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creating green communities for a better tomorrow



Zayed Foundation advances environmental legacy and vision of Sheikh Zayed at the UN

UAE launches artificial intelligence lab to track solar power, pollution



Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment

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creating green communities for a better tomorrow

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Prof. Mohammed bin Fahad
Executive Editor

Last year, when HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai announced a new position in the ministerial cabinet that focuses on the development of artificial intelligence, it was perhaps the strongest demonstration of any government's official endorsement of Artificial Intelligence technology.

Sheikh Mohammed also added that the new phase of governing in the UAE will focus on "future skills, future sciences and future technology, as we prepare for the centenary to ensure a better future for our generations."

The UAE Artificial Intelligence Strategy was launched last year to boost government performance and create a highly productive innovative environment by investing in advanced technologies and AI tools that will be implemented in all fields of work. Tech companies are increasingly beginning to center their business models around this concept and Dubai and the UAE which are seen as future-focused are emerging at the forefront of this development.

Artificial Intelligence has also emerged as the game changer for climate change and the environment as the planet continues to warm and climate change impacts are worsening. AI finds application in a wide array of environmental sectors, including resource conservation, wildlife protection, energy management, clean energy, waste management, pollution control and agriculture.

As the UAE now launches a new test lab to test artificial intelligence techniques to map optimal solar power locations as well as track air pollutants and examine water quality, it is heartening to know that the nation is utilizing such transformative opportunities to address the Earth's environmental challenges. Thanks to its intelligence and productivity gains, AI has immense potential to help unlock solutions to the world's pressing environmental challenges and I believe, more countries should come forward to follow in the UAE's footsteps to put AI to work for the planet.

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“Nothing pleases me more than seeing Emirati women assuming their role in society and achieving their rightful position. Nothing should hinder the march of women’s progress. Like men, women have the right to assume the highest positions according to their abilities and qualifications.”

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan

e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

Se

From the **Managing Editor**



Dr. Meshgan Al Awar
Secretary General
Zayed International Prize
for the Environment

When the UAE celebrated its fourth Emirati Women’s Day last month under the theme “Women on the Course of Zayed,” it was a fitting tribute to the Founding Father of the Nation Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, under whose vision, women broke boundaries through education and emancipation. Today, Emirati women are efficiently working across all domains including non-traditional sectors such as space research, renewable energy, aviation technology, and many more. By empowering its women, our leaders have thus empowered the nation.

Recently, I was part of an eminent group of Emirati scientists and experts at a preparatory meeting organized by the Mohammed bin Rashid Academy of Scientists (MBRAS) to draft the agenda for its annual meeting scheduled for December. As a podium for the science community within the UAE, it was a privilege and an honor to be given this platform to voice ideas and discuss the challenges and opportunities to encourage scientific research in the UAE and help contribute to the creation of a knowledge-based economy.

It also gave me great pleasure – in my capacity as Secretary General of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment - to initiate and organize a special commemorative event dedicated to the late Sheikh Zayed at the UN Secretariat in New York in July that highlighted his global environmental legacy and leadership. Whether it is the environment or economic empowerment of women, it is by adhering to the vision of the late Sheikh Zayed that the UAE has transformed into a unique global model in both environment preservation and women’s development.

The UAE leadership has high aspirations for women and we are deeply indebted to their steadfast support in fostering an environment for greater opportunities to serve as vital, active and key partners of the nation’s overall sustainable development.

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Cover Story

6 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i

Zayed Foundation
 advances
 environmental
 legacy and vision
 of Sheikh Zayed at
 the UN



The UAE commemorates the environmental legacy and leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan at a special event organized by the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment at the UN Secretariat in New York.

Heeding the call of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to “deliver a message to the world in 2018 that Sheikh Zayed exists, and that he will remain in the hearts and minds of every lover of the UAE”, a special event was held to commemorate the environmental legacy and leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan at the UN Secretariat in New York. In collaboration with Dubai Police, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment

took the initiative in organizing this commemorative event on 23rd July 2018 with the support of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

Titled “Commemorating the Environmental Legacy and Leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan”, the event was held as part of celebrations for the 2018 Year of Zayed that marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Founding Father of the UAE. More than 70 participants,

including Ambassadors and senior delegates from Costa Rica, Greece, Georgia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nigeria, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, the State of Palestine, the Arab League and the European Union, as well as delegates from many other Member States, UN entities and civil society organizations attended the event. Delegates and senior personnel from various UN organisations including the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, UN Department of Peace Keeping Operations, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UN



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

ZAYED FOUNDATION'S 'Zayed Green Challenge App' is a knowledge-based game app intended to raise global awareness of sustainable development.

