



Germany is a driving force in UAE business

Trade between the UAE and Germany is forecast to reach \$17bn in the next few years. More than 120 exhibitors, including state agencies, are coming together in The Big 5's 2,269 sqm German pavilion in Zabeel Hall.

By Hina Latif

Germany and the UAE are both exhibiting notable economic growth over the last few years, with Germany's GDP set to grow by 1.6 per cent in 2015.

The UAE's non-oil GDP is forecast to grow at 4.4 per cent this year and the IMF said it is likely to move up to 4.5 per cent in 2016.

Dubai Airport Freezone Authority (Dafza) said trade between the UAE and Germany stood at \$13.6bn

(AED50bn) in the end of 2014. It is forecast to reach \$17bn in the next few years.

A strong German SME (Small and Medium Sized Enterprises) sector in Dubai helps to increase capital flow, strengthen the economy's resistance to crises and increase development rates.

The German Emirati Joint Council for Industry and Commerce, AHK says around 1,000 German companies with more than 48,000 staff are currently operating in the UAE and contribute to the business

and trade relations between the two countries.

More than 120 exhibitors are coming together in the 2,269 sqm German pavilion at the Zabeel Hall in Dubai World Trade Centre during The Big 5.

For the first time, two German state agencies Baden-Württemberg International (bw-i) and Leichtbau BW are taking part in the show.

Representatives from bw-i will promote the federal state Baden-Württemberg as a location for business, science

and innovation and assist companies intending to enter the market in Germany's southwest.

Another part of Germany to watch out for is the federal state of Saxony with its pro-business government policies and balanced budgets. In order to tap the huge potential of Saxon-Arab co-operation, the Saxon Government has struck up comprehensive partnerships with the Gulf region. They will be present at the show with more information about business opportunities.



\$3.842 TRILLION
 GDP GROWTH (2015 ESTIMATE)

1.6%
 GDP GROWTH (2015 ESTIMATE)

81,083,600
 POPULATION: (2014 ESTIMATE)

\$1.511 TRILLION
 EXPORTS: (2014 ESTIMATE)

\$1.226 TRILLION
 IMPORTS: (2014 ESTIMATE)

Six companies from the federal state of Hessen will promote products in the field of engineering and technology. Among these, PF-Schweißtechnologie GmbH offers complete solutions for PE/PP piping.

The NORMA Group is an international market and technology leader in engineered joining technology.

Kessel Wassertechnologie GmbH is a manufacturer of plastic piping and system solutions under the brand name K-Aqua.

Hersa Kanteile GmbH is a Herbst Group company and specialises in customised metal processing. Herborner Pumpentechnik produces and sells centrifugal pumps for water and sewage and hebö Maschinenfabrik is among the world's leading machine engineering and metal working companies.

The Big 5 serves as a networking platform to solidify relationships between German and local businesses. ■