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creating green communities for a better tomorrow

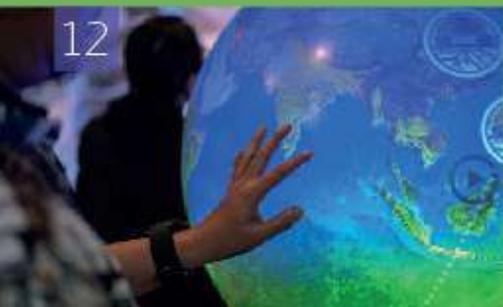


COP28 Opens in Dubai with Breakthrough Deal on Loss and Damage Fund

COP28: Zayed International Foundation for the Environment engages with global stakeholders

COP28: 134 World leaders endorse Food and Agriculture Declaration

MILESTONES: Zayed International Foundation for the Environment (1999-2023)



12



18



34

Emirates Appreciation Award For The Environment

Together for a
green home





Chairman's Message



Prof. Mohammed bin Fahad
Executive Editor

As COP28 opens in the UAE, the stakes are high. Our planet is facing a climate crisis that demands immediate and collective action. The urgency to mitigate the impacts of climate change is no longer a debate; it is a call to action that requires unwavering commitment. And COP28 presents an opportunity for nations to not just reiterate commitments but to take bold, transformative actions that will shape the trajectory of our shared destiny.

It is a moment of pride for all of us here in the UAE that the country is hosting COP28 at a pivotal time in this critical decade for climate action.

As we reflect on the outcomes of previous COPs, it is evident that the pace of change has not matched the speed of environmental degradation. And so, at COP28, we are seeing how the focus on inclusivity and transparency has elevated the levels of collaboration, determination, commitment, and expectations as well. More stakeholders, including the private sector, philanthropists, faith leaders, youth, health experts, indigenous communities, and many others are here in the UAE to foster meaningful collaboration and engagement, with the goal of catalysing effective and ambitious climate action.

The COP28 Presidency is leaving no stone unturned when it comes to addressing the four pillars set out for COP28. The historic breakthrough on the Loss and Damage Fund, on the opening day of the conference, has certainly been a gamechanger.

The outcomes of COP28 will be critical in our shared journey towards a sustainable future. The decisions made at this conference will reverberate far beyond the duration of the event and shape the destiny of all people and the planet. This is an opportunity to leave a legacy of environmental stewardship for the generations that follow. The time for action is now.

Contents



06

52nd UNION DAY:

UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan says country remains committed to assisting nations and communities in need



10

52nd UNION DAY: Anniversary of the UAE Union is an occasion that bridges the nation's present with its past and offers a glimpse of a brighter future: Ruler of Dubai



12

ZAYED INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT engages with global stakeholders at COP28

16

COVER STORY

COP28 Presidency achieves breakthrough, delivers a historic agreement to operationalize the Loss and Damage Fund



18

DECLARATION: 134 countries representing over 5.7 billion people are signatories to the 'COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action'

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TECHNOLOGY: COP28 Climate Innovation Forum unites world's technology leaders to explore cutting-edge climate solutions

22

FORUM: Newly launched COP28 Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum mobilizes USD5 billion in funding to advance climate and nature action



HEALTH: 123 countries back COP28 UAE Climate and Health Declaration as COP28 places health at the heart of climate action

34

MILESTONES
Zayed International Foundation for the Environment (1999-2023): Guiding green growth, setting new milestones in sustainable development



COP28 AGENDA: World unites to discuss shared challenges, exchange knowledge, and explore collaborative solutions at series of panel discussions and plenaries

112

GREEN CITY
With a thoughtful blend of policy, innovation, and grassroots initiatives, Bogota in Colombia is stepping into the spotlight of sustainability





People of the UAE are central to its progress: UAE President on Union Day 2023

UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan says country remains committed to assisting nations and communities in need

President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has affirmed that the UAE remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering international cooperation, dialogue, and peace in the face of global challenges, and will extend its support to countries and communities in need by continuing to strengthen international engagement and build partnerships around the world.

In a statement marking the UAE's 52nd Union Day, President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed said, "The people of the UAE are central to our efforts to progress. It is through devotion and selflessness towards the nation that true accomplishments are realised. Above all, unity and loyalty are the firm foundations laid by the late Sheikh Zayed and his brothers for our nation that underpin our achievements and will continue to do so in the coming decades, God willing."

The UAE President noted that this year's Union Day comes as the UAE hosts the largest international event on environment and climate, the United Nations Climate Change Conference

(COP28), with high-level global participation.

“The UAE’s hosting of COP28 underscores its credibility both regionally and globally, as well as the prominent role our nation plays in global issues—especially climate change mitigation—and its longstanding support for sustainability initiatives,” His Highness explained.

He said: “On Union Day, we foster a spirit of ambition in our country’s youth so they may leave their mark on our nation, just as their predecessors did with their rich legacy. Union Day is a time for

“The UAE’s hosting of COP28 underscores its credibility both regionally and globally, as well as the prominent role our nation plays in global issues—especially climate change mitigation”



newer generations to understand that our successes are the result of our resolve, and that we share a responsibility in building upon these achievements.

“As we enter a new year of the UAE’s history, let us reflect on the lessons of our past: that challenges can be overcome with determination, perseverance, and hard work.

“In 2023, the UAE witnessed a historic milestone that added to its notable record in advancing scientific progress through the longest Arab space mission by astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi.

Through this accomplishment, we reaffirmed that our people are at the heart of shaping a better future. The UAE is a nation that never stops moving forward in all areas of development, as we believe that stagnation will only lead to regression.”

He added that as host of COP28, the UAE, in cooperation with its partners, will continue to work towards outcomes that benefit all people.

The UAE President added: “In this vein, the UAE remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering international cooperation, dialogue, and peace in

the face of global challenges. By continuing to strengthen international engagement and build partnerships around the world, we will extend our support to countries and communities in need.

“The UAE’s joining of the BRICS group, starting in 2024, further underscores our focus on international collective action to strengthen development and help ensure prosperity for people around the world.”

His Highness continued: “Today, I am pleased to announce the Union’s aspirations for 2024 and

“Our place in the future will be determined by education and reaping the rewards of development and progress will be made possible solely by education”



call on every facet of our society, including government, the private sector, and civil society, to adopt this guidance in their projects, programmes, and initiatives throughout the coming year.

“The first aspiration relates to Emirati values, which are a fundamental pillar of our society, reflecting not only our people, but also our nation and its reputation.

“Second, the UAE is a nation that pursues innovation, with its people at the forefront of progress. Lifelong learning is the fuel that propels our nation forward. I call upon everyone, including individuals, government entities, and the private sector, to make lifelong learning a core principle

of our society so that the UAE becomes a hub of learning and future skills development that can unlock new opportunities for progress.

“Third, sustainability is not a new pursuit for the UAE; it is deeply rooted in our society due to the challenging conditions faced by our ancestors. The late Sheikh Zayed was a patron of sustainability, which became ingrained in all the UAE’s endeavours.

“While the Year of Sustainability in the UAE concludes at the end of 2023, sustainability remains embedded in our culture, practices, and many aspects of our daily life, and I invite everyone to continue supporting initiatives related to sustainability in the future.



“Lastly, the world is evolving ever faster, and nations are racing towards development. In this race, education will be our mainstay in the pursuit of progress.

“Our place in the future will be determined by education, our status among nations will be shaped by education, and reaping the rewards of development and progress will be made possible solely by education. I therefore urge everyone in this sector to continue working together to further enhance the quality of education available to the people of the UAE.

“We aim to advance our nation’s education, to innovate and go beyond traditional methods, and to create abundant opportunities for our youth to grow. Educational entities should place teachers at the heart of their strategic planning, unifying and coordinating efforts to ensure education leads to success in the race towards progress.”



Anniversary of Union Day marked with noble meanings and virtues: Mohammed Bin Rashid

“The memory of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan remains apparent in every accomplishment and progress the nation has made and achieved”

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said that the anniversary of the UAE Union is an occasion that bridges the nation’s present with its past and offers a glimpse of a brighter future.

On the occasion of the UAE’s 52nd Union Day, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed noted that the memory of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan remains apparent in every accomplishment and progress the nation has made and achieved.

His Highness said that Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan, alongside his brother Sheikh Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum, laid the solid foundations of the Union, which is marked with noble meanings and virtues, and launched the journey of comprehensive development, which continues under the leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.



In preparation for the future, His Highness continued, "We were inspired by the vision of the 'UAE Centennial 2071' and the 'We the UAE 2031' strategy to become the most prosperous society in the world; the global centre for the new economy; the most prominent supporter of international cooperation, and the most pioneering government system."

Achieving these goals required restructuring ministries and specialised bodies, as well as developing legislations to provide flexibility and efficiency in the process of decision-making, in addition to enhancing our capabilities to keep pace with the ever-present changes, His Highness explained.

The UAE has also achieved important progress in international development and competitiveness indicators, such as the digital economy's contribution to gross domestic product, human development, attracting foreign direct investment and talent, tourism, active lifestyle, environmental performance, government, digital and logistical performance, and trust in government, His Highness further said.

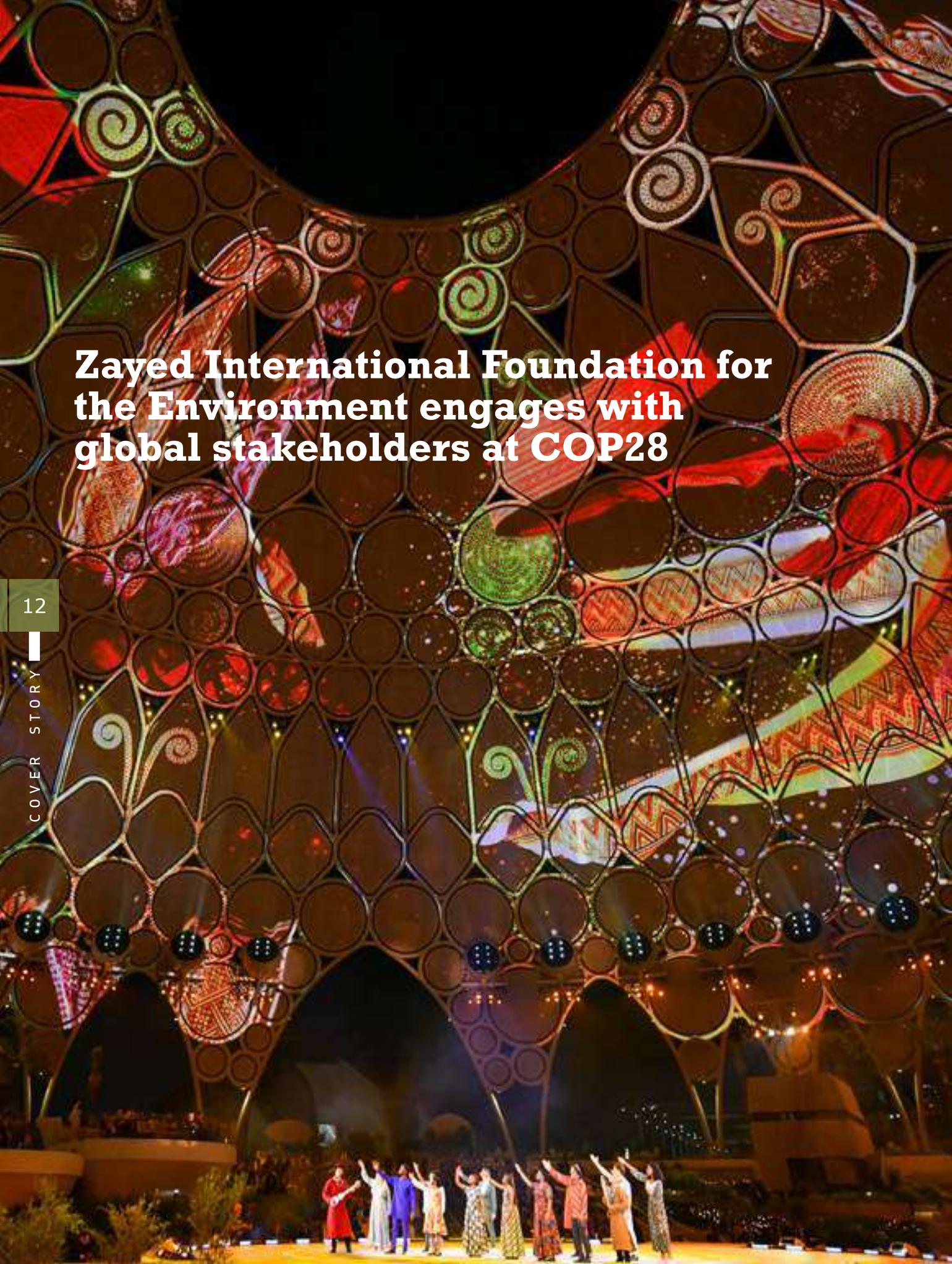
His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid praised the UAE's national cadres, who have "led the country's development process, generation after generation". He expressed his hope in youths and their capabilities to continue leading the journey to be an effective driver of the UAE's economy, now and in the future.

On the occasion of the 52nd Union Day, His Highness extended his congratulations and sincere wishes to President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and Their Highnesses the Supreme Council and Rulers of the Emirates, and the citizens and residents of the UAE. He also extended his congratulations to the cadres of government sector and members of the armed forces, security agencies, and civil protection agencies.

'52nd Union Day is an occasion that bridges the nation's present with its past and offers a glimpse of a brighter future'



"You are the spirit of the Union. You are its present and future. I pray to Allah Almighty to bless you and our nation with continued security, progress and prosperity," His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid concluded.



Zayed International Foundation for the Environment engages with global stakeholders at COP28

12

COVER STORY

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment's long journey in delivering on its commitment to sustainable development is taking a momentous turn as it galvanizes action in addressing major global climate challenges at the ongoing 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) of the United Nations Climate Change Conference that opened in Dubai, UAE, on November 30.

The Zayed International Foundation's participation in the global climate conference as

With its participation at COP28, the Zayed International Foundation reinforces its status as a proactive and influential player in raising awareness on climate challenges and solutions



the organization enters its 25th year of establishment, reinforces its status as a proactive and influential player in raising awareness on climate challenges and solutions, and in setting new and positive milestones in sustainability.

'Leadership Engagement': Friday, December 8

On December 8, the Zayed International Foundation will host a **'Leadership Engagement'** session at the UAE Pavilion in the Blue Zone at Expo City Dubai.

Prof. Mohammad Ahmed Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, will lead a delegation at the high-profile event to reinforce the Foundation's determination to be part of the climate solutions and its commitment to driving action on the ground by supporting international efforts to realise the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr. Hamdan K. Al Shaer, Member of the Higher Committee, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, will outline how innovative approaches to finding climate change solutions

have prompted the Zayed International Foundation to open dialogue with scientists and experts to pave the way for a new path at COP 28.

