



New Year, new horizons. HSBC reveals the best places for a career abroad

- 94% of expats in Oman say they receive benefits as part of their employment packages
- HSBC's Expat Careers tool can help those seeking an international career to find the place that best meets their career ambitions

Muscat, January 2017 - In its ninth edition, HSBC Expat Explorer, "Achieving ambitions abroad", examined the responses of nearly 27,000 expats from across the world to assess their views towards their careers in their host countries. In particular, the new data examines the views of people towards their host countries across eight categories: chances to acquire new skills; work-life balance; work culture; career progression; fulfilling work; benefits packages; and earnings prospects.

Oman's overall score average has improved from 50% in 2015 to 51.2% in 2016 indicating the continually improving work environment for people in Oman. When it comes to work life balance 67.6% of the expats in Oman stated that they have a better work life balance compared to 64% in 2015.

The Middle East and Africa region led the way in the benefits packages offered with Saudi Arabia (95%), Egypt (94%), Oman (94%), Kenya (93%), and UAE (93%) making up the top five countries where the highest proportion of expats say they receive benefits as part of their employment packages. According to the survey, over 9 in 10 expats (91%) living in the Middle East receive at least one benefit as part of their contracts, compared to the global average of 67%.

Expats have recognised the UAE as the 4th best destination globally for an international career. Switzerland, Germany and Sweden were respectively the top destinations for a career abroad.

Top 10 destinations for a successful expat career	2016 Rank	2015 Rank
Switzerland	1	1
Germany	2	3
Sweden	3	2
United Arab Emirates	4	6
Norway	5	-
Singapore	6	5
Austria	7	-
Hong Kong	8	8

United Kingdom	9	18
Bahrain	10	7

Commenting on the findings, Abdul-Qader Al Sumali, GM and Head of Retail Banking and Wealth Management in HSBC Bank Oman, said: “With the beginning of the New Year alot of people have new resolutions in their lives, and many start considering a career abroad to achieve their career ambitions and personal goals. The Expat Careers tool is there to help them find the place that best meets their ambitions.”

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Notes to the editor:

About the Expat Explorer survey and country league table

An expatriate is defined as anyone over 18 years old, currently living away from their country of origin/home country

The Expat Explorer survey was completed by 26,871 expats from 190 countries through an online questionnaire in March and April 2016.

A minimum sample of 100 expat respondents and at least 30 expat parents is required for a country to be included in the league tables, with 45 countries qualifying in 2016.

About HSBC Expat

HSBC Expat is a trading name of HSBC Bank International Limited. HSBC Expat is an award winning provider of expat financial services, with its head office based in Jersey, Channel Islands. It also has representation in Dubai and Hong Kong. As part of HSBC Holdings plc, HSBC Expat has the experience to offer tailored financial solutions to customers living and working abroad. For more information visit: www.expats.hsbc.com.

HSBC in Oman

HSBC in Oman is represented by HSBC Bank Oman S.A.O.G. which was formed in June 2012 after Oman International Bank S.A.O.G. merged with HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd.’s operations in Oman. HSBC Holdings plc owns 51% of the combined entity through its indirect wholly owned subsidiary HSBC Middle East Holdings BV. Today, HSBC Bank Oman S.A.O.G. is the second largest local Omani bank in terms of branch network and the largest internationally connected financial institution in the Sultanate.

HSBC in the MENA Region

HSBC is the largest and most widely represented international banking organisation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), with a presence in 9 countries across the region. HSBC has operations in the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon and Algeria. In Saudi Arabia, HSBC is a 40% shareholder of Saudi British Bank (SABB), and a 49% shareholder of HSBC Saudi Arabia for investment banking in the Kingdom.

This presence, the widest reach of any bank in the region, comprises some 250 offices and around 11,000 employees. In first half of 2016, HSBC in the MENA region made a profit before tax of US\$ 985m.

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