

Abu Dhabi is region's leading light

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Abu Dhabi is set to be the leading real estate market in the region, according to a new report 'Focus On Abu Dhabi', published this April.

Investor sentiment, foreign direct investment figures and expert opinion all support the view that the Abu Dhabi property market is one of the most buoyant in the region and well placed to withstand the global financial crisis.

The 'Focus On' report, second to be published in a series by Cityscape Intelligence, contains highlights of the recent Jones Lang LaSalle investor sentiment study, exclusive foreign direct investment data from fDi Markets from the Financial Times as well as interviews with leading developers.

Oil wealth, a balanced growth rate and a relative undersupply in housing and other asset classes combined to make Abu Dhabi the most attractive investment environment in the region, according to the report.

The latest figures released by fDi Markets show that the UAE has attracted double the number of FDI projects in Jan 2009 (50 FDI projects) when compared to the same month in 2008.

As well as offering promising investment opportunities in real estate, Abu Dhabi is set to continue its role as a leading force in the development of renewable energy.

In an interview with Cityscape Intelligence, Masdar CEO Dr Sultan Al Jaber said: "In January this year the government of Abu Dhabi announced its own commitment to the adoption of renewable energy, and will soon publish a comprehensive energy policy that includes a pledge that by 2020, renewable energy sources will account for at least 7 percent of the Emirate's total power generation capacity. "

"Masdar estimates this commitment will create a renewable energy market valued at US\$6-8 billion in the Emirate, creating business opportunities for local and international companies."

(Cityscape Intelligence)