



منتدى
دبي
للمستقبل
DUBAI
FUTURE
FORUM

2025

18 - 19
NOVEMBER

MUSEUM OF
THE FUTURE

OUTCOMES OF THE FORUM

مبادرة من مؤسسة دبي للمستقبل
An Initiative by Dubai Future Foundation



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Dubai partners with all who share values of optimism, proactivity, and readiness from around the world, to imagine, design and execute the future that people aspire to”.

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense,
and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Dubai Future Foundation



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KEY FIGURES

2,500+

Participants

200+

Global Speakers

100+

Leading Foresight Institutions

70

Sessions

20+

Workshops and
Deep-dive Sessions

7

Immersive Experiences and
Innovative Activations



Welcome to the World's
Largest Gathering of Futurists

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HIGHLIGHTS



Dubai Foresight Awards

During the Forum, His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum honoured the winners of the first edition of the Dubai Foresight Awards, launched to celebrate outstanding futurists, innovators, visionaries, and future designers from around the world. The awards recognise excellence across three categories that advance the foundations, applications, and impact of foresight on societies and the environment. Categories include Foresight for Changemakers, Foresight for Planet and Foresight for People. In the Foresight for Changemakers category, first place was awarded to Fiji's Pasifika Futures Report. Italy's City Longevity initiative claimed top honours in the Foresight for People category, while Cameroon's Congo Basin Futures initiative took first place in the Foresight for the Planet category.



Graduation of second batch of FEEL

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum attended the graduation of the second cohort of the "FEEL: A disruptive Futures Program", the region's first international initiative of its kind developed by the Dubai Future Academy. The program equips executives, entrepreneurs, strategists, policymakers, investors, innovators, and specialists from around the world with advanced tools to anticipate and shape future transformations.



Graduation of fifth batch of DEEP

His Highness also met graduates of the fifth cohort of the Dubai Future Experts Program (DEEP), the world's first government-led foresight capacity-building initiative, developed by Dubai Future Foundation in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Executive Council of Dubai. The program empowers Emirati talent working in middle and senior leadership positions across government and semi-government entities to become future experts in their respective fields.



Dubai Future Solutions - Prototypes for Humanity Awards Ceremony

Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairperson of Dubai Culture and Arts Authority, honoured five outstanding students during this year's edition of the 'Dubai Future Solutions – Prototypes for Humanity' exhibition. The students were recognised for exceptional innovations that offer practical solutions to global social and environmental challenges at an award ceremony held alongside the fourth edition of the Dubai Future Forum. The annual platform showcases university-led scientific innovations that address humanity's most pressing challenges in health, technology, the environment and social impact.



The Future of Energy: Space Solar Report

Dubai Future Foundation launched "The Future of Space Solar Power" report. The report highlights the potential of space-based solar power (SBSP) as a promising solution to global energy challenges, as global electricity demand is expected to triple to 70,000 TWh annually by 2050. The report outlines a wide range of sectors that stand to benefit from SBSP, including the space and aviation industry, the energy sector, financial services and investment, infrastructure and construction, the automotive sector, and public utilities.



Future Stories Awards

The Future Stories Award celebrated three people whose imagination stood out among 185 submissions from 47 countries. First place was awarded to Thomas Knuijver from the Netherlands for his story "Above a Simulated Nile", second place went to Pierluigi Fasano from Italy, writing from Switzerland, for "The Awakening", and third place was awarded to Maryam Al Shawab from the United Arab Emirates for her story "The Safe Space".



MoU Signing with Dubai Police

Dubai Future Foundation has announced a new partnership with Dubai Police during the Dubai Future Forum 2025, the world's largest gathering of futurists. The partnership includes training programs, capacity-building initiatives, foresight studies and innovation projects designed to enhance quality of life and advance Dubai's digital progress in line with the emirate's vision for world-class, people-centric government services. The agreement was signed by His Excellency Major General Saif Mohammed Bin Abid Al Muhairi, Assistant Commander-in-Chief for Excellence and Pioneering.



