

Future Skills for Future Jobs: Cultivating the skills to support a knowledge-based economy in the United Arab Emirates

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The study addresses the imminent skill demands due to the rapid evolution of job requirements in the UAE, influenced by technological advancements and globalization.

Purpose and Importance for the UAE: It emphasizes the need for the UAE to align its workforce capabilities with the changing landscape to maintain its economic growth and transition into a knowledge-based economy.

Methodology: The research synthesizes insights from global and regional data sources, employer surveys, and educational outcomes to identify skill gaps and future requirements.

Study Key Points:

1. Identification of future skills categorized into cognitive, interpersonal, self-leadership, and digital.
2. Analysis of UAE's strategic priorities and how they relate to the global job market trends.
3. Discussion of existing skills initiatives in the UAE.

Main Findings:

1. There exists a significant skills gap in the UAE's workforce, particularly in STEM fields and soft skills.
2. UAE's education system needs alignment with the future job market demands.
3. Current employment practices and future job requirements necessitate a workforce skilled in digital, cognitive, and interpersonal competencies.

Recommendations:

1. Curriculum and training programs should be upgraded to include STEM, digital literacy, and green skills.
2. There should be a structured engagement between the education sector and industry to ensure relevancy in skill development.
3. Lifelong learning and continuous professional development must be emphasized.
4. Policy measures should focus on creating opportunities for upskilling and reskilling the current workforce.