Dr. Eisa Abdellatif, Chief Technical Advisor of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, will outline the Foundation's initiatives and programs undertaken since its establishment in 1999 by HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the outcomes of many of which have since been adopted by several UN organizations.

International, and a Professor of Business and Sustainability, and Dr. Eisa Abdellatif, Chief Technical Advisor of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, the session follows from the '1st World Cafe' held under the slogan, 'Wisdom Fuelling the Future!' at the Dubai Police Academy in January this year.

The IDGs (Inner Development Goals) are accelerators to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and create a prosperous future for all of humanity.



In his address, Dr. Charles Savage, President and Mentor, Knowledge Era Enterprising (KEE) International, will call for accelerating regenerative responses to the climate crisis through a "consciousness shift" to enable humans to address the climate crisis through the lens of expanding consciousness.

Achieving Sustainable and Inner Development Goals: Friday, December 8

The Zayed International Foundation will also host the '**Achieving Sustainable and Inner Development Goals**' at the House of Sustainability - Actionists Hub (Green Zone) on Friday, December 8. Led by Dr. Charles Savage, President and Mentor, Knowledge Era Enterprising (KEE)

By carrying forward the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the founding father of the UAE, and the vision of His Highness the Ruler of Dubai, the Zayed International Foundation is continuing to entrench itself on the international map for its commitment to the implementation of the ambitious and transformative sustainable development agendas that are shaping our world.

Through its participation in environmental events around the globe, the Zayed International Foundation has steadfastly showcased its commitment to advancing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and fostering collaboration for better outcomes.



Island nations explore climate change adaptation at COP28

C O P 2 8

Creating effective solutions to the effects and risks of climate change is the main objective of many island nations attending COP28. Island nations are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, even though they emit less than 1 percent of the world's greenhouse gases. Their natural resources are deteriorating due to rising sea levels, ocean warming, and increased storm activity.

At COP28, island nations are seeking support for their efforts to adapt to climate change and transform their energy sector. To increase their resilience, they require international assistance, such as climate financing, technology transfers, and green investments in renewable energy.

The COP28 Presidency aims to meet the needs of small developing island nations by launching and funding the Global Climate Fund, as well as securing financial commitments. The climate crisis hits island nations the hardest, as they lose freshwater sources due to the salinisation of

rivers and lakes caused by rising sea levels. They also face coastal erosion and storm damage.

According to the UN, sea levels went up by 15 to 25 cms from 1900 to 2018. It also warned that a 2 degree Celsius increase in temperature compared to before the industrial era would make sea levels rise by 43 cm by 2100.

Island nations lead the way in tackling global environmental crises, and they have urged the international community to aim for the most ambitious target of the Paris Agreement, which is limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The UN has selected three island nations as part of its "UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration" initiatives, which are among the first 10 global efforts to restore the system. They are Vanuatu in the Pacific Ocean, Saint Lucia in the Caribbean Sea, and the Comoros in the Indian Ocean.

COP28 Presidency unites the world on Loss and Damage

UAE pledges USD100 million as countries are urged to support developing world

COP28 achieved a breakthrough on Day 1 of the global climate conference with delegates agreeing on the operationalization of a fund that would help compensate vulnerable countries coping with loss and damage caused by climate change.

The fund has been a long-standing demand of developing nations on the frontlines of climate change coping with the cost of the devastation caused by ever-increasing extreme weather events such as drought, floods, and rising seas. Loss and damage is seen as hugely important for countries hardest hit by the climate crisis but which have done the least to create the problem in terms of emissions.

COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber announced the first major milestone of COP28 on the opening day to deliver a historic agreement to operationalize the Fund which will assist developing countries that are particularly



vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, known in the negotiations as ‘loss and damage.’

“The hard work of many people over many years, has been delivered in Dubai,” said Dr. Al Jaber. “The speed at which the world came together, to get this fund operationalized within one year since Parties agreed to it in Sharm El Sheikh is unprecedented.”

The Fund was first agreed upon during COP27, held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, and became operational at COP28 following the agreement reached by parties during 5 transitional committee meetings. The 5th transitional meeting hosted in November in Abu Dhabi was added by the COP28 Presidency following the impasse reached at the 4th meeting, where Parties reached a resolution.

That meeting generated recommendations on implementing the Fund, including the provision of essential grant-based support to countries especially impacted by climate and loss. In a comprehensive listening tour, COP28 leadership socialized those recommendations with national governments ahead of COP28, laying the groundwork for this historic decision.

Loss and Damage is essential even if the world meets climate mitigation goals because a “locked-in” level of warming already impacts particularly vulnerable communities being hit by extreme weather events, such as storms and floods, reduced agricultural productivity, and rising sea levels. This decisive action on Loss and Damage will enable the Parties to focus on the strongest possible response to the Global Stocktake, the world’s report card on progress toward Paris Agreement goals.

“This Fund will support billions of people, lives and livelihoods that are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change,” said Dr. Al Jaber.

The UAE also announced its commitment of USD100 million to the Fund, which aims to provide financial assistance to countries at extreme risk from climate change, to support climate change mitigation and recovery. Other



countries making notable commitments included Germany, which committed USD100 million; the UK, which committed GBP 40 million for the Fund and GBP 20 million for other arrangements; Japan, which contributed USD 10 million; and the U.S., which committed USD 17.5 million.



134 world leaders endorse Food and Agriculture Declaration at COP28

134 countries representing over 5.7 billion people, 70 per cent of the food we eat, nearly 500 million farmers and 76 percent of total emissions from the global food system are signatories to the ‘COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action’

The COP28 Presidency has announced that 134 world leaders have signed up to its landmark agriculture, food and climate action declaration. Also announced was the mobilization of more than USD\$2.5 billion in funding to support food security while combatting climate change and a new partnership between the UAE and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for food systems innovation in the face of climate change.

The ‘COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action’ (the Declaration) was announced at a special session of the World Climate Action Summit (WCAS), led by Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia; Giorgia Meloni, Prime Minister of Italy; Fiamē Naomi Mataafa, Prime Minister of Samoa; and Anthony J. Blinken, US Secretary of State. The Declaration addresses both global emissions while protecting the lives and livelihoods of farmers who live on the frontlines of climate change.

“There is no path to achieving the goals of the

Paris Climate Agreement and keeping 1.5C within reach, that does not urgently address the interactions between food systems, agriculture, and climate,” said H.E. Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment and COP28 Food Systems Lead.

“Countries must put food systems and agriculture at the heart of their climate ambitions, addressing both global emissions and protecting the lives and livelihoods of farmers living on the front line of climate change. Today’s commitment from

Addressing both global emissions and protecting the lives and livelihoods of farmers living on the frontline of climate change are central to the COP28 Food Systems Agenda



countries around the world will help to build a global food system fit for the future,” she added.

The 134 signatory countries to the Declaration are home to over 5.7 billion people and almost 500 million farmers, produce 70 percent of the food we eat, and are responsible for 76 percent of all emissions from global food systems or 25 percent of total emissions globally.

Endorsement of the Declaration will help in strengthening food systems, building resilience to climate change, reducing global emissions, and contributing to the global fight against hunger,

aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Declaration – the first of its kind for the COP process - stresses the need for common action on climate change, which adversely affects a large portion of the world’s population, particularly those living in vulnerable countries and communities.

“Today signals a turning point, embedding sustainable agriculture and food systems as critical components in both dealing with climate change and building food systems fit for the future. Together we will deliver lasting change for

families, farmers and the future,” said Almheiri.

While food systems are vital for meeting societal needs and enabling adaptation to climate impacts, they are also responsible for as much as a third of global greenhouse gas emissions. Many smallholder farmers in low- and middle-income countries are also facing heightened vulnerability to climate change.



Key announcements made at the session include:

- The UAE and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation launched a USD200 million partnership for Food Systems, Agriculture Innovation and Climate Action, focused on agricultural research, scaling agricultural innovations and funding technical assistance for implementing the Declaration.
- The UAE is joining the CGIAR, a global partnership that unites international organizations engaged in research about food security, resilience, and climate adaptation.
- COP28 and a group of partners announced a collaborative effort to offer countries quality technical cooperation and to help deliver on the objectives of the Declaration. The partners behind the Technical Cooperation Collaborative pledged more than USD 200 million in new and

More than USD2.5 billion has been mobilized by the global community to support the food-climate agenda

newly aligned support, while also committing to increase coordination across their wider portfolios.

- COP28 UAE, together with the World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), supported by the UN Climate Change High-Level Champions, launched the Action Agenda on Regenerative Landscapes. This will see leading food and agriculture organizations transition 160 million hectares to regenerative agriculture by 2030, accompanied by USD2.2 billion in future investment, and engaging 3.6 million farmers world-wide.
- The High-Level Champions, in collaboration with non-government actors including farmers, Indigenous Peoples, consumers, cities, youth, businesses, financial institutions, philanthropies and others, launched a Call to Action for Transforming Food Systems for People, Nature, and Climate, in support of the Declaration.

The COP28 Food Systems and Agriculture Agenda has four pillars, covering national leadership, non-state actors, scaling up innovation, and finance.

COP28 is also working with representatives from every stage of the food system and agriculture value chain, including farmers, civil society, businesses, and local governments to accelerate the transition to regenerative agriculture.



COP28 Climate Innovation Forum unites world's technology leaders to explore cutting-edge climate solutions



COP28

COP28's Climate Innovation Forum brought together the world's technology leaders in a series of talks exploring cutting-edge solutions to tackle the global climate crisis, including artificial intelligence (AI), satellite technology, big data, clean energy, industrial decarbonisation, low-carbon hydrogen, and more.

Attending the Climate Innovation Forum were key leaders in the technology and sustainability fields, including Omar bin Sultan Al Olama, Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy, and Remote Work Applications; Bill Gates, Founder of Breakthrough Energy and Co-chair of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; Arvind Krishna, CEO of IBM; Kate Brandt, Chief Sustainability Officer of Google; Elisabeth Gaines, Non-Executive Director and Global Green Ambassador at Fortescue Metals; Brad Smith, Vice Chair and President at Microsoft, among several others including multiple Breakthrough Energy portfolio companies.

In his keynote, Al Olama said, "We are confronted

with two distinct paths—one of hope and opportunity and the other, potential catastrophe. The potential for a technological revolution underpinned by environmental responsibility could lead us to a carbon-neutral future, reshaping our utilisation of Earth's resources to achieve progress and preservation simultaneously."

In a fireside, Omar Sultan Al Olama and Aravind Krishna, CEO of IBM, spoke about a broad range of topics including the applications of AI and quantum computing and how they can help solve climate change issues, especially in the global south. Kate Brandt, Google's Chief Sustainability Officer then spoke about moonshot thinking for climate action and highlighted an example where AI is currently being piloted with the Chilean government for grid management.

Google also announced the beta launch of GeoMap, a first-of-its-kind geothermal exploration tool, developed in partnership with Project InnerSpace.



Newly launched COP28 Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum mobilizes USD 5 bn in funding to advance climate and nature action

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and His Majesty King Charles III open the Forum, held alongside the World Climate Action Summit

In the presence of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and His Majesty King Charles III, the COP28 Presidency launched the inaugural COP28 Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum, convening more than 1,000 CEOs and philanthropists from over 80 countries. The Forum was held alongside the World Climate Action Summit.

The Forum represents a paradigm shift in the COP process. With its strengths in low carbon solutions and innovation, delivery and global networks, the private sector has - and continues - to invest trillions of dollars into the transition. With the objective of moving beyond commitments, the COP28 Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum will showcase global industry-by-industry delivery together with opportunities to accelerate, replicate, and scale, particularly in the Global South.

Private sector actors will join heads of state and governments to focus on showcasing private

sector progress and joint delivery.

Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, COP28 President, said: “For the first time at a UNFCCC COP, and in line with the vision of the UAE, the global private sector has a seat at the table on the first day of COP28. No single party has all the solutions, and COP28 must bridge the trust gap between North and South, East, and West, and build a platform for action through partnership. This is what the Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum represents.”

More than 1,000 private sectors leaders convene to align industry, finance, and country roadmaps to accelerate the achievement of climate targets



Badr Jafar, Chair of the Forum and COP28 Special Representative for Business and Philanthropy, said “There is no time to waste, and no need to wait. The Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum showcases over 20 major actions that CEOs and philanthropists can take now demonstrating accessible ways for private sector leaders to move beyond pledges and declarations and into action and implementation in ways that are suited to their capabilities and competencies.”

The Sustainable Markets Initiative is the Strategic Partner for the inaugural Forum. Other

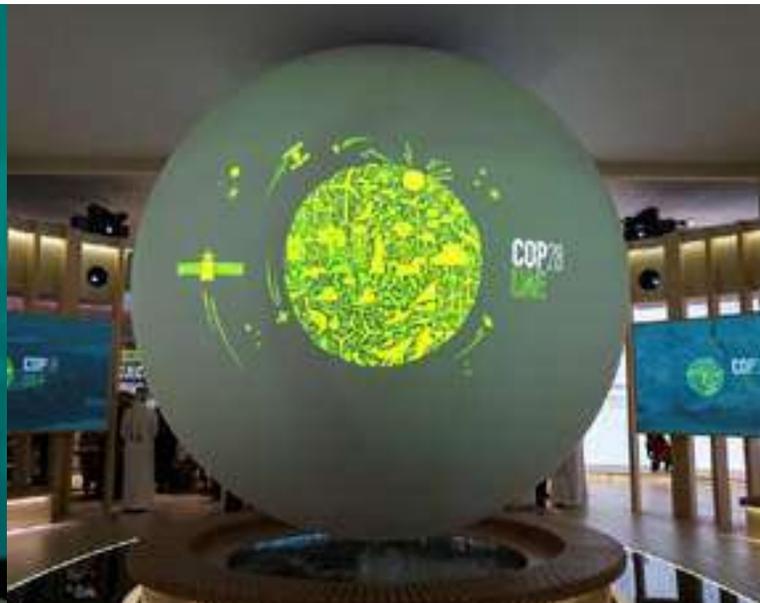
Forum delivery partners include the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Economic Forum (WEF), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Africa Finance Corporation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Inter-American Development Bank Group (IDB Invest), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and XPRIZE.

