon. Prime Minister Dr. Edouard Ngirente said that efforts to recover from the Covid-19 crisis must be underpinned by multilateralism and collaboration between governments as well as international organisations. Prime Minister Ngirente was speaking on 30th March in Dubai, United Arab Emirates while delivering remarks at the eighth World Government Summit.

This year's summit convened more than 4,000 individuals from 190 countries who participated in various sessions to discuss and highlight global challenges and their potential solutions.

To get shared goals back on track, the Premier also called for collaboration among international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector and to draw on international research and innovation. "The world is able to gather physically today, after over two years of the global Covid-19 pandemic. This is evidence of what can be achieved when countries cooperate towards a common goal," Ngirente said.

He added that the lessons learnt from the Covid-19 pandemic should be a foundation as the world considers strategies for scaling new heights for the future of humanity. For instance, Ngirente said, the UN 2030 Agenda provides a pathway to better livelihood, citing that it provides universal goals and targets for all countries to deliver on three dimensions covering economy, social as well as environment.

### **Rwanda's economic recovery efforts**

Sharing Rwanda's economic recovery efforts and progress, Ngirente said that the government's economic response was driven by different interventions comprising sizable fiscal and monetary support including the Economic Recovery Fund (ERF).

The ERF is a policy response tool that was unleashed two years ago to support Covid-19 hit business. The government recently announced an additional phase to the fund.

Other interventions that are driving Rwanda's economic recovery include the Manufacture and Build to Recover Programme (MBRP), and a prompt vaccine rollout, which has seen over 60 per cent of Rwanda's population above 18 fully vaccinated. "Today, the Government of Rwanda is optimistic as recovery initiatives are delivering tangible results. Rwanda is showing promising signs of recovery whereby it grew by 10.9 per cent in 2021, and is projected to grow at a rate of 7.2 per cent in 2022," he said.

### **Decade of action**

The premier said that the session on SDGs in action is an opportune moment for fellow global leaders both in the public and business community to reflect and devise strategies that will reinforce commitment and maintain the momentum for the decade of action (2021–2030).

"The 2030 Agenda was ambitious and required substantial financial resources which weren't available especially to most developing countries." However, he pointed out that the situation has worsened following possible reversals and strain that Covid-19 inflicted on most countries which often led to reallocation of financial resources towards confronting the pandemic. "Sustained recovery requires solid foundations including global cooperation and the effective integration of the SDGs into national recovery plans of both developed and developing economies."

PM Ngirente said that Rwanda was committed to walking this transformation journey towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, domesticated in the government's National Strategy for Transformation as well as collaborating with other countries, especially on the African Continent.

Read more: PM Ngirente participates in WGS2022 in Dubai

## Women in Government Forum: CEO Akamanzi makes case for women inclusion



On 28th March 2022, RDB CEO Clare Akamanzi participated in a panel discussion alongside H.E Marta Lucia Ramirez, Vice President of Colombia, on "The 50% Cabinet: Why Women Must Sit in Executive Government" at the Women in Government Forum in Dubai.

Speaking about Rwanda's journey of including women in leadership, CEO Clare Akamanzi highlighted the three most important factors; political will, legal framework/policies and gender mainstreaming.

"You can never underestimate political will. You can have policies and laws; you have to have serious political will about including women," she said.

"It is extremely important to have the laws or the policies that support it. We have a constitution that requires 30% of any political office to be occupied by women. You have to make it a practice on how you mainstream gender in everything you do," CEO Clare added.

The Women in Government Forum brought together influential and inspiring women from around the world. It came ahead of the World Governance Summit that took place on 29-30 March 2022 at the Dubai Exhibition Centre.

Six months ago, Expo 2020 Dubai curtain opened bringing the world together again. As the global exhibition concluded on 31st March 2022, over 1.2 million visitors from around the world had visited the Rwanda pavilion to learn about what the country has to offer and enjoyed a taste of Made in Rwanda products.

## FOCUS ON EXPO 2020 DUBAI

### Rwanda pavilion records over 1.2 million visitors as curtain comes down on Expo 2020 Dubai



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Expo 2020 Dubai closed with more than 24 million visits in its six months. The 200-plus pavilions spanning the site, including those representing 192 nations, proved to be the major attractions.

