

**ABU DHABI STATISTICS  
STAKEHOLDERS FORUM 20  
23**

مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE



**WHITE PAPER 2023**

# **ABU DHABI STATISTICS** | **20** **STAKEHOLDERS FORUM** | **23**





**H.E. Ahmed Tamim Al Kuttab**  
**Chairman of Department of Government Support (DGS)**

Synergistic collaboration between the government and private sectors continues to pave the path for success, ensuring a prosperous future for Abu Dhabi to maintain its pioneering position at the regional and international levels.

We are working under the DGS umbrella to promote data collaboration and integration across various sectors, fostering innovation and enabling data-informed decision-making through advanced solutions. These initiatives create new opportunities for sustainable development in Abu Dhabi.

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## 07 H.E. Abdulla Gharib Alqemzi





## INTRODUCTION

Data-driven technologies are transforming our lives and the global economy, offering remarkable opportunities for inclusivity, innovation, and adaptability.

At the heart of this transformation, data collaboration has demonstrated measurable impacts to seize new opportunities, facilitate faster decision-making, and promote sustainable business practices and positive societal practices.

However, the huge potential of data remains untapped, and we have yet to fully embrace its possibilities for the benefit of the government and private sector.

The Abu Dhabi Statistics Stakeholders Forum 2023 (ADSSF) addressed the transformative potential of data and emphasised the need for enhanced public-private collaboration.

The forum brought together representatives from the government and private sector to discuss how to

enhance Abu Dhabi's statistical ecosystem and realise the full potential of data for informed decision-making and policy effectiveness.

Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD) hosted this forum in June 2023 with two panel discussions to shed light on enhancing Abu Dhabi's statistical ecosystem and ways to foster collaboration and align with future visions and priorities while embracing the advantages of data sharing.

By encouraging a culture of collaboration, we are going to create a data consortium that facilitates data collaboration and builds a more integrated ecosystem that enables the government of the future.

During the forum, SCAD has also launched a new website that includes a knowledge base, a data catalogue, and dashboards where users can utilise smart features to customise and visualise the statistical products.



*H.E. Ahmed Tamim Al Kuttab, Chairman of the Department of Government Support (DGS) and H.E. Abdulla Gharib Alqemzi, Acting Director General of Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi in the presence of ADGEs officials launch SCAD new website*



## FOREWORD



### H.E. Abdulla Gharib Alqemzi

Acting Director General,  
Statistics Centre - Abu Dhabi

Data is the most valuable resource in the 21st century, and it has the potential to transform our lives in ways that we can only imagine.

In the past, data was siloed and inaccessible. But today, thanks to advances in technology, we are able to exchange, store and analyse data at an unprecedented scale. This has created new opportunities for collaboration between governments and private businesses.

Data is the new oil, and by working together, we can use it to solve some of the most pressing challenges through new products and services that improve our lives.

The potential of data collaboration is limitless. We need to act now to realise this potential by building this culture and investing in the infrastructure that will support our efforts.

Together, we can build a more data-driven future that benefits everyone taking into consideration that data-driven transformation is revolutionising digital ecosystems with remarkable opportunities for adaptability.

To that end, the Abu Dhabi Statistics Stakeholders Forum 2023 (ADSSF) was organised to discuss the development of an advanced ecosystem that is supported by nondisruptive flow of data and ensures alignment with future visions and priorities.

As the custodian of statistical work in Abu Dhabi, SCAD actively leads the way in formulating data governance policies and addressing data access challenges, ensuring transparent mechanisms are systematised to encourage collaboration and fruitful discussions for the greater good of Abu Dhabi.

On the other hand, SCAD upholds robust governance measures to protect data while minimising barriers to data flow.



Join us in our journey, and help promote a more effective data-collaboration culture in Abu Dhabi so that we can harness the power of data to drive positive change and create a better future for all.





