



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
& ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

Industrial Investment Opportunities



Plant-based Alternative Proteins

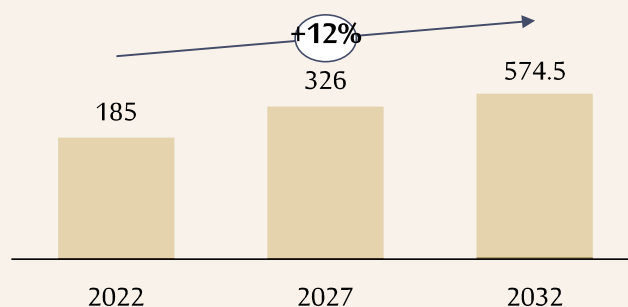
Plant-based Protein Production

Plant-based protein production involves the growing and processing of high protein crops (Soyabeans and Legumes) feedstock through extraction, formulation and texturization, with meat alternatives and oils as by-products

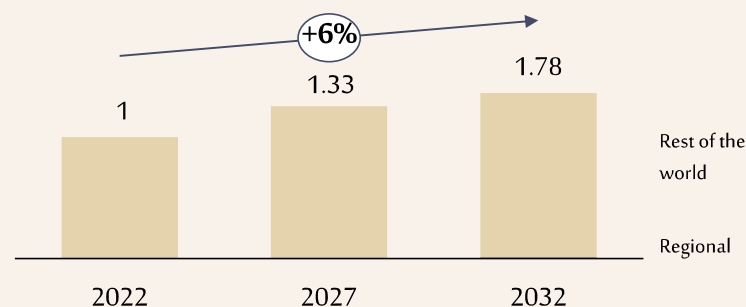
Investment case

- Setup large scale plant-based protein production plant in the UAE
- Investment size = AED 156 Mn
- Plant capacity = 40,000T per year
- Expected IRR = 19%
- Expected NPV = AED 286.8 Mn

Global Market Size 2022 – 2032 (Bn AED)



Regional Market Size 2022 – 2032 (Bn AED)

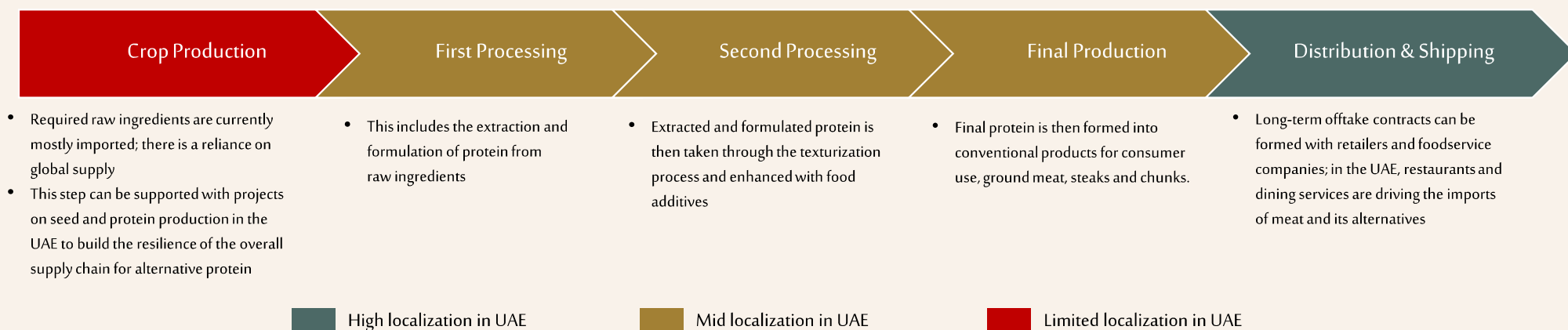


Global trends & demand drivers

- High prevalence of non-communicable diseases coupled with high income levels makes the UAE and broader GCC region prime markets for plant-based protein products
- New consumer trials in plant-based products in the past few years showcase increasing consumption of plant-based products.
- Increased adoption of preferential diets (vegetarians, vegans, pescatarians...etc.) is expected to drive growth of plant-based protein markets over the coming few years.
- Environmental awareness is shifting consumer behavior and consequently increasing demand for products that can be associated with lower carbon emissions such as plant-based meat.
- High prevalence of obesity, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes within the GCC region are considered key demand drivers for alternative protein solutions, as they offer a healthier, cholesterol-free alternative.
- Relative high-income rates and purchasing power positions the GCC as a prime market for alternative protein solutions.

Plant-based Protein Production

Value Chain Analysis



Value proposition

- High prevalence of non-communicable diseases coupled with high income levels makes the UAE and broader GCC region prime markets for plant-based protein products
- The production of plant-based meat has a 75% conversion rate compared to 20-25% in traditional meat processing; reducing waste within the food industry
- Plant-based protein production requires 10 times less water than that of traditional protein sources, making it suitable for UAE's conditions
- The production plant can strengthen UAE's meat supply chain resilience in the case of any market disruption and improving the overall food national security
- Plant-based protein is significantly more cost-effective compared to other alternative proteins (cultured meat) and complies with the regional religious and cultural norms
- The UAE has the potential to be the regional leader in sustainable alternative food production by being a first mover in entering this market

Enabling Entities

- Food Tech Valley:** Home to four key clusters: agricultural technology and engineering, a food innovation centre, R&D facilities, and an advanced smart food logistics hub
- Abu Dhabi Investment Office:** Offers financial support (rebates on investments, key cost centres, innovation cost, utility costs) and non-financial support (land location, regulatory and strategic advice)
- F&B Business Group:** Facilitates engagement on potential partnerships and distribution contracts with different players
- EDB:** Competitive debt pricing will help lower WACC and in return improve Internal Rate of Return and pay back period
- MolAT:** Collaborating with the relevant federal and local entities to further enable this investment opportunity