

Law No. (23) of 2023
Concerning the Digital Dubai Government Establishment¹

We, Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai,

After perusal of:

Law No. (3) of 2003 Establishing the Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (30) of 2015 Establishing the Smart Dubai Government Establishment;

Law No. (1) of 2016 Concerning the Financial Regulations of the Government of Dubai, its Implementing Bylaw, and their amendments;

Law No. (13) of 2016 Concerning the Judicial Authorities in the Emirate of Dubai and its amendments;

Law No. (5) of 2021 Concerning the Dubai International Financial Centre;

Law No. (8) of 2021 Concerning Human Resources Management of Executive Directors/ Chief Executive Officers in the Government of Dubai;

Law No. (9) of 2022 Regulating the Provision of Digital Services in the Emirate of Dubai;

Law No. (22) of 2023 Concerning the Dubai Digital Authority;

Decree No. (22) of 2009 Concerning Special Development Zones in the Emirate of Dubai; and

The legislation establishing and regulating free zones in the Emirate of Dubai,

Do hereby issue this Law.

Title of the Law
Article (1)

This Law will be cited as "Law No. (23) of 2023 Concerning the Digital Dubai Government Establishment".

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¹Every effort has been made to produce an accurate and complete English version of this legislation. However, for the purpose of its interpretation and application, reference must be made to the original Arabic text. In case of conflict, the Arabic text will prevail.

Definitions

Article (2)

The following words and expressions, wherever mentioned in this Law, will have the meaning indicated opposite each of them unless the context implies otherwise:

Emirate:	The Emirate of Dubai.
Government:	The Government of Dubai.
Executive Council:	The Executive Council of the Emirate of Dubai.
General Secretariat:	The general secretariat of the Executive Council.
DDA:	The Dubai Digital Authority.
Director General:	The director general of the DDA.
DDGE:	The Digital Dubai Government Establishment.
CEO:	The chief executive officer of the DDGE.
Government Entity:	Any of the Government departments; public agencies and corporations; Government councils; public authorities, including the authorities supervising Special Development Zones and free zones, such as the Dubai International Financial Centre; or other public entities affiliated to the Government.
Judicial Authorities:	This includes the Dubai Courts and the Public Prosecution.
Digital Transformation:	All means supporting the transformation of the Emirate into a digital city, including technical infrastructure; Digital Services; digital applications; Digital Data Platforms; and information technology and Data protection policies and strategies.
Digital Services:	Any of the Government, judicial, or non-government services provided to Customers through Digital Channels.
Shared Systems:	The systems, platforms, and applications provided and managed by the DDGE, or by other entities accredited by the DDA, to be jointly used by the Government Entities and non-government entities whose services are

associated with the services of other entities, as approved by the DDA in this respect.

Digital Channels: Websites, digital applications, and other media through which Digital Services are provided and made available.

Digital Platform: A digital system adopted by the DDA for providing Digital Services, which comprises hardware, software, networks, storage systems, and a connectivity and communication website.

Scope of Application

Article (3)

- a. The provisions of this Law apply to the Smart Dubai Government Establishment established pursuant the above-mentioned Law No. (30) of 2015 as a public establishment having legal personality and the legal capacity required to achieve its objectives and perform its functions under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate. The DDGE is hereby affiliated to the DDA.
- b. The name "Smart Dubai Government Establishment", wherever mentioned in any legislation in force in the Emirate, is hereby replaced by "Digital Dubai Government Establishment".

Head Office of the DDGE

Article (4)

The head office of the DDGE will be located in the Emirate. Other branches of the DDGE may be established within the Emirate pursuant to a resolution of the Director General.

Objectives of the DDGE

Article (5)

The DDGE aims to:

1. enable both the public and private sectors in the Emirate to achieve Digital Transformation in various fields;
2. enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Digital Services and digital systems and infrastructure of Government Entities;

3. ensure the quality of Digital Services in the Emirate; and
4. ensure the provision of Digital Services to all segments of the community by engaging qualified cadres and adopting advanced work processes and technical systems, in accordance with the relevant international best practices.

Functions of the DDGE

Article (6)

For the purpose of achieving its objectives, the DDGE will have the duties and powers to:

1. propose, in coordination with the Competent Entities, the Digital Transformation strategy of the Emirate; and submit the same to the Director General for approval, in preparation for final approval by the Executive Council;
2. develop the digital plans, initiatives, programmes, and projects required for implementing the adopted Digital Transformation strategy of the Emirate, and submit the same to the Director General for approval;
3. follow up the implementation of the adopted digital plans, initiatives, programmes, and projects in line with the Digital Transformation strategy and with a view to ensuring integration of Government procedures; and present the relevant reports to the DDA;
4. design, support, and promote digital experiences for the public and private sectors, and individuals, with a view to introducing high-quality, streamlined, integrated, and proactive practices, in coordination with the General Secretariat;
5. propose and review, in coordination with the DDA, the legislation related to the governance of information technology, communications, emerging technologies, and Digital Transformation; and submit the same to the Competent Entities in the Emirate to take the necessary action in respect thereof;
6. propose and review the regulations and policies pertaining to the governance of information technology, telecommunications, emerging technologies, and Digital Transformation; and submit the same to the Director General for approval;
7. develop the standards, frameworks, and manuals for Digital Transformation with a view to developing and designing digital city services and experiences in the Emirate; develop the necessary tools in coordination with the General Secretariat; and submit the same to the Director General for approval;