The UN Council for Trade and Development has estimated that USD4 trillion is required annually to meet climate and biodiversity targets. Among

the main commitments made by the COP28 Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum to deliver on the targets include:

- Supporting an annual Business and Philanthropy Climate Forum alongside the world leaders' summit at every UNFCCC COP until at least 2030. This Forum will serve as the foundation for the private sector to: enhance alignment of industry, finance and country roadmaps; conduct an annual industry-by-industry assessment on progress; and, raise

The Forum, the first such platform to be held as part of the official COP programme, aims to amplify calls from the private sector to be included and engaged in the COP process



the bar on ambitions, including alignment with science-based targets.

- Engaging in private sector diplomacy and the creation of innovative private sector mechanisms to support cross-border transition efforts, including blended finance and trade instruments.
- Adopting an authentic sustainable orientation, embedding sustainability in business models, decisions, and actions.
- Investing in sustainability-aligned R&D, commercialization, technology, and innovation alongside youth and supporting the green,

sustainably focused jobs of the future.

- Aligning country, industry, and financial roadmaps. Moving together, create efficiencies and economies of scale that will enable collective progress and accelerate sustainable transitions.
- Showcasing game-changing entrepreneurs, technologies and solutions that are emerging around the world.
- Bringing sustainable markets from niche to norm by reimagining mandates, project pipelines, financial structuring, and models of return.



- Building conservation and nature-based solutions into the asset base, supply chains, and disclosures.

Mobilizing USD5 billion in collective funding

The Business & Philanthropy Climate Forum, the first dedicated platform for the private sector and philanthropy to be included in the COP process, held a series of panel discussions that focused on fostering innovation and driving impact in areas including sustainable climate finance, coral restoration, green technology, energy and industry transition, sustainable food systems, and empowering SMEs.

Key visionaries highlighted the indispensable role of business and philanthropy in addressing the pressing concerns of our environment and moving beyond discussions and towards actions. Speakers at the panel included Ajay Banga,

President, World Bank Group; Brian Moynihan, Chair of the Board and CEO, Bank of America and Chair, Sustainable Markets Initiative; Hana Al Rostamani, Group CEO, First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB); Ruth Porat, President & CIO, CFO, Alphabet and Google; Tony Elumelu, Founder, Tony Elumelu Foundation; Laurene Powell Jobs, Founder & President, Emerson Collective; and Borge Brende, President, World Economic Forum.

The Forum also featured a distinguished panel that discussed blended finance commitments. Ravi Menon, Managing Director of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, opened the panel, emphasizing the role of blended finance in securing capital for the green transition.

Mafalda Duarte, Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund, Mark Gallogly, Chair of Allied Climate Partners & Co-Founder of Three Cairns

Group, and Tobias C. Pross, CEO of Allianz Global Investors, collectively mobilized USD5 billion in funding to unlock USD20 billion.

Bill Gates - Co-Chair, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Founder, Breakthrough Energy, led the closing keynote address of the Forum, speaking on how climate investment can save and improve the most lives, ending with a call to action for increased private sector action.

For the first time ever as part of the official COP

leading companies that provide products, services and technologies to support decarbonization.

Innovate for Climate Tech

The Innovate for Climate Tech Coalition, a global coalition anchored by Masdar City, Tencent and the Catalyst and facilitated by COP28 aims to support the development and adoption of climate-tech solutions with a special focus on the Global South.



programme, a range of private sector initiatives were discussed and announced.

Blended Finance Structures

Green Climate Fund, Allied Climate Partners and Allianz Global Investors collectively announced to mobilise USD5 billion through several unique blended finance structures to turbocharge the climate transition in emerging economies.

Climate Solutions Investment Platform

Investcorp announced the launch of its new Climate Solutions investment platform, targeting around USD 750 million of growth capital investments to help rapidly scale category

First Movers Coalition For Food

The First Movers Coalition for Food will co-develop and aggregate procurement commitments to transform food supply chains for more sustainable, inclusive, and healthy food systems.

Coral Restoration and Energy Transitions moonshot

XPRIZE, which catalyzed a force of over 35,000 innovators from 148 countries to collectively invest over USD2 billion building solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges, over three decades of moonshot competitions, presented a preview of its next moonshot focused on Coral Restoration at the event.



‘Nearly 1 billion children exposed to ‘extremely high risks’ from climate change effects’

C O P 2 8

Weather disasters fueled by climate change – from floods to droughts, storms to wildfires – sparked 43.1 million child displacements from 2016 to 2021, stated a senior United Nations Children’s Fund official.

The UN representative further added that nearly one billion children are exposed to “extremely high risks” from the effects of climate change according to Children’s Climate Risk Index (CCRI).

“Children under five years of age bear nearly 90 percent of the global burden of diseases linked to climate change,” said Kitty van der Heijden, Deputy Executive Director, Partnerships, of UNICEF, on the sidelines of COP28 in Dubai.

She added: “40 million children are having their education disrupted every year because of disasters exacerbated by climate change, and this number continues to increase. Only 2.4 percent of climate finance from key multilateral climate funds support projects incorporating child-responsive activities.”

She expressed her gratitude to the UAE’s COP 28 Presidency for allowing young people to participate and express their opinion in making decisions that affect their lives, considering that this will change the course of climate negotiations and outcomes related to the future of these emerging generations.

At COP28, she said UNICEF is calling for: Elevating children within the final COP28 Cover Decision and convening an expert dialogue on children and climate change; Embedding children and intergeneration equity in the Global Stocktake (GST); and Including children and climate resilient essential services within the final decision on the Global Goal for Adaptation (GGA).

UNICEF is also calling for Making the Loss and Damage Fund and funding arrangements child-responsive with child rights embedded in the fund’s governance and decision-making process.

COP28 Presidency launches landmark initiatives accelerating energy transition

116 countries have signed the Global Renewables and Energy Efficiency Pledge as of December 2, agreeing to triple worldwide installed renewable energy generation capacity

At the World Climate Action Summit on December 2, Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President, unveiled the Global Decarbonisation Accelerator (GDA), a series of landmark initiatives designed to speed up the energy transition and drastically reduce global emissions.

The GDA is focused on three key pillars: rapidly scaling the energy system of tomorrow; decarbonising the energy system of today; and targeting methane and other non-CO2 greenhouse gases. It is a comprehensive plan for system-wide change, addressing the demand and the supply of energy at the same time.

Commentating on the launch of the GDA, Dr. Al Jaber said, "The world does not work without energy. Yet the world will break down if we do not fix energies we use today, mitigate their emissions at a gigaton scale, and rapidly



transition to zero carbon alternatives. That is why the COP28 Presidency has launched the Global Decarbonisation Accelerator.”

Rapidly scaling the energy system of tomorrow

116 countries have signed the Global Renewables and Energy Efficiency Pledge as of December 2, agreeing to triple worldwide installed renewable energy generation capacity to at least 11,000 gigawatts and to double the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements from around 2 percent to more than 4 percent every year until 2030.

Through the UAE Hydrogen Declaration of Intent, 27 countries have agreed to endorse a global certification standard and to recognise existing certification schemes, helping to unlock global trade in low-carbon hydrogen.

Decarbonising the energy system of today

Under the GDA, 50 companies, representing over 40 percent of global oil production have signed on to the Oil and Gas Decarbonisation Charter (OGDC), committing to zero methane emissions and ending routine flaring by 2030, and to total net-zero operations by 2050 at the latest. Over 29 National Oil Companies (NOCs) have committed to the Charter – the largest-ever number of NOCs to sign up to a decarbonisation pledge.

Signatories to the Charter agree to target a number of key actions, including:

- Investing in the energy system of the future including renewables, low-carbon fuels and negative emissions technologies.
- Increasing transparency, including enhancing measurement, monitoring, reporting and independent verification of GHG emissions.
- Increasing alignment with broader industry

best practices to accelerate decarbonisation of operations and aspire to implement current best practices by 2030 to collectively reduce emission intensity.

- Reducing energy poverty and providing secure and affordable energy to support the development of all economies.



Methane and other non-CO2 greenhouse gases

The third pillar of the GDA addresses methane and other non-CO2 greenhouse gases through economy-wide methane-emission reduction. In support of this, more than USD1 billion will be mobilised for methane abatement projects.

The GDA also covers the Global Cooling Pledge, which targets substantially reducing global cooling emissions by 68 percent by 2050. Such emissions account for seven percent of the global total, a figure expected to triple as more nations adopt air-conditioning. As of today, 52 countries have signed the Pledge.



123 countries back COP28 UAE Climate and Health Declaration

COP28 places health at the heart of climate action and accelerates the development of climate-resilient, sustainable and equitable health systems

More than 120 countries have delivered a breakthrough moment for health in climate talks with the announcement of a new 'COP28 UAE Declaration on Climate and Health' (the Declaration) by the COP28 Presidency and the World Health Organization. The goal is to accelerate actions to protect people's health from growing climate impacts.

The Declaration was announced at the World Climate Action Summit, where world leaders have gathered for the start of COP28.

Signed by 123 countries, the Declaration was announced on December 2, one day ahead of the first ever Health Day at a COP and marks a world first in acknowledging the need for governments to protect communities and prepare healthcare systems to cope with climate-related health impacts such as extreme heat, air pollution and infectious diseases.

The Declaration was developed with the support

of a number of 'country champions' including Brazil, Malawi, the UK, the US, the Netherlands, Kenya, Fiji, India, Egypt, Sierra Leone, and Germany. This joint action comes as annual deaths from polluted air hit almost 9 million and as 189 million people are exposed to extreme weather-related events each year.

"The impacts of climate change are already at our door. They have become one of the greatest threats to human health in the 21st century. Governments have now rightly recognized health

Endorsed by 123 countries, the Declaration marks a world first in governments acknowledging the growing health impacts of climate change on communities and countries



as a crucial element of climate action" said COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber. He continued: "The Declaration sends a strong signal that we must reduce global emissions and work together to strengthen our health systems."

"The climate crisis is a health crisis, but for too long, health has been a footnote in climate discussions," said Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization. "WHO thanks the UAE for making health a key priority in its COP28 Presidency, and welcomes this Declaration, which emphasizes the

need to build climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems, to protect the health of both planet and people."

"Climate change is increasingly impacting the health and wellbeing of our communities," said Lazarus Chakwera, President of Malawi - one of the first countries to endorse the Declaration. "Malawi has experienced these impacts first-hand - extreme weather events have displaced tens of thousands of our citizens and sparked infectious disease outbreaks that have killed thousands more. This year, at COP28, we are

calling for a bolder path forward that prioritizes investments in health and wellbeing, ensures a just transition away from fossil fuels, and creates a healthier future for all of us.”

The Declaration covers a range of action areas at the nexus of climate and health, including building more climate-resilient health systems, strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration to reduce emissions and maximize the health benefits of climate action, and increasing finance for climate and health solutions. Signatories have

‘Governments have now rightly recognized health as a crucial element of climate action’



also committed to incorporate health targets in their national climate plans and improve international collaboration to address the health risks of climate change, including at future COPs.

It is also recognized that finance will be a significant driver of the Declaration’s success.

As such, the COP28 Presidency joined with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Green Climate Fund, The Rockefeller Foundation, and the World Health Organization to unveil a set of 10 principles to bolster financing for climate and health, mobilize new and additional finance, and foster innovation with transformative projects and new multisector

approaches. Endorsed by over 40 financing partners and civil society organizations, the COP28 Guiding Principles for Financing Climate and Health Solutions signal the growing collaboration across funders and the momentum to support climate and health solutions in a sustainable manner.

It also welcomed the finance announcements made by a wide range of stakeholders including governments, development banks, multilateral institutions, philanthropies, and NGOs to expand their investments in climate and health solutions. Collectively, these partners have committed to dedicate USD 1 billion to address the growing needs of the climate-health crisis. Among the

new finance commitments on climate and health to back up the political commitments include a USD 300 million commitment by the Global Fund to prepare health systems, USD 100 million by the Rockefeller Foundation to scale up climate and health solutions, and an announcement by the UK Government of up to GBP 54 million. Among other commitments are those by:

- Asian Development Bank, which announced the launch of a new Climate and Health Initiative, dedicating an initial allocation of USD7 million in seed funding over the coming year to jump-start 1) knowledge generation, 2) innovative financing, 3) country capacity building, 4) strategic partnerships, 5) incubating innovations, and 6) high level advocacy on climate change and health.
- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced USD57.95 million towards climate and health. This includes a USD50 million investment over the coming four years to support climate-focused malaria efforts to better understand, detect and respond to changing vector habitat and endemicity ranges, and to develop new tools and strategies to respond to climate-related changes and disruptions in the malaria response.
- Wellcome Trust announced it will be spending GBP 100 million in the coming year alone supporting research to understand and address the climate change health crisis, especially to support actions that benefit the most affected people and communities.
- Bloomberg Philanthropies, Clean Air Fund and C40 Cities, announced an initial 11 cities to join the Breathe Cities Initiative – an ambitious new USD 30 million clean air initiative to accelerate progress, break down barriers to action, and ensure communities around the world have access to clean air.

The COP28 Presidency recognizes that reducing the health impacts of climate change will require action across all of society, including rapid and large-scale action to decarbonize energy systems to reduce emissions by at least 43% over the next seven years.



To this end, the announcement of the Declaration at the World Climate Action Summit on December 2nd was just one of a number of announcements from the COP28 Presidency, which recognized the need to reduce the health impacts of climate change beyond the health sector and included new initiatives to drive rapid decarbonization to reduce emissions by at least 43% over the next seven years to keep 1.5C within reach.



Dedicated to advancing the cause of environmental conservation and sustainable development, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment was established in honor of the environmental legacy of the Founding Father of the United Arab Emirates, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and embodies his visionary commitment to safeguarding the planet. Since its establishment in 1999, the Foundation has been a driving force behind transformative initiatives, recognizing and supporting individuals, organizations, and communities that exemplify outstanding environmental stewardship.

Set up with the noble purpose of advancing global environmental conservation, the Foundation serves as a dynamic catalyst for positive change and strives to address pressing environmental challenges through innovative solutions and collaborative efforts. Across the spectrum of research and education to practical interventions, the Foundation also engages in partnerships and collaborations with regional and global NGOs, academia, and industry leaders to amplify the impact of its initiatives. The Foundation's comprehensive approach reflects a profound understanding of the interconnectedness of environmental issues and the need for collective action.

As we navigate the complexities of the 21st century, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment stands as a testament to the enduring vision of Sheikh Zayed, inspiring a shared responsibility to safeguard our planet for current and future generations.



1999-2023

**ZAYED INTERNATIONAL PRIZE
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

MILESTONES:

Zayed International Foundation's
Legacy of Environmental
Leadership and Innovation



1999

Founding year of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

The founder and patron laid out objectives to recognize and promote major pioneering contributions in the field of environment and sustainable development, in accordance with the development philosophy and vision of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and in support of global initiatives such as the Agenda 21, the Millennium Development Goals, and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation for Sustainable Development.