Appreciating the UAE support, H.E Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka said: "The UAE delivered on its promise to bring the world together at Expo 2020 Dubai. Thank you UAE leadership for the support that Rwanda received before and during this remarkable global event. We will continue to work together to harness opportunities and connections made to build a better world for all."

Throughout the six months of Expo, Rwanda co-curated events with countries like Colombia, Estonia and Austria to promote ICT and innovation, international collaboration and cultural exchange through fashion.

Rwanda's private sector participation at Expo 2020 Dubai was also commendable! "We thank participating members of PSF both at the coffee shop especially the baristas and retail space team who made our guests always want to come back but also to Visit Rwanda!" Ambassador Hategeka said.

Rwanda's outstanding performance was recognized with a Gold Award for the 'Theme Development' category in the Opportunity district. This is thanks to the commendable institutional collaboration, team work and dedication.



## H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum visits the Rwanda pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai



On 14th March 2022, H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, toured the Rwanda pavilion. The pavilion team shared Rwanda's transformation journey and available opportunities for investment in various sectors.

"Today I also visited the Kenya and Rwanda pavilions at Expo 2020 Dubai and was briefed on their cultural features, tourism projects and investments in clean energy," H.H. Sheikh Mohammed wrote on his Twitter handle.

Appreciating the visit, Rwanda's Ambassador to the UAE H.E. Emmanuel Hategeka reiterated that Expo 2020 Dubai opened new horizons of cooperation: "Thanking H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai for visiting Rwanda pavilion. Rwanda-UAE relations can only grow stronger! The well-organized Expo 2020 deepened connections with UAE and the global community," Ambassador Hategeka tweeted.

## Made in Rwanda designs find home at Expo 2020 Dubai



Made in Rwanda fashion designs drew attention from fashion enthusiasts in Dubai after Rwanda designers' collection impressed fanatics who attended Rwanda-Austria Fashion Connect on 25th March 2022.

Co-curated by Rwanda and Austria at Expo 2022 Dubai, the fashion show held at the Austrian Pavilion attracted six fashion houses from Rwanda and Austria presenting 36 various collections. House of Tayo, Haute Baso and Maison Munezero were among top Rwandan fashion houses that took part in the fashion event.

Pierra Ntayombya, Chief Executive Officer of Haute Baso, explained that it was an opportunity not only to reconnect but also learn from other fashion players' experiences towards building a more competent and creative fashion industry in Rwanda. "This opportunity has been beneficial because we have been able to exchange with our Austrian counterparts. We have been able to learn from their traditions and their cultural practices when it comes to fashion and textiles," said Ntayombya.

For Jean Vainqueur Munezero, Founder and Creative Director at Maison Munezero who was presenting his designs in Dubai for the first time, there is a need to strengthen collaborations between the designers from both countries following a successful showing at the Austria-Rwanda Fashion Connect. "I am so excited that I was able to participate at this event physically. It's been over a year collaborating through the internet and finally here we are in Dubai. There is hope for a bright future and hopefully more collaborations will exist between Austrian designers and mine," he said.

Rwanda's Ambassador to the UAE, Emmanuel Hategeka, was among the honorary figures who attended the fashion event. Hategeka highlighted the role of the fashion industry in promoting cultural heritage and driving economic development. "Fashion is an industry and scene to express and promote our cultural heritage, a platform to showcase tradition while embracing modernity. Presenting Rwanda-made and Austria-made collections at Expo 2020 Dubai is a golden opportunity to take these beautiful styles and designs from our talented designers to the international stage. It is also an opportunity to get connected to new markets," he said.

The Ambassador said that in Rwanda, fashion and design, like other sectors of the economy, benefit from a supportive business environment. The Made in Rwanda campaign which started in 2015, leading to the Made in Rwanda Policy adopted in 2017, provided a framework to boost local production as opposed to relying on imports.

Read more on: [Made in Rwanda designs find home at Expo 2020 Dubai | The New Times](#)

## RCA-UAE joins Commonwealth Day celebration at Expo 2020



On 14th March 2022, Rwandan Community in the UAE joined the Commonwealth family in celebrating Commonwealth Day. Uryunge cultural troupe and drummers performed at the UK Pavilion Expo 2020 for this remarkable occasion.

