Tulpar Global Taxation

Tax & Business Briefing

Q2 - 2026

TAX INSIGHTS

COMPLIANCE DEADLINES

BUSINESS OUTLOOK

REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

Including Ras Al Khaimah opportunities

Key tax, complaince and business development for UAE decision-makers

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Q2 2026

EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

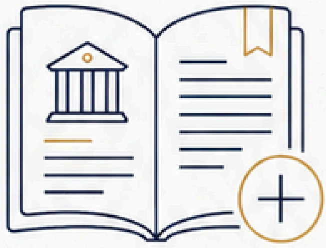
Tax Insights

01 FTA annual report shows continued growth in UAE tax activity

The FTA reported AED 46 billion in VAT and Excise Tax revenues collected in 2025, around 1.7M tax registration transactions, and more than 245,000 Corporate Tax registration applications completed. This reflects the continued expansion of the UAE tax system and the growing compliance base across the market

02 Corporate Tax guidance expanded during Q2

The FTA issued new Corporate Tax materials in June 2026, including Basic Tax Information Bulletin – Corporate Tax Losses and Taxation of Family Foundations | CTGFF1. These updates are relevant for businesses reviewing tax losses, group structures, family wealth arrangements, holding entities, and foundation structures.



03 FTA issues Education Sector VAT Guide VATGED1

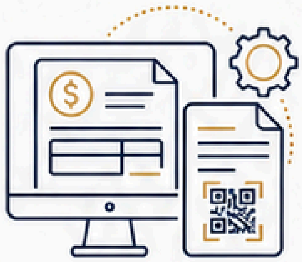
The FTA issued the Education Sector VAT Guide | VATGED1 in June 2026. The guide explains the VAT treatment of educational services, related goods and services, zero-rating conditions, specific education-sector supplies, funding arrangements and input tax recovery.

04 FTA updates VAT Refund Guide for UAE nationals building new residences

The FTA issued the updated VAT Refund for UAE Nationals Building New Residences Guide | VATGRH1 in June 2026. The guide outlines the VAT refund process, eligible expenses and applicable conditions for UAE nationals constructing new residences.

05 E-invoicing moved further into implementation planning

The Ministry of Finance announced targeted amendments to the UAE e-invoicing system decisions, including an extension of the ASP appointment timeline for larger businesses. This confirms that e-invoicing is now moving from policy planning into practical business implementation.



H2 2026 Deadline Heatmap

Key UAE filing and implementation dates businesses should track now

15 July 2026	Exise return filing deadline	High
28 July 2026	VAT return filing deadline	High
30 September 2026	Corporate Tax filing and payment deadline for businesses with a 31 December 2025 year-end	Critical
30 October 2026	E-invoicing ASP appointment deadline for businesses with annual revenue of AED 50 million or more	Critical
1 January 2027	Mandatory e-invoicing implementation for AED 50 million+ businesses	Implementation

Why this matters

- Deadlines now require earlier data readiness
- Late preparation increases filing and control risk
- e-invoicing is a finance transformation issue, not only a tax issue

Tulpar can support with

Filing calendars | Record reviews | Corporate Tax preparation | E-invoicing readiness | Process alignments

Business Outlook

UAE Market Conditions

Q2 2026 showed that the UAE remains a strong market for investors, business owners, family offices and international groups, but the operating environment becahse more selective. Regional conflict and maritime-ruote disruption affected trade flows, delivery timelines, logistics costs, insurance costs and business sentiment across parts of the private sector.

The Central Bank of the UAE's June 2026 review projected UAE real GDP growth at 1.7% for 2026, reflecting temporary moderation in both hydrocarbon and non-hydrocarbon sectors. The same review noted that the economy remains supported by fiscal strength, public investment and diversification projects.

Private-sector activity also remained in expansion, although with visible pressure. The UAE non-oil PMI reached 52.6 in May 2026, staying above the 50-point expansion threshold, while regional conflict and Strait of Hormuz disruption weighed on output, new business and export orders. Input delivery delays were reported as the most severe since April 2020.

For high-net-worth investors and business owners, the message is clear: the UAE opportunity remains strong, but the quality of structuring now matters more. Company setup, licensing, tax registration, accounting, banking, beneficial ownership, AML exposure and cross-border substance should not be treated as separate steps. A structure that is fast to open but weak for banking, tax filing or regulatory review may create avoidable risk later.

