Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum (MBRF) has reported record-breaking success in 2014, with the launch of a number of key projects. The achievements during the year were marked with the directions of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to enhance the value of knowledge in the UAE and the region to achieve prosperity and happiness for the people.

The First Knowledge Conference 2014 organized from December 8 to 9, was the most notable achievement of the year for the Foundation. The event, which was the first of its kind in the region, attracted wide participation from international and regional influencers and thought leaders.

The event saw the launch of Arab Knowledge Index, an indicator that monitors the status of knowledge in the Arab world on an annual basis.

The conference caught attention with the launch of the first Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Award, which is the highest award of its kind in the world, aiming to raise awareness about the importance of the preservation and transfer of knowledge and the development and prosperity of the peoples.

The first award was shared between Nabil Al Rashed for his work in the World Wide Web and Jimmy Wales, co-founder and promoter of Wikipedia.

In another notable achievement during the year, MBRF completed the completion of the preparatory phase and the launch of the 'Narrative,' authored by Dr. Abdalrahmahn Ismaileh, an Iraqi critic and professor who has specialized in narrative studies, literature, and media in the region. The second edition of the Sheikh Zayed Book Award in 2013. Comprising eight volumes, the encyclopedia contains critical data on the development of the narrative genre of Arab literature and its salient features.

In the year, MBRF launched a new logo for its House of Poetry, an important hub for cultural and literary activities in Dubai. The House of Poetry features a comprehensive library containing collections of poetry, analytical works and translations as well as a modern studio equipped with an audio library and recording equipment.

During the year, MBRF established Giroud Printing and Publishing Services as one of its investment projects to create a world leader in the provision of printing and publishing services. Giroud publishes books, magazines, and journals in Arabic and other languages which encourage learning, knowledge and development. Giroud also offers a wide range of services to the print and publishing sectors including accepting and providing large orders for machinery, materials, and logistical support.

In a unique effort to empower young writers and authors from the UAE and the Arab world, MBRF announced during the year the official launch of the first phase of its Arabic International Program for Writing (AIPW).

The program, organized in September, featured a training workshop on novel writing by Lebanese novelist Najwa Barakat, and was attended by eight Emirati talents. MBRF launched "The Knowledge Page" initiative, in partnership with the Al Ittihad newspaper, showcasing articles and opinion pieces on culture as well as best practices in science by some of the most famous Arab and international writers. "The Knowledge Page" is included in the newspaper for five days a week—starting from Sunday to Thursday.

In the framework of its efforts to strengthen bonds of cooperation and partnership with global leaders in the areas of development and dissemination of knowledge, MBRF participated in the Frankfurt Book Fair, the largest event of its kind in the world, from August 11 to October 14, 2014. The participation in the book fair enabled MBRF to identify international best practices and exchange knowledge with key players in the knowledge sector.

In another major initiative, MBRF signed a joint venture agreement with Nokhala, a newly launched developer of smart integrated communities, to undertake a value-added lifestyle development in Dubai that focuses on sustainability, culture, and education.

With the signing of the agreement, MBRF will extend a part of its land bank in Dubai as a joint venture partnership basis for developing an integrated community development project that will create unmatched value for future generations.

The year also saw MBRF launch "Mabroor," the first knowledge magazine in English in the UAE. It has been published by the book publishers of "Arabian Sands" in association with the first Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum knowledge award and contains exclusive interviews with public figures and decision makers on a variety of topics of current relevance.

Additionally, it features scientific, economic, and social research from a development angle, as well as outstanding case studies on youth leadership.

As part of its efforts to enhance the image of the Arabic language and promote it as an international language, MBRF launched during the year the second edition of the "Arabic" initiative. Coinciding with the International Day for the Arabic Language observed annually by the United Nations General Assembly on 18 December, the "Arabic" initiative encourages people to post and share updates on social media websites for the entire day to spread awareness about the aesthetics of the Arabic language and the Arabic heritage.

The year was also notable for a number of agreements and memoranda of understanding signed by MBRF, which included signing a MoU with the Museum of the Future, to promote the culture of reading among all segments of the society, including youth and families as well as intellectuals and business professionals.