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UAE highlights climate action,
food security efforts at 77th UNGA



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Chairman's Message

The UAE continues to engage with the international community to foster a climate of sustained cooperation and make immediate and long-term difference to peoples and communities around the world.

Recently, by underlining its policy priorities and vision for international peace, security, and cooperation in the presence of more than 150 heads of state and government at the 77th UN General Assembly, the UAE has reaffirmed its commitment to building partnerships to address urgent global challenges and to deliver meaningful outcomes through concrete solutions.

As host of the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28) in 2023, it is imperative that we take action now to harness all capabilities to develop comprehensive solutions to address global warming and its impact.

The devastating floods, heat waves, and droughts that we witnessed recently around the world are intensifying humanitarian crises and security threats, especially in regions most vulnerable to climate change. The need of the hour is to



**Prof. Mohammed
bin Fahad**
Executive Editor

build partnerships and promote joint action to support climate action through renewable energy, and proper financing.

Even as we step up efforts for collective climate action, we must sustain our focus on the global food crisis. The current food crisis spotlights the need for greater investments in food and water in fragile countries.

The UAE has risen to the challenge with increased investments in food systems innovation. Last year, in partnership with the US, the UAE launched the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate) with over 200 government and non-government partners and raised USD 4 billion for addressing climate change and global hunger through new technology and approaches.

Such joint action is critical to improving food production and reducing global hunger.

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PUBLISHED BY



Executive Director

Prof. Mohammed Bin Fahad

Advisors

Dr. Hamdan K. Al Shaer
Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif

Marketing

marketing@zayedprize.org.ae

Editor

Sangeetha K
editor@zayedprize.org.ae
mail@zayedprize.org.ae

Design Director

Nash - Intoto Marketing
Communications
editor@zayedprize.org.ae

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Upcoming events

World Migratory Bird Day

Date: October 08

Webinar

Artificial light is increasing globally by at least 2 per cent per year and it is known to adversely affect many bird species. Light pollution is a significant threat to migratory birds, causing disorientation when they fly at night, leading to collisions with buildings, perturbing their internal clocks, or interfering with their ability to undertake long-distance migrations.

Solutions to light pollution are readily available. For instance, more and more cities in the world are taking measures to dim building lights during migration phases in spring and autumn. Best practice guidelines are also being developed to address this growing issue and ensure that action is taken globally to help birds migrate safely.

The annual awareness-raising campaign will help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

World Food Day

Date: October 14

Location: FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everything – including what and how we eat. From long lines at supermarkets to closure of restaurants and unavailability of food items, the pandemic also saw many producers struggle to sell their produce.

As countless family meals were missed, and millions pushed into hunger, farmers and food workers emerged as the true heroes, toiling on the front lines in fields and factories to provide food. The pandemic showed how we're all connected, and how no one's safe until we're all safe.

World Food Day is the right time to take a moment to share our gratitude for the food we eat and the people who produce it.

At the FAO HQ, the FAO Director-General will be joined by the Heads of the other Rome-based UN agencies and other special guests will participate in the ceremony, which will feature special messages from Pope Francis and the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres.

MoCCA Highlights UAE's Climate Action, Food Security Efforts At UNGA

Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, participated in the 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York as part of the UAE delegation, led by H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. During the global gathering, she highlighted the country's efforts in sustainable



The 77th session of the United Nations General Assembly was held under the theme "A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges"

development, climate action, and food security, and explored new synergies in this space with other countries in the run-up to the 28th UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) that the UAE will host in 2023.

Plastic Pollution

At the event, the UAE joined the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) to End Plastic Pollution that aims to eliminate plastic pollution by 2040. Launched in August 2022, the body is working on developing an ambitious international instrument based on a comprehensive approach that ensures urgent action and effective interventions along the full lifecycle of plastics.

She said, "The UAE is proud to be a member of the HAC to End Plastic Pollution, whose objective is to combat pollution on all fronts and reduce its negative impacts on the environment. To

UAE's efforts in sustainable development, climate action, and food security, highlighted at UNGA in the run-up to UAE's hosting of COP28 in 2023



address the root causes of plastic pollution, our government and the private sector are taking measures to shift towards a more circular plastics economy and adopt environment-friendly waste management solutions."

She added, "We will support the Coalition's efforts to build a global roadmap applying an all-inclusive, sustainable, systematic, and circular approach across the full lifecycle of plastics. This includes maximising resource efficiency in plastics production, boosting the supply of recyclable plastics, increasing recycled content, promoting responsible consumption of plastics, and implementing environmentally sound management and recycling of plastic waste."

The minister called on all countries to work towards the prevention, reduction, and elimination of plastic pollution, and to strengthen

regional and global cooperation in this regard.

Food systems

Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri delivered the opening remarks at the first consultation on "Food Systems and Agriculture Priorities and Potential", co-hosted by the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE), the Office of the UAE's Special Envoy for Climate Change, and the Food Action Alliance on the sidelines of the UNGA. The session brought together agriculture and food systems stakeholders from around the world to shape expectations for the role food security and climate-smart agriculture will play at COP28.

In addition, the minister shared the UAE's experience in building resilience across all aspects at a roundtable themed "Joining the Effort to Drive Global Resilience", organised by



the World Economic Forum Resilience Consortium.

During the high-level dinner on "Tackling barriers to ambitious action on food for people, nature, and climate", organised by the Food and Land Use Coalition, the UN Foundation, and the ClimateWorks Foundation, the minister stressed the significance of addressing food systems in the fight against climate change. In this context, she highlighted the work of the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate, a joint UAE-US initiative that aspires to increase and accelerate investment in climate-smart agricultural innovation and R&D worldwide.

Moreover, she emphasised the importance of innovation, knowledge-sharing, and nutrition security in building sustainable food systems in the face of climate change-related challenges at

the inaugural meeting of the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement Lead Group.

Almheiri also attended the first in-person meeting of the HAC for Nature and People International Steering Committee, co-chaired by France, the UK, and Costa Rica, which examined the implementation of the target to designate 30 percent of Earth's land and ocean area as protected areas by 2030.

On the sidelines of the UNGA, Almheiri held several bilateral meetings with high-level officials. She started off discussing the UAE's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger, including its work on AIM for Climate, with Dr Cary Fowler, United States (US) Special Envoy for Global Food Security.

Together with Lana Nusseibeh, UAE Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN, the

UAE joins the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) to End Plastic Pollution, which aims to eliminate plastic pollution by 2040



minister enjoyed an insightful talk with Cindy McCain, Permanent Representative of the US to the UN Agencies in Rome, on strengthening global food security.

During her meeting with Dr. Gunhild Stordalen, Founder and Executive Chair of the Education and Agriculture Together (EAT) Foundation, the minister reviewed progress in the work of global food alliances since the Food for Future Summit at Expo 2020 Dubai. In addition, she engaged in a productive discussion with senior Citibank officials on channelling finance into green, sustainable, and climate-resilient projects.

Environmental protection

Almheiri also spoke to Joaquim Álvaro Pereira Leite, Minister of Environment of Brazil, about the two countries' shared commitment to environmental protection, and explored

opportunities to step up bilateral cooperation with Bogdan Aurescu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania.

On her final day at the UNGA, Almheiri analysed the intrinsic link between climate and conflict with Justin Vaïsse, Founder and Director-General of the Paris Peace Forum and discussed ways for Columbia University to support COP28 through research with Lee Bollinger, President of the university.

She also joined His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan and other UAE delegates for bilateral meetings with the US, France, Ukraine, and the International Crisis Group.

The 77th session of UNGA was held under the theme "A watershed moment: transformative solutions to interlocking challenges".

UAE Spotlights Agri-Tech, Innovation At G20 Meeting

Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, participated in the Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Bali as part of the G20 Summit, hosted in Indonesia.

At a session themed 'Innovative Agri-preneurship through Digital Agriculture to Improve Farmers' Livelihood in Rural Areas', Minister Almheiri



spoke about the UAE's efforts that use innovation and agri-tech to support smallholder farmers and enhance their contribution to food security. She noted that innovative agricultural methods are the building blocks of sustainable food systems.

The Minister said, "In the UAE, we have an arid environment that provides less-than-favorable conditions for agriculture, such as scarce water supply and limited arable land. To overcome these obstacles, we are leveraging the latest technologies and incentivising entrepreneurship in the food and agricultural sectors. Our journey has been truly remarkable, from simple irrigation systems and low-tech net houses to seasonal crops, all the way to today's high-tech controlled-environment systems to grow a wide variety of produce year-round."

Minister Almheiri highlighted the UAE's

agricultural projects in developing countries aimed at helping resource-limited and marginalised people in rural communities, particularly women and youth, achieve sustainable income as well as food and nutrition security.

"The outcomes of this meeting will put our agricultural sector on a sustainable path," she said.

The Minister also attended two other sessions, dedicated to building resilient and sustainable agriculture and food systems and promoting open, fair, predictable, transparent, and non-discriminatory agricultural trade to ensure availability and affordability of food for everyone.

The UAE is one of four guest countries, alongside Spain, Netherlands, and Singapore, invited by Indonesia to participate in the G20 Summit in November 2022 in Bali.

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Ahmed Bin Saeed Inaugurates 8th World Green Economy Summit

Under the patronage of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy (DSCE) and Honorary President of the Emirates Energy Award (EEA), inaugurated the 8th edition of the World Green Economy Summit (WGES) on September 28.



Two-day event was attended by several prominent climate action leaders, ministers and officials in all sectors of the green economy and sustainable development from around the world

The two-day event was organised by Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, the World Green Economy Organisation (WGEO), and the DSCE at the Dubai World Trade Centre. A large number of ministers, officials, and experts from around the world participated in the summit.

Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Vice Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, MD & CEO of DEWA and Chairman of WGEO, delivered the keynote speech at the summit.

"This year, we organise the 8th edition of the World Green Economy Summit under the wise leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan who said in 2015, 'There will be a time, 50 years from now, when we load the last barrel of oil aboard a ship. If our investment today is right, I think - dear brothers and sisters - we will celebrate that moment'.

The 8th World Green Economy Summit focused on four main pillars: Energy, Finance, Food Security, and Youth

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"This summit also supports the vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid to launch the 'Green Economy for Sustainable Development' strategy to build a green economy in the UAE under the theme 'A Green Economy for Sustainable Development,'" Al Tayer said.

Held under the theme of 'Climate Action Leadership through Collaboration: The Roadmap to Net-Zero', the World Green Economy Summit this year explored opportunities for collaboration and exchange of knowledge and expertise among stakeholders, international and regional organisations, as well as public and private sectors, with the goal of promoting the transition towards a green economy. The theme reflects the need for international cooperation to combat climate challenges which affect the entire world,

Al Tayer said that the world has witnessed major

crises across all sectors due to climate change, which has caused natural disasters in various regions worldwide. Last month, Europe experienced its worst drought in at least 500 years, shrinking water levels in key rivers. This has negatively impacted trade across rivers and canals, which contributes around \$80 billion to the Eurozone economy. Just recently, one third of Pakistan was completely and deeply flooded with rainwater bringing widespread destruction and misery.

According to the World Health Organisation, water scarcity impacts 40 percent of the world's population, and as many as 700 million people are at risk of being displaced due to drought by 2030, he added. The Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2022 indicates that climate change will impact water quality and availability. Globally, 800



million to three billion people are projected to experience chronic water scarcity due to droughts at 2°C warming.

