

Press Release

## **ADU and the Authority of Social Contribution - Ma'an Launch Pioneering Funding Initiative to Drive Long-Term Social Impact Across the UAE**

**UAE, Abu Dhabi, 13 March 2025:** In line with the UAE's 'Year of Community' initiative to create inclusive spaces for collaboration and belonging, [Abu Dhabi University \(ADU\)](#) has concluded the first phase of the community-funded building in the Al Mafraq area in partnership with [the Authority of Social Contribution – Ma'an](#). Covering an area of 4,300 m<sup>2</sup>, this initiative will empower and support deserving and outstanding students throughout their academic journey.

At 30 percent completion, the milestone was attended by Professor Ghassan Aouad, Chancellor of ADU, H.E. Abdullah Al Ameri, Director General of the Authority of Social Contribution - Ma'an, and H.E. Faisal Al Hmoudi, Executive Director of the Social Investment Fund at the Authority of Social Contribution - Ma'an, with the presence of prominent representatives from both entities.

Through this initiative, the building will feature six shops, 16 offices, four warehouses and a marketplace. ADU will lease the building to community members, supporting local business growth. Furthermore, a proportion of rental revenue will be dedicated to support student financing through scholarships

**[Professor Ghassan Aouad, Chancellor of Abu Dhabi University \(ADU\)](#), said:** "This project represents a significant milestone in ADU's commitment to fostering a culture of giving and creating a lasting positive impact in the UAE and beyond. Through collaborating with the Authority of Social Contribution - Ma'an, we are investing in future leaders, expanding educational accessibility and advancing the nation's knowledge-based economy. This initiative aligns with the UAE's Year of Community, showcasing higher education's pivotal role in driving social inclusion and economic improvement, further cementing ADU's position as a leading hub for academic excellence and talent development in the country."

This building is part of the Authority's recently launched 'From The Community To The Community' initiative, in which a label is placed on key community-driven projects across the city to foster a culture of giving in Abu Dhabi and acts as a physical tribute to the collective community efforts, demonstrating the power of unity.

**His Excellency Faisal Alhmoudi, Executive Director of the Social Investment Fund at the Authority of Social Contribution – Ma'an, said:** This partnership with ADU underscores our dedication to channeling community contributions towards the city's key social priorities in various sectors, including education. We are committed to raising the deploying funds to partner-led projects to amplify the impact on the community.

We are proud to empower the students of our city, providing them with enhanced educational opportunities that pave the way for a brighter future," H.E. added.

The collaboration between ADU and the Authority of Social Contribution - Ma'an highlights the power of strategic partnerships in driving innovative solutions for social impact. The projects align with ADU's goals of launching CSR initiatives, including scholarship programs and community service projects, that advance the UAE's educational landscape. In addition to fostering community development and contributing to the nation's strategic educational goals.

Connecting the government, private entities, social enterprises, and non-profits, the Authority raises and transparently deploys funds to partners to support projects that directly impact the community, aimed at driving drive community engagement and build a culture of giving to contribute to social development in Abu Dhabi.

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