2000

February

Zayed Prize hosted the **Dubai International Conference on Desertification** in February in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Secretariat of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

Several workshops and seminars were conducted including a comprehensive exhibition on environmentally sustainable technology. The conference issues a declaration named, 'the Dubai Declaration on Combating Desertification', which was adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) - Arab League.



The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of Zayed Prize met to examine and shortlist the 208 nominations received from 66 countries for the first cycle of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment.

October |



2001

February |



Former US President Jimmy Carter became the first recipient of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment in the Global Leadership category. At the **first cycle of the awards ceremony** held on April 22, HH Sheikh Mohammed also jointly awarded Prof. Mohamed El-Kassas (Egypt) and the World Commission on Dams in the Scientific & Technological Achievements category; and Ms. Yolanda Kakabadse (Ecuador) and Stephan Schmidheiny (Switzerland) in the category for Environmental Action with Positive Impact on Society.





2002

September

At the **World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg**, South Africa in September, the Zayed International Prize for the Environment called for strengthening international efforts on water resources in arid regions.

A press conference was held by Zayed Prize on August 29 and presided over by the Chairman of the Higher Committee, Dr. Mohammed Bin Fahad in the presence of other senior officials of Zayed Prize. World media from more than 40 countries were introduced to the mission of the Zayed Prize to recognize and promote pioneering contributions in the field of the environment that have direct impact on the community.

The Zayed Prize delegation also visited the International Union for Conservation of Nature office in Johannesburg where they signed an MoU for collaboration on joint projects and programmes.

Zayed Prize hosted the **Dubai International Conference on Integrated Management of Water Resources in the Third Millennium**, in collaboration with the Global Water Council. It issued the 'Dubai Declaration on Integrated Water Resources Management in Arid Regions' which was printed, distributed widely among countries of Arid Regions and adopted by the UNEP and was included in the UN Secretary General's speech at the Johannesburg Summit of 2002.

Researches filed were published in a book by the International Printing House of Elsevier. This conference was accompanied by a number of specialized workshops and a comprehensive Exhibition on Environmentally Sustainable Technology related to Water Conservation and Distillation as well as finding alternatives for the same in cooperation with Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA).

February



Delegates of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment held talks at the **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, to discuss the participation of WMO in the Dubai International Conference on Atmospheric Pollution.

October |

2003



2004

February |

Zayed Prize hosted the **Dubai International Conference on Atmospheric Pollution** in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The conference issued the 'Dubai Declaration on Trans-boundary Air Pollution'. The conference recommended the establishment of a 'Regional Center in the UAE for the monitoring of Trans-boundary Air Pollution'.

Events of the conference included a debate arena for the upcoming generations entitled 'Students Parliament', in which 40 high school students from 12 different schools in the UAE debated the issue of air pollution and methods for handling such problems.

2004

February

The **second cycle of the Zayed Prize Award** ceremony was held at the Dubai International Convention Center, the Dubai World Trade Center on February 24. British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), UK was awarded in the Global Leadership category in recognition of the "distinctive leadership influencing international, regional and local policies, concepts and media and education programmes in environment and sustainable development fields."

The jury said the Corporation's TV, radio and internet journalism had put policymakers on the spot, forcing them to justify their positions.





The prize for the Scientific & Technological Achievements category was shared by the three professors who worked together to establish and activate the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). These include: Prof. Godwin Obasi (Nigeria), Prof. Mostafa Tolba (Egypt) and Prof. Bert Bolin (Sweden).

For demonstrating the importance of the role of NGOs and the civil society in advancing the global environmental agenda, Dr. Badria Al Awadhi (Kuwait) and Prof. Jamal Mohamed Safi (Palestine) were honored in the category of Environmental Action with Positive Impact on Society.





2005

April

In collaboration with the World Deserts Foundation and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Zayed International Prize for the Environment organized the **'Second Festival of the Civilizations and Cultures of World Deserts'** in April.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by Presidents Abdulaziz Boutafliqua of Algeria and the honorable Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, as well as Hon. Lakhdar Brahimi - special advisor of the UN Secretary General.

The festival included a number of significant events including a ministerial conference for Ministers of Environment, Culture and Tourism on 'Integrating Efforts towards Sustainable Development in Desert Regions'.



This was attended by 40 ministers from different desert countries, who issued 'World Deserts Charter' adopted by the concerned regional and international organizations.

A high-level scientific seminar focusing on the employment of science and technology in a bid to achieve sustainable development was also held in cooperation with UNESCO. In addition, there were workshops and lectures of pertinent desert issues and folkloric performances and shows.

Zayed International Prize for the Environment hosted the **Conference on Power Cells and Hydrogen Power Economics** in December 2005 at the Dubai Police Academy. The conference came out with the "Dubai Declaration on the Importance of Developing Clean Energy Alternatives to Preserve the Environment and in case of the Run out of Oil".

The conference saw the participation of both the public and private sector including a number of prominent companies such as General Motors, Belg Power, Fuel Sell Markets, Ballard, Hydrogenix, b 21, and the Power Cell International Body.

December |





2006

February

Kofi Annan, U.N. Secretary General, was awarded the Zayed International Prize for the Environment at the **third cycle of the awards** in February in tandem with the opening of the 9th Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council and the International Forum of Environment Ministers. This is a milestone event in the history of the UNEP Governing Council as it is the first time the event is held in the Middle East. The Global Ministerial Environment Forum issued the 'UAE initiative for achieving sustainable development' which includes important recommendations on all sustainability issues, especially those related to chemicals, energy and tourism.

In their citation, the International Jury said that “one person has done more than most to catalyze political and public opinion to an understanding that the environment is a fundamental pillar of sustainable development - that person is Mr. Kofi Annan.”

“Five years ago, recognizing the potential threat that environmental degradation posed for people around the world, Mr. Annan also called for the first-ever





international scientific assessment of the health of the world's ecosystems," said the citation.

The other winners in the third cycle include Millennium Ecosystem Assessment in the Scientific & Technological Achievements category which is the work of 1,360 experts from 95 countries, and according to the Jury is a "landmark study on the condition of the world's ecosystem services from fisheries and freshwaters up to the carbon capture of the world's forests".

Angela Cropper (Trinidad and Tobago) and Prof. Emil Salim (Indonesia) were the winners in the category for Environmental Action with Positive Impact on Society.

The Award Ceremony was attended by two Heads of States and the UN Secretary General.



2007

June

UNEP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Zayed Prize on June 7 at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya in recognition of the organization's role in raising awareness and visibility about environmental issues within the UAE, the Middle East region and at the international level as well as honoring the valuable cooperation developed over the years with the UN body. The MoU seeks to continue this fruitful partnership as well as pursue the regional implementation of the programme of work of the UNEP.



2008





Zayed International Prize for the Environment hosted the **Dubai International Conference on Sustainable Construction** at the Dubai Police Academy. An exhibition featuring Technologies and Eco-Friendly Construction Materials, was held alongside in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Water and UNEP. This conference came in response to the resolution issued by H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, on the 24th of October, 2007 regarding the implementation of the 'Green Buildings' standards on all buildings and establishments in Dubai as of January, 2008.



Over 500 delegates including ministers and officials from the ministries of environment, scientists as well as public and private sector representatives around the world attended the conference held on 8th of June 2008.

The conference came out with comprehensive recommendations about the best techniques, policies and measures to ease the implementation and the spread of the sustainability of green buildings at the local, regional, and international levels.

June |





2008

June

The fourth cycle of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment was held on 9th June.

Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway won the Zayed Prize for Global Leadership in environment. A Norwegian politician, diplomat and physician and an international leader in sustainable development and public health, Dr. Brundtland is a former Prime Minister of Norway and has served as the Director General of the World Health Organization.

Professors Jane Lubchenco from the United States of America and V. Ramanathan from India shared the Zayed Prize for Scientific and Technological Achievements in Environment.

A world leader in environmental sciences, Prof. Jane Lubchenco discovered fundamental ecological and evolutionary relationships among animals and





plants in complex coastal systems while Prof. V. Ramanathan is among the most distinguished climatologists in the world. He identified the famous chlorofluorocarbons, stratospheric ozone and other pollutants as significant factors in the anthropogenic greenhouse effect (manmade factors leading to global warming).

The Zayed Prize for Environmental Action Leading to Positive Change in Society was awarded to two Non-Governmental Organizations. The two NGOs are Environment Development Action in the Third World (ENDA) in Senegal and Tierramrica in Latin America.





2008

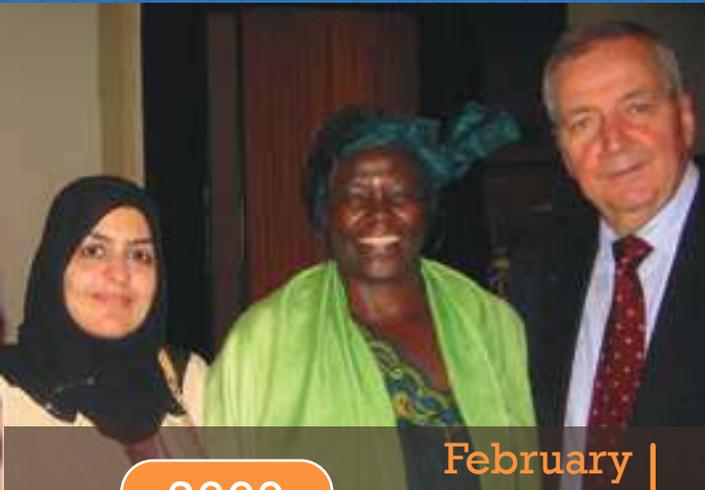
December |



Zayed Prize hosted the **First Consultation Meeting for the Contaminated Sites Toolkit** in partnership with UNIDO in Dubai in December. Expert participants, drawn from a global set of research institutions, bring in their experiences from different parts of the world to enrich the toolkit and provide the best starting approach to be adopted for building the capacities, institutional and human resources, in the developing countries.

At the event, H.E. Dr. Rashid Ahmed Bin Fahad, UAE Minister of Environment and Water, addressed the meeting of the Experts and expressed support to the efforts on remediation of contaminated sites in relation to POPs. The Minister explained that the UAE is a leading country in environmental protection in the region and promised to do his utmost help to facilitate the work of the experts and UNIDO.

Zayed Prize, along with other officials of the Ministry of Environment and Water, UAE, attended the 25th session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) of UNEP in February at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.



2009

February



2010

December

Zayed International Prize for the Environment signed an agreement with Italy's Willy Brandt Foundation (FWB) on 19th January to plan and implement initiatives for capacity building of the Gulf Region in the areas of environmental education, training and awareness raising, especially for youth and children.

The Zayed International Prize for the Environment confirmed interest in partnership, collaboration and participation in the initiatives suggested by the FWB in reference to sustainable development activities, energy efficiency, bioclimatic initiatives and other actions that aim at the realisation of the UN's Millennium Development Goals.





2010

October

On an invitation from the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Zayed International Prize for the Environment participated in the fourth Consultation Meeting of the BAT/BEP Forum for the GCC Region held on 21 October in Kuwait. Zayed Prize was represented by the Secretary General, Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, and Chief Technical Advisor, Dr. Eisa Abdellatif.

In its effort to implement the Stockholm Convention in the GCC region, UNIDO in collaboration with GCC Governments, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting (GOIC), Zayed Prize, and other institutions have been working towards the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council Forum for the promotion of Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP) to eliminate and/or reduce the unintentionally produced Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) emissions and releases.



His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and Patron of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, launched at the Dubai Police Academy a new initiative of Dubai Police General Head Quarters to plant one million trees in Dubai. He launched the campaign on 10 November by planting the first tree at the main square on the western side of the Dubai Police Academy after unveiling a commemorative plaque for the initiative.

Also present at the launch were Lt. General H.H. Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, H.H. Sheikh Majid bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Culture and Arts Authority, H.E. Dr. Rashid Ahmed Bin Fahad, Minister of Environment and Water, Lt. General Dhahi Khalfan Tamim, Commander-

November |



in-Chief of Dubai Police, Major General Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Bin Fahad, Director General of Dubai Police Academy and Chairman of the Zayed Prize Higher Committee, senior police officers, dignitaries, members of diplomatic missions and the media.

This initiative is the idea of Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police, Lt. General Dhahi Khalfan Tameem, and had been launched in cooperation with the Dubai Municipality, the Road and Transport Authority and other related authorities. The main target tree species are Date Palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) and Ghaf (*Prosopis cineraria*).



2011

March

At the fifth cycle of the Award Ceremony on March 14, 2011 at Dubai International Convention Center, and attended by Environment Ministers from around the world, heads of regional and international organizations, Gulf dignitaries and international media; HH Sheikh Mohammed awarded President Lee Myung-bak of the Republic of Korea with the Zayed Prize for Global Leadership in environment.

He was honored for committing his country to 'Green Growth' and singlehandedly transforming the



Republic of Korea's development path into a low carbon, resource efficient and Green Economy.

Other winners of the fifth cycle included Sir Partha Dasgupta, a leading economist who made the link between sustainability and economics well before such work was fully understood. He was awarded the Zayed Prize for Scientific and Technological Achievements in Environment.

Dr. Mathis Wackernagel, co-founder of the Global Footprint Network (GFN) and Prof. Najib Saab from Lebanon who founded the groundbreaking and highly successful *Al-Bia Wal-Tanmia* (Environment and Development) magazine in 1996, shared the Zayed Prize for Environmental action leading to positive change in society.

November |





2011

June |

In June, Zayed Foundation, in collaboration with UNIDO launched the 'Contaminated Sites Management Toolkit for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)', an environmental document for the global management of sites contaminated with chemicals and organic pollutants which is of extreme importance and relevance to the Arab world, West Asia and developing countries in general.

This toolkit seeks to aid developing countries with the detection, cataloging and prioritisation of contaminated sites. It will assist countries with the development of suitable technologies for land remediation - that is the clean-up of chemical and pollutants on land sites that causes health concerns to humans and the environment in accordance with best available techniques and best environmental practices.





Zayed Prize contributed to a vital international document by its active participation in the **Second Consultation Meeting for the new POPs Guidance** in September at Bangkok, Thailand where it was decided to provide a set of guidance documents that would enable Parties to develop, review and update their National Implementation Plans with the information relating to the nine new POPs added to the Stockholm Convention.

September |



In line with the directives of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and in collaboration with the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, the UAE Minister of Environment and Water Dr. Rashid Ahmad bin Fahd announced the launch of the Dhs 1 million Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment.