Operations & Crisis Centre, UN Department of Management, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, UN Women, and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, actively participated in honoring the environmental stewardship of the late Sheikh Zayed.

Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary General, represented the Zayed Foundation and delivered a keynote address at this prestigious event aimed at promoting and spreading the concept of sustainability and

the culture of green living worldwide, showcasing the UAE as a role model in environmental sustainability.

H.E. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, provided opening remarks honoring the environmental legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, in the presence of UN member states. In her address, Ambassador Nusseibah reflected that as an arid country, the UAE has always been concerned with

environmental responsibility and sustainability. She added that this was always at the forefront of Sheikh Bin Sultan Al Nahyan's plans for the development of the UAE.

"Sheikh Zayed firmly believed in protecting the environment and natural heritage that is an important part of the UAE and underlined the need to safeguard it for future generations," emphasized Ambassador Nusseibeh. The ambassador highlighted Sheikh Zayed's regional leadership in environmental sustainability and

8 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i



also applauded Dubai Police and the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment for advancing his legacy and vision in the international arena.

Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary-General of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, provided keynote remarks and elaborated on Sheikh Zayed's vision for environmental conservation. She reminded participants of Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan's strive for sustainability, becoming a world leader in this area decades before the United Nations began to develop the sustainable development goals.

"Sheikh Zayed placed a strong emphasis on education and

capacity building, particularly of youth. He invested heavily in protecting endangered species such as the Arabian Oryx, falcons, sea turtles, in addition to the establishment of Protected Areas, because he believed that each living organism has a role to play in the natural balance," emphasised Dr. Al Awar.

She added, "The best manifestation of Sheikh Zayed's efforts is what we can see in the UAE today - a green oasis in the desert, providing a model for development in an arid region. His dedication to sustainability came 41 years before the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, and his dreams have been translated into the policies and programmes

that we see in the UAE today."

Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) also commemorated the vision of the founding father of the UAE, as demonstrated through the nation's foreign policy, which places a strong emphasis on international cooperation and support.

He also thanked the Government of the UAE and the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment for their commitment to sustainable development, including their role as host of the 2016 Global South-South Development Expo

“ Sheikh Zayed’s dedication to sustainability came 41 years before the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, and his dreams have been translated into the policies and programmes that we see in the UAE today.”

Dr Meshgan Al Awar



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

in Dubai, UAE. He remarked that “in under 50 years the UAE has grown from a developing country to an advanced economy, and is now working to share the solutions that enabled this development. In all that it does, the UAE embodies the spirit of South-South cooperation”.

The event also featured the formal New York launch of Zayed International Foundation’s “Zayed Smart Green Platform” and associated “Zayed Green Challenge App”. The knowledge-based game app is intended to raise global awareness of sustainable development and features two games:

“Knowledge Hunt”, which tests knowledge on environment and

sustainable development.

“Smart Mind”, an interactive memory testing game.

