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A selection of news articles that featured in official publications in UAE and Italy related to the business, economy and culture of the two countries.

#### **UAE CONTINUES TO DOMINATE FUNDRAISING FOR STARTUPS**



The UAE continues to dominate the startup industry in the Mena Region, both in terms of deal counts and value in 2017. According to the Mena Annual Venture Report for 2017, UAE Startups secured \$400 mln or 84% out of the \$475mln raised by regional startup last year. It is largely due to the Careem and Starz Play deals as nearly half of the fund-raising came from these two transactions. "We are see the begging of a startup revolution taking place in the Middle East, especially the GCC ad the UAE. In the UAE, we are closely working with the Ministry of Economy to develop a startup ecosystem

where startups, venture capital funds and other stakeholders could join hands to create a win-win situation", said Dawood Alshezawi, President of AIM Start-Up.

*Source: Khaleej Times*

## **UAE NEARS CLEAN ENERGY GOAL**

The UAE has embarked on a comprehensive energy transformation to boost clean energy and reduce carbon emissions, said a UAE Minister on Friday, the 12th of January 2018. Dr Sultan bin Ahmad Al Jaber, Minister of State and Chief Executive of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company give a key note speech at the second annual Atlantic Council Global Energy Forum that opened in Abu Dhabi on the 12th of January. The premier gathering of government, industry and thought leaders will set the global energy agenda for the year and anticipate and respond to dramatic changes in the world of energy.

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Addressing the Forum, Suhail bin Mohammed Faraj Faris Al Mazrouei, UAE Minister of Energy, said: "As the demand for energy increases, it is vital to ensure the sustainability of energy resources for strong economic growth and a healthy environment for the future. The combined vision established at the Global Energy Forum will provide a lasting positive contribution to our collective energy forum".

*Source: Khaleej Times*



## **A GREEN TRIBUTE TO FATHER OF THE NATION**

A total of 280 students from across the UAE set a world record in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday, the 10th of January, by attending the "Largest environmental sustainability lesson".

In the 30-minute lecture, Angelo Diaz, executive director of Liter of Light (the winner of the Zayed Future Energy Prize in 2015) highlighted how young people can reduce energy power by finding innovative solutions to a more sustainable future.

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To practice what was being preached, Diaz and the team rolled up their sleeves to help students assemble 2400 solar lanterns in less than 30 minutes using a bottle and a solar battery. The lamps were used to create a unique light installation in tribute to Sheikh Zayed, the UAE's founding father, whose centenary is being celebrated across the UAE in 2018. After, these lamps are being sent to refugee camps in Yemen and Syria, lighting up hundreds of houses.

*Source: Khaleej Times*



## UAE POISED FOR BIG REBOUND: WB

The UAE is poised to rebound with a 3.1% economic growth in 2018, and advance further at 3.3% rate over the next year, said the World Bank on Wednesday, the 10th of January as it predicted a "stronger than expected" global growth for the first time in many years. The global economy is set to expand by 3.1% in 2018, slightly up from 3% last year and marking the first year since the

2008 Great Recession that it will near or achieve full growth potential.

Source: *Khaleej Times*

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