

# BUSINESS LICENSING

WORLDWIDE  
FORMATIONS

setting up **businesses in the UAE**

WHAT MUST YOU KNOW?

Unlock your future

WORLDWIDE  
FORMATIONS





## **Is one of the most trusted Company Formations institutions in the United Arab Emirates**

Established in the economic recession of 2008, Worldwide Formations has grown through uncertain times and firmly established itself as a market leader in business setup, transformation, and growth consultancy in the Middle East.

Over the years, WWF has assisted over 10,000 entities and entrepreneurs from 120+ nations in beginning, expanding, and relocating their businesses in the UAE. WWF also facilitates freelancing licenses with the most competitive **legal** package in the market.

Worldwide Formations is a **one-stop shop for all your business needs** in the UAE, and we strive towards Excellence, Transparency, and Reliability



LEMONADE

# LICENSE?

UAE Company Law, Article 11(1)



## **Federal Law No. (2) of 2015 On Commercial Companies**

The company shall obtain all the approvals and licenses as required for the activity to be conducted by the company in the State prior to commencement of its activity.





# Regulatory Bodies



# Entities and departments responsible for regulation and certification of activities and businesses in various sectors



etc.





# Online Business?

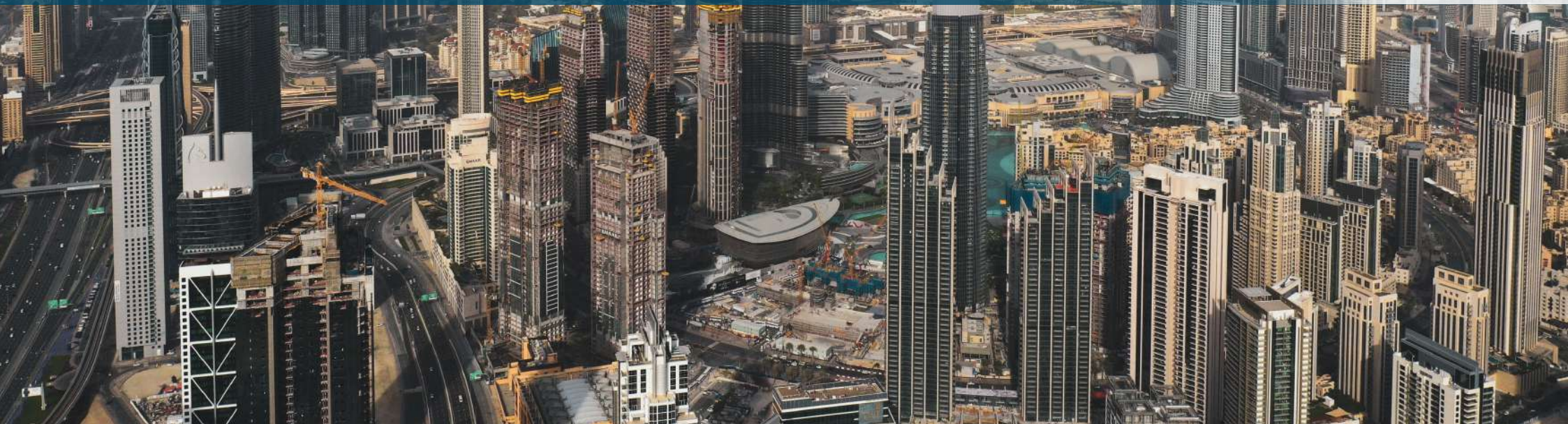




- Social media platforms → marketing
- License requirement (still remains)
  - Identify intended business activity
  - Define logistics, property, payment
  - Choose **legal entity** based on scope

# DUBAI MAINLAND

اقتصاد دبي  
DUBAI ECONOMY





# DUBAI MAINLAND

**Onshore** company licensed to do business both locally and internationally **without any restriction**



# MAINLAND BASICS

- **Local Partner/Service Agent\*** (depends - activity)
- 49/51% share structure (LLC)
- Direct engagement with local UAE Market

Signs all official government applications/documents with no input on the business operations

**Commercial License** = 49/51%  
**Professional License** = 100%



# PROCESS

SELECT BUSINESS ACTIVITY

SELECT LEGAL FORM

CHOOSE LEGAL TRADE NAME

OBTAIN INITIAL DED APPROVALS

ADDITIONAL EXTERNAL APPROVALS

RECEIVE LICENSE

A photograph of a modern glass skyscraper at dusk. The building's facade is highly reflective, showing the sky and surrounding environment. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. The building's structure is composed of dark frames and large glass panels. Some windows are illuminated from within, and a large, cantilevered section is visible at the top right. A semi-transparent dark blue horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text 'FREE ZONES' in white.

# FREE ZONES



# FREE ZONES

Companies are 100% owned by the expat and can carry out business within the Free Zone(s) or internationally

# FREE ZONE BASICS

- 100% foreign ownership
- Absence of currency regulations
- Advanced infrastructure
- Tax and Repatriation benefits
- Import/Export duty exemption

No need for Local Partner or Service Agent - restriction in direct UAE business activity

Easily accessible co-working spaces, offices, hubs, etc.



40+ 30 15

**Over 4+ Free Zones** in the UAE

**Only 30** are **fully operational**

**Only 15** are **reliable and trusted**  
by banks and financial institutions

We will find the best  
and most appropriate  
solution for your specific  
requirements

# DUBAI FREE ZONES

An aerial photograph of Dubai, United Arab Emirates, during the 'blue hour' of dusk. The Burj Khalifa stands prominently in the center, reaching towards a sky with soft purple and blue tones. The city's dense urban landscape is visible, with numerous skyscrapers and residential buildings illuminated by the setting sun. The foreground shows a mix of high-rise apartment blocks and commercial structures, with some green spaces and roads visible.

- Dubai Airport Free Zone Authority (DAFZA)
- Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC)
- Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority (JAFZA)
- Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC)
- Dubai Internet City (DIC)
- Dubai CommerCity



# NON-DUBAI

An aerial photograph of a long, straight, multi-lane highway cutting through a vast desert landscape. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow over the scene. The highway has multiple lanes in both directions, separated by a central median. The surrounding terrain is sandy with sparse, low-lying vegetation. In the distance, some industrial or commercial buildings are visible on the right side of the road.

- Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone (ADAFZ)
- Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone (RAKEZ)
- Fujairah Free Zone (FFZ)
- Sharjah Airport International Free Zone

# PROCESS

SELECT BUSINESS ACTIVITY

SELECT ENTITY AND SUBMIT DOCUMENTS

CHOOSE COMPANY NAME

OBTAIN INITIAL APPROVALS

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY APPROVALS\*

RECEIVE LICENSE





# Freelancing in the UAE

**THANK YOU**  
Questions?