8. support and enable the introduction of new digital systems, Digital Platforms, and Digital Services; and the establishment and development of information technology and telecommunication infrastructure;
9. develop and manage, in coordination with the DDA, the General Secretariat, and the concerned Government Entities, the Shared Systems of Government services and the joint projects, programmes, and applications for Government Entities with a view to supporting Digital Transformation; enhance the efficiency and quality of these systems; and ensure that they are implemented by the target groups;
10. provide and manage shared digital government infrastructure; supervise its operation; and ensure its quality performance and efficiency;
11. manage, develop, and support Digital Channels and unified Digital Platforms of Shared Systems, and operate the same in cooperation with the concerned entities;
12. coordinate, and supervise the implementation of, awareness and communication campaigns with a view to promoting the adoption of Digital Services, government digital infrastructure, and digital city experiences;
13. conduct studies and research, and keep abreast of best practices and methodologies, in relation to emerging and leading technologies; make recommendations and plans to use and utilise these technologies; and submit the same to the Director General to issue the relevant directives as he deems appropriate;
14. hold, in coordination with the DDA, training courses and specialised workshops on Digital Transformation, information technology, telecommunications, and Shared Systems;
15. provide consultations on all matters related to Digital Transformation;
16. coordinate with the DDA on the representation of the Emirate before local, regional, and international entities; and participate in conferences, symposia, projects, and programmes related to Digital Transformation;
17. cooperate and coordinate with the concerned entities in the Emirate to enhance Digital Transformation; and
18. exercise any other duties or powers related to enabling the DDGE to achieve its objectives, as assigned to it by the Director General.

Executive Body of the DDGE
Article (7)

- a. The executive body of the DDGE will be comprised of the CEO and a number of administrative and technical Employees.
- b. The rights and obligations of the DDGE Employees will be determined pursuant to the relevant human resources regulations adopted by the DDA.

CEO of the DDGE
Article (8)

- a. A CEO will be appointed to the DDGE pursuant to a resolution of the Chairman of the Executive Council.
- b. The above-mentioned Law No. (8) of 2021 and the resolutions issued in pursuance thereof will apply to the CEO.

Functions of the CEO
Article (9)

- a. The CEO will supervise the work and activities of the DDGE and will manage its affairs. The CEO will be directly responsible to the Director General for exercising the duties and powers assigned to him under this Law, the resolutions issued in pursuance hereof, and other legislation in force in the Emirate. In particular, the CEO will have the duties and powers to:
 - 1. prepare the general policy and the strategic, development, and operational plans of the DDGE; submit the same to the Director General for approval; and follow up their implementation;
 - 2. propose the projects, programmes, and initiatives of the DDGE; submit the same to the Director General for approval; and follow up their implementation;
 - 3. prepare the draft annual budget and Financial Statements of the DDGE, and submit the same to the Director General for approval;
 - 4. prepare periodic reports on the performance of the DDGE, and submit the same to the Director General to issue the relevant directives as he deems appropriate;

5. prepare the organisational structure of the DDGE, and present the same to the Director General for approval, in preparation for its submission to the Competent Entities in the Emirate for final approval;
 6. draft the bylaws and resolutions regulating the administrative and technical work of the DDGE; and submit the same to the Director General Directors for approval;
 7. represent the DDGE before third parties in coordination with the DDA;
 8. conclude the contracts, agreements, and memoranda of understanding to which the DDGE is a party, in accordance with the relevant delegation of authority matrix adopted by the Director General;
 9. propose the fees and charges for the services provided by the DDGE; and submit the same to the Director General for approval, in preparation for their final approval by the Competent Entities in the Emirate pursuant to the legislation in force;
 10. supervise the daily work of the executive body of the DDGE;
 11. form permanent and temporary committees and work teams, and determine their functions and terms of reference; and
 12. exercise any other duties or powers assigned or delegated to him by the Director General, as required to enable the DDGE to achieve its objectives and perform its functions.
- b. The CEO may delegate any of his duties under paragraph (a) of this Article to any of the DDGE Employees, provided that this delegation is specific and in writing.

Financial Resources of the DDGE

Article (10)

The financial resources of the DDGE will consist of:

1. the financial appropriations allocated to the DDGE in the budget of the DDA;
2. the fees and charges collected by the DDGE in return for the services it provides; and
3. any other resources approved by Director General.

Cooperation with the DDGE

Article (11)

For the purpose of performing its functions under this Law, the DDGE may, as it deems appropriate, seek the assistance of Government Entities, non-government entities, and individuals. These Government Entities, non-government entities, and individuals must fully cooperate with the DDGE; and, when requested, provide it with the support required to enable it to achieve its objectives.

Issuing Implementing Resolutions

Article (12)

The Director General will issue the resolutions required for the implementation of the provisions of this Law.

Repeals

Article (13)

- a. The above-mentioned Law No. (30) of 2015 is hereby repealed. Any provision in any other legislation is also hereby repealed to the extent that it contradicts the provisions of this Law.
- b. The bylaws and resolutions issued in implementation of the above-mentioned Law No. (30) of 2015 will continue in force, to the extent that they do not contradict this Law and the legislation in force in the Emirate, until new superseding bylaws and resolutions are issued.

Commencement and Publication

Article (14)

This Law comes into force on the day on which it is issued, and will be published in the Official Gazette.

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Ruler of Dubai

Issued in Dubai on 21 November 2023

Corresponding to 7 Jumada al-Ula 1445 A.H.