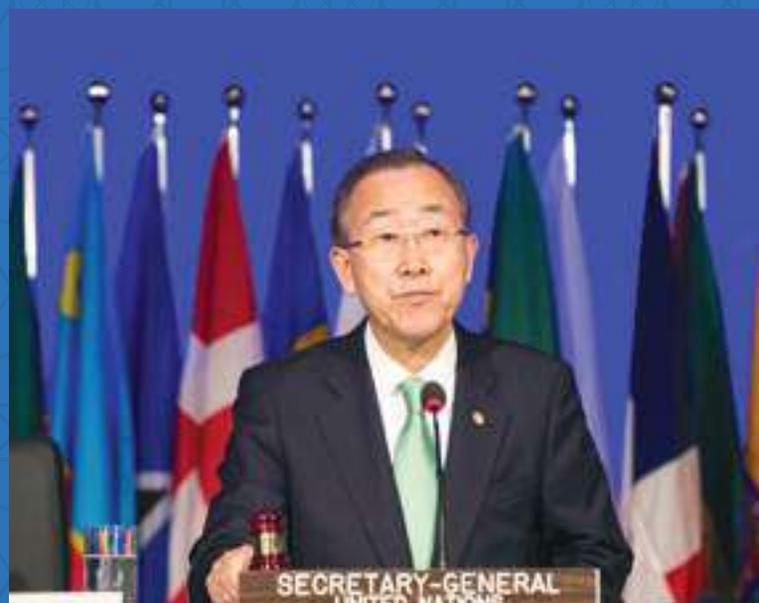


Designed to promote the values of sustainable development and innovation among the local community, the award seeks to recognize outstanding achievements in the field of environment and energy conservation across all sectors of society. It will support and encourage individual and collective national environmental initiatives that will contribute to the Green Development Strategy of the UAE.

Zayed Prize attended 12th Special Session of UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum from 20-22 February in Nairobi as a member of the official delegation of the UAE. The event served as a high-level intergovernmental milestone in the intense preparatory process for the upcoming Rio+20, and coincided with the 40th anniversary of UNEP.

In a special commemorative issue released on the occasion, the image of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai was interspersed with a couple of other world leaders, lauding his support to the cause of the environment.

Zayed International Prize was also given recognition in this book for its contribution towards global efforts to promote sustainable development.



2012

February



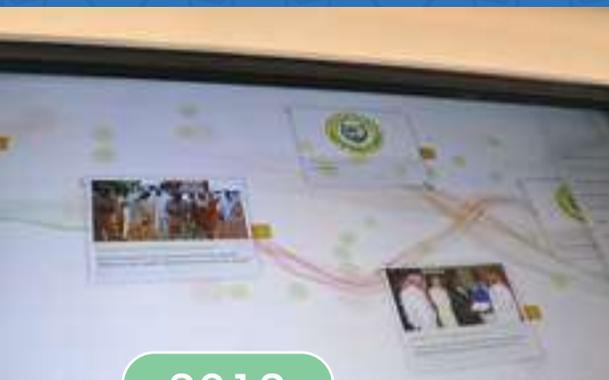


June

As part of the official delegation of the UAE, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment attended the **United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)** in June where it sought to actively contribute to securing renewed political commitment to sustainable development; and address new and emerging challenges.

At Rio, the Zayed Foundation successfully launches the Arabic version of UNIDO POPs Toolkit for the Investigation and Management of Contaminated Sites. In addition, the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment was presented to a global audience underlining its importance as the implementation of the UN's call to action under the slogan: "Think Global and Act Local".

Other international initiatives launched in Rio included a professional paper on "Scenarios of achieving Sustainable Development beyond the Award" which was published in *Future Perfect*, an international publication of ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council).



2012

June

Zayed International Foundation for the Environment had the honor of being featured in *Future Perfect*, an English publication issued on behalf of the United Nations.

Zayed Prize's participation in this worldwide project came about due to its partnership with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the publication was intended to raise awareness about sustainable development and inspire all stakeholders committed to the success of and follow-up to Rio+20.

What has been most notable about the Foundation's participation in this professional publication is that it is a refereed paper and this alone validates the organization's broad impact on bringing greater environmental awareness in the international arena.

Future Perfect has enabled Zayed Prize to demonstrate and share its work and experiences in sustainable development and its contribution provides a mosaic of views about the future we want.





December

As part of the official delegation of The United Arab Emirates, Zayed Foundation was an active participant at the 18th Conference of Parties (COP18) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), giving its full support to the government of Qatar in ensuring a successful outcome to the Conference.



At the 27th session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC27/ GMEF) of UNEP that opened on 18th February at Nairobi, Kenya, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment outlined its achievements and programs and projects that it has undertaken to embody the UAE's mandate on the protection of the environment and culture of green development with a vision to achieve the highest levels of development and prosperity across the country.

Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Higher Committee of Zayed Prize also utilized this platform to bolster support for Dubai's bid to host the World Expo 2020.



2013

February





May

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment hosted the Arab Regional Implementation Meeting for the 20th session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development in Dubai in association with the UAE Ministry of Environment and Water where discussions focused on the future developments of sustainability after 2015. What was significant about the Arab RIM is that it aimed at achieving the results of Rio+20 and was looking ahead to see how those results could be met after the deadline of 2015.



MAY

Zayed Prize participated in the Istanbul International Solid Waste, Water and Wastewater Congress (Istanbul3WCongress) held in Istanbul from 22nd to 24th May where Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Member of the Higher Committee of Zayed Foundation and Secretary General, Zayed International Prize for the Environment delivered a keynote address on policies and regulations, highlighting issues relating to the management for environmental protection in the UAE. She gave special emphasis to the importance of integrated water management and conservation of water within the broader context of its impact on economic development.



May |

2013

July |



Zayed International Foundation for the Environment signed a partnership and cooperation agreement with UNEP in Nairobi. The agreement sought to intensify cooperation between the two organizations to prepare for the sixth session of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, in addition to coordinating the joint organization of local, regional and international events associated with the award ceremony, and with the preparations for the organization of the International Conference and Exhibition on Sustainable Living which incorporates many environmental themes such as sustainable production and consumption patterns.





September



The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) honored the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment with a **Certificate of Recognition** for the significant contributions of the Foundation in the preparation of Contaminated Sites Management Toolkit for POPs.

UNIDO's Expert Group on POPs had developed this comprehensive Toolkit which aims to aid developing countries with the identification, classification and prioritization of POP-contaminated sites, and with the development of suitable technologies for land remediation in accordance with best available techniques and best environmental practices (BAT/BEP). The Zayed Foundation, in cooperation with the Research and Studies Centre of Dubai Police Academy, had translated this comprehensive Toolkit to Arabic.

Zayed International Foundation for the Environment participated in the **Global South-South Development Expo** that concluded in Nairobi on November 1 where high-level delegates from 150 countries and across the United Nations system gathered at the headquarters of the UNEP in Nairobi to tackle development challenges by harnessing and exchanging innovative solutions developed in the global South.



2013

November



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment held a **training workshop on the UNIDO Contaminated Sites Management Toolkit** from 10th to 11th November, 2013 at the Dubai Police Academy with the objective of creating awareness and supporting the technical capacities of the technical experts from the region.

Apart from members of the Zayed Foundation and delegates from UNIDO, the workshop was attended by environment specialists and Ministry of Environment & Water officials from the UAE, Bahrain and Qatar. Three senior officials from Qatar Petroleum also attended the workshop to gain insight into an overview on how the global issue of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) can be controlled at regional and local levels.





November

His Excellency Lieutenant General Dhahi Khalfan Tamim, Deputy Chairman of Police and General Security in Dubai is named Environmental Personality Award winner as the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment announced the winners of the **inaugural Emirates Appreciation Awards** for outstanding contribution to environmental causes. Over the years, Lt. Gen. Tamim has been highly successful in establishing effective institutions and organizations to support environmental causes and promote an ecologically-friendly culture in the UAE.





2013

December

Jury members of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment along with the UAE Minister of Environment and Water met with His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to discuss **nominations of the sixth cycle of the prestigious prize.**

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed affirmed his confidence in the wisdom and knowledge of the jury who selects nominees based on the consideration of their efficiency and the constructive roles they play in preserving the environment both locally and internationally.

His Highness noted that the jury's right decisions embody the objectives of the prize "which we established in remembrance of a leader (the late Founding Father of U.A.E., Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan) who dedicated his life, money and effort for serving the environment, humanity, the welfare of people and the protection of the environment."



2014





Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, honored winners of the **1st cycle of the Emirates Appreciation Award** for the Environment at a grand ceremony held on 15th January at the Johara ballroom at Madinat Al Jumeirah in Dubai.

The Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment was launched by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, under the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in order to recognise and promote the values of sustainable living and environmentally conscious initiatives among the UAE community, and to recognise outstanding achievements in the field of environment and energy conservation across all sectors of society.

January |





2014

February

Zayed International Prize for the Environment announced the **winners of the 6th cycle of the prestigious awards** at a press conference held on February 1. U.A.E. Minister of Environment and Water, Dr. Rashid Ahmed bin Fahad, announced His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco as the global winner of the prestigious Zayed Prize in Category I “Global leadership in environment and sustainable development”.



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment also took the initiative in launching a new category of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment in line with HH Sheikh Mohammed’s vision of sustainability. Titled ‘The Young Scientists Award for Environmental Sustainability’, this new category of Zayed International Prize recognizes, rewards and promotes pioneering contributions of talented young scientists worldwide for their research in Environmental Sciences and Green Technology that have contributed significantly to Environmental Integrity and Sustainable Development.





Dr. Meshgan Mohamed Al Awar, Secretary General of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, highlighted the role of the organization in supporting South-South nations through its partnerships and knowledge-sharing activities at the **'First Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo'** in Qatar.

February |



March

Zayed Foundation and UNEP released the Arabic version of *Building Inclusive Green Economies* which presents real-life case studies from two dozen countries.

The Arabic version of *Building Inclusive Green Economies: Success stories from South-South Cooperation* was released on March 5 in Dubai by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and UNEP, under the auspices of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

The report is the culmination of a landmark UNEP assessment of progress, initiatives, approaches, and tools for achieving a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.





2014

May

On 7th May, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and the Patron of the Zayed Prize honored the winners of the **6th cycle of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment** for their efforts in working for a sustainable future. At the event, His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco receives the award in the Global Leadership category.

A renowned conservationist and advocate for the earth's marine and polar environments, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco was honored





for the prolific environmental work carried out by the Prince Albert II Foundation, which he founded in 2006 after traveling to the North Pole and witnessing the effects of climate change on the Arctic's weakening ice.

Dr. Ashok Khosla, the founder of Development Alternative Group, India, and Malaysia's Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid, who has been instrumental in the need for action to prevent destruction of ecosystems, shared the award in the Scientific /Technological Achievements in Environment category.



The category for Environmental action leading to positive change in society was shared by Paula Caballero Gomez of Colombia and Swiss Dr. Luc Hoffman for his work studying water land bird populations.



2014

June

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Water launched the **2nd cycle of the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment**, which is aimed at ensuring solutions for environmental issues in the UAE. This announcement was made at a press conference held at the Dubai Police Academy.

The Award, which is worth one million dirhams in prize money, has been established to stimulate environmentally conscious initiatives among the larger UAE community including corporate, government institutions, civil society and individuals.





Zayed International Foundation for the Environment announces new partnership with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to promote **Education for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Lifestyles** and also launches the **7th cycle of Zayed Prize** during the first-ever session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in Nairobi.

Through this new partnership, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment allocates USD 100,000 to the production, development and adaptation of the Global Green Economy Curriculum Sourcebook for the Arab States region.

In preparation for the second cycle of the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment and to garner support and attract nominations for the Award, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment organizes an open meeting at the Dubai Police Academy in the presence of members of the Higher Committee of the Zayed Foundation and representatives from several environmental and educational institutes across the UAE.



2014

October

November

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment undertakes an intensive campaign to promote the second cycle of the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment on a wider scale to various government organizations and institutions across the seven emirates with the aim of attracting nominations from all sectors of the society. Accordingly, Eng. Hamdan Al Shaer, Higher Committee member and Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif, Chief Technical Advisor of the Zayed Foundation meet with teachers at the Umm Al Quwain Education Zone and Fujairah Education Zone to raise the profile of the Dhs 1million biennial Award.





The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and with technical support provided by the 10 Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Secretariat and supported by the European Commission through the SWITCH-Med Project, organizes the **1st Dubai International Forum for Sustainable Lifestyles** in Dubai that aims to identify the drivers of unsustainable consumption and lifestyles.

2015

February



Dr. Mohamed Ahmad bin Fahad, Chairman of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment is invited as keynote speaker to address the opening session of the 25th edition of the **'Environmental Protection is a Must'** conference, held in Alexandria, Egypt.

May

June



Celebrations for **World Environment Day 2015** in the UAE includes a smart platform developed by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment which garners the interests of children and adults through exciting quiz contests and games that showcase how each individual action leaves an impact on the environment.

JANUARY

His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, honors winners of the **2nd cycle of the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment** at a grand ceremony held on 26th January in Dubai. H.E. Mohammed Ahmed Al Bowardi, State Minister of Defense & CEO of Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, is honored as Environment Personality in recognition of his valuable efforts in the field of environmental protection and preservation of the endangered species.

Dubai Aluminium receives the Industrial Enterprise Award for large industries; Emirates Float Glass and Berger Paints



2016

January





Emirates receives the same award for small and medium industries; Athen Primary School for Girls in Ras Al Khaimah receives the Educational Institution Award for schools, while the British University in Dubai receives the same award for the universities and higher institutes category. The Invention/Innovation Award is given to the National Centre of Meteorology and Seismology Cloud Seeding Project, while the Media and Environmental Awareness Award is given to Sharjah Media and Ahmed Musabbah Al Nuaimi, a teacher in Al Tafawuq School in Al Ain.





Zayed International Foundation for the Environment signs **new agreement with UNEP to produce an international textbook on inclusive green economy.** Accordingly, the Zayed Foundation will contribute US\$ 100,000 towards the creation of a textbook that will give a holistic overview of green economy and its role in promoting sustainable development.

The signing of the agreement coincides with the UAE National Environment Day that is celebrated on 4th February every year.



2016

February



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment is one of the key partners of the inaugural **Emirates Energy Efficiency Summit** held at the American University in Dubai and hosted by founding partners, The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and GE. The summit was designed to elevate awareness and support for energy saving and climate change projects and initiatives.





April

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment is to host the eighth annual **Global South-South Development Expo** on behalf of the Government of UAE from October 31 to November 3, 2016 in Dubai. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Ahmad Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Higher Committee, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and Mr. Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director, UN Office for South-South Cooperation, sign an agreement to this effect in the presence of high level dignitaries from both the institutions at a press conference held at the Dubai Police Academy.