# ROLE OF ADMIN DATA IN TRANSFORMING ABU DHABI'S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS



## Panelists

**Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Hmoud Alefari,**  
Director of Central Statistics  
Dept. at Abu Dhabi Police

**H.E Saeed Ali Al Fazari**  
Executive Director, Support  
Services Sector at Department  
of Culture & Tourism

**H.E Fahad Gharib Al Shamsi**  
Executive Director of Support  
Services at Abu Dhabi Customs

**Mr. Abdulla Hassan Alshaer**  
Director of Population and Social  
Statistics at SCAD

Administrative data refers to the data collected by government agencies during their regular operations. This includes data from tax offices, schools, birth and death records, taxation records, and data about the flow of goods and people across borders. Such data can be used to generate accurate and comprehensive statistics about the population and economy.

## Statistical Production Enablers

In order to reach our targeted maturity level for data collection and efficient analysis, we needed to build several key enablers to enhance our statistical production.

These enablers included the solutions and technical tools that are key to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its data collection and analysis processes.

In parallel, training our workforce was essential to fulfil our commitment to ensuring that the data is collected in an accurate and reliable way.

Also, having a comprehensive set of laws and procedures that govern the field of statistics ensures using data in a responsible and ethical way.



**Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Alefari**



**H.E Saeed Ali Al Fazari**

## Successful stories

The Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi (DCT) has maintained an integration of statistical production with the Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD) to work collaboratively on producing key indicators such as the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in alignment with the Department of Finance (DOF) and Department of Economic Development (DED).

The integration paves the way for further and smooth collaboration between government entities on other statistical indicators and projects, such as the population census.



## Portfolio & Automation

Data was a key enabler for a four-year transformation process at Abu Dhabi Customs which contributes to the enhancement of trading and the effective movement of goods across borders.

In this context, the statistical portfolio that was set by SCAD helps Abu Dhabi Customs and the statistical ecosystem, in general, to support the decision-makers with reliable and precise information.

Cooperation with other government entities to maintain automation of processes has several benefits. First, it allows for more efficient collection and analysis of data. Second, it helps to ensure that data is accurate and reliable. Third, it facilitates the sharing of data between government entities, which can be used to make better decisions about economic policy.



H.E Fahad Gharib Al Shamsi



Mr. Abdulla Hassan Alshaer

## Enabling Gov. Entities

SCAD enhances the statistical capabilities of government entities by focusing on three areas, including manuals and methodologies. These form the foundation for statistical work, ensuring a unified language across the statistical ecosystem.

Simultaneously, SCAD also develops the Statistical Maturity Index, a tool designed to measure the maturity of statistical production within government entities. This index aids

in identifying actions to enhance and improve statistical processes and procedures.

At the same time, the Statistical Training Institute (STI) at SCAD provides essential support to specialists and workers in various statistical fields in Abu Dhabi and beyond through customised training programs and courses.

## Key takeaways



### Real-time data integration

The ADGEs have to continue working collaboratively to solidify interoperability through systemised production of data.



### Alignment

The government, in partnership with its stakeholders, need to align in advancing Abu Dhabi social and economic aspirations.



### Data security and governance

Maintaining data security and governance is important to sustain data collaboration for the benefit of the public good.





# ENHANCING THE B2G DATA COLLABORATION FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD



## Panelists



### Mr. Joe Abi Akl,

Chief Corporate Development  
Officer and Managing Director,  
Majid Al Futtaim Holding

### Mr. Selim Ergoz

Senior Vice President, Global  
Public Sector Enablement, Mas-  
tercard

### Mr. Aref Al Farra

Economic Advisor to the Director  
General of the Abu Dhabi Cham-  
ber

### Dr. Haifa Ali Alhamdani

Acting, Executive Director Stra-  
tegy & Planning

B2G data collaboration refers to the process where private sector firms share their data with government entities and research institutes for the public good. This collaboration helps improve the accuracy and timeliness of official statistics, supports policy decision-making, and reduces data collection costs, all while ensuring privacy and confidentiality standards are maintained.

## Benefits of data collaboration

Data collaboration between government and private sectors can offer a number of benefits for both parties. For the public sector, it helps to enhance public trust and to open avenues for innovation opportunities while having influence over the policies and decisions.