MoU Signing with The Explorers Club

This Memorandum of Understanding establishes collaboration between Dubai Future Foundation and The Explorers Club to promote exploration, science, innovation, and foresight through joint storytelling, events, and community engagement, most notably during the 2026 Dubai Future Forum.



The 11th Edition of the "Dubai Future Solutions – Prototypes for Humanity"

The initiative was held for a week at Area 2071 in Emirates Towers, under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and the directives of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. A joint effort between Prototypes for Humanity, an Art Dubai Group initiative, in partnership with Dubai Future Foundation, the Hussain Sajwani DAMAC Foundation and Dubai International Financial Centre, the programme supports university innovators from around the world in advancing their science-based solutions towards real-world application and growth. The 11th edition of the initiative received over 3,000 submissions from more than 120 countries, with the top 100 innovations hosted during the event.



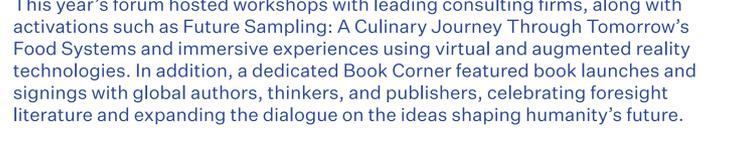
Global Futures Society Welcomes 31 New Members at the Museum of the Future

Dubai Future Foundation announced during the Dubai Future Forum 2025 that 31 international organisations and institutions have joined the Global Futures Society (GFS), which is headquartered at the Museum of the Future in Dubai. The additions raise the GFS's total membership to 91 experts and institutions representing leading futures organisations across 33 countries.



Innovative Activations

This year's forum hosted workshops with leading consulting firms, along with activations such as Future Sampling: A Culinary Journey Through Tomorrow's Food Systems and immersive experiences using virtual and augmented reality technologies. In addition, a dedicated Book Corner featured book launches and signings with global authors, thinkers, and publishers, celebrating foresight literature and expanding the dialogue on the ideas shaping humanity's future.





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QUOTES FROM THE FORUM



I believe that forward-thinking mindset is our greatest strength in the UAE. In some countries, when you meet a government leader and propose launching a new technology, the response could be ‘why?’ But the approach in the UAE is never ‘why?’ It is always ‘why not?’

His Excellency Omar Al Olama

Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote Work Applications.



Dubai is both home and hope; a place where many nationalities have found belonging. When people feel hope in a city, they naturally begin to grow, put down roots, and imagine a future within it. That is why visitors don’t just enjoy Dubai; they return with the desire to live, work, and build their lives here.

His Excellency Marwan Bin Ghalita

Director General, Dubai Municipality



The ability of nations to thrive in the AI age will depend less on traditional measures of economic output and more on the collective cognitive strength of their societies.

His Excellency Khalfan Belhouli

CEO of Dubai Future Foundation



We are at an exciting moment in gene editing ... offering a one-time cure that will reshape the healthcare system as we know it. It’s revolutionary, and I truly believe that within the next ten years we could treat all genetic diseases in existence today.

Dr Trevor Martin

Co-founder and CEO of Mammoth Biosciences



Wearable devices are the natural environment for AI and algorithms to live within us.

Roman Axelrod

Founder of XPANCEO



The UAE is committed to contributing globally to advancing scientific and research capabilities related to the future of polar exploration.

His Excellency Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous

President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Director General at the National Center of Meteorology (NCM)



I’ve lived in this region for a decade, and I’ve always seen the UAE as a country where the boundaries are pushed out. There’s a positive view on how the future can be shaped.

Michael Miebach

CEO of Mastercard



There’s been a global weaponisation of individualism. Being yourself and expressing yourself matters but functioning as a society matters just as much—and you can’t do that alone.

Rajat Malhotra

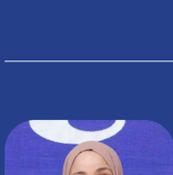
Co-Founder at Sole DXB



There seems to be this inevitability of the trajectory of AI that it is going to blast through the human point and thrust us into Armageddon. That’s what’s nice about being here in Dubai, we look here at AI in a way that will complement humanity and not just leave us as obsolete algorithms.