2016

May

MAY

Carrying forward the sustainable vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment participates in the **second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2)** held at UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. The Zayed Foundation's clarion call for international concerted efforts to tackle global environmental challenges is disseminated globally through #UNEA2 on Twitter, UNEA2 Voices on YouTube and a host of international television channels.





The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment was in the spotlight at the **19th session of the High-Level Committee on South South Cooperation** for hosting the Global South-South Development Expo 2016 in Dubai. Dr. Meshgan Mohammed Al Awar, Secretary General of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, represented the Zayed Foundation at the event in New York.

May |



July

August |

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment is invited to participate at the **fifth biennial High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF)** held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as part of the High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary General, delivers a keynote address at the event.



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment holds series of meetings separately with Higher Committee members and representatives of Dubai World Trade Centre and several hotels to **discuss both organizational and logistical operations** of hosting the Global South-South Development Expo 2016 in October.



2016

October

The **eighth annual United Nations Global South-South Development Expo (GSSD Expo)**, hosted by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment on behalf of the Government of the UAE was opened on 31st October 2016 by His Highness Sheikh Maktoum Bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai at the at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

The annual Expo, held under the auspices of the United Nations Office for SouthSouth Cooperation, is designed to enhance innovation and development among the participating countries with a view to achieving the United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development. This annual event highlighting Southern innovations in tackling southern poverty challenges opened with a call for greater SouthSouth solidarity.





The GSSD Expo is a powerful platform to promote cooperation across the Global South, while supporting developing countries in their sustainable development aspirations. The high-level event, which concluded on November 3, is a direct response to the expressed needs of stakeholders from the Global South to further scale up proven development solutions and best practices that contribute to sustainable development.





2016

December

In line with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, launched the **3rd cycle of the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment** on 12th December.

The announcement was made at a press conference held at the Dubai Police Academy by Brigadier Ahmed Mohammed Rafiea, Deputy Chairman of the Zayed Foundation. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed Foundation and other members including Col. Dr. Ghaith Ghanim Al Suwaidi, Ali Ahmed Al Najjar, Dr. Khalid Ahmed Omer, Secretary General Dr. Meshgan Mohamed Al Awar, Mrs. Maryam Saed Hareb, Alia Abdel Rahim Al Harmoudi, Aseela Abdullah Al-Mualla and Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif, Chief Technical Advisor of the Zayed Foundation attended the event.

Engineer Hamdan Khalifa Al Shaer, Secretary General of the Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment, outlined details of the Award at the event.





2017

December

February



Ahead of the launch of the **Green Economy Textbook**, to be published under the 'Education for Sustainable Development' initiative in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment met with a host of renowned authors and global experts representing a multitude of organizations from across all continents at the UN Environment-Tongji Institute of Environment for Sustainable Development in Shanghai, China. They discussed the chapters and made arrangements for the improvement and revision of the contents of the Green Economy Textbook that seeks to provide decision makers, students and researchers around the world with a first-of-its-kind comprehensive analytical framework for studying green economy.

Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary General of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, delivered two keynote addresses at **The International Conference on Sustainable Development in Higher Education 2017 at Hong Kong** on 5th May. The Conference was held in association with the 2nd UNPRME Colloquium which focuses on “Exploring Quality Indicators and Collaborative Action Plans for Sustainable Mindset, Sustainable Responsible Programmes, Innovative Pedagogy and Sustainable Learning Environment in Higher Education.”



2017

May

May

The longstanding and fruitful history of **collaboration and partnership** the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment enjoys with the **UN Environment** was further strengthened when Dr. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahad, Chairman, and Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary General of the Zayed Foundation, held intense discussions with His Excellency Erik Solheim, the Executive Director of UN Environment at the headquarters of the environment body in Nairobi, Kenya. The two entities agreed to intensify cooperation between the two organizations to facilitate the process in achieving the sustainable development goals of nations in accordance with the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.





'The Zayed Prize Green Challenge' smart app was launched by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment to mark World Environment Day 2017. The app is an innovative knowledge education smart platform with entertainment tools and is part of the education initiatives of the Foundation.

June |

November |



Eng. Mariam Mohammed Saeed Hareb, a member of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, was appointed as Minister of State for Food Security in the UAE cabinet reshuffle. To felicitate Eng. Mariam Hareb on her new role, members of the Higher Committee of the Zayed Foundation met recently under the Chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Mohamed Ahmed bin Fahad to offer their **congratulations and felicitations to the new minister.**



Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Director, Research & Studies Center, Dubai Police Academy, was honored and recognised as the **first Emirati in the Women in Science Hall of Fame** at the World Science Forum in Jordan. The several noteworthy achievements and contributions to the field of science made by Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary General, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, was prominently highlighted at the Women in Science Hall of Fame at the World Science Forum held in Jordan in November 2017.



November



2017



December

Heeding the nation-wide call of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid to reinforce the memory of the late Sheikh Zayed in the hearts and minds of the people of the UAE, the Zayed Foundation launched the 'Zayed Green Challenge smart platform' in appreciation of the Founding Father's legacy in environment and sustainable development as the UAE celebrates the 'Year of Zayed' in 2018. The launch of the innovative knowledge smart platform on 6th December 2017, was held in tandem with the **UN Environment Assembly (UNE3) in Nairobi, Kenya**, further propelling the international stature of the Zayed Foundation as a progressive force in the environmental field.





The **'Zayed Smart Platform'** was unveiled by the Zayed Foundation on the occasion of National Environment Day and to mark the Year of Zayed celebrations in the UAE. The #SpecialSmartEvent app has been designed specifically for smart game players around the world. This smart app seeks to test one's knowledge of the environment through the #KnowledgeHunt game and offers a chance to win prizes through participation.



February

2018

April

Dr. Meshgan Al-Awar, Director, Research & Studies Center, Dubai Police Academy and Secretary General of the Zayed International Prize for the Environment, becomes the first Emirati woman and only Arab national to receive the inaugural **'First Women Servant Leadership Award'** instituted by Gratia Christian College in association with UNPRME Hong Kong and UNESCO Hong Kong.



The Year of Zayed celebrations was launched in **India** on 2nd May at the country's capital, New Delhi, with a seminar and an exhibition of rare photographs of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the Founding Father of the UAE. '**Zayed Legacy**', featuring a seminar and exhibition of photographs of the Founding Father of the UAE, was organised jointly by the UAE Embassy in New Delhi and Dubai Police, in association with the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment.



Malaysia awakens to the environmental legacy of Sheikh Zayed, as Dubai Police, in association with the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, and with the support of the UAE Embassy in Malaysia, organizes a seminar and exhibition programme titled, '**Zayed Legacy**', in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



2018

May



As part of the initiatives for the Year of Zayed, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment in collaboration with the **University of Sharjah**, opened the **Year of Zayed Photo Gallery** on 6th May at the Colleges of Medicine and Health Sciences. Prof. Hamid M.K. Al Naimiy, Chancellor of the University of Sharjah (UoS), opened the photo exhibition commemorating the late Sheikh Zayed through showcasing photos of the achievements he has accomplished regionally and globally.



'Zayed Centennial', featuring a seminar and exhibition of photographs of the Founding Father of the UAE, marked the start of the Year of Zayed celebrations in **Sudan**, jointly organized by the Dubai Police and Zayed International Foundation for the Environment in collaboration with the UAE Embassy in Sudan and the International University of Africa, Sudan.



| June



| July

In honour of the Year of Zayed, a special event was held to commemorate the environmental legacy and leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan at the **UN Secretariat in New York**. In collaboration with Dubai Police, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment took the initiative in organizing this commemorative event on 23rd July with the support of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.



In the midst of an august gathering of key decisionmakers, high-ranking UN officials and international experts and policymakers, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment took the message of environmental protection and awareness as envisaged by the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan to a global platform at the **World Green Economy Summit (WGES)** in Dubai.



October

2018

The Zayed International Foundation hosted a special event on the sidelines of WGES 2018 titled **'Commemorating the Environmental Legacy and Leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan'**.

At the World Green Economy Summit 2018, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment also launched a **special edition of UNOSSC's South-South in Action report**; announced its translation into Arabic to benefit more countries; and signed a Statement of Intent to boost capacity development activities in promoting South-South and triangular cooperation in environment protection and sustainable development.





October

HE Major General Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ahmed Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment was honored with the **'Personality Award for Energy Month'** by the Sharjah Electricity and Water Authority (SEWA). Dr. Bin Fahad was selected for the Personality Award for the month of October which is observed as the Energy Action Month for his efforts in championing smart energy initiatives to promote sustainability and environmental well-being.



November



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment in association with the Dubai Police and in collaboration with the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD), the United Arab Emirates Embassy in Sudan and the Sudanese-Emirati Friendship Society, celebrated the birth centenary of the late Sheikh Zayed on 26th November at the **'Police Home' in Khartoum**, under the theme, **'Zayed in the Eyes of the World'**. The event paid tribute to the significant role played by the late leader in the fields of environment and sustainability, and in the evolution and development of the agricultural sector in the country



The outbreak of a global pandemic led the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment to swiftly adapt its strategies to continue its crucial work in the environmental sphere.

Exemplifying resilience and agility and recognizing the limitations posed by the pandemic, the Foundation turned to digital solutions to amplify its messages.

The shift to **webinars** facilitated the seamless hosting

- **The Role of Fisheries in Food Security**
- **Environmental Dimension of Corona Pandemic**
- **The Role of Fisheries in Food Security**
- **Established Technology of Sodium Nickel Chloride Batteries**
- **The Design of Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plants**
- **Nano-technology & Renewable Energy**
- **Innovative Energy Production from Waste**
- **Efficient Irrigation for Sustainable Farming**
- **Sustainable Tourism**

Webinars

of educational forums and continued engagement with experts to disseminate vital information about best practices in sustainability. This strategic pivot also opened new avenues for global collaboration and knowledge-sharing.

By leveraging digital platforms, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment expanded its reach to a wider audience and fostered a virtual community dedicated to environmental stewardship.

- **Water Production Technology by Using Solar Energy**
- **Sustainable Infrastructure**
- **Carbonation Technology and Future of Smart & Green Materials**
- **Cloud Seeding in Water-Stressed Regions**
- **Liquid Clay Technology to Improve Soil Fertility & Conserve Water**
- **Faith, Heritage & Wisdom for a Truly Sustainable Future**
- **Impact of Space Technology on the Earth's Environment**

2020

June

With food security being recognised as a national priority, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment contributed to this national goal with the launch of a digitally integrated, multimedia project to promote the concept of urban farming among the UAE public.

The **'Urban Farming Champs'** initiative aims to educate people, through social media and the Zayed Green Challenge app, on the benefits of urban farming and to provide guidelines to help implement this simple habit into their lifestyles.



1962 - 2020



Dr. Meshgan Mohammed Al Awar, Director, Research & Studies Center, Dubai Police Academy and Secretary General, Zayed International Prize for the Environment, passes away in Dubai, UAE, on July 25.



To mark the celebrations of the 'Year of the 50th' and commemorate 50 years of the UAE's formation, the Hemaya Schools - a Dubai Police initiative, in cooperation with Zayed International Foundation for the Environment launched the **'Environmental Initiative of the Year of 50th to Plant 50 Trees'**.

HE Major General Prof. Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Bin Fahad, Assistant Commander for Academic Affairs & Training at Dubai Police Academy, General Supervisor of Hemaya Schools, and Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, witnessed the launch of the initiative on December 7, 2021, in the presence of Dr. Hamdan Khalifa Al Shaer, member of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, and Colonel Wedad Saif bin Mowaiza, Director of Hemaya Office, and directors and officials of both institutions.

2021

December



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment explored areas of mutual collaboration and partnership opportunities in the field of environment and sustainable development with a **high-level delegation from the Republic of Rwanda**. Prof. Dr. Mohamed Ahmed Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, welcomed H.E. Emmanuel Hategeka, Ambassador of the Republic of Rwanda in UAE, and Edouard Bizumuremyi, Minister Counsellor, at the Dubai Police Academy on February 28.



2022

February

WEBINAR

Sustainable Innovation from an Entrepreneurial Perspective

PANELISTS

Prof. Mohammad A. Bin Fahad Chairman, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment

Dr. Hamdan Khalifa Al Shaer, Higher Committee Member, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment

Dr. Sami Bashir, Director, Technology Management & Innovation

Hamed Ahmed Al Hamed, Founder and Chairman of Gracia Group

Dr. Eisa M. Abdullatif, Chief Technical Advisor, Zayed International Foundation for the Environment

March

To mark the celebrations of the 'Year of the 50th' and commemorate 50 years of the UAE's formation, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and Dubai Women Establishment planted 50 trees in the garden of **Dubai Ladies Club** in line with its **'Environmental Initiative of the Year of 50th to Plant 50 Trees'**.



H.E. Major General Prof. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahad, Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, delivered a keynote address virtually on June 8 at a panel session titled, Armed Conflicts, Environment and Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. The event was organised as part of a joint initiative between the **Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue** and the **Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights**, and panelists highlighted the long-term and irreparable environmental damage arising as a consequence of armed conflict, and its inherent potential to prevent the effective rebuilding of society.



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment observed World Environment Day on June 5 with a series of activities involving children, communities, and civil society to raise awareness and drive conversations on conserving and restoring the environment and highlight the resounding message that there is **#OnlyOneEarth**. The activities included a **tree-planting ceremony** at the headquarters of the **Dubai Police Academy**, a webinar that focused on the importance of conserving the planet Earth, and several child-friendly activities at Hemaya Schools.

Ahead of the **2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27)** held in the Arab Republic of Egypt from November 6 until November 20, Prof. Dr. Mohamed Ahmed bin Fahd, Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, said in a statement that the Sharm el-Sheikh conference is a starting point for joint action between the UAE and Egypt towards reaching practical and impactful solutions to tackle climate change, adding that the collaboration is in line with the UAE's efforts to limit global warming and accelerate the green energy transition.

With a leading group of environmentalists, scientists and thought leaders, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment explored the roadmap to a better future as it kickstarted its activities in the new year by hosting its **'1st World Café'** under the slogan, 'Wisdom Fueling the Future!'.

In preparation for the upcoming 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 28) to be hosted in Dubai, UAE, the two-day event held on January 31 and February 1 at the Officers Club, Dubai Police Academy, called for 'a serious global stocktaking' as the progress in worldwide efforts towards fulfilling the vision of a sustainable world has, till date, shown very little positive outcome. Against this backdrop, the Zayed International Foundation for the



November

2022



2023

January



Environment's '1st World Café' platform sought to bring about a conscious shift in developing inner abilities to deepen our sense of life and enable mankind to live more purposeful, sustainable, and productive lives.