By sharing data for the public good, government entities and research institutions gain insights, build innovative solutions, and develop

data-informed strategies and initiatives.

At the same time, this fosters a positive image of the private sector companies and builds trust among the public while creating a competitive advantage with an increased understanding of social responsibilities.



Mr. Joe Abi Akl



Mr. Selim Ergoz

## Spending Insights

The UAE is a regional leader in digital payments and innovation, with a vision to become a knowledge-based economy.

Mastercard is contributing to this vision by sharing data with SCAD to help the government derive meaningful insights and form policies that benefit both its people and businesses.

One such initiative includes sharing spending index data to help the government monitor the economic impact of tourism and other sectors.

Through collaborations with government and private sector entities, Mastercard is working to improve the efficiency of public services and create new opportunities for economic growth.



## Voice of the Private Sector

There is an increasing need for data collaboration, as timely data is becoming more crucial for decision-makers in both the private sector and government.

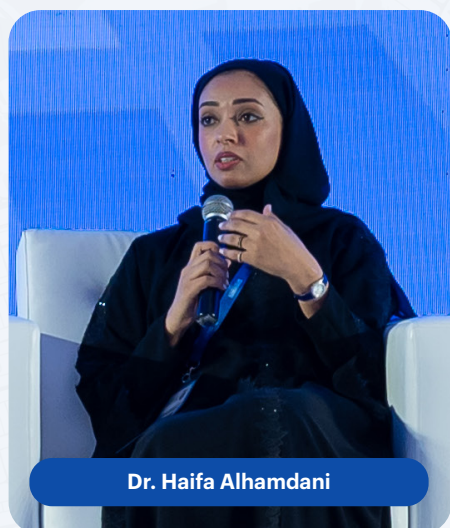
A case in point: Facebook acquired WhatsApp in 2014 for 19\$ billion (in the same month the market capitalization of Sony Inc. was around 18.5\$ billion), as Facebook realised the huge importance of big data.

At the Abu Dhabi Chamber, we launched a new strategy in February to focus on three pillars that are networking, public advocacy and service provision.

Directly after the launch, the Chamber signed a service-level agreement with SCAD to enable it to fulfil these pillars.



Mr. Aref Al Farra



Dr. Haifa Alhamdani

## Win-Win Collaboration

Fulfilling corporate social responsibility obligations is one key advantage, as it underscores a commitment to societal welfare and sustainable practices.

This commitment, in turn, enhances their public image, fostering trust among consumers and investors. A reputation for societal contribution also appeals to high-calibre talent, who often gravitate towards

purpose-driven organisations. Additionally, these collaborations can spark innovation, generate business opportunities, and lead to more favourable regulatory environments.

By actively addressing societal challenges, the private sector ultimately obtains a competitive advantage.

## Key takeaways



### Data trust

In the context of data collaboration, data trust could be used to share data between members of the same ecosystem which allows partners to produce insights into the local economy, while also helping to improve data collection and analysis.



### Knowledge-driven Economy

A knowledge-driven economy is based on production and use of knowledge, where data plays a significant role. By sharing data, businesses can collaborate on new products and services, and the government can identify new opportunities for economic growth.



### Data literacy and incentives

To make the most of data, it is important for people to have the skills to understand it, analyze it, and use it to make decisions. The government and the private sector can work together to invest in data literacy programs. Incentive programs can also be used to encourage businesses to share data.





## RECOGNIZING KEY PARTNERS AND OUTSTANDING FIELDWORK TEAM

### Key partners from the private sector

From more than 11,000 companies, SCAD was honoured to recognise the below companies in appreciation of their efforts and cooperation. The recognised companies were classified into four groups which are categorised on rates of responsiveness, comprehensiveness of data, data quality, and the number of statistical projects they participated in during the year.





