



Regulating Big Data in Dubai Free Trade Zones: Security, Privacy and Smart City Governance

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The New Urban Utopias of the 21st

- Knowing what is going on in the city
- Individuals' engagement
- Quality of life
- Scientific research



Leading Global Smart City

Smart Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More innovation and opportunity with new smart business initiatives and developing a data-driven economy (financially providing startups with \$545 million secured fund).
Smart Mobility and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishing a unified platform that links all transportation system components.
Smart Information Communication Technologies (ICT):	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhancing city efficiency with smart utilities services and 250,000 smart meters are made to ease data collection.
Smart Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting citizens to buy zero emission electric cars, by distributing 100 green vehicle charging stations all over Dubai.
Smart Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulating data in a way that improves collaboration between public and private sectors.
Smart Living	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving city connectedness to simplify living condition. It also has begun creating Smart Home and smart technology applications.



Governance of Big Data – Policy Instruments

- Public Ownership and Management
- Regulation
- Incentives
- Informational or educational campaigns



Dubai Data Law - "Dubai Data" owned by the Government

- Data with Commercial Sensitivity.
- Personal Data.
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).
- Open or Shared Data.



Dubai Data Law

- Regulating data dissemination and exchange in the Emirate of Dubai.
- Managing and determine the way big data can be used by different entities and parties, including FTZs and smart city applications.
- Categorizing Dubai Data as being either Open or Shared



Dubai Data Manual

- Rules, standards, forms, and procedures regulating the dissemination, exchange, and protection of Dubai Data,
- Identifies the ways in which government's entities have to deal with their data, in compliance with the government liabilities to develop user-centric and data-driven services



Dubai Free Trade Zones (DFTZs)

- Geographically-restricted
- Located within a country,
- Provides exemption from import and export duties,
- Liberal regulatory regime, and/or tax and other incentives,
- Barrier-free environment that encourages business to increase imports to, exports from, and/or manufacturing in the host country



The Banking Sector in Dubai FTZs

- Dubai is a financial hub since the emergence of the Dubai International Financial Center (DIFC) in 2005.
- International and domestic banks are operating in the UAE benefiting from the wide range of banking facilities introduced for foreign investors
- Credit facilities, excellent liquidity, modern technologies and strong regulatory systems are compliant with the liberal economic policies.
- Second largest banking sector in the GCC.
- Financial services make 8.6% of the country GDP
- Foreign banks with over 100 branches around the country.



FTZs Big Data Limitations and Restrictions

- Governmental legislation (Law No.26 of 2015) permits non-confidential Dubai data/information sharing among entities including FTZs.
- Number of limitations regarding the transfer of information (customer data, employee files, financial records or other information) from within its jurisdiction into outside the DIFC, despite that this limitations is made to manage and handle personal data and protecting individual right of privacy in other words this law aims to ensure that sensitive details of persons is guarded from being accessed by unauthorized entity/person and compromise the Privacy right of data.
- The prohibition of transferring data to jurisdictions who have less stringent regulations, including those of the UAE outside FTZs (in accordance with DIFC Data Protection Legislation).



Recommendation

To encourage the use of multiple policy instruments that reinforce and complement each other in order to bridge any legislative gap and avoid unintended consequences,

To create attractive legislative environments to the FTZs residents and financial stakeholders in specific , by:

- More accurate FTZs related regulations and policies to control the big data in these important zones.
- Solving the legislative gap regarding the obligations that affect financial personal data confidentiality.
- Consider the special nature of these zones as they are investment attraction regions.
- Be in compliance with the international jurisdictions laws with a special regard to foreigners data confidentiality.