"Although climate change is the defining crisis of our time, yet we are not powerless in the face of this global threat. The UAE has been leading global efforts in tackling climate change and has always pioneered efforts to address global challenges and promote quality investments in the green economy. Selecting the UAE to host the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) underlines the world's recognition of the UAE's efforts and its effective role in combating climate change," he stated.

"Last year, the UAE announced the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative, with investments of more than AED600 billion in clean and renewable

energy until 2050. This makes it the first country in the Middle East and North Africa to launch such an initiative. The announcement comes as the pinnacle of the UAE's efforts and journey in climate action over the past three decades since it acceded to the UNFCCC in 1995.

"His Highness Sheikh Mohammed also launched the Dubai Net Zero Carbon Emissions Strategy 2050 to drive sustainability, innovation, and transformation towards a sustainable green economy, as well as provide 100 percent of the energy production capacity from clean energy sources by 2050," Al Tayer added.

Al Tayer explained that Dubai has succeeded in reducing carbon emissions by 21 percent in 2021, exceeding the target set in the Dubai Carbon Abatement Strategy 2021, which aimed to reduce carbon emissions by 16 percent by 2021.

WGES 2022 was held under the theme 'Climate Action Leadership through Collaboration: The Roadmap to Net-Zero'



Al Tayer noted that the UAE hosts specialised international institutions in the green economy, such as the International Renewable Energy Agency in Abu Dhabi and the WGEO in Dubai, among other leading organisations. The UAE consistently supports global efforts to address climate change by announcing effective solutions that enable low-carbon sectors, as well as leading projects that support the country's future strategies and aspirations, such as Masdar City in Abu Dhabi and the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park in Dubai.

"The solutions necessary to reach net zero in the future are within our reach, but we are running a race against time. Today, green hydrogen has become one of the key enablers to achieving Dubai's plan to reach net zero by 2050. In this regard, DEWA is developing a strategy and roadmap for green hydrogen in cooperation with

international consultants," he stated.

"The 8th WGEO Summit focuses on four key pillars of the green economy: Energy, Finance, Food Security, and Youth. The Energy pillar looks into solutions to enhance energy efficiency and decarbonise the energy systems; the finance pillar focuses on attracting and encouraging green investments; and the Food Security pillar examines approaches and methodologies to build resilience and sustainability into value chains to meet the growing challenges in this area.

"The fourth pillar highlights the need to support and empower the youth who are the driving force of sustainable development and positive change in order to prepare the next generation of climate action leaders," Al Tayer added.

Al Tayer emphasised that given the vital role



young people play in the effective implementation of climate action, WGES hosts the Regional Youth Conference to bring together MENA youth to discuss their priorities. This precedes the World Youth Conference that will be held in conjunction with COP27 in November in Egypt, as well as at COP28 next year in Expo City Dubai.

The first day also featured a panel session titled "Implementing the Paris Agreement: Building a MENA climate action legacy". Dr. Muawieh Khalid Radaideh, Minister of Environment in Jordan; Kavydass Ramano, Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change in Mauritius; Dr. Dena Assaf, Resident Coordinator, UN Resident Coordinator in the UAE; James Grabert, Director, Mitigation Division, UNFCCC, and Hana Al Hashimi, Chief Climate Negotiator, Office of the UAE Special Envoy for Climate Change, took part in the session, which was

moderated by John Defterios, Professor of Business, NYU Abu Dhabi and World Economic Forum Energy Fellow.

Sheikh Ahmed honoured winners of the 4th cycle of the Emirates Energy Awards, organised by DSCE under the theme "Inspiring Innovation for Sustainable Energy". A total of 28 winners in 10 categories were recognised for their achievements and innovations in providing the best energy efficiency and alternative energy solutions.





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WETEX, DSS 2022: Focus On Digital Transformation, Smart Cities

The 24th Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition (WETEX) and Dubai Solar Show (DSS), held from September 27 - 29, saw participation from 1,750 companies from 55 countries, with 20 international pavilions spread across 62,513 sqm.

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) organised the exhibition under the directives of



Prominent global organisations specialised in water, clean and renewable energy, the environment, gas, green development, sustainability and related industries presented their latest technologies and innovative products

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy (DSCE), at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

The exhibition, held under the theme 'At the Forefront of Sustainability', saw the launch of several new technologies that support the acceleration of digital transformation and the use of environmentally friendly technologies.

Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD and CEO of DEWA, Founder and Chairman of WETEX and DSS, noted that the exhibition, which is the largest of its kind in the region and one of the most prominent global specialised exhibitions, attaches great importance to technologies and

Annual event hosted 20 international pavilions and more than 1,750 companies showcasing latest innovations in renewable energy and sustainability



programmes that support the success of smart cities and smart networks.

This aims to maintain the availability of integrated and connected services around the clock, and to provide an advanced infrastructure for managing facilities and services through smart and interconnected systems based on the latest disruptive technologies and the technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain, energy storage, Internet of Things (IoT) and others.

"WETEX and DSS annually witness a significant number of major companies from the region and the world, to promote their innovative products, services and technologies in the sectors of energy, water, sustainability, green technologies, renewable and clean energy, green buildings, electric vehicles and other vital sectors," he said.

"The exhibition reflects the keenness and interest of Dubai in supporting global efforts to increase the use of renewable energy and promote sustainability. This is in line with the wise leadership's vision to promote sustainable development in the UAE and consolidate Dubai's position as a global hub for a green economy," he added.

"The exhibition is an annual opportunity to review the best solutions and practices to meet environmental challenges, exchange ideas and experiences, and discuss the latest technologies and solutions in the green economy, smart cities, innovation and sustainable development," added Al Tayer.

Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of RTA, said, "Our participation in WETEX aims to showcase



the efforts and initiatives of RTA in raising the maturity levels of sustainability besides reviewing the latest smart technologies and innovative solutions for renewable energy, water and the environment. It also offers a chance to meet with international experts and specialists in the green economy, smart cities, innovation and sustainable development."

"WETEX is one of the premier global events in the water, energy, and technology sectors, and Siemens showcased its best and most promising solutions that help customers in their digitalisation journeys and make these industries more sustainable and efficient," said Helmut von Struve, CEO of Siemens in the UAE and the Middle East.

"At WETEX this year, we showcased our latest projects, and our efforts in supplying the region

with our newest digital solutions and products such as HTLS conductors and power transformers," said Mohamed Naguib, CEO of Elsewedy Electric UAE.

"At the event, we focused on how SAP delivers solutions to companies in the UAE that enable them to achieve their emission-reduction goals. At SAP, we embed sustainability into core business processes, so companies can improve data collection and transparency to meet current and anticipated regulatory compliance needs. We have also developed programmes specifically designed to manage sustainability," said Zakaria Haltout, Managing Director at SAP UAE.

"In collaboration with public and private entities in the region, Honeywell has been at the forefront of delivering advanced, digital solutions that support the strategic objectives of the UAE,

Held under the slogan 'At the forefront of sustainability', new environment-friendly technologies were in focus at WETEX, DSS 2022



including its immediate and long-term sustainability goals. We showcased our ready-now technologies that are today helping shape the energy sector in the Middle East," said George Bou Mitri, Vice President and General Manager, Honeywell Performance Materials and Technologies, Middle East and North Africa.

"Our participation in WETEX this year witnessed a major move forward towards a new phase of growth and a key milestone in the company's 19-year successful journey. We plan to go beyond sustainable cities and enter into new ventures to spearhead the way toward a net-zero carbon future.

"WETEX provides an important opportunity and platform to exchange ideas, build partnerships, and review the latest technologies in the water, energy, technology, and environment sectors,"

said Faris Saeed, Chairman, Diamond Developers.

"Visa is proud to have achieved carbon neutrality in 2020 and is striving to achieve net zero emissions by 2040. We are also working with clients and partners globally to help promote sustainability in the payments industry as well as support cardholder and business choices through the transition.

"We were thrilled to be part of the conversation at WETEX and spread a hopeful message to inspire others to join us in building a greener and sustainable future," said Dr. Saeeda Jaffar, SVP and Group Country Manager for GCC - Visa.

During WETEX and DSS, the international company Vivavis showcased its most innovative services for smart grids and advanced digital technologies for the energy and water sectors.



These services include monitoring, managing, and controlling power and water networks remotely and collecting, saving, and investing energy data. Moreover, it develops smart meters, increasing the efficiency of electricity and water networks, saving effort and time, and reducing emissions.

Dell also participated with a number of its digital transformation services that help companies adopt technologies in all aspects of their business to accelerate innovation, build their digital future, transform information technology, and protect their assets and information.

During the exhibition, Atlas Copco, a world leader in sustainable air compressor solutions, debuted its new eco-friendly ZP Oil-free Air-cooled High-Pressure Compressors, for water distribution applications. "Our Latest high-efficiency compressed air technologies contribute to

making the sector greener and reducing carbon emissions. Compressed air accounts for nearly 10% of the global energy consumption," said Amr Ayyad, Business Line Manager for the Oil-Free Air at Atlas Copco.

MK Business Link, in cooperation with the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment, the Polish Chamber of Commerce, and many innovative Polish companies, also participated this year to showcase their unique, sustainable solutions within the Polish pavilion.

In addition, a delegation from the Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment participated in a series of specialised sessions to highlight the most prominent Polish companies working in green energy and the most important advantages of the "GreenEvo - Green Technology Accelerator" project.

The exhibition reviewed best solutions and practices and outlined solutions in the green economy, smart cities, innovation and sustainable development



RAD showcased its latest technologies in the Industrial IoT with advanced computing and secure operational online communications for power grids and offered the best solutions for the energy, utilities and other critical infrastructure sectors, including remote monitoring, control and automation, industrial Internet of Things with edge computing, as well as micro smart devices for network security and many other innovations.

ATDX showcased its latest innovative products and technologies in sustainable digital transformation.

Shunya Ekai Technologies introduced three new technologies that enable digital transformation: RIOT ENV for early detection of floods and forest fires, RIOT EM ONE for real-time air-conditioning health monitoring, and RIOT WM1 technology for

waste level monitoring. All of these technologies rely on robotics, IoT and software.

In addition, DEWA showcased through its platforms participating in the exhibition, a number of its smart grid services, including the innovative "Big Data and Analytics platform" that has been implemented at DEWA, which combines big data, artificial intelligence and advanced analytics capabilities.

The platform is suitable for complex analytics applications that require massive data ingestion and processing. DEWA also highlighted the projects of Digital DEWA, the digital arm of DEWA, and its subsidiaries, which were launched by DEWA as part of the Dubai 10X initiative to make the Government of Dubai 10 years ahead of other cities.

Global Alliance On Green Economy Launched At Dubai Summit

The World Green Economy Summit (WGES), which concluded on September 29 at the Dubai World Trade Centre, saw the launch of the 'Global Alliance on Green Economy'.

