

# INTRODUCING MASDAR CITY



Welcome to Masdar City; a dynamic business hub and one of the world's most sustainable urban developments, located in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

As the only planned and approved R&D cluster in Abu Dhabi, Masdar City has developed a unique ecosystem for innovation, education, R&D, technology, and business.

From homegrown startups, to SMEs and multinationals, it is home to over 900 companies working across key sectors such as renewable energy, artificial intelligence, mobility, energy storage, water efficiency, health, agriculture, space, and sustainable urban development.

Masdar City's economic free zone offers a unique strategic base and network through which companies can build partnerships both locally and globally, explore multiple investment opportunities, and test new technologies.

## HOME TO OVER 1000 COMPANIES INCLUDING:



## POWERFUL BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM



Five minutes from Abu Dhabi International Airport, 20 minutes from downtown Abu Dhabi, and 40 minutes from Dubai.



Growing population of over 6,000 today to 10,000+ by 2023.



Home to more than 1,100 organizations.



Masdar City Free Zone offers multiple benefits including, 100% foreign ownership, 0% import tariffs, reduced tax footprint, and access to R&D partnerships.



CATALYST

Home to The Catalyst, the region's first sustainability-focused startup accelerator.



More than 450,000sqm. of completed buildings fully leased and occupied.

# MASDAR CITY FREE ZONE: A POWERFUL BUSINESS ENABLER & INCUBATOR

Leading businesses and organizations from across the world are proud to call Masdar City Free Zone their home.

The one-stop-shop of business support services enables tenants to set up operations quickly and gain access to local and international networks, investment opportunities, new technologies, research and development partnerships, and plan for the long term.

A hub for innovation, Masdar City Free Zone also encourages entrepreneurship by providing support for startups and through the region's first technology startup accelerator focused on sustainability and clean technology, The Catalyst, a joint venture between Masdar and BP.

## MASDAR CITY FREE ZONE BENEFITS:



**100%**

foreign ownership



100% exemption from corporate and personal income taxes



**0% import tariffs**



**Freedom**

to repatriate capital and profits



**Quick & easy**

set-up with a One-Stop Shop for registration, government relations and visa processing



Critical mass of **knowledge and talent**



**Cost effective,** dual licensing and office space



**A launch**

point into local, regional and international markets



**Reduced**

tax footprint



Professional access to **R&D partnerships**

## STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO SETTING UP YOUR COMPANY

# 1

Access our e-services portal and complete initial basic information. You will also be required to propose a company name and make an initial online payment of AED 2,000 for the name reservation.

We will review your information and obtain the required approval for the name reservation from the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development. A email notification will be sent to you taking you to the next step.

# 2

Access our e-services platform and submit the required detailed information and documents.

We will review and approve all submitted information and documents. We will then issue your organization's legal documentation through the system (Resolution, Articles of Association, Memorandum of Association). Our advisors will also reach out to you to present our existing lease options.

# 3

You will need to sign the legal documentation and finalize the lease process and payments, by visiting Masdar City Free Zone One Stop Shop or through courier service.

Finally, we will issue your license and certificate of registration/incorporation, which you will be able to access on our e-services platform.



## LICENSING TARIFFS

Business Registration / License Fees				
	Business Package	Start-up Package*	Women Entrepreneurship Program	Space Zone
Number of Activities	Upto 6*	Upto 5*	Upto 5*	One*
Visa Eligibility	Minimum 2 and more depending on lease	Two	One	Depending on lease
Registration Fees (One Time)*	3,000/-	3,000/-	3,000/-	3,000/-
License Fee Starting from	14,000/-	10,000/-	6,000/-	6,000/-
Lease Starting from	10,000/-	6,000/-	6,000/-	10,000/-

- Activities will be limited and subject to approval.
- Package charges in AED Currency.
- AED 1,000/- will be added for Special Names, subject to DED.
- Additional fee for general activity is AED 2,500/activity and for special activity is AED 5,000/activity.
- Virtual desk AED 6,000, Flexi desk AED 10,000 (Excluding 5% VAT)

Office Rental Rates	
Type of Lease	Fee (AED) / Annum
Virtual Desk*5	6,000
Flexidesk*5	10,000

Visa Fees	
Description	Fee (AED)
Immigration Establishment Card	1,500
eChannels Registration (One Time Charge) *3	2,500
Employment Visa Deposit*4 (Refundable)	2,500
Employment Visa Package - 3 Years Visa (Excludes Visa Medical Fitness Test & Emirates ID)	3,350
In Country – issue Entry Permit while applicant is in the UAE – (if applicable)	800
Local Amendment – Residency stamping while applicant is in the UAE– (if applicable)	800
Medcial Fitness	350
Emirates ID Charges (for 3 Years)	450

- \*1 Except segments; 1.11, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 16, 22 & 24
- \*2 Start up package client convert to signature package upon completion of 3 years.
- \*3 Annual renewal fee for eChannel is AED 1,500/-
- \*4 Employment Visa Deposit of AED 2,500 applicable per employee. Which will be released after visa cancellation.
- \*5 A refundable security deposit equal to 2 months rent is required for Flexi Desk Leases
- The above mentioned rates are inclusive of 5% VAT, except for Lease



# PIONEERING SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT



Currently home to 3,000 people and set to double by 2023.



Home to world's first driverless, personal rapid transport (PRT) system; the Navya; the MENA's first autonomous shuttle, and first electric Eco-bus.



2 million+ passengers have used the city's sustainable mobility network.



Largest cluster of low carbon and LEED-certified buildings in the world.



Buildings mandated to achieve a minimum 3-Pearl rating under the Estidama Pearl Building Rating System (PBRs).



City power generated by 10MW solar PV plant and rooftop solar panels.



Masdar City tenants can enjoy savings on utility bills.



# TESTBED FOR INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES



## **(MBZUAI):**

Home to world's first and only university dedicated to artificial intelligence, the Mohamed Bin Zayed University for Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI).



## **MISP:**

Khalifa University's Masdar Institute Solar Platform (MISP) allows for concentrated solar power (CSP) and thermal energy storage (TES) technologies to be developed on a wider scale by providing access to high-performance CSP research and demonstration infrastructure.



## **De L'Arta:**

An outdoor Living Laboratory, De L'Arta seeks to regenerate, recover and up-cycle natural resources through the creation of a circular economy.



## **Volts Battery Storage:**

An in-house smart battery management system for managing and monitoring consumption within the home.



## **Azelio:**

A solar energy storage innovation project harnessing the sun's thermal energy and storing it for conversion to electricity.



## **Masdar Solar Hub:**

A globally recognized center of excellence in photovoltaics and solar thermal energy technologies.



## **Electric Storage Solutions Hub:**

A state-of-the-art testing and R&D hub for electric energy storage technology.



## **Safe City:**

Leveraging AI technologies to provide world-class solutions for smart and safe cities.



## **Seramic Materials:**

Developing turnkey solutions to repurpose industrial waste into value-added products such as ceramic.



## **G42 Healthcare:**

Has set up one of the world's largest testing and diagnostics laboratory to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and conducting the world's first Pan Arab clinical trials for an inactivated COVID-19 vaccine and other initiatives.



## **Seawater Energy & Agriculture System (SEAS):**

In partnership between Khalifa University, Etihad Airways, Boeing, General Electric, ADNOC, and Honeywell, the project supports the nascent Middle East aviation biofuel industry and increases food security through the cultivation of salt-tolerant plants with the wastewater of an integrated aquaculture farm.

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