Q2 2026 AT A GLANCE

1.7%

Projected UAE real GDP growth for 2026

Source: Central Bank of the UAE

52.6

UAE non-oil PMI in May 2026

Source: S&P Global / Reuters

Q2 2026 SIGNAL

Resilient market, but more selective business environment

> The UAE remains attractive, but investors now need structures that can operate, bank, comply and grow.

Digital Assets, Crypto & Tokenisation

DIGITAL ASSETS, CRYPTO & TOKENISATION

Digital assets remained a visible UAE business opportunity during Q1 and Q2 2026, even as regional uncertainty affected parts of the wider market. Reusters reported that UAE crypto firms remained resilient during the conflict environment supported by cloud-based infrastructure, virtual marketplaces and distributed operating models. At the same time, the sector was not completely isolated from regional risk, with some events affected by uncertainty.

The opportunity is no longer limited to cryptocurrency trading. Tokenisation is becoming a major GCC growth theme, with Kearnez and Ctrl Alt estimating a nearlz USD 500 billion tokenisation opportunitz across the GCC by 2030. Their 2026 analysis also highlighted Dubai's real estate tokenisation initiative, targeting AED 60 billion in tokenised real estate assets by 2033.

For the UAE specifically, this makes digital assets relevant beyond crypto trading, especially across real estate, funds, private markets, commodities, equities, treasury products and investment structures.

USD 500 BN

Estimated GCC tokenisation opportunity by 2030

Source: Kearney & Ctrl Alt Report 2026

AED 60 BN

Dubai real estate tokenisation target by 2033

Source: Kearney & Ctrl Alt Report 2026

LICENSING ROUTES – KEY MARKET REALITY

A key market issue is that many investors still assume every crypto-related business must follow one licensing route. In practice, the UAE market is broader than that. The correct setup depends on the exact activity: whether the business is proprietory or client-facing, whether third-party assets are handled, whether it provides regulated virtual asset services, and whether the activity is technology-led or financial-service-led.

Crypto and Web3 setup routes in the UAE are therefore broader and more accessible than many investors realise. Selected free zone routes may support non-regulated digital asset activities such as crypto software development, consultancy and trading, while regulated virutal asset services require the appropriate regulatory approval. The value for investors is not simply "getting a crypto licence": it is choosing the correct UAE route from the beginning: activity classification, licence category, tax position, banking plan, AML framework and future regulatory pathway.

TULPAR'S VIEW

For Tulpar Global Taxation, the opportunity is not only establishing a crypto-related business. It is helping clients determine the right route from the outset and connecting setup with tax, accounting, VAT, Corporate Tax, AML, crypto compliance, banking readiness and free zone structuring. The objective is to build a UAE structure that is practical and ready for growth.

Regulatory Developments

Global Tax Transparency & Reporting Standards

01

Pillar Two / UAE Domestic Minimum Top-Up Tax (DMTT)

The UAE Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax applies to UAE entities that are part of multinational enterprise groups with annual consolidated global revenue of EUR 750 million or more in two financial years immediately preceding the relevant financial year. The regime aligns the UAE with the OECD Pillar Two framework and is designed to ensure a minimum effective tax rate of 15% where applicable. It applies for financial years starting on or after 1 January 2025.

Relevant for: multinational groups, UAE holding companies, Free Zone entities within large international structures, regional headquarters and cross-border groups

02

CARF - Crypto-Asset-Reporting-Framework

The UAE has signed the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement for the automatic exchange of information under the Crypto-Asset-Reporting-Framerwork (CARF). CARF is expected to be implemented from January 2027. The framework is designed to increase tax transparency for crypto-asset transactions and reporting across participating jurisdictions.

Relevant for: crypto investors, exchanges, brokers, custodians, payment service providers, DeFi platforms and Web3 businesses operating in or through the UAE

03

CRS 2.0

The UAE has also commited to implement the updated Common Reporting Standard (CRS 2.0) from 1 January 2027, with first exchanges expected in 2028. The updated standard expands reporting to areas such as electronic money, central bank digital currencies and certain crypto-asset-related activities.

Relevant for: financial institutions, investment structures, HNW clients, family offices and cross-border account holders

Tulpar's Regulatory View

The UAE remains commercially attractice but global reporting standards are becoming more connected. For internationally exposed clients, the key issue is no longer only tax filing - it is whether ownership, banking, crypto activity, cross-border structures and reporting positions are aligned and explainable.

