

# AGFE October Spotlight

## Supporting the Entrepreneurship Ecosystem



"The MIT Bootcamp has prepared me to start a business venture. Of course, one can still develop himself further and learn more about the field, but I feel that I now have good knowledge of what I need to become a successful entrepreneur."

-Saif Alkhaaldi, MIT Bootcamp participant

### Importance of Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship stimulates innovation, boosts economic growth, and can bridge unemployment gaps.

**75%** of individuals regard entrepreneurship as a good career choice (Global Entrepreneurship Research Association).

**43%** of Arab youth are interested in starting their own business in the next 5 years (Arab Youth Survey)

**23%** Arab youth unemployment rate is driving youth to become job creators (ILO)

### Strategy Supporting Entrepreneurship

AGFE provides youth with future in-demand skills that are transferable and will carry students through their secondary education, university to employment, and entrepreneurship journeys.

### Our strategy is aligned with:

- World Economic Forum's (WEF) list of future skills including interpersonal, organizational, leadership, and critical thinking.
- UAE's Centennial 2071 plan that aims to make the UAE an open lab for innovation and a global platform for entrepreneurship.
- Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8 and 17, addressing education, employment, and partnerships.

### AGFE's Initiatives

Our strategic partnerships and collaborations with universities, the private and public sector promote entrepreneurial skill development.

**Total Youth Impacted: 44,000+**

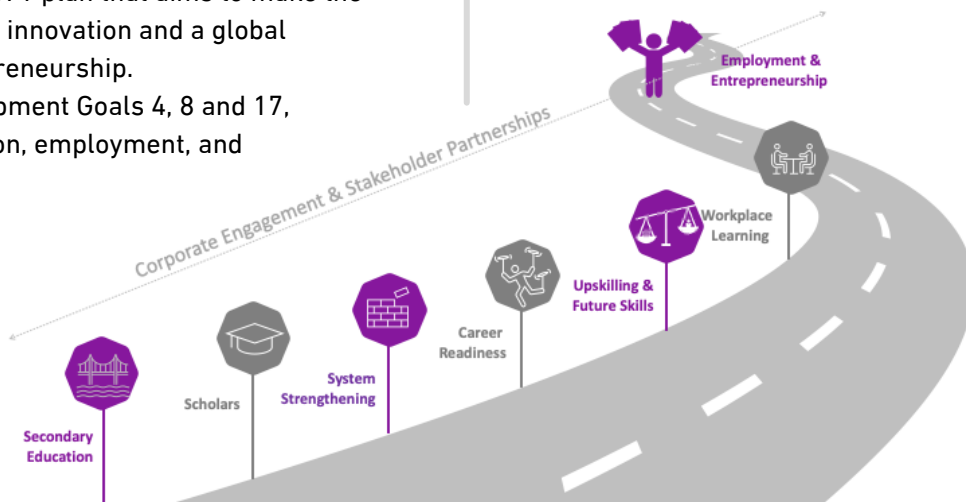
➔ **MIT Innovation Leadership Bootcamp** - Challenged Emirati and Arab youth to work together and develop entrepreneurial projects that respond to youth unemployment challenges in the region. Collaborators: MIT and UAEU.

➔ **Al Ghurair Young Thinkers Program** - Provides Emirati and Arab youth access to high-quality education to employment/entrepreneurship resources. Collaborators: ASU and MOHRE

➔ **Mentorship Program** - Connects mentors with mentees to provide youth with career readiness and job preparedness support through a structured, 6-month program. Collaborators: HSBC, Procter and Gamble, Deloitte, PWC

### WEF's Top Skills of 2025

- Problem solving
- Self-management
- Working with people
- Technology use and development



"I could clearly see a significant improvement in his way of thinking, he (the mentee) became much more structured and able to lead himself into better and clearer actions. Moreover, he showed more confidence in communication and problem solving during our sessions."

- Sabih Zaman, Lifecycle Commercial Growth Director at GE Healthcare, Mentor at Mentorship Program