The 'Global Alliance on Green Economy' aims to build a coalition of countries, prioritising a green economy in the context of climate action and sustainable development, to enhance the



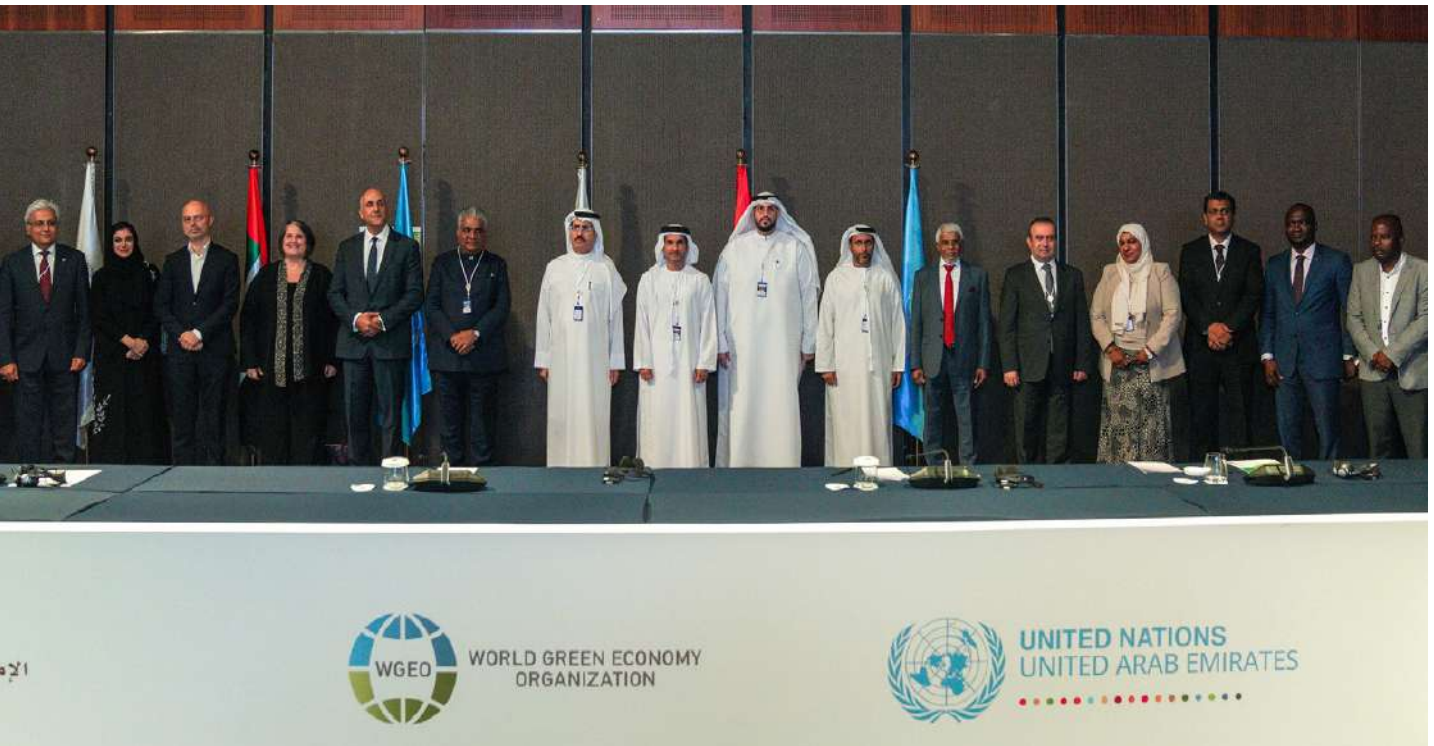
Alliance aims to enhance the capacity of developing countries, provide support for their green economy transition projects and exchange knowledge on implementation

capacity of developing countries, provide support for their green economy transition projects and exchange knowledge on implementation.

The launch was announced by Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Chairman of the World Green Economy Organisation, and MD and CEO of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), during a ministerial roundtable on green economy on the opening day of the Summit on September 28.

The Ministerial Roundtable on Green Economy was attended by Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, India; Hussein Makhoul, Minister of Local Administration and Environment, Syria; Naseer Ahmed, Minister of Environment, Sri Lanka; Dr. Mona Ali Mohammed Ahmed, Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR),

*Coalition will address pressing issues
such as food security and carbon
markets to accelerate energy transition*



Sudan; Kavydass Ramano, Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, Mauritius; Adam Ohirsi, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Somalia; and a number of global senior officials.

During the meeting, Al Tayer commended the commitment of the participating countries and their efforts towards the global transition to a green economy that ensures sustainable development, resilience to climate change, and poverty eradication. He noted that the roundtable aims to foster a green way of living by ensuring a healthy balance between economic growth, social prosperity, and environmental protection.

"For us in the UAE, pioneering the adoption of green economy principles and practices within sustainable development, resilience to climate change, and poverty eradication are paramount.

We have embarked on a journey to be a global hub and effective example of a new green economy that can achieve economic sustainability while protecting the environment for future generations," said Al Tayer.

"Advancing the green economy requires international cooperation, guaranteeing a new approach and a stable partnership among all stakeholders globally. Linking the Paris Agreement goals and its corresponding articles, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with climate planning and climate finance, are key synergies in this transition. We truly believe this harmonisation to be essential in the lead-up to COP27 and COP28 in Egypt and the UAE, respectively," he added.

"By launching the UAE Global Alliance on Green Economy today, we are creating a stronger



partnership among ourselves to work towards a vision to which we have committed ourselves to achieving. We will now be engaging with countries to identify their needs, priorities, and challenges in the context of the green economy, during the next three months.

This multi-stakeholder exercise and inclusive consultation with countries will lead to the launch of a suite of flagship projects by the World Green Economy Organization (WGE0) to support the green economy agenda in the countries joining the Alliance.

"The work under the Alliance will address pressing issues such as food security and carbon markets and how cooperation can be increased at the South-South and North-South levels," said Al Tayer. "The UAE will continue to support international gatherings like this, bringing people

together to create a platform to foster the green economy and sustainable development."

"If we want to fast-track our transition to a green economy, we must all work together, and to do so, we need one platform with one common objective. The UAE Global Alliance on Green Economy seeks to provide such a platform. I extend my sincere appreciation to WGE0 for supporting the Alliance," said Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment.

Participants in the ministerial roundtable underlined the importance of the Alliance's launch especially in the current phase of severe climate challenges. Such developments highlight the pressing need for concerted efforts to implement the Paris Agreement goals and the 2030 Action Plan for Sustainable Development.

Large 'Big Zero' Installations For Collection of Single-Use Plastic Bottles

The Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) has introduced a range of 'Big Zero' installations throughout Abu Dhabi, which will act as collection points for the public to deposit single-use plastic bottles for recycling.

The installations will be placed in prime locations with high footfall such as malls, parks and events. The 'Big Zero' installations are part of the larger

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Mission to Zero campaign. The comprehensive campaign aims to achieve an aspirational zero target for single-use plastic consumption, carbon emissions, waste, and harm to biodiversity in the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

The installations will be mobile and will move to different places in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain and Al Dhafra Region to ensure that the capital is fully covered.

Ahmed Baharoon, Executive Director of Environment Information, Science Outreach Management Division at EAD, said, "Mission to Zero is a multi-faceted outreach campaign and we want all residents of Abu Dhabi to join us in achieving the zero target of single-use plastic consumption.

"To support this aim, we are introducing 'Big Zero' installations that the public will be able to find in

hotspots around Abu Dhabi, where they can deposit single-use plastic bottles for recycling purposes."

Another element of Mission to Zero is the schools' 'Pile it Up' Campaign - a challenge launched in Abu Dhabi schools that encourages them to compete in the collection of the most single-use plastic bottles for recycling. Furthermore, EAD has tasked young people to visit small grocery stores with posters to educate them on the harms of single-use plastic and encourage them to use more eco-friendly alternatives.

Mission to Zero is a component of the Single-Use Plastic Policy launched by EAD in Abu Dhabi in 2020, and the implementation of a ban on single-use plastic bags in Abu Dhabi officially began on June 1st 2022.

USD 2 Million Global FoodTech Challenge Announces 30 Shortlisted Start-Ups

A selection of 30 innovative agritech and foodtech start-ups from around the world, working to address food security challenges, have been named as shortlisted teams vying to win the global FoodTech Challenge that has a pooled prize of US\$2 million.

The second edition of the FoodTech Challenge seeks to find the next wave of technology



The FoodTech Challenge looks for innovative solutions that address food production and food loss and waste challenges, from indoor and vertical farming to upcycled ingredients and waste efficiency

innovations on the cusp of transforming traditional agriculture practices efficiently and sustainably. Officially launched at Expo City in Dubai in March 2022, the competition is organised by the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and Tamkeen, with ASPIRE as the lead partner.

The shortlisted start-ups have been selected from 667 submissions across 79 countries, representing a 52 percent increase in entries compared to the first edition of the competition, which saw 437 applications from 68 countries, with previous winners announced from Australia, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and the UK.

Of the shortlisted start-ups, 50 percent of proposals were focused on tackling food production – with a heavy focus on insect farming and aquaculture, farm management, plant-based

*The 30 shortlisted start-ups
have been selected from 667
submissions across 79
countries*



solutions, and precision farming. Applications addressing food loss and waste solutions account for the other 50 percent of the shortlisted start-ups, which featured food waste tech, food sharing platforms, supply chain monitoring, and traceability as key themes.

Silal and ADQ have supported the food production track of the competition with their industry expertise, and Emirates Foundation has supported the food loss and waste track, which aligns with Ne'ma, the national food loss and waste initiative that aims to promote positive consumer behavior to preserve and sustain food resources for future generations. The national initiative also aims to contribute to the UAE's commitment to eradicate 50 percent of food waste by 2030 in line with Target 12.3 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.

This year, the largest number of shortlisted start-ups came from the UK, the UAE, Israel, Spain, USA, and Singapore. The FoodTech Challenge also saw an encouraging increase in youth participation, with 47 percent of the teams being between 18-35 years old.

The shortlisted candidates were selected by a strong multi-sector bench of 28 technical and commercial judges. In the next phase of the competition, they will be assessed by the competition's partners in panel interviews, and then by nine finale judges to ensure that each entry is rigorously analysed from an array of perspectives.

Salmeen Al Ameri, CEO of Silal, one of the agricultural entities involved in the judging process, said, "This competition provides an ideal platform where innovative agritech start-ups



come together to develop effective solutions that help us build a robust agriculture system for future generations."

Khuloud Al Nuwais, Chief Sustainability Officer, Emirates Foundation, a technical judge for the FoodTech Challenge, stated, "The shortlisted teams have all demonstrated a passion and dedication for addressing food supply chain issues and increasing food security. We are eager to see these concepts progress as they move from lab to market both in the UAE and beyond."

The next stage of the competition will identify 10 finalists. From these finalists, four winning teams will be selected to take away prizes from a USD 2 million prize pool, which includes up to USD 400,000 in cash, and eligibility for support programmes available through the competition's enablement partners that include acceleration

support from newest entity Hub71 – valued up to USD 540,000, an acceleration from Catalyst valued up to USD 760,000, as well as grants from the Authority of Social Contribution valued up to USD 500,000 for social impact-related projects.

The winners will not only receive financial rewards, but the partners will also collectively provide a critical community and support network to help the winners to set up in the UAE and scale up their concepts. Abu Dhabi Global Market and Abu Dhabi Residents Office, for example, will provide support for UAE commercial registration with 'Golden Visas'. The Competitiveness Office of Abu Dhabi will provide technical, legal, and financial support for patent registration, and the Khalifa Fund for Enterprise Development will help with mentorship and go-to-market support for local agri-tech experts.

Treated Sewage Water Improves Wheat Growth, Production In UAE

A study by Emirati researcher Dr. Fatima Al Hammadi, titled, "Using and Assessing Treated Water in Wheat Production", reached key outcomes in terms of accelerating growth and improving the production of wheat using treated sewage water.

The field study focused on the cultivation of two types of wheat modified for planting in the UAE's



environment from two treatment plants in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain using three techniques, traditional field cultivation by drip irrigation, hydroponics, and climate change effects.