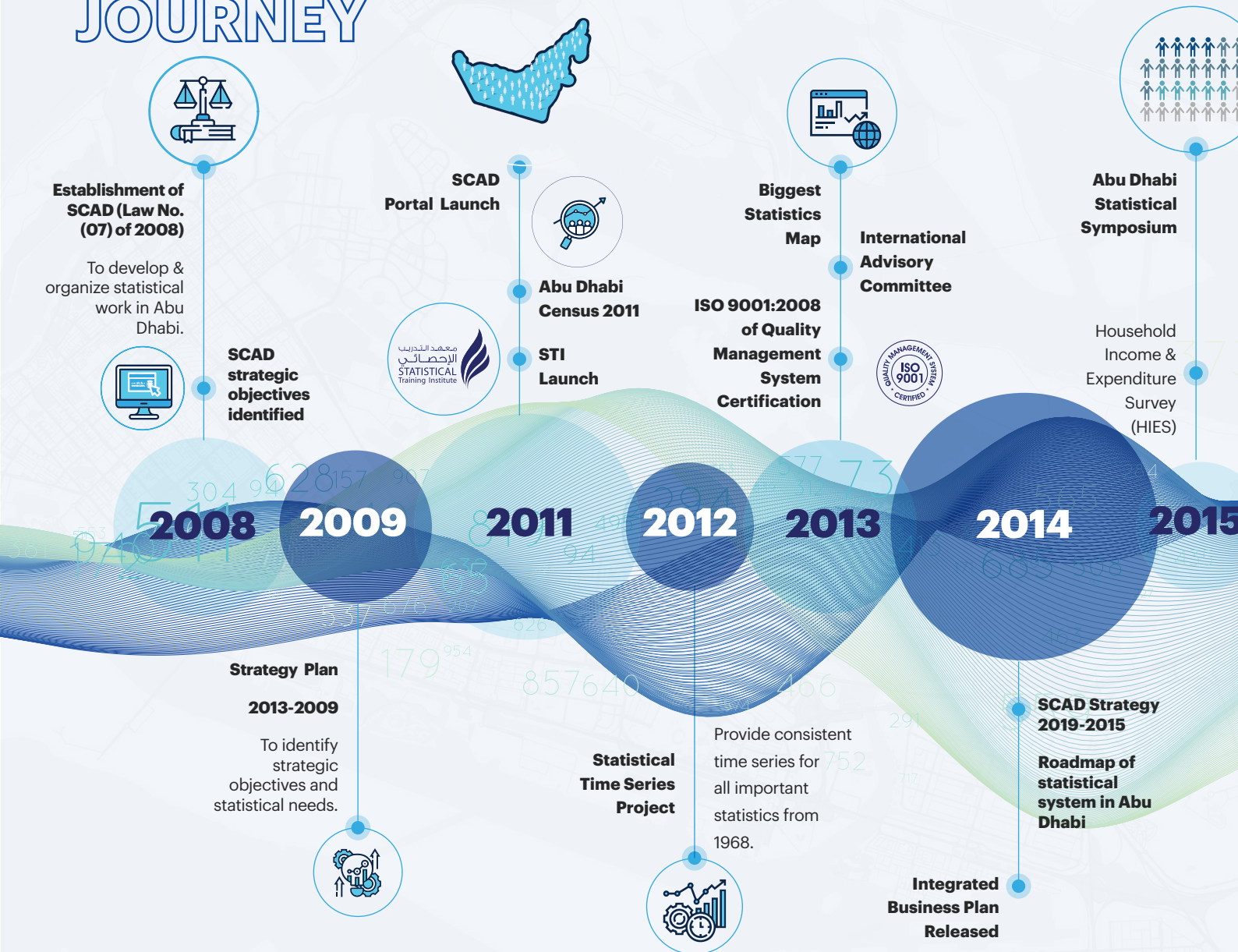


## Fieldwork team





# SCAD JOURNEY

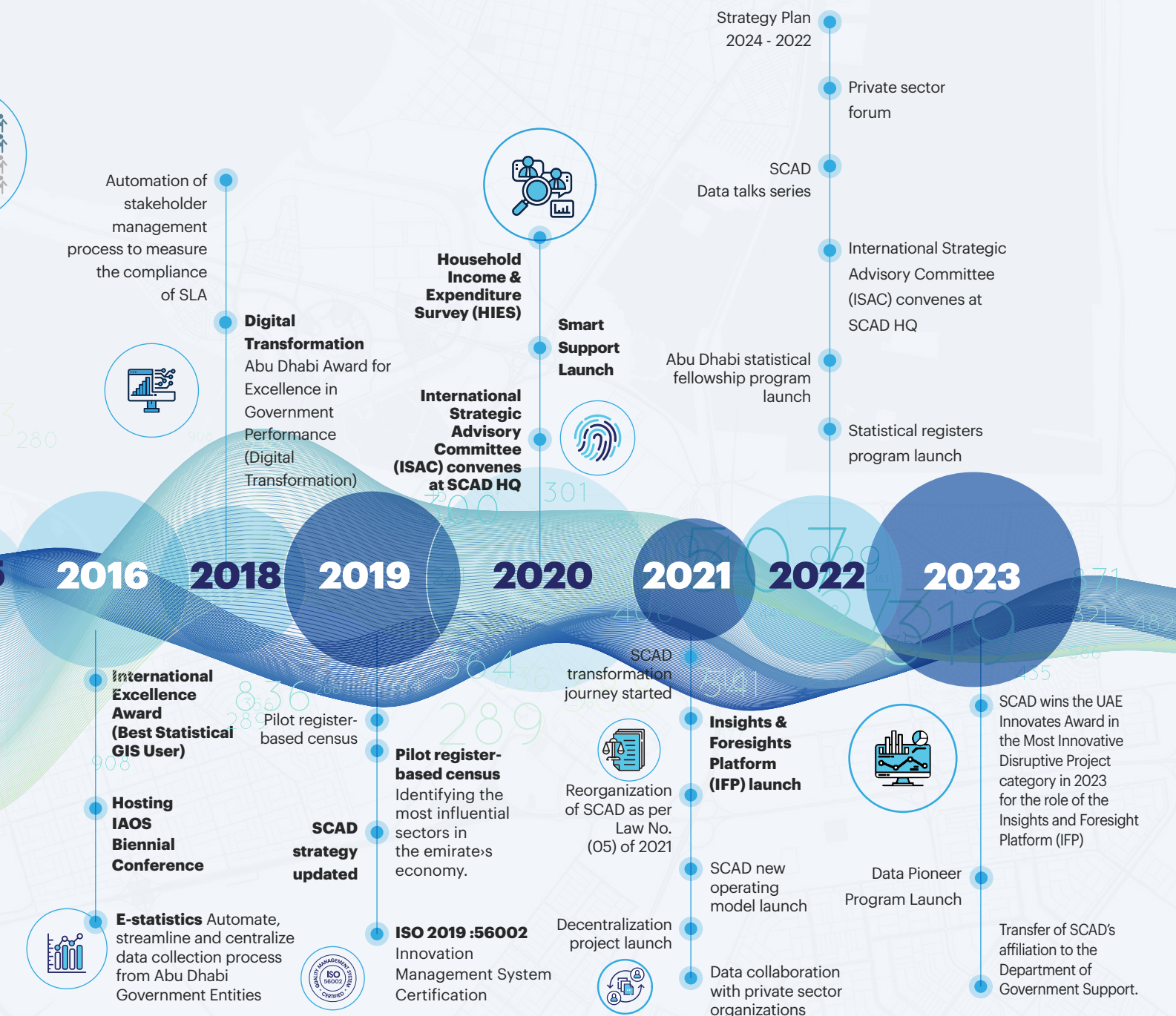


The Abu Dhabi statistical ecosystem is a comprehensive framework that is designed to improve the quality and availability of data, making it easier for the government and private sectors to collaborate.

To learn more about how your organisation can contribute to shaping policies and decisions

## CONCLUSION





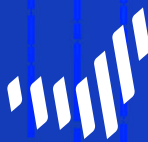
for the public interest in Abu Dhabi through data collaboration, visit our website to be our partner or scan this QR code to access our partners page.



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[scad.gov.ae](http://scad.gov.ae)

800 555

[info@scad.gov.ae](mailto:info@scad.gov.ae)

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