## Rwandan Community in UAE to light up 107 vulnerable families



Rwandans living in the United Arab Emirates will light up 107 families through #CanaChallenge initiative. The pledge was announced in the general meeting of the Rwandan Community in the UAE (RCA-UAE) on Sunday 27th March 2022 in Dubai.

Launched by Rwanda Development Bank, #Canachallenge is an initiative that seeks to provide solar home systems to vulnerable families in the first Ubudehe category.

The chairperson of Rwanda Community in the UAE Kassim Kaganda said that the community welcomed and joined the challenge to contribute to country development. "We are happy to participate in #Canachallenge and we have so far honored 90% of the total pledge. Supporting our country is a responsibility we take with pride. Even though we live abroad, we share with all Rwandans the challenge of accelerating the country development," Kassim explained.

Addressing over 260 Rwandans who turned up for the general meeting, H.E Emmanuel Hategeka, Ambassador of Rwanda to the UAE commended the community for their continued involvement in Rwanda's development.

"We appreciate the outgoing RCA-UAE committee for mobilizing you to join CanaChallenge. Figures show that you will be able to light up 107 vulnerable families once all of your pledges are collected. This is a commendable activity," Ambassador Hategeka said.

The Ambassador seized the opportunity to urge the Rwandan community in UAE to preserve Rwanda's positive image and increase their contribution to Rwanda's development agenda. "Rwanda has a very positive image in the UAE. You can't afford to lose or tarnish this trust," Ambassador Hategeka added.

The General meeting of Rwandans living in the UAE coincided with elections of a new committee which was tasked to strengthen the Rwandan Community, fight against dishonesty, promote decent work, organize the community into saving groups and encourage them to start businesses in Rwanda and UAE.



A new committee was tasked to strengthen RCA-UAE

## Ngabo Hubert wins RwandAir sponsored business class ticket



Rwandans who turned up for the general meeting on 27th March got a chance to participate in a raffle draw in which 23 prizes were handed to winners. The grand prize which was a business class ticket powered by RwandAir went to Ngabo Hubert. While expressing his feelings, Ngabo said: "I am very happy for winning this ticket. To be honest, I am very surprised and I am very thankful to RwandAir for this prize."

Other prizes included discounted health services sponsored by Burjeel Medical Center, free dinner offered by Sapori Restaurant and beauty services sponsored by Moven pick Hotel, Jumeirah Lakes Towers, Cluster A.

In the meantime, RwandAir is offering 15% off during this Easter season. The Sales period extends from 20 March 2022 to 20 Apr 2022 while the travel period range from 20 March 2022 to 10 December 2022. Read more on terms and conditions

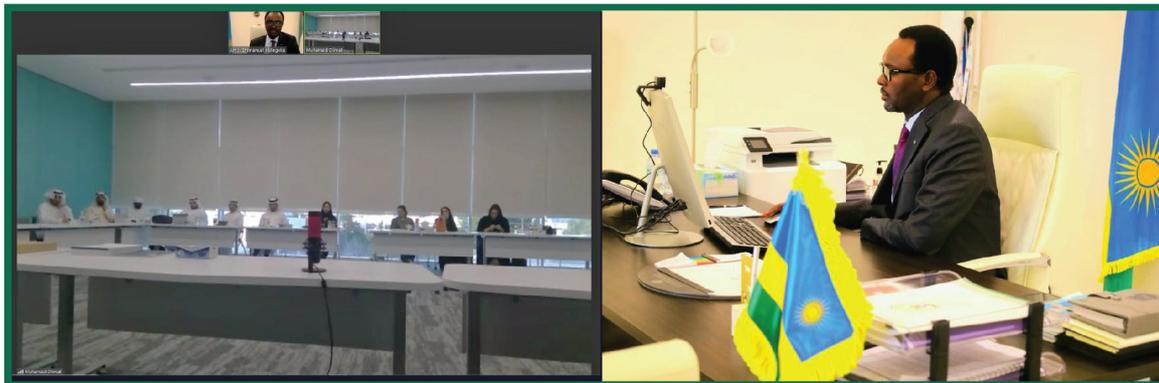
## Amb. Hategeka invites UAE based Corporate Executives to the Commonwealth Business Forum in Kigali



On 15th March 2022, H.E Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka addressed the Commonwealth- UAE partnership summit organized by the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council on increasing investment and trade. He welcomed corporate Executives to the Commonwealth Business Forum, 21-23 June in Kigali and encouraged them to explore Investment opportunities in Rwanda.