Dr. Al Hammadi said the use of hydroponics technology achieves promising results when using treated sewage water in the preparation of the aqueous solution. The results from trials in various climate change rooms attest to a direct relationship between the proportion of carbon dioxide and the growth of wheat plants, and increasing the incidence of ultraviolet rays led to significant changes to the growth rate of wheat compared to the experiment's control group when an adequate amount of nutrients and other physiological factors that stimulate growth and increase production are available.

The highest wheat productivity rate was achieved

when using treated sewage water produced from Al Ain City stations, due to its chemical and physical composition, she added, noting that relevant authorities are currently considering the possibility of benefitting from this water for agricultural purposes, in line with relevant standards, which could involve many agricultural crops. New infrastructure of sewage plants will increase treated water quality used in several sectors, including agriculture, she noted.

Dr. Al Hammadi said key factors that improve wheat quality are soil fertility, which must contain important nutrients for wheat crops, the quality of irrigated water used, as well as choosing the appropriate planting season. The study concluded that treated sewage water production rises with population growth, social advancement and economic development.

Dubai Can Cuts Single-Use Plastic Usage By 3.5 Million

Dubai Can, the citywide sustainability movement launched in February 2022 by H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council, has seen a reduction in the usage of an equivalent of over 3.5 million 500 ml single-use plastic water bottles. The movement has achieved this extraordinary success as measured by water



Dubai Can initiative reduces usage of an equivalent of over 3.5 million 500 ml single-use plastic water bottles

consumed from Dubai Can water fountains installed throughout the city.

During the last six months, 46 fountains have been installed in various locations across the city, with the help of the initiative's stakeholders, sponsors and partners. The fountains are now in various Dubai neighbourhoods, including Kite Beach, Dubai Marina, JLT, Downtown Dubai, Dubai Harbour, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai Festival City, Khawaneej, and others.

Yousuf Lootah, Executive Director - Tourism Development & Investments at Dubai's Department of Economy and Tourism said, "While encouraging residents and visitors to commit to a paradigm shift in their lifestyles, this initiative has a larger goal: creating a city that is the world's most visited and the best place to live and work in, as envisaged by the

Initiative encourages UAE residents to make behavioural changes and inspires conscious consumerism



Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan.

"The strength of the city's public-private partnership is essential to realising the Dubai Sustainability Strategy. As we look forward to the campaign's continued success, this excellent collaboration model will propel Dubai Can to greater heights," said Lootah.

Since the campaign's launch, the movement has extended far beyond the fountains themselves, with people across the city encouraged to purchase refillable bottles. Many private companies have invested in water fountains for their offices to discourage employees from using single-use plastics in their workspaces.

The initiative has also encouraged UAE residents to make behavioural changes and inspired conscious consumerism to achieve a more sustainable planet.

Dubai Can is well on track to meet the pledge of installing more than 50 fountains across the city by December 2022.

The initiative's efforts feed into Dubai's commitment to meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals, enhancing the city's reputation as a global liveability hub, and ensuring that people across the city have the opportunity to 'refill for life'.

The campaign aligns with the city's sustainable strategy. The focus on reducing the usage of single-use plastic bottles is the first phase of an enduring citywide sustainability initiative. As the momentum for sustainability measures accelerated, a ban on all single-use plastic bags came into effect on 1st June as part of a more comprehensive UAE initiative to protect the environment and reduce waste.

Dubai Municipality Completes 85% Of Waste-to-Energy Project

Dubai Municipality has announced that 85 percent of the DWMC, the world's largest waste-to-energy project, has been completed.

Construction of the landmark project began in 2021, in line with the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and



Construction of Dubai Waste Management Centre (DWMC) project began in 2021 to raise Dubai's profile as a global model for sustainable development

Ruler of Dubai, to raise the emirate's profile as a global model for sustainable development and consolidate its position as the best city to live and work in.

DWMC reflects Dubai's commitment to achieving sustainable development goals and reducing the emirate's carbon footprint. The project will contribute to Dubai Municipality's strategic objective of reducing and completely diverting waste from landfills by 2030.

Located in Dubai's Al Warsan area, the first-of-its-kind project will convert 45 percent of the emirate's municipal waste into renewable energy once complete.

The construction of the waste management centre is on schedule. The first phase of the world's most efficient energy project will be

State-of-the-art Japanese and Swiss technologies ensure emissions are environmentally friendly and odour-free



ready by 2023, while the entire project is scheduled to finish by 2024. With Dubai's population expected to continue growing at an increasingly rapid pace thanks to a surge in economic activities, the project would significantly minimise the potential volume of municipal waste in landfills and create alternative energy sources.

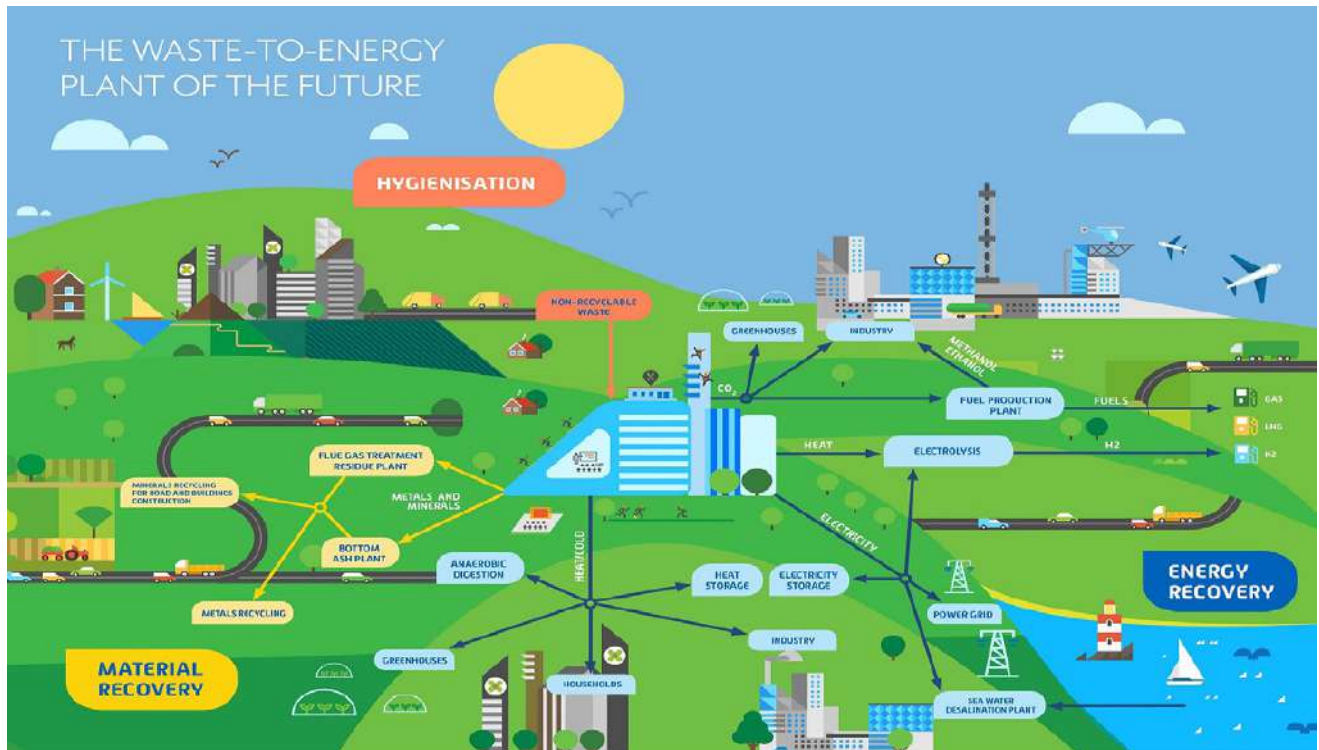
Dawoud Al Hajri, Director-General of Dubai Municipality, said the centre is a crucial pillar of Dubai's ambition to transform into one of the world's most sustainable cities. The plant, he said, provides an innovative solution to transforming huge quantities of waste into a sustainable source of clean energy.

Al Hajri pointed out that the centre reflects Dubai's efforts to protect the environment by implementing state-of-the-art technologies. He

noted that DWMC will boost the emirate's sustainability credentials, in line with national energy objectives and the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 that aims to make Dubai a global centre of clean energy and green economy.

"By reducing the amount of solid waste and providing alternative sources for generating clean energy, the project will contribute to achieving a sustainable and eco-friendly model of waste management. With the world's largest operational capacity, DWMC will process 1.9 million tonnes of waste annually and convert it into renewable energy, generating enough energy to power 135,000 homes," Al Hajri said.

The DWMC embodies the leadership's vision to transform Dubai into a carbon-neutral economy by 2050. It also aligns with Dubai's commitment to proactively shape and support the future of



energy and climate change. Upon completion, the mega project will support the country's strategy to increase the contribution of clean energy in the total energy mix to 50 percent by 2050.

Once fully operational, the plant's renewable energy, generated from treating waste, will feed the local electricity grid with 215MWh of clean energy. Through two of its five treatment lines, the centre will commence its initial operations at 40 percent by early 2023. It will process 2,000 tonnes of solid waste to produce 80MWh of renewable energy at this stage.

Covering an area of 400,000 square meters, the facility's generator and steam turbine, a key technology in producing electricity, have already been installed. The centre will rely on state-of-the-art Japanese and Swiss technologies for the treatment process that will ensure any emissions

are environmentally friendly and odour-free.

The centre will receive around 1,000 truckloads of waste daily, with a capacity to accommodate 88 trucks per hour. Through five treatment lines, the DWMC will have the capacity to process 5,666 tonnes of solid municipal waste per day.

Burnt waste will produce around 1,000 tonnes of bottom ash, which will be recycled and used in infrastructure projects. Dubai Municipality has launched an e-platform to exchange recyclable and reusable materials for reducing the quantities of waste produced and raising the percentage of waste diverted from landfills.

As part of its efforts to build a sustainable environment for the emirate's residents, Dubai Municipality has developed an integrated 20-year strategic plan for solid waste management.

'UAE Engages With International Partners To Address Global Energy Challenges'

Sharif Salim Al Olama, Undersecretary for Energy and Petroleum Affairs at the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, affirmed the UAE's commitment to constructive collaboration with the international community to confront challenges facing the global energy sector.

"The UAE is also keen to continue its efforts to

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develop the energy sector, especially clean energy, and invest in the future through a realistic vision that drives global prosperity," Al Olama told the G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting in Bali under Indonesia's first G20 Presidency on September 2, 2022.

"We in the UAE are keen to maintain constructive cooperation and engagement with our international partners to obtain the proper energy mix in alignment with environment protection objectives and reduction of carbon dioxide emissions. The UAE is ready to share its experiences in the clean energy sector and work together with regional and international partners to entrench its position in the industry and get ready for the next 50 years as it considers this sector a vital enabler and driver for sustainable development and a major attraction for foreign investment," he said.

The UAE, he added, is at the forefront in efforts of energy diversification and adoption of sustainability-driven technology to achieve climate neutrality as a key priority for the nation.

During the G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting, G20 Energy Ministers and major international energy organisations discussed key issues such as securing energy access, scaling up energy technologies, advancing energy financing and laying the path toward net-zero emissions (NZE) or carbon neutrality.

Al Olama met separately with Rob Jetten, Minister for Climate and Energy Policy of the Netherlands, and David Turk, United States Deputy Secretary of Energy, to discuss prospects for joint cooperation in sustainable development and preparations for COP 28 in the UAE in 2023.

2024 Chevrolet Blazer EV: Reimagining Performance, Design

Chevrolet's all-electric 2024 Blazer EV is expanding the brand's growing EV portfolio, making EV ownership more accessible, and driving Chevy into the heart of the growing midsize electric crossover segment.

