

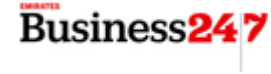


Printable view

[Click to Print](#)

Tue, Mar 24, 2009, 20:54 GMT

Innovative Business and Architecture Consultants plans branch in Abu Dhabi

*24 March 2009*

Abu Dhabi could become the first international stop for the Miami-based Innovative Business and Architecture (IBA) Consultants who plan to foray into the regional market.

Gregory W Warren, Director of International Business at the IBA Consultants, yesterday told Emirates Business the company is studying the regional market, especially the construction and real estate industry in the UAE. "We are very keenly awaiting this year's Cityscape, which would be an indicator of what lies ahead for companies like us wanting to start operations here," said Warren.

IBA Consultants, he said, is now pursuing international markets starting with the UAE, Peru, Panama, and potentially Egypt. "I am looking at opportunities in Qatar. My next stop will be Cairo," he said. "The situation has changed since October. Today, new projects are on hold while there is a hurry to finish off ongoing ones. Whatever is new will be infrastructure related. Reports say Abu Dhabi is proceeding in a much more controlled space," he said.

IBA Consultants was set up in 1996 and has eight offices across the US. "It is a serious recession period there as with other places elsewhere and, probably, the worst I have seen in my 30 years career," said Warren.

According to him, the stimulus package money in the US will trickle down into the system mostly through infrastructure work over the next four to six months. "Probably, \$300 billion (Dh1.1 trillion) is to trickle down into the construction industry," he said. "The industry is waiting for the US banking system to fix itself. Once that happens, and it seems to be interconnected throughout the world, the rest of the banking system will be secure. The situation from here on can only get better," he said.

The money seems to be going into the banks but the banks have to fix their balance sheet first. "Once that is done, the money will flow into the system by the third quarter of 2009," he said.

By Joseph George

© Emirates Business 24/7 2009

Article originally published by [Emirates Business 24/7](#) 24-Mar-09

Copyright © 2009 ABQ Zawya Ltd. All rights reserved. Please read our [User Agreement](#)