Scientists have been looking at techniques such as cloud-seeding and the first annual grant of US\$5 million has been awarded to researchers seeking solutions. Research shows that rain-enhancement projects have improved UAE crop yields by 5 per cent, she said. A common technique in rain enhancement is cloud seeding, where chemicals are used to extract more moisture from clouds. But the method has been largely stagnant, extracting only 30 per cent more water. "By improving the science behind it we can improve our food production."