Multiple distinct trims, multiple range options — Including an available GM-estimated range of up to 320 miles on a full charge — and available



The 2024 Blazer EV sets a new tone for electric SUVs, with options and intuitive technologies that help position Chevy for leadership in one of the fastest-growing EV segments

front-, rear- and all-wheel-drive configurations offer customers more choices, and a seamless EV experience designed to complement virtually every lifestyle.

Those choices include available 1LT, 2LT, RS and Chevy's first-ever electric SS performance model, along with a pursuit-rated Police Pursuit Vehicle (PPV) model for police fleet applications.

The Blazer EV is based on GM's innovative Ultium Platform with athletic styling that elevates the heralded design established in 2018 by the gas-powered Chevrolet Blazer, and performance cues inspired by the Camaro and Corvette.

With design and engineering developed to live up to the legacy of the iconic Super Sport performance designation, the Blazer EV SS offers customers the most powerful experience in the lineup. It features an exclusive performance

Lineup offers trim, drive system and range options, and the first electric SS performance model



AWD propulsion configuration designed to produce up to 557 horsepower and up to 648 lb-ft of torque, and unique WOW (Wide Open Watts) mode enabling 0-60 sprints of approximately less than 4 seconds.

Design details

The all-electric 2024 Blazer EV's dynamic and athletic styling is infused with Chevrolet's performance DNA to create an expressive design unlike anything else in the segment.

Each of the Blazer EV's trims share a muscular, athletic profile enabled by the Ultium Platform, including taut, converging body lines. They convey motion, while prominent front-fender extractor vents are a nod to Chevy's motorsports legacy.

The distinctive trims take on their own characters. The LT features a monochromatic appearance

and standard 19-inch wheels, while the RS strikes a sportier presence with a black grille and other black accents, along with standard 21-inch wheels. The SS serves up the most aggressive aesthetic, with a unique front grille, two-tone color scheme featuring a black roof and A-pillars that complement the Blazer EV's body color pallet, standard 22-inch wheels and more.

The front lighting also conveys the state of charge while the vehicle charges. A sequential orchestration of the lighting increases in speed and intensity as the battery's charge increases.

Inside, a refined cabin also makes a modern design statement. Like the exterior, many of its elements draw inspiration from Chevrolet's sports cars and performance heritage, such as a flat-bottom steering wheel for the RS and SS trims and sculpted vents inspired by turbines.

An expansive, 17.7-inch-diagonal color touchscreen is the focal point of the cabin and the command center for the vehicle's infotainment system and additional features.





Technology for every lifestyle

the Blazer EV features Chevy's latest charging, infotainment and driver-assistance technologies that work together holistically, offering customers greater convenience, comfort and confidence when it comes to making the transition to an all-electric vehicle.

It all starts when the driver enters the Blazer EV — there's no button to push to start the vehicle. With hands-free start, the driver simply pushes the brake pedal after closing the door and the Blazer EV is ready to go. The key fob authorizes the hands-free start system.

Technology highlights include:

- Powered-opening charge port door: It features a powered opening when the door is pushed
- Navigation to charging stations and route

planning: Through the MyChevy app, this feature helps locate and plot routes to charging stations

- Regen Braking: This feature can convert the kinetic energy of the vehicle's forward momentum into electricity that's stored in the battery pack to maximize the driving range. It also includes One-Pedal Driving, which can slow the vehicle to a full stop, using only the accelerator pedal.

Spirited, confident performance

the Blazer EV channels the power of the Ultium Platform, which is the foundation of GM's EV strategy and the driver of the company's vision for a zero-emissions future.

The all-new body architecture supports the multiple range options and the three available drive systems: front-wheel drive, all-wheel drive

Blazer EV is the complete package with style, performance and technology



and rear-wheel drive.

Additionally, the low, wide proportions of the Ultium Platform and the structural positioning of the battery pack, contribute to a comparatively low center of gravity that enhances driving stability. And regardless of the propulsion system, independent front and rear suspensions offer exceptional ride comfort and responsiveness.

The SS takes all the Blazer EV's performance capabilities to their zenith, with unique features designed to help maximize the Ultium Platform's capabilities.

When it comes to charging performance, the Blazer EV delivers with an 11.5 kW onboard AC charging module for home charging and public charging, along with high-speed DC public fast-

charging capability of up to 190 kW, enabling recharging of up to 78 miles of range to be added in approximately 10 minutes.

Blazer ev on the job – and on patrol

In addition to the “civilian” models of the new Blazer EV, Chevrolet will offer a specially developed Police Pursuit Vehicle (PPV) models. Based on the Blazer SS model, the Blazer EV PPV will have the largest Ultium battery in the lineup and will be available in rear wheel drive or with a dual motor all-wheel drive system.

The PPV will use the Blazer SS high performance front Brembo brakes to help ensure short stopping distances. The purpose-built Blazer EV PPV model features a police specific interior designed for police officers with ample room to accommodate emergency equipment and gear.

Sustainable Blue Economy Office Opens In Umm Al Quwain

The Sustainable Blue Economy Office has opened in the emirate of Umm Al Quwain, under the directives of H.H. Sheikh Saud bin Rashid Al Mu'alla, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Umm Al Qaiwain.

The Sustainable Blue Economy Office will play a key role in implementing the emirate's Sustainable Blue Economy Strategy 2031,



The strategy aims to enhance the emirate's investment attractiveness while developing its natural, cultural and human wealth

launched during the World Government Summit.

The Office will facilitate the implementation of eight transformative projects over the next ten years to drive the emirate's sustainable economic development, protect and rehabilitate its maritime environment, and ensure optimal use of its natural resources.

The Office consists of three main committees, which are the Higher Committee headed by Sheikh Majid bin Saud Al Mualla, Chairman of the Department of Tourism and Archaeology; the Executive Committee headed by Sheikh Sager bin Saud Al Mualla, Chairman of the Smart Government Department; and the Advisory Committee featuring a number of teams, which includes the environment and urban planning team, the economic incentives and business environment improvement team, the foreign

The Strategy lays the foundations for the future growth of Umm Al Quwain and its transformation into the "capital of the blue economy"



investment and private sector attraction team, the media and marketing team, and the performance indicators monitoring team.

Sheikh Majid Al Mualla, Head of the Sustainable Blue Economy Strategy Higher Committee, stated that the emirate aims to become a leading model and destination for investments in the blue economy sectors in the region by 2031 and increase the blue economy's contribution in the emirate's GDP by no less than 40 percent.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sager bin Saud Al Mualla, Head of the Sustainable Blue Economy Strategy Executive Committee, emphasised that the Office will focus on implementing transformative projects and developing opportunities for the private sector to invest in the priority sectors that support the strategy's goals in the environmental, tourism, and economic sectors.

The Sustainable Blue Economy Office will develop a roadmap by setting legislative frameworks, bylaws, policies, and defining the requirements for the emirate's physical and digital infrastructure, to enable the implementation of the Strategy's eight transformational projects.

The projects include increasing the natural reserves in the emirate to cover 20 percent of the total area; launching of Umm Al Quwain's own hub to promote entrepreneurship in the sustainable blue economy sector with a minimum of 100 projects; dedicating three carbon-neutral urban areas, including the heritage district, the corniche, and the mangroves area; and launching a centre for planting and exporting mangrove trees internationally.

UAQ will also see the launch of a programme to support the transformation of local industries in



priority sectors into eco friendly industrial models; developing a set of policies, programmes, and governmental facilitations for companies and investors in the sector; offering investment opportunities by attracting more than 100 companies and investors; developing large partnerships with the private sector to achieve the target projects.

The Office announced the launch of the first reserve for the protection and restoration of the marine and coastal environment of Umm Al Quwain, namely 'Umm Al Quwain Mangroves Reserve.' This reserve is the Office's first environmental project within the Sustainable Blue Economy Strategy 2031.

The reserve further includes the Mangrove Beach project, which overlooks Khor Al Yefrah and Al Siniyah Island. The project offers its visitors a

chance to explore natural sceneries and the coastal lines of the emirate, apart from recognizing the significance of mangrove trees in environmental preservation.

The emirate's beach stretches over five kilometres and has several specialised projects in marine sports, equestrian sports, and tracks for jogging and bicycles.

The Sustainable Blue Economy Office is also working on establishing a 'Mangrove Trees Propagation Centre' which will specialise in the propagation of mangrove trees and exporting them. These trees significantly prevent coastal erosion and floods, thus offering various environmental benefits and adding more value to tourism and investment opportunities in the emirate's real estate and infrastructure sectors.

American University of Sharjah Recognised In Sustainable Campus Index

American University of Sharjah (AUS) is one of the top five institutions worldwide for community engagement in sustainability, according to the 2022 Sustainable Campus Index (SCI) issued by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

A publication from the Association for the

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Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, the SCI highlighted innovative and high-impact initiatives from colleges and universities that submitted a Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS) report in the most recent calendar year.

"We believe that we are responsible for being part of global and national efforts that confront the challenges of climate change and sustainability. This is why we are committed to graduating students who have a deep understanding of the complexity of sustainability challenges and are ready to address them no matter where they are," said Rose Armour, Head of AUS Sustainability.

AASHE's Executive Director Meghan Fay Zahniser said "Upon reading the innovative and high-impact sustainability initiatives within this

report, I'm encouraged that the future we all need will soon be realized."

AUS is currently developing its first comprehensive Climate Action Plan to reduce carbon emissions. The plan further aligns the university's sustainability efforts with the UAE's Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative.

In 2020, AUS became the Gulf region's first university to begin to ban single-use plastics across its campus. Additionally, the university's Engineering and Sciences Building received a highly sought-after 2 Pearl rating by Estidama, a sustainable development initiative of the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council. AUS was also the recipient of the Green Audit Award as part of the Abu Dhabi Environmental Agency's Sustainable Campus Initiative for university students.

Dubai Municipality has announced the opening of Dubai Safari Park for its 2022-2023 season.

Dubai Safari Park Opens Doors For New Season

One of the emirate's most popular recreational and tourism destinations, the Park's new season will see a wide range of new unique interactive entertainment and educational experiences and the addition of a number of new animals.



Visitors can look forward to a wide range of new unique interactive entertainment and educational experiences

Dubai Safari Park, which saw over half a million visits in the last season, is expected to ride on the rapidly growing international tourism interest in the emirate to be a big draw not only among residents but also global travellers.

The Park offers unique experiences with its diverse community of animals from across the world that live in a climate-controlled environment close to their natural habitat. Each season, the Park revitalises its attractions to further enhance its offerings for visitors.

Ahmed Alzarooni, Director of the Public Parks and Recreational Facilities Department at the Dubai Municipality, said: "With attractions designed to appeal to visitors from across the world, the Park is fully geared to offer another unique entertainment and educational experience for visitors. In the 2022-23 season,

The Park is strongly focused on raising awareness about preventing extinction of endangered species through animal breeding programmes



the Park is strongly focused on raising awareness about preventing extinction of endangered species through animal breeding programmes. Dubai Safari Park has implemented a wide range of conservation strategies to provide a better life for the animals. The Park's dedicated veterinary and animal care units work to maintain the highest global animal welfare benchmarks."

In November, a number of new animals will be added on the Safari Trip, which will contribute to enriching the visitor experience. Newborns of some animals, such as the Ankole-Watusi cow, the Eland antelope, the Arabian oryx, the Nile crocodile, and the water buffalo have already expanded the animal community in the Park.