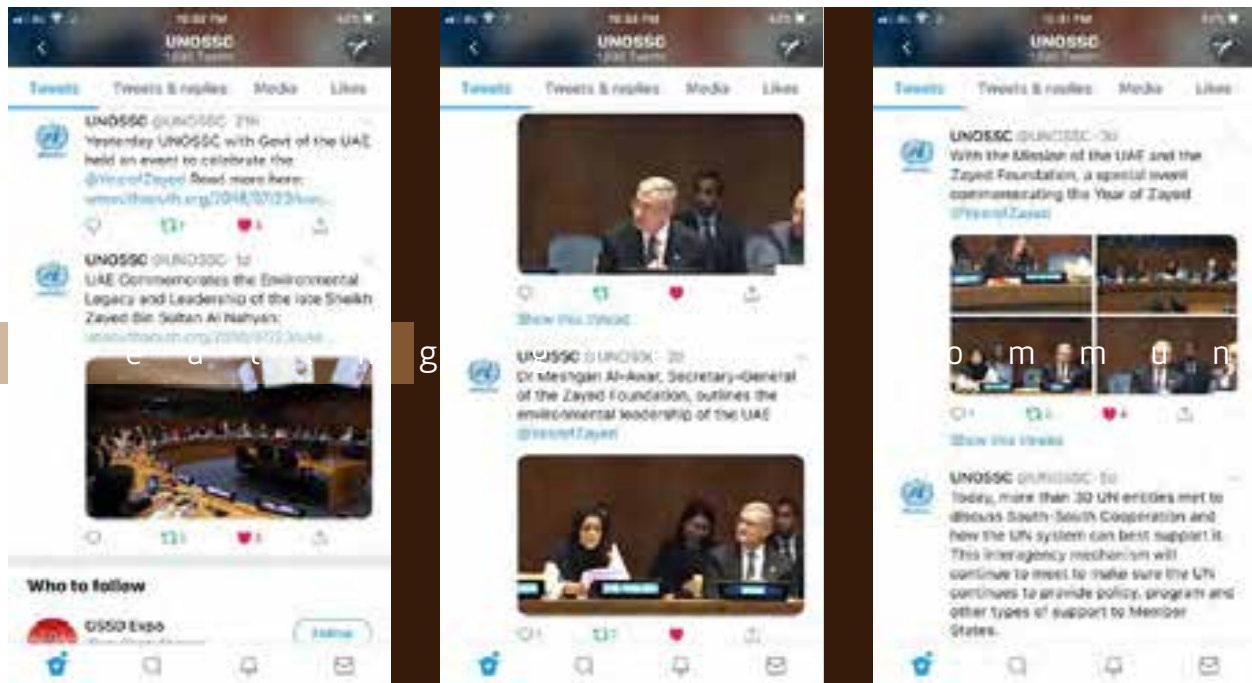
‘Zayed Green Challenge’ is developed by the Zayed International Foundation and available for free download on both Android and iOS platforms.

Zayed Foundation unveils special edition of UNOSSC’s South-South in Action series of reports

The special event organized by Dubai Police and the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment to commemorate the environmental legacy and leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan at the UN Secretariat in New York

in July this year, also saw the launch of a special edition of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation’s South-South in Action series of reports. The report, titled “UAE Support to Advocate and Showcase South-South and Triangular Cooperation Solutions”, provides an overview of the solutions presented at the 2016 GSSD Expo held in Dubai.

H.E. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, Dr. Meshgan Al Awar, Secretary-General of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, and Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation



and Director of the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), launched the special report that offers South-South and Triangular Cooperation solutions for sustainable development.

In the Foreword of this publication, Dr. Meshgan Al Awar noted that in 2016, the UAE – through the Zayed Foundation – generously hosted and ensured the resounding success of the annual GSSD Expo, which was also the first to be hosted by a Member State. Expressing her delight at presenting the publication together with UNOSSC, Dr. Al Awar added that the success stories shared by the member states and partner institutions during GSSD Expo

2016 and which have been featured in the publication “demonstrates that there is no ‘one size fits all’ for contributions to building a healthy and sustainable world. As the world looks for solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, contributions like those shared in this volume will deepen the scope of thinking and contribute to broader and more equitable exchanges of Southern knowledge at the World Expo 2020 in Dubai, UAE.”

