

**The College of Graduate Studies and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Cordially Invite You to a
Master Thesis Defense**

Entitled

*SUSTAINING PARTNERSHIPS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: A CASE
STUDY IN MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE*

by

Fatema Alblooshi

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Abdulfattah Yaghi

College of Government and Society

Date & Venue

10:00- 11:30 Am

Monday, 12 February 2024

H1- 1116

Abstract

Sustainability of Partnerships: Case Study from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Abstract Governance has become one of the most crucial focuses for organizations in recent times, as it plays a significant role in shaping internal and external operational systems at various levels within institutions, organizations, and countries. Governance represents an effective and integrated framework, incorporating best practices that enhance the achievement and sustainability of organizational goals by improving decision-making methods. The aim of this study is to discuss the mechanisms of governance and their impact on the sustainability of partnerships established by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the United Arab Emirates. This is achieved by addressing the following study questions: 1- What is the nature of the governance system applied by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in UAE to sustain its partnerships with other entities, from the perspective of decisionmakers within the ministry? 2- What are the determinants, goals, and tools of the UAE's foreign policy towards the governance of partnership sustainability, as perceived by decision-makers in the ministry? 3- What are the decision-making and implementation mechanisms within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the governance of partnership sustainability? 4- What is the level of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' possession of partnership sustainability governance? 5- Is there an impact of governance mechanisms (participation, accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, legislative quality, rule of law) on partnership sustainability within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the UAE according to decisionmakers in the ministry? To answer these questions, the researcher designed a specific questionnaire covering aspects of personal and job-related analysis for the study participants, including gender, age group, educational qualification, job level, and years of experience. The questionnaire also covered governance mechanisms with their dimensions (participation, accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, legislative quality, rule of law), and partnership sustainability with its dimensions (importance of partnership sustainability, requirements of partnership sustainability, barriers to partnership sustainability) within the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The questionnaire was distributed to a convenient random sample of 139 decision-making managers working in areas related to partnerships between the ministry and other entities. Using a quantitative approach (descriptive analysis) and the statistical analysis program SPSS, the study found the following results: - The reality of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' implementation of governance mechanisms with their dimensions (participation, accountability, government effectiveness, political stability, legislative quality, rule of law) was at a high level to achieve partnership sustainability with various sectors and organizations. - The study results indicated that governance mechanisms with their dimensions (participation, accountability, government effectiveness, political stability, legislative 9 quality, rule of law) have an impact on the importance of partnership sustainability and its requirements and barriers within the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. - The study results showed a statistically significant impact of governance mechanisms, with their dimensions (participation, accountability, government effectiveness, political stability, legislative quality, rule of law), on partnership sustainability with its dimensions (importance of partnership sustainability, requirements of partnership sustainability, barriers to partnership sustainability), where governance mechanisms explained 70.2%. In light of the results, the study recommends paying attention to governance mechanisms and building clear plans to improve partnership sustainability in the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It also suggests conducting further studies related to governance mechanisms due to their importance in organizational performance.

Keywords: Governance mechanisms, sustainability of partnerships, institutional governance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, United Arab Emirates