Led by scientists, environmentalists and experts, the session urged participants to connect on a deeper level through the exploration of the IDGs (Inner Development Goals) in preparation for COP28 UAE



| January



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment attended an insightful discussion on the critical role of women in leadership, sustainability and safeguarding our planet, hosted at the **Women's Pavilion at Expo City Dubai** in February. It also raised awareness of sustainability at 'Innovation & Safety' Day, organized by Emirates Steel Arkan in March in Abu Dhabi.



February |

2023



May |

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment underlined its commitment to raising environmental awareness and facilitating knowledge creation and exchange on matters related to sustainability during a **visit to the SEE Institute in Dubai**, a leading hub for sustainability research, education, consulting, and business incubation.

Prof. Mohammad Ahmed Bin Fahad, Chairman of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, met with the CEO and senior officials of the SEE Institute, and expressed keenness in exploring collaboration opportunities and supporting research that contributes significantly to the global discourse on sustainability and acceleration of climate action.



In a significant move towards promoting sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR), Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and **Century Financial** held discussions to collaborate and execute future events in these domains.

The discussions focused on the shared commitment of the two organisations to environmental preservation and responsible corporate practices. Representatives from both organizations also discussed innovative strategies and potential joint ventures.



August

September



The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment hosted representatives of the **International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)**, a not-for-profit applied agricultural research center, at its office to discuss ways of collaboration and cooperation ahead of the upcoming COP28.

The purpose of this meeting was to explore potential avenues for mutual cooperation in the pursuit of sustainable environmental practices. This partnership aims to make significant strides toward addressing global environmental challenges and develop solutions and create impact ahead of COP 28.



October |

2023

The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment hosted a high-level delegation from the **Statistical, Economic, and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)**, led by Her Excellency Zehra Zümrüt Selçuk, Director General of SESRIC, to discuss ways of collaboration and cooperation ahead of the upcoming COP28 in Dubai, UAE.

The meeting explored the shared commitment of both organizations to address pressing environmental challenges and to promote sustainable development in the Islamic countries and beyond through knowledge-sharing activities.





Various interactive activities at Greening Education Hub during COP28

C O P 2 8

The Greening Education Hub, under the theme 'Legacy from the Land of Zayed', located in the mobility district at Expo City Dubai, continues to attract visitors, including students and people from around the world who are interested in climate education. The Hub will remain open to all throughout COP28. It offers a range of interactive and entertaining activities designed to raise environmental awareness while combining knowledge, fun and practical benefits.

Visitors begin their experience at the Emirates Post stand where they receive special postcards bearing motivating environmental messages. They then collect stamps and prizes via an environmental journey through the Hub's diverse areas. Afterwards, guests can visit three interactive platforms dedicated to highlighting the UAE's environmental diversity.

At the first platform, they learn about Ghaf trees and their significance in the country's ecosystem. The second platform provides fascinating

information, designs, and competitions that focus on bees and their importance in maintaining ecological balance. The third platform focuses on mangrove trees, which are considered one of the guardians of sustainability in the country.

The Hub also offers various interactive activities including the Sustainable Fibres event, which focuses on harnessing the potential of a single plant to provide more than 2,500 products. Here, visitors can benefit from various exciting experiences such as making jewellery, extracting oils, and sculpting with clay. The 'Alef Metaverse' programme opens the door for visitors to navigate the world of the metaverse and the limitless opportunities and possibilities it offers.

For younger visitors, the Greening Education Hub presents the 'Estidama Craft' game, which is a unique interactive world designed to encourage young people to learn about the concept of sustainability through immersive and exciting gaming experiences.



COP28: Setting priorities, addressing challenges, meeting expectations

As COP28 underscores the importance of global collaboration in tackling climate change, a diverse set of stakeholders are coming together to discuss shared challenges, exchange knowledge, and explore collaborative solutions.

Following are some of the discussions to look forward that will provide an opportunity for countries to align their efforts, fostering a sense of global solidarity in the fight against climate change. These events, planned under the thematic program at COP28, reflect the outcomes stakeholders would like to see at the climate conference this year.

Under the COP28's thematic program, the events for each day are designed to unite a diverse range of stakeholders - all levels of governments, youth, business and investors, civil society, frontline communities, indigenous peoples, and others - around specific solutions that must be scaled up this decade to limit warming to 1.5 degrees, build resilience, and mobilize finance at scale.

This set of solutions constitutes the response to the Global Stocktake, looking where the world stands on climate action and support, identifying the gaps, and working together to agree on solutions pathways to 2030 and beyond.

Voices and Ventures: Women Driving Climate Solutions

DECEMBER 4

Location: Impact Hub: LVL 1 Atrium

Time: 10 am to 11 am

Women are critical decision-makers and change leaders for driving effective climate solutions that are also inclusive. Despite their importance, women's leadership perspectives are still lacking in climate dialogues, in climate finance, and in climate tech. If given the opportunity and the right support, women business leaders and entrepreneurs could contribute significantly to the next generation of innovative climate-smart business solutions.

This conversation with thought leaders and ecosystem players will challenge the narrative that women are climate victims, help identify barriers and opportunities for more equitable



deployment of climate capital and is an opportunity to learn from women entrepreneurs who are accelerating meaningful impact on climate.

Eliminating Methane Emissions by 2030

DECEMBER 5

Location: B8: Plenaries & Meeting Rooms - Al Waha Theatre

Time: 9.15 am to 10.30 am

As the world gathers for COP28, youth empowerment in sustainability has become a more prominent and dynamic force driving transformative change. With a commitment to addressing the urgent challenges posed by climate change, COP 28 recognises the indispensable role of the younger generation in shaping a sustainable future and achieving a just energy transition.

This briefing hosted by the Financial Times, in partnership with Mashreq, will bring together a dynamic group of experts and young leaders to



discuss and explore the crucial role that youth can play in helping to achieve global sustainability objectives.

Empowering the Next Generation: Youth at the Forefront of Sustainability

DECEMBER 5

Location: Climate Finance Stage

Time: 10 am to 12 noon

As the world gathers for COP28, youth empowerment in sustainability has become a more prominent and dynamic force driving transformative change. With a commitment to addressing the urgent challenges posed by climate change, COP 28 recognises the indispensable role of the younger generation in shaping a sustainable future and achieving a just energy transition.

This briefing hosted by the Financial Times, in partnership with Mashreq, will bring together a dynamic group of experts and young leaders to



discuss and explore the crucial role that youth can play in helping to achieve global sustainability objectives.

The Global Sustainable Aviation Forum

DECEMBER 6

Location: B8: Impact Hub: LVL 2 Multi-Purpose Meeting Room

Time: 10 am to 2 pm

The air transport sector has a history of working in partnership to help drive change whilst connecting people, economies and communities. The Global Sustainable Aviation Forum at COP28 will bring together representatives from airlines, airports, air traffic management and the civil aerospace sector to explore how it can meet its challenging goal of net zero carbon by 2050.

New technology, improvements in efficiency and, importantly, the energy transition away from fossil fuels will help drive decarbonisation. It will highlight how partnerships will be needed with governments, the finance sector and energy



industry working alongside aviation experts, academic and research institutions to support this effort.

The Road to Integrated Textile Circularity in the UAE

DECEMBER 7

Location: Actionist Hub

Time: 12.50pm to 2.50pm

Introducing a first-of-its-kind integrated initiative in textile circularity in the UAE, designed to increase consumer awareness and foster collaborative efforts among public-private partners and address textile circularity as a major touchpoint in the global climate agenda.

Convening strategic enablers in the textile waste ecosystem including Ministry of Climate Change & Environment, Environment Agency Abu Dhabi, Tadweer, Emirates Foundation, Emirates Red Crescent, Landmark Group, Lulu Group and Soex, the event will explore the status of textile



circularity in the UAE, challenges in waste collection, consumer engagement initiatives, and proposed solutions for textile recycling.

From Most Vulnerable To Most Valuable: Placing Children's Rights At The Heart Of Climate Action

DECEMBER 8

Location: B8: Plenaries & Meeting Rooms - Presidency Roundtable - Al Saih

Time: 10am to 11am

For the first time, the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child has explicitly affirmed children's right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment in the now published General Comment No. 26. This event will present the latest evidence and data on how climate change disproportionately affects children, as well as new and significant guidance from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on how States can respect, promote and consider child rights in climate action.



The Amazon Ecosystem: Reshaping Opportunities for the Future

DECEMBER 9

Location: Knowledge Stage

Time: 10 am to 12 noon

The Latin American and Caribbean region is home to 23% of the world's forests. These forests are biodiversity superpowers and represent more than just the species that dwell in them and more than the carbon they contain. They are the basis for important economic activities, providing many ecosystem goods and services, such as maintaining water supply and soil quality.

Understanding the complex interactions within the Amazon Ecosystem, the world's largest tropical forest, presents a great opportunity to



bridge knowledge gaps, develop collaborations and unlock innovative co-designed solutions. This event will bring together a panel of climate and biodiversity professionals on the Amazon to discuss opportunities to bridge these gaps and unlock the potential for co-developed solutions and actions to help mitigate deforestation, reducing emissions and promoting sustainable development.

The panel will include representatives from the private sector and public sector, sustainability policy experts and renowned experts to leverage the expertise from companies and promote private sector leadership in developing innovative solutions.

Enhancing Food and Nature Linkages for Climate Action

DECEMBER 10

Location: Connect Conference Center: Multipurpose Hall

Time: 10 am to 11.30 am

There is no pathway to safeguarding and restoring ecosystems, staying within +1.5C, and safeguarding biodiversity, as well as feeding 10 billion people by 2050, without transforming the ways we produce, distribute, and consume food and use our land and in-land waters. This event seeks to highlight the interlinkages between agriculture and nature, showcase examples of action to reduce the impact of agriculture on nature and highlight both the pathway and challenges ahead. It will feature two key ecosystems - forests and peatlands - and leading



ways to protect, restore and manage the impacts of agriculture and nature sustainably.

Water for Peace and Security: From Risk to Resilience

DECEMBER 10

Location: Connect Conference Center: Multipurpose Hall

Time: 10 am to 11.30 am

The UAE has rightly highlighted the growing menace of water insecurity as a fundamental threat to human health, peace, and security. Absent decisive global action, the cascading effects of increasing water instability will affect all countries and regions.

This Presidency event brings together The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the world's largest humanitarian network, leading UN agencies (UNECE, UNCCD), the Hague Centre for Strategic



Studies, the Water Peace Security Partnership (WPS), and countries to showcase how cooperative, equitable, and sustainable water management practices enable peace and security in fragile and conflict-affected regions.

The event highlights ways of turning water risk into resilience both domestically by ensuring good water governance involving inclusive and informed processes, as well as transboundary, building on the Transboundary Water Cooperation Coalition. This new global initiative fosters shared water cooperation at all levels. A key outcome of this event will be platforming various initiatives and actions that can build resilience, design successful adaptation and expand international cooperation for shared water security.

Sustainable Consumption, Healthy Affordable Food for All, and Reducing Food Waste

DECEMBER 10

Location: Connect Conference Center: Auditorium

Time: 10.30 am to 12 noon

Shifting consumption and reducing food loss & waste (FLW) are crucial for climate and affordable, healthy, sustainable food. In 2022, almost 735 million suffered from hunger, 3 billion couldn't afford healthy diets, and a third of global food production was lost or wasted, costing trillions.

This event aims to engage stakeholders with actionable solutions for more sustainable



consumption patterns, promoting healthier food choices, and reducing FLW.

It will also emphasize outcomes, future policies, and investments in healthy, affordable, and sustainable consumption by improving food environments, enhancing demand for healthier food, exploring alternative proteins, and reducing FLW across urban-rural areas.

The focus of the final two days of COP28 will be on closing the negotiation text.



Strides towards sustainability: Bogotá, Colombia

With a thoughtful blend of policy, innovation, and grassroots initiatives, Colombia is stepping into the spotlight of sustainability

Bogotá is the biggest city in Colombia, and it is growing fast. The city's current population of 8 million people is expected to become 11 million by 2030, and 13 million by 2050. The vibrant capital is a benchmark for smart cities. The metropolis prioritizes sustainable development, innovation, and smart planning as pillars of its growth.

Green Transport

Soon after the COVID-19 pandemic began, Bogotá became one of the first cities in the world to create emergency bike lanes. 84 kms were built, with 28 kms becoming permanent and 46 kms still in use today. On some of the city's main roads, bike use quadrupled as a result of the newly implemented cycling lanes.

The COVID-19 changes were cemented with official policies, such as Acuerdo 804, which

Bogota's transportation projects are addressing climate change, equity, and resilience



schoolchildren. The city found that 58% of student trips are taken on foot, mostly by low-income children. At the same time, pedestrians younger than 15 years old were twice as likely to die in a traffic incident than adults.

In response, Bogotá began a Kids First program that targets students who commute on foot and those who commute via different transportation modes. Among other initiatives, Kids First created caravans for young commuters by foot and by bike, led by adult guides. Since it began, the program has helped more than 6,000 students get to class safely.

The bikeshare system of Bogotá will be a sui-generis system with a unique inclusive vision, realized by the diversity of bicycles and services offered to residents. It will deploy 1,500 mechanical bicycles, 1,500 electric ones, 150 handbikes (as an accessory for any wheel-share, providing independence to the final user), 150

established biking as the priority means of transport in the city in future planning efforts. These policies built on previous goals formalized in the City's 2020-24 Strategic Plan, which included growing the number of cycle trips by 50% by 2024.

To improve public and environmental health, the city of Bogotá has assembled a fleet of 1,485 electric buses for its public transportation system—placing the city among the three largest e-bus fleets outside of China. 350 buses have been deployed so far, and the switch will benefit low-income residents the most.

Bogotá further focused safety efforts on some of the city's most vulnerable residents: its





cargo bikes, and 150 bikes with child seats. In addition, the system will provide a 20% discount to low-income residents and make 300 public bike repair stands available for free for all users. Thus, the system is not only one of the largest in Latin America—it is one of the most inclusive, providing sustainable mobility options to citizens across gender, ability, and economic status.

ZUMAs – Clean Air Urban Areas

ZUMAs, also known as Clean Air Urban Areas, aims to improve air quality by reducing particulate matter emissions and exposure. ZUMAs will be established not only in areas highly affected by poor air quality but also where vulnerable communities reside. Air quality and emissions will be addressed through community participation and education, promoting sustainable transport modes, paving and road repair, vegetation improvements, and regulation

on polluting vehicles and industries, among other initiatives.

New Science, Technology, and Innovation District

Alongside private sector stakeholders and the national government, the city is working to inaugurate the Science, Technology, and Innovation District. This ambitious project envisages the reuse of 247 hectares and the adaptation of this space for 5G laboratories, innovation projects and collaborative scenarios that foster science, technology, and innovation.