2.7 million global audience for Zayed Foundation on social media

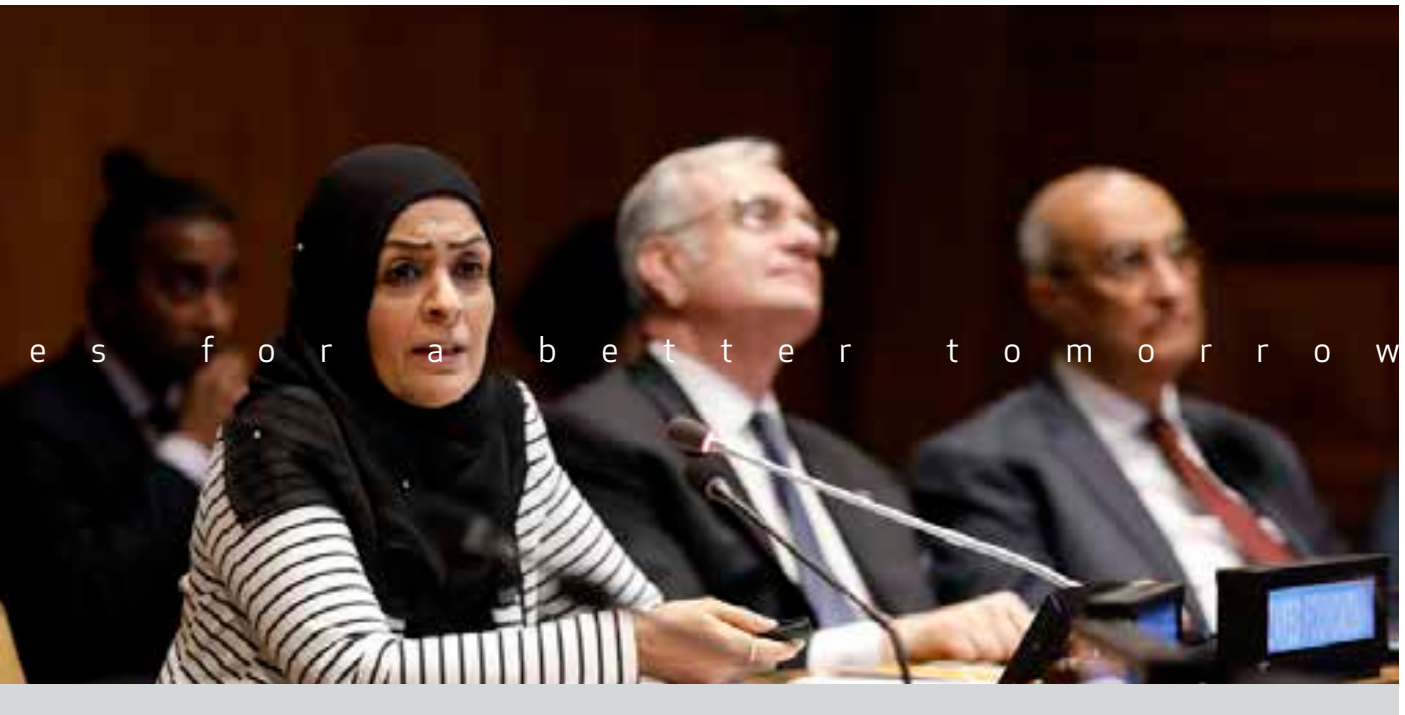
The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment has successfully utilized the power of the social media

platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and its official online website to engage with its local, regional and international audience and to highlight its participation and hosting of several globally renowned environmental events across the region and on the international platform. The Zayed Foundation has also used these channels to draw attention to its activities aimed at the protection of environment and sustainable development at the local, regional and global levels.

Today, through its digital marketing activities including social media content marketing and promotion on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and the promotion of Zayed Green

“Through government policies that empower private and public sector leaders to find solutions, the UAE has emerged at the forefront of environmental sustainability.”

H.E. Lana Zaki Nusseibeh



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

Challenge App through social media, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment has reached an audience of 2.7 million global environment enthusiasts.

When the Zayed Foundation recently took the initiative to organize a special event titled “Commemorating the Environmental Legacy and Leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan” at the UN Secretariat at New York in July this year, the social media handles of various UN organisations were abuzz with activity as they gave great prominence and ample coverage to the event. The details of this event were also featured on UN websites while twitter handles

of several entities highlighted the keynote address and opening remarks in detail, updating with latest information as the event unfolded.

In a tweet, @UAEMissiontoUN highlighted: Dr Meshgan Al-Awar, Secretary-General of the Zayed Foundation, outlines the environmental leadership of the UAE @YearofZayed. Later, it added: Amb Nusseibeh & Dr. Meshgan Al Awar @ZayedPrize co-host an event commemorating the environmental leadership & legacy of #SheikhZayed & the @YearofZayed.