Ambassador Hategeka explained that CHOGM 2022 theme of "Delivering our common future. Connecting, innovating, transforming." echoes the need to intensify collaborative effort to make a better world for all. "Rwanda is ready to welcome you for a successful CHOGM2022 in June in the beautiful city of Kigali," Ambassador Hategeka said.

## The bedrock of any successful model is great leadership- Amb. Hategeka to Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy students



On 3rd March 2022, H.E Ambassador Emmanuel Hategeka addressed virtually a class of Africa in International Relations with a focus on Rwanda at Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy, in Abu Dhabi. He explained Rwanda's political and economic development trajectory from a dark past to the remarkable turnaround in less than three decades.

He told students that a decade ago everyone you met only knew the bad history about Rwanda but today everyone knows about the bright side of the new Rwanda! Ambassador Hategeka emphasized on the role of leadership in Rwanda's successful model. "The bedrock of any successful model is great leadership. Under the visionary leadership of H.E President Paul Kagame who rallied Rwandans around 3 strategic choices of Unity, Accountability and Thinking Big, Rwanda registered remarkable progress across various sectors," he expounded.

Elaborating on economic performance, Ambassador Hategeka explained that Rwanda's economy recovered tremendously over the last two decades. "Rwanda's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased close to 14 fold between 1994 and 2020 and the GDP per capita also increased seven fold during the same period," he noted.

The economic performance moved with social transformation. Poverty has significantly been reduced, universal health insurance was put in place whilst universal primary and secondary education is provided along with other social protection programs for a dignified life for all Rwandans.

Regarding international cooperation, Rwanda has established and maintained quality relationships with other countries for sustainable development, peace, security and stability. Rwanda is an active member of over 200 international organizations and a top UN peacekeeping troop contributor country. He observed that Rwanda shares her experience of homegrown solutions with the global community through Rwanda Cooperation Initiative. "You can't copy and paste a model but there is much we learn from one another within south to south and triangular cooperation framework," Ambassador expounded.

From Rwanda's experience, he highlighted three key contributors to success: 1) Results oriented leadership that is accountable to citizens, 2) Peoples' resilience, ownership of the vision and trust in their leadership 3) Partnerships from within and outside Rwanda.

On Rwanda-UAE relations, Ambassador Hategeka said that the two countries enjoy excellent relations that cut across diplomacy, trade, investment and tourism among others. "We have many things in common including the visionary leadership that dares to dream and make the impossible possible," Ambassador Hategeka explained. Read more on [RwandaInUAE](#)

## Government of Rwanda, DP World sign an MoU to explore new areas of partnership

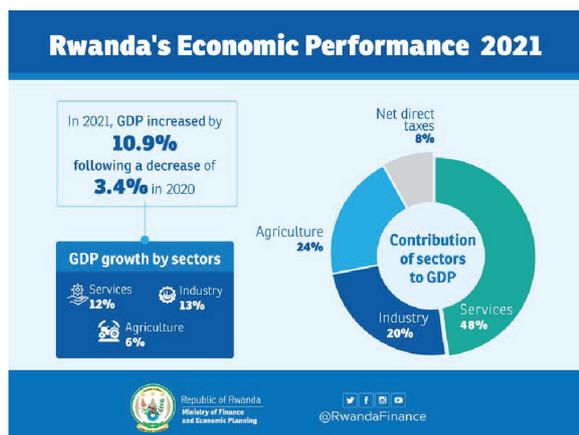


On 25th March 2022, The Government of Rwanda signed an MoU with a logistics company, DP World, to explore new areas of partnership. DP World intends to build on the existing collaboration to venture into more projects in Rwanda and the region.

The MoU was signed by RDB CEO Clare Akamanzi and DP World CEO and Managing Director for the Middle East and Africa Region, Mr Suhail Al Banna.