Spanning 119 hectares of immaculately landscaped spaces that provide hospitable animal habitats, Dubai Safari Park offers an

experience that is distinctive compared to other parks and nature reserves. Visitors can enjoy its diverse themed sections including the African Village, Asian Village, the Arabian Desert Safari, the Explorer Village, and the Valley area.

Visitors taking the Safari King package can enjoy a unique personal experience in the company of a personal guide. The Behind the Scenes package provides an exclusive 90-minute experience to meet with animal care specialists, learn about the daily routine and special care provided to the animals, and interact closely with and feed a number of animals, while the Bush Photographer package, enables visitors to take pictures of animals from unique vantage points in the Park.

Dubai Safari Park will be open every day 9.00 am-5.00 pm during the new season.

Global Cooperation To Protect The Ozone Layer Can Ensure A Better Future For All: UN

As the Montreal Protocol to Protect the Ozone Layer turned 35 last month on World Ozone Day, the United Nations has said that continuing the level of cooperation that led to the treaty's adoption and success is just what is needed to protect life on Earth.

Hailing the Montreal Protocol as the most successful environmental treaty ever, the UN

48

OZONE LAYER



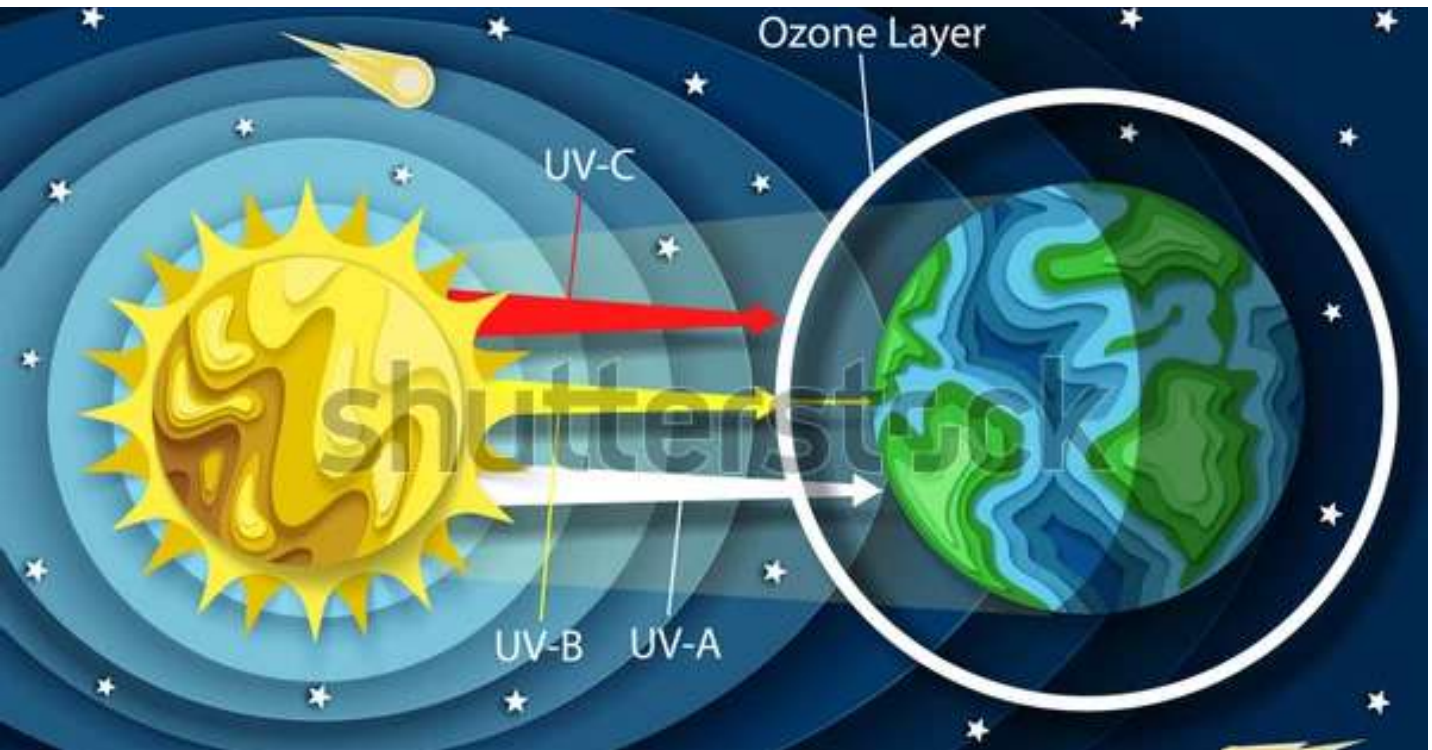
Adoption of the Montreal Protocol ended one of the biggest threats ever to face humanity as a whole: the depletion of the ozone layer

Environment Programme (UNEP) said the instrument's adoption ended one of the biggest threats ever to face humanity as a whole: the depletion of the ozone layer.

"When the world found out that ozone-depleting gases used in aerosols and cooling were creating a hole in the sky, they came together," the agency said in a press statement, adding: "They showed that multilateralism and effective global cooperation worked, and they phased out these gases. Now the ozone layer is healing, allowing it once again to shield humanity from the sun's ultraviolet radiation.

"This action has protected millions of people from skin cancer and cataracts over the years since. It allowed vital ecosystems to survive and thrive. It safeguarded life on Earth. And it slowed climate change: if ozone-depleting chemicals

'The Montreal Protocol is a powerful example of multilateralism in action'
- UN Environment Programme



had not been banned, we would be looking at a global temperature rise of an additional 2.5 C by the end of this century."

In his message on World Ozone Day, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said the Protocol was a success because, when science discovered the threat we all faced, governments and their partners acted.

"The Montreal Protocol is a powerful example of multilateralism in action. With the many problems facing the world - from conflicts to growing poverty, deepening inequality and climate emergency - it is a reminder that we can succeed in working together for the common good," he said.

Guterres said that the Protocol has helped tackle the climate crisis, and by protecting plants from ultraviolet radiation, allowing them to live and store carbon, it has avoided up to an extra 1

degree Celsius of global warming.

"The Protocol's work to phase out climate-heating gases and improve energy efficiency through its Kigali Amendment can further slow climate disruption. By speedy action of the Montreal Protocol, we can stop the carbon pollution that is dangerously heating our world. We have a choice: collective action or collective suicide," he warned.

UNEP said that the Protocol has much more to give. "It also means a cooler planet as more countries ratify the Amendment. It means more people being able to access vital cooling technology without further warming the planet. It is continuing to send a clear and lasting message: global cooperation to protect life on Earth is our best chance at a brighter future for everyone," concluded UNEP.

City With A Green Soul: Ljubljana, Slovenia

Ljubljana, Slovenia's capital and largest city, is a vibrant centre of economic, cultural, and innovative movement.

With a population of 293,000, Ljubljana is one of the smallest and most livable European capitals, nestled in a basin between the Alps and the Adriatic. It is a city that has long been recognised for its environmental conscience, where a



A city with a green soul.
Ljubljana's exceptional
environmental awareness,
has allowed the city to
preserve its green character
to the present day

number of measures in the field of sustainable development, including green mobility, waste management and sustainable urban planning have been implemented over the years.

Ljubljana ranks among the most sustainable cities in Europe. In 2016 it received the prestigious title of European Green Capital and in October 2021 it became number one among the 20 Best Green Capitals of Europe.

Green Mobility

Ljubljana has been traffic-free since 2008. It is so far the largest car-free zone in the European Union. The city decided to restrict cars from the inner city and close streets and public squares to motorized vehicles - thereby creating a traffic-calmed public space dedicated to pedestrians and cyclists. The Bicike (LJ) system of bicycle sharing in the city is a free-of-charge

Ljubljana has been traffic-free since 2008. It is so far the largest car-free zone in the European Union



and very popular form of transportation. Ljubljana is ranked among the most bicycle-friendly cities in the world.

In 2017, Ljubljana adopted an integrated transport strategy with an emphasis on sustainable mobility and less car dependence. Ljubljana is active in the European Mobility Week initiative and is the only city to win the European Mobility Award twice. In cooperation with Avantcar, Ljubljana introduced an electric car-sharing initiative to reduce mobility costs, harmful emissions, and noise pollution.

Circle Economy

Ljubljana recognizes the circular economy as a tool for urban development and compliance with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. With the active involvement of citizens, Ljubljana manages circular resources by maintaining value through

reuse, repair, restoration, and recycling.

The city cooperates with the Biological Center and the Ecological Park to promote technologies that enable the complete circulation of resources and environmental sustainability in waste management.

The Ljubljana Regional Center for Waste Management (RCERO) is a national centre for eco-friendly waste management. RCERO recovers most of the waste it receives, and less than 5% goes to a landfill. The city's waste reduction and recycling measures made Ljubljana the first zero-waste capital in Europe.

Green Tourism

The Green Scheme of Slovenian Tourism (GSST) is a national programme and certification scheme that aims to support and acknowledge sustainable development efforts in the Slovenian tourism as





well as offering concrete tools for assessing and improving the sustainability character of the Slovenian destinations.

The key strategic goal of the scheme is the introduction of sustainable models in Slovenian tourism, both at the level of tourism providers and destinations. All goals of the strategic orientations are accompanied by sustainable development and care for the economic, socio-cultural and natural environment.

Ljubljana also strongly believes that responsible consumerism helps prevent negative impacts of tourism and globalization and generates economic benefits for local people with which their well-being is improved.

Green Infrastructure

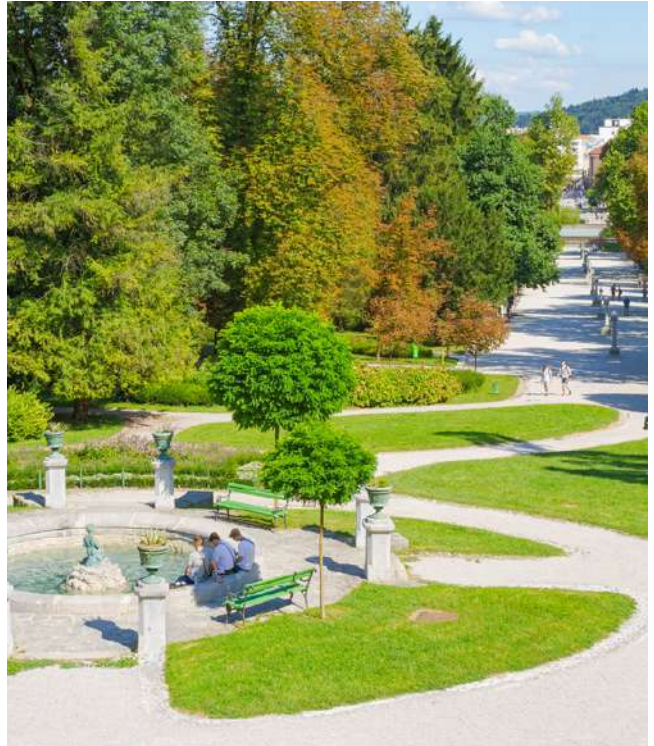
Ljubljana's character as a city built on a human

scale was most clearly defined by Jože Plečnik, the renowned pioneer of 20th-century modern architecture. The idea of sustainability was already inherent in many of Plečnik's works.

The city's contemporary vision of sustainability is in many aspects based on Plečnik's oeuvre, focusing on harmony with the natural environment and sustainable mobility.