Strategic Opportunities

Selected emirate opportunities and free zone positioning

Abu Dhabi

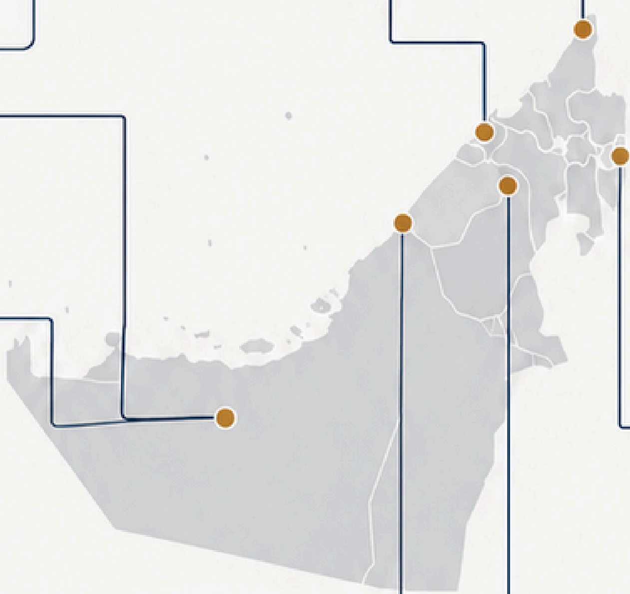
- **ADGM:** finance, funds, family offices, fintech
- **KIZAD:** industrial, logistics, manufacturing
- **Positioning:** strong for institutional and capital-intensive structures

Umm Al Quwain

- **UAQ Free Trade Zone:** consulting, e-commerce, trading
- **Positioning:** low cost set-up route for lean business models

Ras Al Khaimah ★

- **Innovation City:** AI, Web3, blockchain, gaming, robotics, healthtech
- **RAKEZ:** trade, industrial, consulting and scalable SME setup
- **Positioning:** emerging strategic hub for digital assets and future-focused businesses
- **Note:** standout option for founders seeking practical UAE setup routes beyond the most commonly discussed licensing pathways



Dubai

- **DIFC:** wealth, funds, family business, financial services
- **DMCC:** global trade, commodities, blockchain ecosystem
- **Positioning:** strongest for regional headquarters and international market access

Fujairah

- **Fujairah Free Zone / Creative / City:** logistics, shipping-linked business. media
- **Positioning:** useful east-coast trade and niche media setup base

Sharjah

- **SAIF Zone / Hamriyah:** logistics, manufacturing, trading
- **SHAMS:** media, creative, digital businesses
- **Positioning:** efficient for SME's and light industry

Ajmah

- **Ajman Free Zone:** SME's, trading, e-commerce, light manufacturing
- **Positioning:** cost-efficient entry point for small and mid-sized businesses

Tulpar's Opportunity View

The UAE opportunity is increasingly emirate-specific. The right jurisdiction depends on the business model, licencing scope, investor profile, banking strategy, tax position and growth plan. For digital assets and innovation-led ventures, Ras Al Khaimah is becoming one of the most strategically relevant jurisdictions to watch.

Advisory Engagements

Confidential support for UAE tax, structuring and market-entry decisions

Tulpar Global Taxation supports private clients, founders, family offices, investors and international businesses with UAE tax, compliance, business setup, and structuring advisory. With offices across four emirates and strategic relationships in key jurisdictions, we help clients evaluate the right licencing route, tax positioning, banking readiness and compliance framework before entering or expanding in the UAE.

Why clients engage Tulpar

Integrated advisory

Corporate Tax, VAT, transfer pricing, accounting, AML / crypto complaince and business setup support aligned in one structure.

Four-emirate presence

Client support across Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman and Ras Al Khaimah for practical, UAE-wide execution.

Strategic Relationships

Access to RAK ICC, Innovation City, SAIF Zone, Ajman Free Zone, IFZA, Dubai Chambers and a wider business council network supporting market entry and structuring decisions.

High-touch client support

Advisory suited to private clients, family offices, international groups and growth-focused businesses.

UAE Presence

Dubai Headquarters
Aspect Tower - Office No. 2206,
Zone B Bay Avenue, Business Bay,
Dubai, UAE

Sharjah SAIF Zone Branch
Building Y - Office No. 32,
Sharjah International Airport -
SAIF Zone

Ajman Free Zone Branch
Executive Office - 317, Building
A1, Ajman Free Zone, UAE

Ras Al Khaimah Office
Office A, Innovation City Business
Centre, RAK Bank ROC Office, Ground
Floor, Ras Al Khaimah

Confidential advisory enquiries

info@tulpartax.com | www.tulpartax.com | +971 54 444 5124 | +971 52 508 8249 | (04) 553 6407