DP World Kigali started operating in Kigali in September 2018 offering Bonded and Inland Container Terminal Services. Today the Kigali Logistics Platform has become a one stop shop logistics hub offering additional services such as non-bonded warehousing, pack house & cold storage, Certified VGM Weighbridge, long haul transportation in the COMESA region (with a fleet of 27 trucks), clearing & forwarding and Industrial, among others.

## Rwanda's GDP Grew By 10.9% in 2021



Rwanda's GDP grew by 10.9 percent in 2021 to reach Rwf10,944 billion, up from a contraction of 3.4 percent in 2020.

The outlook is contained in the latest report issued on Monday March 21, 2022 by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR). The figures, according to the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Uzziel Ndagijimana reflect a sharp bounce back from an initial projection of 5.6 percent.

Meanwhile, Yusuf Murangwa, Director General of NISR maintained that Covid-19 continued to have a profound impact on the global and Rwanda's economy.

However, he added, there was a strong recovery from the second quarter which hit a record-high of 20.6 percent increase.

Read more: Rwanda registers double-digit growth as more sectors recover from Covid-19 | The New Times

## World leaders adopt Rwanda-sponsored resolution on plastic pollution



The Fifth Session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly in Nairobi Kenya, adopted a historic resolution to end plastic pollution on March 2. The resolution, which was co-authored by Rwanda and Peru, sets in motion the development of an international, legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution. It was adopted after the leaders agreed that all countries - be the coastal, land-linked, or island states - are affected by the growing dependence on single-use and non-biodegradable plastics.

The resolution sets out the urgent need for a legally-binding global framework that takes bold action to end plastic pollution. The framework will encourage regular monitoring through national action plans, as well as international cooperation and knowledge-sharing.

In the negotiations, the Rwandan delegation - led by Minister of Environment, Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya and backed by Director General of the Rwanda Environment Management Authority, Juliet Kabera - drew upon the country's experiences of addressing plastic pollution and promoting investment in sustainable alternatives.

We are proud of the role we have played so far, and we are optimistic about the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity nations now have to create a legally-binding framework which commits us all to a more sustainable future,"Mujawamariya said.

Rwanda has experienced first-hand the impact of plastic pollution. We have seen the toll it has taken on our natural environment, as well as on our people, she noted.

Read more: World leaders adopt Rwanda-sponsored resolution on plastic pollution | The New Times

## Covid-19: 60% Rwandans fully vaccinated - health ministry



Sixty per cent of the total population of Rwanda are fully vaccinated against Covid-19, according to the Rwandan Ministry of Health. This was communicated in a tweet by the Ministry of Health on Thursday, March 3, as the country marked one year since the first shipment of vaccines under Covax facility was delivered in Rwanda.

The first batch of 240,000 doses of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine arrived in Kigali on March 3, 2021. It was soon followed by a second shipment of 102,960 doses of the Pfizer vaccine, also from the COVAX facility that arrived in the evening of the same day.

To date, COVAX has shipped almost 15 million doses to Rwanda, according to information from GAVI. "Over the course of one year, and despite challenges, Rwanda has championed the COVID-19 vaccination effort in Africa, consistently meeting its national targets and rapidly increasing coverage, said Jamilya Sherova, Senior Country Manager at Gavi in a statement.

Within three weeks of the COVID-19 vaccination launch, over 348,000 people had received their first dose, and in September-December 2021 alone, vaccination coverage increased by 30%. Reflecting on Rwanda's progress, Sherova said, "Rwanda also was the first country to roll out the Pfizer vaccine on the continent, which meant procuring additional ultra-cold chain infrastructure and preparing for the logistical challenge of storing and administering the vaccine."

She congratulated Rwanda, "for a year of tremendous progress, for exceeding 2021 targets and for protecting millions of lives, including health and social care workers, the elderly, and those at highest risk, reinforcing its status as a leading African nation when it comes to public health."

The latest Covid-19 update by Rwanda Biomedical Centre shows that more than 7.8 million Rwandans have been fully vaccinated against the virus while more than 8.8 million people have been partially jabbed. More than 1.5 million people have also received a booster dose.