Based on a strategy of green development, Ljubljana promotes the regeneration of derelict areas, encourages development along main access routes, and actively protects its natural resources and green space. The largest city park, Tivoli, leads to two wooded hills, Rožnik and Šišenski hrib, which offer a spider's web of hiking trails. Ljubljana's green identity is evident throughout the city - with 540 square meters of public green space per inhabitant and green areas

Due to the city's proactive measures in waste reduction and recycling, Ljubljana became the first zero-waste capital in Europe



covering almost 75% of the city's surface. Also, direct access to the countryside is possible from the city centre itself.

The Bee Path

The Bee Path was designed in October 2015 and has since united 35 members from educational and cultural institutions, from health-care centres to economic entities and, of course, beekeepers and beekeeping societies. It is not just a path, it is a movement of like-minded people caring for the well-being of bees in the city.

The beekeeping tradition in Ljubljana and its outskirts goes back to the time of first prehistoric settlements. Urban beekeeping is now flourishing in Ljubljana. Honey produced here is of very high quality. In addition to beekeepers, the city also takes care of bees by planting perennials with many honey plants among them.

BT City

Ljubljana's BTC City, one of the largest shopping and business centres in Europe, selected SmartIS City Ltd (a digital transformation solutions company) and Libelium (a designer of IoT solutions) to implement a smart solution to strengthen BTC City's environmental commitment and alignment with Ljubljana's sustainability goals. Based on Libelium's sensor platform, this solution was designed to control ambient conditions and air pollution by sending information from the sensors through a Libelium IoT gateway to a SmartIS platform.

Ljubljana lives sustainably, which is an important foundation of the destination and its positioning. It is one of the leading destinations in the field of sustainable tourism on a global scale.

Tackling Food Loss And Waste: A Triple Win Opportunity

Tackling the scourge of food loss and waste represents a triple win opportunity - for the climate, for food security, as well as for the sustainability of our agrifood systems - and cannot be put on the backburner at a time of rising global hunger and surging food prices, said experts marking the third International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste on September 29.



SDG 12.3 aims to halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses, by 2030

The day was marked by a call to action at a global virtual event in Rome organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). The gathering took place at a critical juncture: The prolonged COVID-19 pandemic, the growing impact of the climate crisis, and the war in Ukraine, have all contributed to a deterioration in global food security and nutrition.

According to FAO's latest report on 'The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI)', the number of people affected by hunger rose to as much as 828 million in 2021, an increase of about 46 million since 2020 and 150 million since 2019. In all, an estimated 3.1 billion people do not have access to a healthy diet.

Meanwhile, according to FAO's State of Food

FAO and UNEP issue call for action on International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and waste



and Agriculture (2019) report, around 14 percent of the world's food (valued at \$400 billion per year) continues to be lost after it is harvested and before it reaches the shops; while UNEP's Food Waste Index Report shows that a further 17 percent of our food ends up being wasted in retail and by consumers, particularly in households.

According to FAO estimates, the food that is lost and wasted could feed 1.26 billion hungry people every year.

Food loss and waste (FLW) also account for 8-10 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) - contributing to an unstable climate and extreme weather events such as droughts and flooding. These changes negatively impact crop yields, potentially reduce the nutritional quality of crops and cause supply chain disruptions.

Prioritizing the reduction of food loss and waste

is therefore critical for the transition to sustainable agrifood systems that improve the efficient use of natural resources, lessen their impact on the planet and ensure food security and nutrition.

"We need collective action to scale up efforts to reduce food loss and waste while reducing greenhouse gas emissions," FAO Director General QU Dongyu said. "Let us continue to work together in an efficient, effective and coherent manner to raise awareness for and to stop food loss and waste. For healthy people and a healthy planet."

Call to action

The event in Rome also saw messages from Pope Francis and UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed, as well as a keynote speech from Danish Agriculture Minister Rasmus Prehn. Experts from around the world then took part in a



panel discussion titled 'Generating climate benefits for people and the planet through food loss and waste reduction'.

The event made a clear call to action for entities from across the agrifood system to act now to measure and reduce FLW and shift consumer behaviour to urgently cut food waste.

This requires the development and implementation of national strategies, policies and partnerships designed to accelerate action to reduce food loss and waste. Stakeholders at all levels also have a key role to play. These include the farming community, actors along the food supply chain, research and academia, as well as "each one of us as a consumer," Qu said.

"We each waste on average 74 kilograms of food every year, in middle-income countries as well as in high-income countries," said Inger Andersen,

UNEP Executive Director. "Halving food waste and cutting food loss are essential to addressing the urgent climate and food crises."

Food is never waste. By applying circular practices, for instance, lost and wasted food can be converted to compost, or used to produce biogas, thereby avoiding harmful methane emissions.



BEEAH Group, Green Planet Partner To Advance Sustainable Waste Management

BEAAH Group and Green Planet, Egypt's emerging environmental services company, have formed a partnership to deliver a landmark ten-year contract in Sharm el-Sheikh. The development comes ahead of COP27, which will be held in Sharm el-Sheikh, between November 6 - 18, 2022.

In the presence of Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Prime

UAE NEWS



Minister of Egypt; Khaled Al Huraimel, Group CEO of BEEAH Group; and Dr. Mohamed Asaad, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Green Planet, signed the contract with the Governorate of South Sinai.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dr. Mohamed Maaait, Egypt's Minister of Finance, Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Egypt's Minister of Environment, Major General Hisham Amna, Egypt's Minister of Local Development, and Major General Khaled Fouda, Governor of South Sinai in Egypt. Delegations from the UAE Embassy in Cairo, Sharjah Municipality and BEEAH Group were also present.

In preparation for COP27 and over the next decade, BEEAH Group and Green Planet will implement future-ready waste management strategies that align with Egypt's sustainability

agenda, such as deploying world-class waste management infrastructure, streamlined waste collection solutions and recycling services. Bringing together a network of RFID-tagged bins, a GPS-enabled fleet and a skilled workforce, BEEAH Group and Green Planet aim to set a new standard for operational efficiency while meeting waste management demand.

BEEAH and Green Planet will also carry out on-ground activities to foster a culture of recycling and proper waste disposal among communities. Recycling of used cooking oil is one of the specialised waste collection services that the partners will offer. This will help minimise the burden on public plumbing infrastructure that arises from used cooking oil disposal through pipes and drains, while also enabling the production of alternative green fuels.

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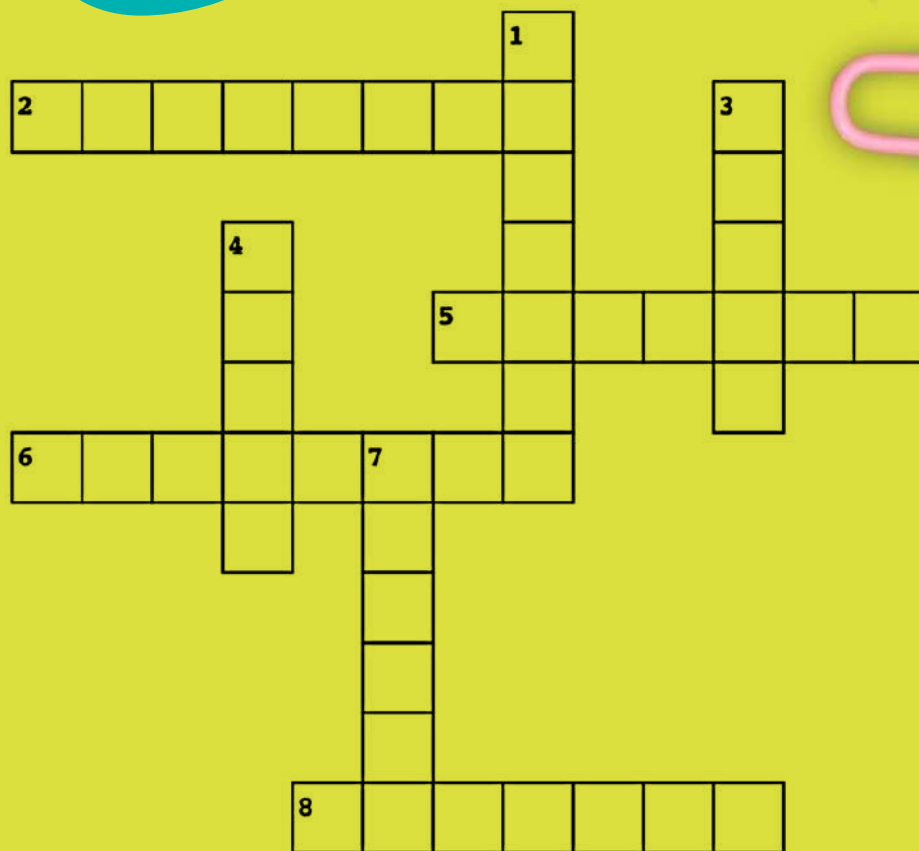
Answers: 1. Sustainable 2. Public 3. Government 4. Climate
5. Concern 6. Recycle 7. Health 8. Forests

Word
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TURTLES
NOISE
TREES
DISPLACEMENT
DESTRUCTION
PLASTIC
OCEANS
POLICY
AFFORESTATION
WILDLIFE
ICEBERGS
POLLUTION

Crossword Puzzle



Across

2. Kingdom comprising all living or extinct animals
5. Endure without yielding
6. Keep constant through evolutionary change
8. Keep from danger

Down

1. Grassy area
3. Diet that contains no animal products
4. Reprocess
7. Tree product

Answers: 1. Pasture 2. Animalia 3. Vegan 4. Reuse
5. Sustain 6. Conserve 7. Rubber 8. Protect

WORD OF THE DAY:

OZONE

Ozone is a pale blue gas. It is a form of oxygen. The common form of oxygen is a gas that all animals need to breathe. But ozone is poisonous and explosive. It differs from common oxygen in its chemical makeup.

Each molecule of common oxygen has two atoms. Each ozone molecule has three atoms. The scientific formula for ozone is O₃.

Ozone is often produced when a charge of electricity, such as lightning, passes through the air. People sometimes notice ozone's unpleasant smell after a thunderstorm or around electrical equipment.

Ozone is a natural part of Earth's upper atmosphere. Way up high in the Earth's atmosphere, called the stratosphere, there is a fairly high concentration of ozone molecules that are formed when the sun hits oxygen molecules. This part of the atmosphere is called the ozone layer. It protects people by absorbing harmful rays from the sun. If they reach Earth, these rays can cause skin cancer, eye diseases, and other health problems.

It turns out that certain types of molecules can cause a chemical reaction when they come in contact with ozone molecules. This causes the ozone to break up and become unable to absorb ultraviolet light. The main molecules that are destroying the ozone layer are called chlorofluorocarbons or CFCs. These CFC's are commonly released by industries and factories.

Facts about Ozone!

- The word "ozone" means smelly in Greek because the gas has a strong odor.
- One chlorine molecule from a CFC can destroy up to 100,000 ozone molecules.
- The ozone layer over Antarctica is very thin. It is sometimes called the "hole" in the ozone layer



WORLD HABITAT DAY - OCTOBER 3

In 2022, World Habitat Day (WHD 2022) under the theme "Mind the Gap. Leave No One and Place Behind" looks at the problem of growing inequality and challenges in cities and human settlements.

World Habitat Day 2022 seeks to draw attention to the growing inequalities and vulnerabilities that have been exacerbated by the triple 'C' crises — COVID-19, climate and conflict.

The United Nations designated the first Monday of October of every year as World Habitat Day to reflect on the state of our habitats, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter. The Day is also intended to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns. It is also intended to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat.

The pandemic and recent conflicts have reversed years of progress made in the fight against poverty, resulting in the emergence of newly poor people — those who would

have exited poverty in the absence of the pandemic but remain poor, and those who have fallen into poverty on account of the pandemic. Cities and local governments play a front-line role in responding to crises and emergencies, as well as in planning for an inclusive, resilient, and green future.

