

What is Generative AI?

Generative AI (GenAI) refers to models that can create new content—text, images, audio, code—by learning patterns from large datasets. It underpins tools like chatbots, code assistants, and image/video generators. (For UAE-focused guidance, see the government's Generative AI guide.)

Who is the first “AI minister” and what does he do?

H.E. Omar Sultan Al Olama of the UAE—appointed in October 2017—is widely recognized as the world's first minister for Artificial Intelligence. In July 2020 his portfolio expanded to Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy and Remote Work Applications.

What is the UAE National Strategy for Artificial Intelligence 2031?

It aims to make the UAE a global AI leader by 2031, aligning with UAE Centennial 2071, and driving AI adoption across priority sectors to boost economic and social outcomes.

What is the UAE Charter for the Development & Use of AI (2024)?

A federal framework launched in July 2024 that sets principles for responsible, rights-preserving AI development and use in the UAE, supporting the AI Strategy 2031.

Does the UAE have official guidance on Generative AI?

Yes. In April 2023, the UAE released a Generative AI guide with “100 practical applications and use cases,” aimed at accelerating safe adoption in government and industry.

What are Dubai's AI ethics guidelines?

Digital Dubai (formerly Smart Dubai) published AI Ethics Principles & Guidelines to encourage fairness, accountability, transparency, and human oversight in AI systems.

Which data protection laws apply when using GenAI in the UAE?

Mainland UAE is covered by the Personal Data Protection Law (PDPL—Federal Decree-Law No. 45 of 2021). Free zones have their own regimes, e.g., DIFC Data Protection Law No. 5 of 2020 and ADGM Data Protection Regulations 2021.

What is the Abu Dhabi Artificial Intelligence & Advanced Technology Council (AIATC)?

Established on 22 January 2024, AIATC develops strategy, policy, research and investment plans for AI and advanced technology in Abu Dhabi.

Are there notable UAE open-source LLMs?

Yes—Falcon models from Abu Dhabi's Technology Innovation Institute (TII), including Falcon 40B (open weights) and Falcon 180B (an openly available large model released in 2023).

What is MBZUAI and why does it matter?

The Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI) is a graduate research university dedicated to AI, established in 2019 in Abu Dhabi to build talent and

advance research.

How is GenAI meant to be used in UAE government services?

Official guides encourage use in areas like customer service and information delivery, emphasizing privacy, security, and human oversight.

I'm deploying a GenAI solution in the UAE—what compliance steps should I consider first?

Map personal data, set a lawful basis, run impact assessments, manage cross-border transfers, add human-in-the-loop checks, and document transparency/consent—all aligned with PDPL and local ethics guidance.

Do free zones change my AI/data obligations?

Yes. If you operate in DIFC or ADGM, their data laws apply within those jurisdictions (alongside other applicable UAE laws), including rules on individual rights and international transfers.

Where can I find official AI resources from the UAE government?

Start with the federal AI portal (ai.gov.ae) for publications and toolkits, plus the national portal (u.ae) for AI resources and policy pages.

How do UAE policies view responsible GenAI?

They promote innovation with safeguards: principled development (the 2024 AI Charter), sector adoption via practical guides, and ethics frameworks to ensure trust, safety, and accountability.