



# Our History

## Dubai Electricity and Water Authority – a continuous success story

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) was formed on 1 January, 1992, by a decree issued by the late Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid Al Maktoum to merge Dubai Electricity Company and Dubai Water Department, which had been operating independently before then. Both organisations were established by the late Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum in 1959. Since then, DEWA has made considerable achievements, to be ranked as one of the best utilities in the world. DEWA provides services today to more than 930,000 customers with a happiness rate that reached 95% in 2018.

The UAE, represented by DEWA, maintained its first global ranking, for the second consecutive year, with scores of 100% in all Getting Electricity indicators in the World Bank's Doing Business 2019 report that measures the ease of doing business in 190 economies around the world. DEWA also achieved competitive results in its global benchmarking, surpassing major European and American utilities in efficiency and reliability. DEWA reduced its losses from electricity transmission and distribution networks to 3.3% compared to 6–7% in the US and Europe. Additionally, DEWA achieved the lowest customer minutes lost per year (CML) in the world of 2.39 CML, compared to 15 minutes in Europe. DEWA managed to decrease water network losses from 42% in 1988 to 6.5% in 2018, compared to 15% in North America, which is one of the best results in the world. DEWA continues its efforts to upgrade Dubai's entire water network by replacing old connections and meters with new ones, and developing the transmission and distribution networks as per the highest international standards. The smart adoption rate of DEWA's services reached 93% by the end of Q1 2019, and in 2018, the customer happiness rate reached 95% in 2018.

Recently, HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance, and President of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), inaugurated the extension project of M-Station in Jebel Ali, the largest power and water desalination plant in the UAE. The total cost of M-Station with its extension reached AED 11.669 billion with a current production capacity of 2,885 megawatts (MW) and 140 million gallons of desalinated water per day according to the highest levels of availability, reliability, efficiency, and quality. The expansion cost AED 1.527 billion and added new generating units with a capacity of 700MW.

The Hassyian Clean Coal Power Plant is another pioneering project implemented by DEWA based on the IPP model. Hassyian clean coal power project will have a total coal-fired capacity of 2,400 MW. The power station will be fully-operational by 2023.



DEWA is managing and operating the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, which is the largest single-site solar project in the world. It will have a capacity of 1,000MW by 2020 and 5,000MW by 2030, with a total investment of AED 50 billion.

The Solar Park was launched in 2012 and the 13MW first phase became operational on 22 October 2013. The IPP-based 200MW second phase became operational on April 2017. The solar park has an innovation centre that includes a number of research and development laboratories in clean energy and will oversee research and development projects, with a total investment of AED 500 million until 2020.

In November 2015, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 to make Dubai a global centre for clean energy and green economy. The strategy aims to provide 7% of Dubai's energy from clean sources by 2020, 25% by 2030, and 75% by 2050. It consists of five main pillars: infrastructure, legislation, funding, building capacities and skills, and an environmentally-friendly energy mix.

In June 2016, DEWA announced the selection of the Masdar-led consortium as the best bidder to develop the 800 MW third phase of the solar park. DEWA also set a world record by obtaining the lowest price of USD 2.99 cents per kWh for the third phase of the park, based on the IPP model. The first 200 MW project became operational on 1 May 2018, with the second and third projects being implemented in stages until 2020.

On 16 September 2017, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum launched the fourth phase of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park. It is the largest single-site Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) project in the world, based on the IPP model. The project was awarded to a consortium comprising Saudi Arabia's ACWA Power, The Silk Road Fund, and China's Shanghai Electric as the main contractor. The consortium bid the lowest Levelised Cost of Electricity (LCOE) of USD 7.3 cents per kWh.

On 3 November 2018, DEWA signed an amendment to the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to add 250MW of photovoltaic solar panels, increasing the total capacity of the fourth phase from 700MW to 950MW.

DEWA has also launched three smart initiatives to support the Smart Dubai initiative to make Dubai the smartest city in the world. These are Shams Dubai, to encourage building owners to install photovoltaic (PV) solar panels to generate electricity. The electricity generated is used inside the premises and the surplus is exported to DEWA's grid. This encourages the use of renewable energy, increases its share in the energy mix, and diversifies energy sources. The Smart Applications and Meters initiative contributes to fast-service connection, fast response, and rationalising energy use. The Green Charger initiative establishes the



infrastructure and electric vehicle charging stations. Thus far, DEWA has established over 200 charging stations, and is working on additional stations.

To emphasise its commitment to sustainability, which is one of the main pillars of World Expo 2020 in Dubai, DEWA is working in line with the vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to host the best World Expo that the world has ever seen in Dubai. DEWA will contribute to achieving this by building world-class energy infrastructure that meets Dubai's development demands. DEWA has launched a wide variety of initiatives in this regard, allocating AED 4.26 billion to boost water, electricity and renewable energy projects according to the highest international standards. This supports Dubai Expo's theme of 'Connecting Minds, Creating the Future' and its three sub themes of sustainability, mobility and opportunity.