WORLD ANIMAL DAY-OCTOBER 4

The purpose of World Animal Day is to raise the status of animals in order to improve welfare standards around the globe. Building the celebration of World Animal Day unites the animal welfare movement, mobilising it into a global force to make the world a better place for all animals. It's celebrated in different ways in every country, irrespective of nationality, religion, faith or political ideology. Through increased awareness and education we can create a world where animals are always recognised as sentient beings and full regard is always paid to their welfare.

Building the celebration of World Animal Day mobilises people for action now for a better future for animals. Throughout history, social movements (mass actions) like World Animal Day, have always been a major vehicle for ordinary people's participation in politics, and key in fighting for social justice and reform.

On Oct. 4th, #WorldAnimalDay trends on social media all over the world; more than 1,000 events are held every year. World Animal Day has 90 ambassadors in more than 70 countries, from Andorra and Australia to the United States and Zimbabwe.

The first World Animal Day took place on March 24, 1925 at the Sport Palace in Berlin, Germany. More than 5,000 people attended the first event. It was founded by writer and animal activist Heinrich Zimmermann, author of *Mensch und Hund* (Man and Dog). In 1929, World Animal Day was celebrated for the first time on October 4, the day it was originally intended to be, as in 1925, the Sport Palace was unavailable that day.

World Animal Day recognizes that the lives of

animals are profoundly affected by the actions of individuals, businesses, and nations and it is therefore essential that their rightful status as recipients of social justice is established and translated into effective animal protection. World Animal Day embraces all animals and the unique concerns of each, in every country, and makes animals front-page news.

Through increased awareness and education, we can help develop a compassionate culture which feeds into legal reform and social progress to make this world a fairer place for all living creatures.



What can you do to help?

Things to Do...

- ☒ Grow your own houseplant
- ☒ Cycle around!
- ☒ Use the metro
- ☒ Switch off all plugs when not in use
- ☒ Use metal straws

COLOUR ME!



Abu Dhabi Gets First Electric Vehicles Assembly Facility

KIZAD, part of AD Ports Group's Economic Cities and Free Zones, has announced the signing of a lease agreement with green mobility technology company NWTN, to establish an electric vehicle (EV) assembly facility in Abu Dhabi to serve the growing demand for sustainable transport options.

Founded in 2016, NWTN aims to produce Smart

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Passenger Vehicles that deploy AI technologies and personalised passenger experiences.

Under the agreement, NWTN plans to initially operate a 25,000 sqm manufacturing, research, and development, vehicle testing, and logistics facility constructed by KIZAD with an annual capacity of 5,000-10,000 units for the assembly of semi-knocked-down (SKD) electric vehicles. In phase two, NWTN plans to introduce several new electric vehicle models and expand capacity to 50,000 units annually.

Set to be the first assembly facility for electric vehicles in Abu Dhabi, the announcement follows recent regulatory updates by the Abu Dhabi Department of Energy (DoE) that seek to accelerate the development of electric vehicle infrastructure as part of Abu Dhabi's Low Emission Vehicle Strategy. The new production

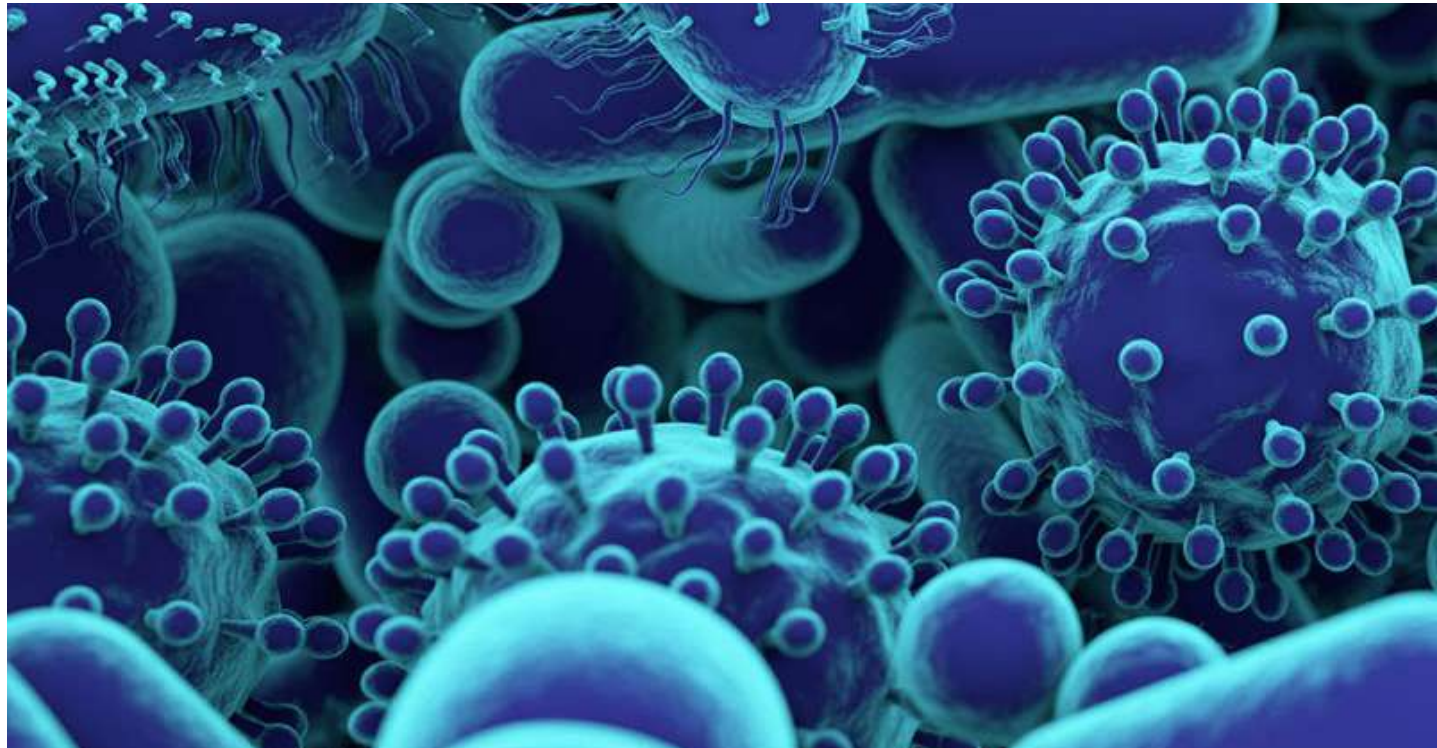
facility is also well aligned with UAE Net-Zero by 2050 agenda as it will strengthen industry expertise and increase the availability of low-emission vehicles in UAE.

Captain Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, Managing Director and Group CEO, AD Ports Group, said, "Attracting electric vehicle manufacturers to Abu Dhabi will play a significant role in enabling the emirate's economic vision and is aligned with the new Abu Dhabi Industrial Strategy."

With its new facility in KIZAD, NWTN will benefit from its proximity to AD Ports Group's expansive automobile business ecosystem, which includes existing and upcoming projects tailored to the automotive sector such as the region's first lithium production facility, the Regional Auto Hub - Abu Dhabi and the Khalifa Port Auto Terminal.

Leadership And Action Urged On Antimicrobial Resistance

The Global Leaders Group co-chairs, Their Excellencies Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh and Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados, hosted a UN General Assembly side event on September 26 to discuss and address antimicrobial resistance (AMR) with heads of Government and State, government ministers and relevant stakeholders. AMR is already a global threat that contributes to almost



During the UN General Assembly, Global Leaders Group co-chairs highlighted the critical need for the "One Health" approach to stop the spread of antimicrobial resistance

5milliondeathsperyear,whiledisproportionately affecting low- and middle-income countries. It poses serious threats to human, animal, plant and environmental health, and severely undermines the sustainability of agri-food systems.

"Urgent action is required to stop the spread of antimicrobial resistance. Without action, we face a future where we will be unable to treat infections in humans, animals and plants. We must work together to protect our medicines," said co-chair of the Global Leader Group on AMR, Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina.

The 2016 Political Declaration of the High-Level meeting of UNGA on AMR was critical to galvanizing political action while officially recognizing AMR as a global crisis and aiming to prevent and control infections.

Antimicrobial resistance is a global threat that contributes to almost 5 million deaths per year



“As we continue together towards the High-level meeting in 2024, let us ensure we make an impact and set the course for concrete political action on AMR,” said co-chair of the Global Leader Group on AMR, Her Excellency Mia Amor Mottley.

Representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) also attended the event to discuss the need for developing and implementing national action plans to address AMR.

“AMR is a consistent agenda item in G7 and G20 presidencies,” said member of the Global Leaders Group on AMR, Christopher Fearn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health of Malta. “This momentum has to be consolidated with urgency and specific commitments.”

The Global Leaders Group has been calling for specific actions from G7 and G20 countries that include fully funding their own national action plans on AMR, contributing to fund multi-sectoral national action plans of resource-limited countries through support to existing financial structures, and financially supporting the AMR Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

Other actions include supporting financial incentives and mechanisms for the development of new antimicrobials (particularly antibiotics), vaccines, diagnostics, waste management tools, and safe and effective alternatives to antimicrobials.

G7 and G20 countries must set a defined timeline and follow through on their existing AMR commitments and finally, monitor their progress annually.

Biological Control of Plastic Waste

It was just by chance that scientist Federica Bertocchini discovered the ability of the wax-moth larvae to digest and break down polyethylene which makes up 30% of all plastic production. When Bertocchini found these parasitic pests in the honeycombs in her hives, she placed the worms in a plastic bag but they ate through it and escaped.

Bertocchini and her research team studied these worms and found that wax worms (*Galleria mellonella*) are able to digest biodegrade plastic, breaking down a polyethylene bag in just 40 minutes.

Madrid's Margarita Salas Center for Biological Studies (CIB) conducted further



Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif

Chief Technical Advisor
Zayed International
Foundation for the
Environment

research on the worms and found two enzymes in the worm's saliva that can break down polyethylene in two hours at room temperature, according to findings published in *Nature Communications*.

Since these are the first animal enzymes to be discovered with this capability, it is quite possible that we may find more biological solutions for plastic waste management as the authors suggest.

Polyethylene is a key material in plastic bags that are the most commonly found plastic waste in the marine environment. Polyethylene is now recycled mechanically into secondary raw material or products but recycling covers only a small percent of plastic waste, one of the top environmental and health issues. Scientists believe that at the current rate of plastic production, the number of plastic particles in the ocean will exceed the number of fishes by 2050.

The discovery of these plastic breaking enzymes opens the door for renewed research on ways to breed these moth larvae to produce large quantities of the enzymes to break down the overwhelming amounts of plastic waste currently being produced.

Let us all be part of the solution rather than being part of the problem. You can refuse to take single-use plastic and non-biodegradable plastic bags. You can also sort out your plastic waste and reuse it or send it for recycling.

Reference: 'Wax Worm Saliva Can Degrade Stubborn Plastic Within Hours, Scientists Find' by Olivia Rosane in *Ecowatch*



Company Mission

Al Mrooj Demolition Company was established in Dubai to serve the Demolition market and oil & gas services all over UAE with Professional Services, preferable rates and top quality.



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Empower Your Business Globally

Yes Business Center Al Barsha 1 Office Suite 101 - Dubai

support@silwanainfotech.com

+971 45 563 096

www.silwanainfotech.com