

### 1. What is the Middle East?

The Middle East is a **region** consisting of countries in south-west Asia and part of north Africa.

It shares **physical characteristics** such as mountains, rivers, seas and climate. It shares **human characteristics** such as language, religion and historical past. It is an **arid region** meaning it receives very little rainfall.



The **largest country** in The Middle East is **Saudi Arabia**, and the

**smallest country** is **Bahrain**.

Countries that make up The Middle East are Syria, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen, Egypt, Cyprus, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

### 2. How has Dubai developed?

- In the 1950s, Dubai was a small fishing and trading port.
- However, its **location** linked it to everywhere in the world.
- **Oil was discovered in 1966**, and it was removed from the ground and stored in barrels.
- The discovery of oil led to the **oil industry developing** and the arrival of **new workers** to help find and sell it – the city grew very fast.
- The **money from the oil** helped build the new roads, schools and hospitals needed for the workers.
- In 1979, Dubai was made a **free trade zone** – companies from anywhere in the world could move to Dubai to make money.
- **Tourists** began to visit which boosted the economy.
- In 2005, only 17% of Dubai's money came from oil.
- Dubai is now a place for technology with companies such as Microsoft moving here.

#### Sustainable Development:



Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

### 3. Is development in Dubai sustainable?

**Yes** – Dubai could develop renewable energy such as solar power to become the world's wealthiest and powerful city.

**No** – Their oil supply is finite which could lead to a wasteland of abandoned skyscrapers.

#### Environmental Impacts



-A **heavy reliance** on air-conditioning and desalinated water to survive.  
 -33 million cubic metres of sand and shell from the seabed have been dredged to make islands. This has led to corals being covered and ocean currents to change which has **disrupted sea life**.

-**Air pollution** from traffic congestion  
 +New dive sites for tourists improving knowledge of marine ecosystems

#### Economic Impacts



+ Dubai has an international airport and its own airline which brings in tourists from around the world.  
 + Tourists visit to see The Burj, the world's largest shopping centres and

luxury hotels.

+ High-tech Industry.

+ Free Trade Zone encourages investment and creates jobs

- Increased cost of living

#### Social Impacts



-Increase in waste due to increase in tourists and population.

-Overcrowding/traffic congestion.

- Cultural clashes

#### 4. What is migration?

**Migration:** The permanent movement of people from one place to another.

**Migrant:** A person who moves from one place to another to live.

**Migrant Crisis:** The movement of vast numbers of migrants across Europe.

**Refugee:** A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution or natural disaster.

**Asylum Seeker:** A person who has left their home country as a political refugee and is seeking asylum (safety and refuge) in another country.



The **war in Syria** is causing people to leave Syria in search of a better, safer life.

There are two popular routes migrants take to get from Syria to Europe:

1. Across **Turkey** by land to mainland Europe. This is a dangerous route taking many refugees through 8 countries – crossing borders, seas, boarding public transport, walking, entering refugee camps and risking imprisonment.
2. Across the **Mediterranean Sea** into Greece. If refugees don't seek asylum or are denied, they are returned to Turkey. From Greece many move on to western and northern Europe

#### 5. Why are people leaving Syria?



- A war has broken out due to people fighting with the government.
- More than 5 million people have been affected.
- Millions do not have much food, water or health care.

- They are choosing to leave their livelihoods behind in search of a safer place to live in Europe.
- Many Syrians pay large sums of money to travel across the Mediterranean Sea in overcrowded dinghies which often capsize.
- These dinghies have a shortage of life vests and many people cannot swim.
- This journey is dangerous, and many lose their lives.
- There has officially been 33,631 deaths recorded in the Mediterranean, including 2,469 in 2019



#### 6. What is life like in a refugee camp?

About **5.6 million** Syrians are **refugees**, and another 6.2 million people are displaced within Syria. Nearly 12 million people in Syria need humanitarian assistance. At least half of the people affected by the Syrian refugee crisis are children.

The majority of Syria's refugees have fled — by land and sea — across borders to neighbouring countries but remain in the Middle East.

Life in refugee camps can be hard as there are often:

1. **Home-made shelters**

– sometimes they can have no roof and therefore do not provide cover for when bad weather arises



2. **Lack of basic food** and clothing

3. **No blankets**, only pillows

4. **No toys** to play with

5. The toilets are of **poor quality** – lack of running water



6. The **water supply** is poor quality

7. Makeshift schools are **overcrowded**

8. There is a **lack of jobs**

9. **Inadequate**

**medical care** due to a lack of hospitals and medical centres.



But there is no war – so children feel safer.

7. What is life like in Qatar?



- The country lies on a peninsula in the **Persian Gulf**.
- It has one **land border** with Saudi Arabia
- Qatar is the **richest country in the world** due to mineral resources such as oil and natural gas – it has the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest gas reserves globally.
- 14% of the population are millionaires – but this does not mean the money is spread evenly in Qatar, many people do not get a fair wage.
- It has a hot desert climate with temperatures reaching more than 40°C in

summer.

- By 2022, **climate change** is expected to increase day time temperatures by 1.5°C
- There is a **limited natural water** supply and therefore only 5% of the land is used for agriculture or crop farming such as date palm plantations. This means that most food has to be imported creating a huge carbon footprint.
- The Qatari people are mainly Muslims and the Sharia law followed in the country allows stoning and whipping to take place as legal punishment.
- Tourists are expected to dress modestly, like the Qatari people.

8. How will hosting the World Cup affect Qatar 2022?

There is a plan to build 9 new stadiums for the World Cup. This will create many **opportunities**:



Environmental

Using **solar power** could increase the use of renewable energy across The Middle East therefore putting



**less reliance on fossil fuels** which are damaging the environment

Social



**Jobs** have been provided due to the increase in **tourism** in shops and hotels, and due to **construction** of buildings and preparation of the World Cup, increases quality of life.



**Sharing of cultures** promotes cohesion.

Economic



More **jobs** means more money for people. Provide more jobs so **more tax** is being generated for the country. This enables the government to invest in infrastructure, medical care and education.

Increase of **tourism** leads to more investment, more money being generated through hotels, restaurants and other tourist facilities which generates more tax.



9. What are the negative impacts of Qatar hosting the World Cup?

Creating new infrastructure and the construction of new stadiums also creates

Environmental



- extreme heat creates dangerous in working conditions and has led to some migrant workers dying on the job.
- increased demand for water and air conditioning causing increased use of energy.



Social

- migrant workers are exploited – 12 to 14 people stay in one room in overcrowded conditions



- migrant workers can become ill due to a lack of nutritious food.
- migrant workers can't

leave the country unless their bosses say they can.

This is known as **forced labour**.

- migrant workers have very little access to food, water and clothing

Economic



- migrant workers are poorly paid.
- some migrant workers are refused pay altogether.
- the family the migrant workers leave behind are often left in more debt and poverty than before the men leave to work due to the costs involved.
- increased cost of electricity and water supply