



The Microsoft Cloud Dividend Snapshot: United Arab Emirates

Microsoft helps individuals, teams, enterprises, and governments leverage the data-driven services they require in a connected world. It does this by investing in digital infrastructures connecting individuals, enterprises, countries, and regions around the world. IDC has found extensive local benefits of a cloud datacenter opening. This is a snapshot of those findings.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

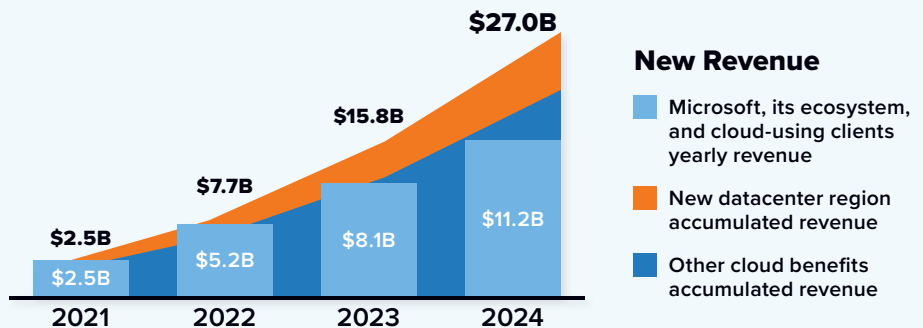
\$27.0 billion

4-year total accumulated new revenue

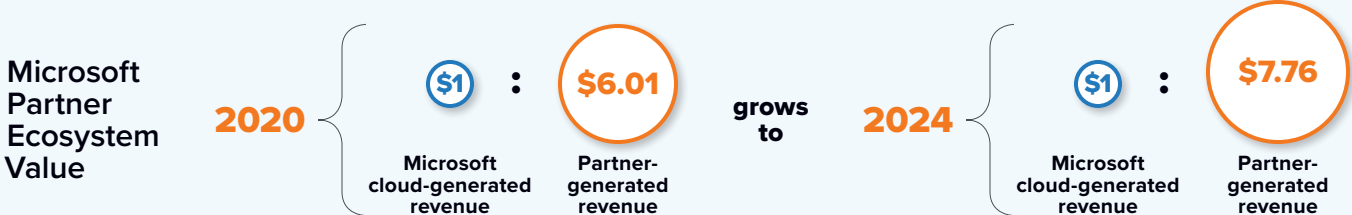
21%

accumulated benefit from new datacenter region

\$2.3 billion in local spending



Over the next 4 years, Microsoft, Microsoft partners, and cloud-using customers will together generate about \$27 billion in new revenues above the 2020 level. This will drive investment in local economies, the creation of jobs, reduction in atmospheric carbon, and investment in sustainability. Microsoft and its partner ecosystem, to support their growing local business, will spend about \$2.3 billion in the datacenter region for services and products in local economies. The new datacenter region will help eliminate some of the barriers to cloud adoption within the region and account for approximately 21.1% of the new revenue total (\$27.0B) through 2024.



COMMUNITY IMPACT



68,890 new jobs

Total 2020–2024 direct and indirect



16,000 will be skilled IT jobs

Total 2020–2024

Over the next four years, Microsoft, Microsoft partners, and cloud-using customers will, together, add 69,000 jobs to the economy, including jobs directly in their own organizations and jobs generated indirectly in other organizations. What's more, Microsoft, its ecosystem, and IT departments in customer companies will add nearly 16,000 new IT skilled jobs into the economy over the same period. The extent to which appropriate skills are available is critical to the local economy capitalizing on this employment opportunity.

IDC'S TAKE

For several years, the UAE government has been proactively focusing on diversifying the economy and is striving hard to establish a digital economy as outlined in country's Vision 2021 and Centennial 2071.

The UAE launched its Artificial Intelligence Strategy in 2017 and became the first country to appoint a Minister for AI to drive adoption of AI and cognitive solutions across various sectors. A year later, UAE introduced Blockchain Strategy 2021 with an aim to make 50% of government transactions digital by 2021 and become a paper-less economy.

These strategies and initiatives have fast-forwarded the adoption of cloud computing which is a foundational platform for organizations to enable agility, integration, scalability, and cost optimization. Rising cloud uptake in the country has inspired local and global

technology leaders to launch their data centers. That includes Microsoft too. The availability of local datacenters helps the regulated sectors to move their workloads on public cloud as it meets the local data residency norms.

COVID 19 has caused re-prioritization of digital initiatives and entailed organizations to invest in technologies that ensure business continuity in a world where remote work has become a norm.

Growing demand for cloud coupled with availability of in-country datacenters, boosted the growth of "born-in-the-cloud" channel partners. At the same time, there is a surge in the cloud and digital skills required to support the current and future modernization plans across the country. Public and private sectors are collaborating to create new workforce that is skilled at cloud, AI, IoT, analytics and security.

For more information on our methodology, please see the IDC White Paper [Microsoft Cloud Dividend 2020 Assumptions and Methodology, August 2020, #US46777220](#)