

OMalia, Kelsey

From: OMalia, Kelsey
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2024 3:59 PM
Subject: DET Monthly News Roundup - February H1 2024



DET Monthly News Roundup

This month's newsletter begins by looking at government and regulatory announcements, including that a new agreement will make Dubai the world's first city with aerial taxis by 2026. As 2023 roundups continue to be published, Dubai Financial Market notably announced that it experienced a 124% increase in net profits in 2024 and Dubai was ranked as the third wealthiest BRICS city.

In industry news, DMCC announced a partnership with AI company, Qx Lab AI to develop groundbreaking AI solutions for businesses operating in its center. Notably with regard to real estate, the Dubai Land Department reported its strongest performance, with 1.6 million transactions in 2023, with 431 properties worth US\$10 million or more. There was a 10% increase in U.S. companies in DMCC in 2023 and business district developer TECOM Group reported record net profits of +49% YoY. As a final indication of 2023 marking an impressively strong year for the emirate, Dubai achieved its best ever annual performance in tourism, welcoming 17.15 million international overnight visitors in 2023.

Top Stories



Government & Regulatory Announcements

[Dubai to launch aerial taxi service by 2026](#)

- Dubai's Road and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed an agreement with the UAE's General Civil Aviation Authority, the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Joby (the world leader in aerial taxi development), and Skysports Infrastructure.

- Dubai is the first city to establish a binding partnership between a governmental body, an aircraft manufacturer and operator and a vertiport owner and operator to advance aerial taxi mobility. Under the agreement, RTA will oversee advanced air mobility services, Joby will provide an aerial ridesharing service, and Skyports will be granted the exclusive rights to design and construct and will operate a network of vertiports.
- The Joby Aviation S4 Aerial taxi is scheduled for commercial operation in Dubai in 2026.
- This project is part of RTA's future mobility initiatives, aimed at providing transportation services for both Dubai residents and visitors.

Dubai Financial Market achieves robust results in 2023

- The exchange reported increased net profits of 124%.
- In 2023, DFM solidified its status as a premier market for IPOs, boasting two highly successful offerings from Dubai Taxi Company and Al Ansari Financial Services.
- Beyond listing successes, DFM enjoyed the success of the MENA IPO Summit and the launch of the IPO Accelerator Program, a program in partnership with the Dubai Chamber of Commerce that provides resources and supports IPO prospects.

Dubai ranks 3rd among top 10 wealthiest cities

- Dubai stands out as the third wealthiest city within the BRICS nations, boasting 72,500 millionaires and 15 billionaires, highlighting their pivotal role in the global economic landscape alongside other major cities like Beijing and Mumbai.
- The BRICS bloc, which now includes the UAE, represents over 45% of the global population and contributes to 36% of the world's GDP, surpassing the G7's economic impact when adjusted for purchasing power.



Industry News

Technology

GMCC-Qx Lab AI partnership to advance groundbreaking hybrid generative AI solutions for businesses

- Dubai's flagship freezone has partnered with Dubai-based artificial intelligence firm, Qx Lab AI ahead of DMCC launching its AI centre later this year.
- Qx Lab AI offers generative AI capabilities that can be integrated into services such as online chat functions or used by businesses and individuals to enhance productivity.
- Through Qx Lab AI's generative AI platform and revolutionary neural architecture, the partnership will provide DMCC and its members with unprecedented opportunities to enhance efficiency, productivity, and platform security at scale.

Real Estate

Dubai Land Department marks strongest performance ever with 1.6 million transactions

- The Dubai Land Department achieved a record number of transactions across rental agreements and real estate transactions.
- The number of transactions reflected a 16.9% increase since 2022.
- Key data includes:
 - 157,798 investments were attributed to 113,655 owners, including 71,002 new investors, demonstrating a 20% increase.
 - The percentage of non-resident investors rose to constitute 42% of the total new investors.
 - The value of real estate transactions exceeded US\$99.1 billion and the number of transactions reached over 166,400.

Dubai emerged as biggest market globally for \$10mln homes in 2023

- 2023 saw 431 real estate transaction for properties valued at US\$10 million+, reaching a total value of US\$7.6 billion.
- The Palm Jumeirah stood out as the prime location for luxury home sales, accounting for nearly 39% of homes sold for over US\$10 million and maintaining its status as the epicenter of luxury real estate transactions in the city.
- Despite a slight decrease in inventory, demand for luxury properties in Dubai remained robust, with genuine end-users and second-home buyers driving transactional activity in particularly in sought-after areas like Jumeirah Bay Island and the newly launched Palm Jebel Ali.

Business

DMCC sees 10% surge in US companies in 2023

- DMCC saw a 10% increase in American companies joining its international business district, taking total American membership to 679 – approximately 45% of the 1,500 American businesses operating in the UAE.
- The center has just concluded a successful roadshow in New York and Washington, D.C.
- The events included attendance from 100 American executives, and speakers and delegates spoke on the MENA region's offering for American business expansion, including that the DMCC can play a central role in connecting them to some of the world's fastest growing markets via Dubai.

TECOM Group FY 2023 Net Profit Jumps 49%

- TECOM Group, which has developed strategic, sector-focused business districts including the Dubai Internet/Media/Design/Industrial District, has announced a record US\$598 million in revenue for FY23.
- The strong financial performance was driven by robust demand from new and existing customers operating across all six sectors the Group serves, and bolstered by Dubai's resilient economic performance, pro-growth and diversification government initiatives, and bullish consumer and business confidence.

Tourism

Dubai achieves its best ever annual tourism performance with 17.15 million international tourists

- Dubai welcomed 17.15 million international overnight visitors in 2023, representing an increase of 19.4% YoY.
- Dubai's ability to constantly generate diverse and refreshingly novel travel and tourism experiences catering to a wide range of visitors has been a key factor behind this exceptional performance.
- The announcement comes after Dubai ranked as the No.1 global destination in the Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Awards 2024 for the third successive year.



What To Look Out For

Gulfood 2024

- The largest annual F&B sourcing event in the world is set to take place 19-23 February 2024.
- Gulfood aspires to revolutionize the food and beverage landscape by unveiling cutting-edge innovations, promoting industry partnerships, and tackling pressing challenges within the food sector.
- Bringing together influential decision-makers and experts, Gulfood 2024 will serve as a pivotal forum to deliberate on sustainable practices, steering the course for the future of the food industry.

Blockchain Dubai Exhibition & Summit

- Taking place 27-28 February, the Blockchain Dubai Exhibition & Summit will bring together blockchain, gaming and AI experts under one roof to discuss the latest trends and innovations in their respective industries.
- Speakers will include international government officials, c-suite executives, and industry leaders.
- 1,000+ visitors and 80+ investors are expected to attend.

Dubai Association Centre Conference

- The industry defining conference is set to return for its fourth edition 27-28 February 2024 under the theme, 'Value amplified: Associations empowering change'.
- The conference will provide a platform for global sector leaders and experts to come together and consolidate the pivotal role associations play in serving the needs and aspirations of their members and as agents of positive change within their communities and wider societies.
- The event will also aid Dubai's strategy to attract more businesses and foreign direct investments as part of the Dubai Economic Agenda – D33.

This material is distributed by FTI Consulting (SC) Inc. on behalf of Dubai Corporation for Tourism and Commerce Marketing. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.