Dr Anil Seth

Neuroscientist & Author - Dawn Nakagawa, Berggruen Institute



Over the next decade, human-centric policies and ethical regulatory frameworks that ensure development funding benefits everyone will become the dominant global trend.

Dr Alaa Murabit

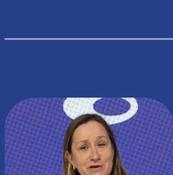
Managing Partner of Sustainable Growth, 500 Global



Future-focused policies will increasingly prioritise empowering all generations, with youth playing a greater role in designing the future they aspire to.

Her Excellency Lucie Berger

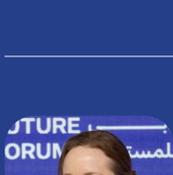
EU Ambassador to the UAE



Training young people in foresight is essential. Programs like the UNICEF Innocenti Fellowship are vital to developing the next generation of future thinkers.

Dr Cecile Aptel

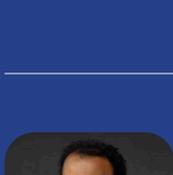
UNICEF



Intergenerational cooperation, not conflict, is fundamental to shaping shared future aspirations by combining the wisdom of older generations with the energy and drive of youth.

Virginia Dawson

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat



Humanity’s future depends on rebuilding a healthier relationship with our planet — one grounded in reciprocity, sustainability, and the preservation of natural resources.

Anand Varma

WonderLab, National Geographic Explorer



People think of the future as a destination – for me the future is a process, it’s a part of that journey of becoming ... that we’re all engaged in.

Professor Lesley Lokko OBE

Founder and Chair of the African Futures Institute (AFI)



AI is, in a way, a tool that helps us explore, rehearse, run through various scenarios ... but we are still the ones deciding where we want to go and what kind of world we want to be in.

Dr Julian Bleecker

Near Future Laboratory



INSIGHTS

The United Nations System of National Accounts 2025

was adopted

so that environmental sustainability and well-being are now used as key indicators of national growth.

Global installed solar capacity

surpassed 2,200 GW by end-2024

(vs 1,000 GW in 2022).

By 2028,

%30 of CEOs from Fortune 500 companies

will have a digital twin.

Solar generation

overtook nuclear output

in summer 2025 for the first time.

By 2060, for every

100 people working, there will be 52 people who are not.

Nearly

2 billion people

still lack access to clean drinking water.

Globally, **child deaths** have been

reduced by half

in 25 years.

The UAE is planning a base for researchers in Antarctica that can accommodate

more than 50 people.

Over %80

of global genomic data comes from individuals of European descent.

The Emirates Genomic Research Program has

120 petabytes

of genomic data stored.

In four years, Emirates Global Aluminum has delivered more than

\$120 million

in financial impact through Industry 4.0.

In the last few decades, we have discovered

over 6,000 exoplanets.

10% of the human population lives within

5 kilometers of the coastline,

presenting a major risk in the context of rising sea levels.

Current food systems impose

\$15 trillion

annually in hidden health and environmental costs.

The UAE's law for universal access to organ transplantation has

benefited people from 56 nationalities.





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BIG QUESTIONS

- 01 Are we prepared for a world where **AI agents act on our behalf**?
- 02 How can **humanity rebuild its relationship with nature** while **adopting disruptive technologies**?
- 03 Can AI become an equitable, safe, and trusted **partner in education, governance, and daily life**?
- 04 How will **societies redefine progress** now that the world is **moving beyond GDP**?
- 05 What does it matter if we're able to **work more efficiently** if that is just producing greater **human suffering**?
- 06 How do we cope with an **ever-expanding field of knowledge**?
- 07 What are the names we give to these **new forms of urbanism** that are emerging at a speed in the Gulf region that we don't see anywhere else?
- 08 The question is not whether we will find life, because there's a good chance we will – the question is: **are we prepared to find life as we don't know it**?
- 09 With advances in implants, are we **creating a new species of human-cyborgs**?
- 10 The African continent has more than 2,000 languages – how are we going to have **one large language model that serves all 1.5 billion people**?