The District will offer a portfolio of dynamic and specialized services, including centers for understanding the environment, articulation of the entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem, knowledge and information transfer centers, coworking, and networking spaces, as well as

The metropolis prioritizes sustainable development, innovation, and smart planning as pillars of its growth



auditoriums for the dissemination of initiatives that strengthen the innovation and technology ecosystems.

El Dorado International Airport

El Dorado is the first airport in the Americas with 4 Skytrax stars for its biosafety protocols, and in 2021, it became the first airport in the world to receive the highest LEED Platinum certification.

El Dorado also has a wastewater treatment plant that transforms biodegradable matter and disinfects the water. This prevents polluting waste from flowing into the Bogota River.

Bogotá's sustainability efforts stand as a testament to the city's dedication to creating a

greener, more livable urban environment. From revolutionizing public transportation to nurturing green spaces and promoting renewable energy, Bogotá is carving a path towards a sustainable future. Bogotá's journey showcases that sustainable development is not just a goal but a dynamic process that requires continuous innovation, engagement, and a shared commitment to a better tomorrow.

Word Scramble

OTFITS ADEORNE
CLATEIM
 ITUJECS
 IOLYCP

NECASO
 RSTFFENAOTAOI
 AINTSUS

SLREDEA

ANSWERS: 1) Climate 2) Justice 3) Sustain 4) Deforestation 5) Afforestation 6) Policy 7) Leaders 8) Oceans

Word Search

H	O	E	E	N	R	E	U	S	E	B	B	B	L
S	E	O	E	L	S	S	O	L	A	R	E	E	O
S	E	C	O	S	Y	S	T	E	M	S	B	S	T
T	A	E	T	E	R	E	H	P	S	O	M	T	A
S	B	A	L	C	E	H	A	B	I	T	A	T	G
R	E	N	C	C	B	C	A	B	C	E	E	C	R
A	R	S	O	A	S	I	S	E	I	I	Y	L	E
R	E	R	S	T	L	N	R	L	N	E	S	I	E
C	L	L	I	F	D	N	A	L	A	U	E	M	N
A	I	S	E	N	T	T	G	E	G	I	R	A	E
R	I	O	Y	E	I	B	N	H	R	E	C	T	R
B	A	P	O	L	L	U	T	I	O	N	S	E	Y
O	B	H	T	I	A	N	I	T	R	E	S	E	D
N	E	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	I	S	H	G	S

- ORGANIC
- REUSE
- SOLAR
- LANDFILL
- CARBON
- ATMOSPHERE
- DESERT
- OCEANS
- OASIS
- RECYCLE
- POLLUTION
- HABITAT
- GREENERY
- CLIMATE
- ECOSYSTEM

Crossword Puzzle



Across

4. The solid surface of the Earth.
5. Manmade structure that blocks a river, used to harness hydroelectric power.
6. The amount of water in the air.
8. That can be used again and again.
9. Visible air pollution.

Down

1. Chemical products used in agriculture for killing insects.
2. Used to measure the air pressure in the area.
3. An organism that breaks down dead things.
7. Excess water in areas that can cause severe damage.

1) Pesticides 2) Barometer 3) Decomposer 4) Crust 5) Dam 6) Humidity 7) Floods 8) Reusable 9) Smog

★ WORD OF THE DAY:

CARBON

Inhale...then exhale. Congratulations, you've just released carbon dioxide! Carbon is present in all living organisms on Earth, including yourself—quite abundantly, in fact. Carbon is one of the most important chemical elements. On its own it makes up only about 0.025 percent of Earth's crust. But it combines with other elements very easily to form substances called compounds. Carbon compounds make up 18 percent of all the matter in living things. Carbon also provides most of the energy used by humans to survive.

Carbon is constantly being used and replaced in nature through what is known as the carbon cycle. When animals breathe they take in oxygen from the air. As part of the process called respiration the oxygen combines with carbon in the body. Animals then breathe out a compound called carbon dioxide. Green plants take in the carbon dioxide. The plants use sunlight to change the carbon dioxide and water into oxygen and energy for the plants. This process is called photosynthesis. The plants then give off the oxygen. The cycle continues as other animals breathe in that oxygen.

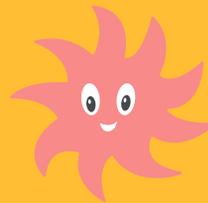
Another part of the cycle involves the fossil fuels. People use fossil fuels to run machines in factories and cars. Those machines produce carbon dioxide that is released into the air. Some of that carbon dioxide is taken in by plants. Some of it winds up back in the soil.

Carbon dioxide is an important gas for life on the planet. It is crucial in maintaining the protective blanket that is Earth's atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is one of the primary greenhouse gases on Earth.

Greenhouse gases trap heat from the Sun. Without greenhouse gases, that heat would escape Earth's atmosphere and go back into space. Human activities, such as burning fossil



fuels and cutting down forests, are changing the balance between how much carbon is in the air and how much carbon is stored in plants and the ocean. These activities cause the amount of CO₂ in the air to rise. Big increases in CO₂ in our atmosphere can negatively affect Earth's climate.



INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY DEC 5

Mandated by the UN General Assembly, the International Volunteer Day is held each year on 5 December. It is viewed as a unique chance for volunteers and organizations to celebrate their efforts, to share their values, and to promote their work among their communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), United Nations agencies, government authorities and the private sector.

Apart from mobilising thousands of volunteers every year, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme contributes to peace and development by advocating for the recognition of volunteers and working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming.

The theme for this year's International Volunteer Day (IVD) is recognizing the power of collective action: if everyone did.

If everyone volunteered, the world would

be a better place. Imagine more than eight billion of us volunteering. Limitless possibilities for sustainable development – food and education for everyone, clean environment and good health, inclusive and peaceful societies, and more.

Volunteerism is an enormous renewable resource for social, economic and environmental problem-solving throughout the world. As the world faces mounting challenges, volunteers are often the first to help. Volunteers are at the fore in crises and emergencies, often in very testing and dire situations.



Additionally, they safeguard soil biodiversity, enhance fertility, and contribute to carbon sequestration, playing a pivotal role in the ongoing battle against climate change.

World Soil Day (WSD) is held annually on 5 December as a means to focus attention on the importance of healthy soil and to advocate for the sustainable management of soil resources.

DEC
15

WORLD SOIL
DAY

The survival of our planet hinges on the crucial interconnection between soil and water, as more than 95 percent of our food stems from these foundational resources. Soil water, essential for plant nutrient absorption, serves as the binding force that unites our ecosystems. This mutually beneficial relationship forms the basis of our agricultural systems.

Yet, confronted by the challenges of climate change and human activities, our soils face degradation, placing an overwhelming burden on our water resources. Erosion disrupts the natural equilibrium, diminishing water infiltration and availability for all life forms.

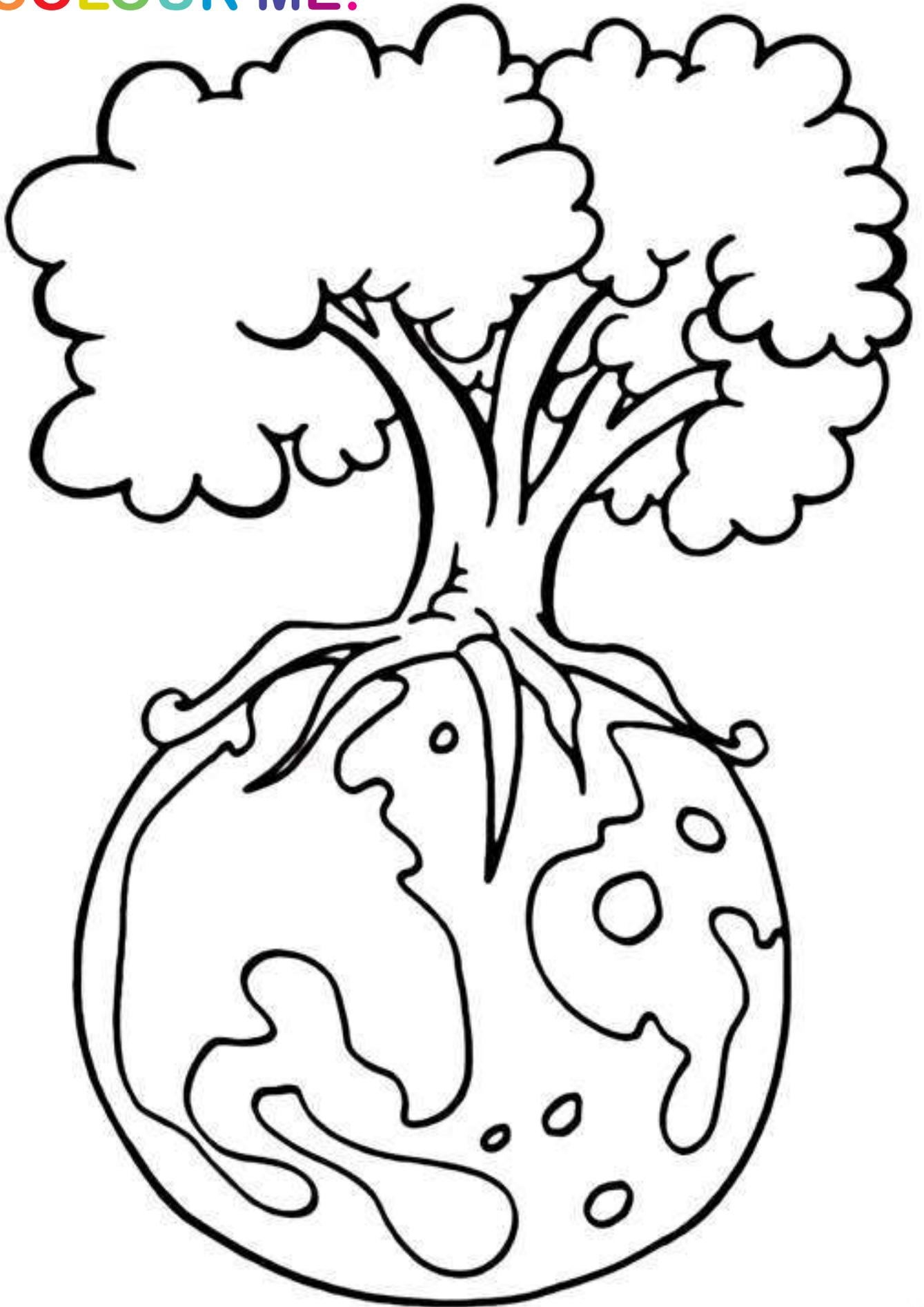
Implementing sustainable soil management practices, such as minimum tillage, crop rotation, the addition of organic matter, and cover cropping, can enhance soil health. These practices not only decrease erosion and pollution but also improve water infiltration and storage.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

Things to Do...

- Grow a plant at home! _____
- Volunteer for a cleanup drive _____
- Reuse both sides of paper! _____
- Recycle your waste _____
- Carry reusable bags! _____

COLOUR ME!





BRICS countries collaborate to mobilise climate finance

COP28

The BRICS nations are actively collaborating to accelerate sustainable finance within the group and implement joint climate and sustainability projects. This effort hinges on harmonising their ESG (environmental, social, and governance) financial infrastructure.

Harmonisation is crucial for bolstering investor confidence and reducing barriers to capital flow. In situations where the global financial system falls short in providing adequate inclusive climate investments for developing nations, the BRICS initiative takes on even greater significance.

A session addressing this topic will be held at the Russian Pavilion at COP28 on 6th December titled, "Ahead of the Russia's BRICS Presidency: Developing energy cooperation for a just energy transition". It will delve into the results of the BRICS Energy Research Cooperation Platform's work in 2023. Focus areas include energy security, training personnel for the energy sector, developing national energy transition models,

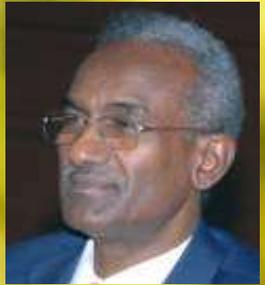
and charting the course for energy dialogue during Russia's BRICS Presidency in 2024.

A more comprehensive session will be held on December 12th also at the Russian pavilion titled "Harmonisation of responsible finance infrastructure in BRICS countries: Paving the way to a common sustainable future". Speakers will explore joint actions necessary for mobilising climate and sustainable financing. Additionally, participants will discuss opportunities for developing and implementing common recommendations, standards, and requirements in the field of sustainable finance, aligning with BRICS countries' sustainable development priorities.

The session will also propose key steps towards harmonising ESG finance infrastructure. A panel of distinguished speakers representing BRICS financial institutions, government officials, and leading research institutions will lead the discussions.



Changing Course in Climate Change Action



Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif
Chief Technical Advisor
Zayed Intl. Foundation
for the Environment
Founding Chairperson
of Bi'ati Organization

122

GREEN FLASH

As the COP28 in Dubai runs with tremendous enthusiasm and high hopes, we must focus more on initiatives calling for course correction if we are to achieve real results on the ground.

A November 2023 report by the World Economic Forum, in collaboration with the Boston Consulting Group, stated that we now need 7% reduction in annual emissions to achieve the 1.5°C target of climate change mitigations, while only 35% of emissions are covered by a national net-zero commitment by 2050 and less than 20% of the world's top 1000 companies have set 1.5°C degree targets with no clear public transition plans. Moreover, economically attractive technologies of today and the near future can achieve no more than half of the needed reductions in emissions to reach the 1.5°C target. This is in addition to the fact that more than 50% of climate funding needs are not met yet.

The big question remains unanswered: what are the practical mechanisms for achieving real reductions in emissions in a profit-oriented world?

Green energy technologies developed worldwide are not enough to achieve the set targets while rational use of resources and recycling technologies are not

effective enough due to lack of awareness. Promoting green technologies, which requires developing hardware and software, is important but awareness generation is critical too.

Climate funding concentrates more on technologies (Hardware & Software) but very little is being directed towards raising public awareness (Humanware), probably for two reasons: one, because dealing with human beings and changing their habits and behavior require more patience and perseverance. Secondly, developing technologies is more business oriented and has the potential for high profit returns.

I believe humans are the fastest and more sustainable mode for reducing emissions and mitigating climate change impact. This calls for a rethink on funding priorities and I am certain that any dollar spent on public awareness will see better returns in actual long-term impact on climate change action.

Let us focus on solid strategies of inculcating environmental education in primary and secondary school curricula in addition to raising public awareness by civil society organizations via public lectures, workshops, music, drama, theatre and other art forms, in addition to festivals and celebrations.



Zayed International Prize for the Environment



Together for a green century

THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD
IS IN OUR HANDS.

ACT NOW!