Rwanda met the World Health Organization's global target for countries to vaccinate 40 percent of their populations by the end of last year. It has a goal of reaching a 70 percent target by June 2022. In November last year, the Ministry of Health extended the vaccination programme to cover children of 12 years old and above. Read more on The New Times

## JURISDICTION CORNER

### 'This is not the end but a new era': Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid hails Expo 2020 Dubai



H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Vice President and Ruler of Dubai, hailed the success of Expo 2020 Dubai as the world's fair came to a spectacular close.

Thousands of people thronged the site for the final day to catch concerts by stars such as Christina Aguilera and Norah Jones as well as several incredible firework displays that lit up the sky.

In an audio message played at the closing ceremony, Sheikh Mohammed said Expo 2020 Dubai offers the opportunity of "a new beginning" for the UAE and the world.

"During the Expo 2020 Dubai journey, we portrayed to the world a different version of ingenuity that touched the hearts and minds of every member of society," said Sheikh Mohammed. Read more on The National

## UAE ranks 1st in MENA region and 10th worldwide in Global Soft Power Index



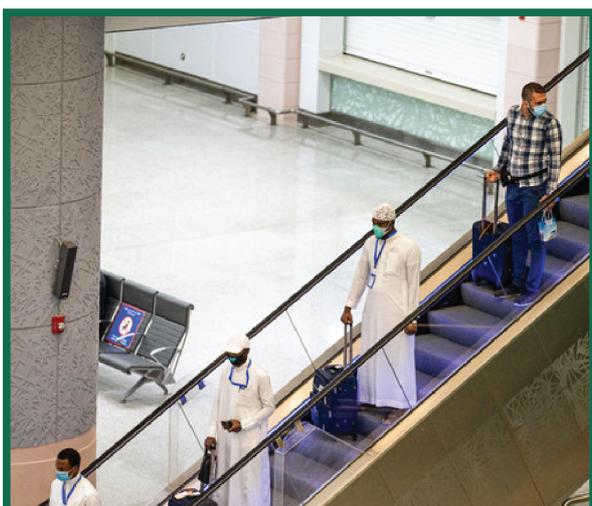
The United Arab Emirates ranked first regionally and 10th globally for Influence in the Global Soft Power Index (GSPI) 2022. The UAE advanced to 15th place globally in the overall GSPI ranking, up from last year's 17th in the GSPI 2021. The country sits at the top in the region and remains at the forefront of the countries in the Middle East and North Africa, achieving progress in all indicators and sub-indicators.

In a tweet posted on his official Twitter account, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, said, "The GSPI 2022, ranked the UAE as the 10th globally and first regionally in its overall influence in soft power. This reflects our leading position and good reputation worldwide."

Sheikh Mohammed added, "More than 100,000 respondents worldwide chose the UAE as the first regionally and 15th globally in the Global Soft Power Index 2022. Our country also ranked 10th globally in its influence, enhancing our status and positive impact."

[Read more on Gulf Today](#)

## Unvaccinated travelers can enter Saudi Arabia after health ministry updates COVID-19 requirements



The Saudi health ministry has ended the need for key COVID-19 travel requirements for those entering the Kingdom.

Travelers arriving in Saudi Arabia no longer have to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19.

They also do not need to take a PCR test before departure for the Kingdom nor do they need to quarantine when they arrive.

The decision was made due to the decrease in the number of positive COVID-19 cases, now less than four percent. In addition, the vaccination rate in the Kingdom has reached 99 percent for those 12 years or older.

[Read more on Arab News](#)

## The world's happiest countries in 2022: Bahrain leads for smiles in the Gulf



The UN-sponsored index ranked Bahrain as the happiest country in the Gulf region, with the tiny kingdom ranking in 21st place globally. In the UAE, people are also relatively happy, with the emirates moving up to 24th position.

"The World Happiness Report 2022 reveals a bright light in dark times ... As we battle the ills of disease and war, it is essential to remember the universal desire for happiness and the capacity of individuals to rally to each other's support in times of great need," states the report.

Finland has been named the happiest country in the world for the fifth year in a row in the annual ranking of the world's happiest countries.

[Read more on The National](#)