In their official tweets, @UNOSSC noted: UAE Commemorates the Environmental Legacy and

Leadership of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan. At the close of the event, @UNOSSC also shared videos of the event and provided a link to download the full report launched at the event.



Cover Story

12 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

UAE launches artificial intelligence lab to track solar power, pollution

[The UAE has launched a new lab to test artificial intelligence techniques to map optimal solar power locations as well as track air pollutants and examine water quality.](#)

In line with the UAE strategy for Artificial Intelligence and corresponding to the objectives of UAE Vision 2021, the Ministry of Climate Change and the Environment (MOCCA) has launched the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory in collaboration with Khalifa University of Science and Technology and the International Renewable Energy Agency. The lab utilises artificial intelligence techniques in identify concentrated solar energy locations, monitor and analyze levels and sources of air pollutants in the country.

Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, said the launch of the AI lab is in line with the UAE Strategy for Artificial Intelligence.

He reaffirmed MOCCA's keenness to be at the forefront of government agencies in adopting all tools and techniques related to artificial intelligence and ensuring high efficiency in achieving its strategic objectives. "The laboratory aims to protect the local environment by monitoring and analyzing the available information accurately and using

it in making the right decisions, based on the latest available global technologies, which play a pivotal role in the environmental sector, especially in the fields of monitoring, data analysis, communications and information storage and retrieval.

Thus, it is natural to integrate all these tasks and strengthen them using systems that rely on knowledge and artificial intelligence."

The laboratory includes three main systems: real time maps of solar photovoltaic locations in





e s f o r a u e t t o r t o m o r o w

THREE MAIN systems are included in the laboratory: real time maps of solar photovoltaic locations in the UAE, an environmental monitoring system and a marine environment monitoring system.

the UAE and a solar simulation system, an environmental monitoring system, which includes real time monitoring and forecasting, and a marine environment monitoring system.

Solar photovoltaic maps and the solar simulation system contribute to optimal location planning for the use of solar panels for power generation, contributing to the mapping of an integrated system of the best locations for solar power plants.

The environmental monitoring system, which includes real time

monitoring and forecasting, provides satellite data on the concentrations of air pollutants and air quality index data. It also includes a series of mapping images showing hourly concentrations of air pollutants and their direction in the UAE, in addition to a three-day pollutant concentrations forecast model for six main pollutants; carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, ground level ozone, particles with a diameter of less than 10 microns, as well as a five-day model for predicting concentrations of particles with a diameter of less than 2.5 microns.

The marine environment monitoring system has been developed to predict the quality of marine water in coastal areas of the UAE. This tool utilizes data provided daily by NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) satellites to produce a daily assessment of water quality conditions of the country's coast.

The system also helps expand the ability to predict current movement and control water pollution by tracking oil leaks and providing information to help improve the route of tankers in the Gulf region.

Zayed Foundation

14 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i

Zayed Foundation launches initiative to tackle threat to marine environment



[The Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and the Dubai Voluntary Diving Team have signed an MoU to raise awareness about marine conservation and preservation, and to clear the seabed of marine litter and abandoned fishing gear.](#)

To raise awareness among the public about marine debris and their impact on marine life, and in line with its environmental initiatives earmarked for the Year of Zayed, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment has teamed up with the Dubai Voluntary Diving Team whose members will turn their passion for deep-sea diving into an initiative to clear the seabed of trash and abandoned fishing gear.

An MoU to this effect was signed in May this year by Major

General Dr. Mohammed bin Fahd, Chairman of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and Eng. Abdullah Mohsen, leader of Dubai Voluntary Diving Team to strengthen the initiative that seeks to aid in the management and conservation of protected areas and environmental resources.

Accordingly, under the #Zayed 100 Environmental Initiative of the Zayed Foundation, members of the Dubai Voluntary Diving Team will undertake 100 dives in diving and fishing sites around the UAE to clear these sites of

marine debris and to preserve the region's diverse marine life.

"Expanding on the UAE Founding Father Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan's vision of environmental sustainability and to celebrate his legacy in the Year of Zayed that marks his 100th birth anniversary, the Zayed Foundation is launching this initiative as the protection of the environment is a precursor to a sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth," said Dr. Mohammed bin Fahd at the launch ceremony. "We are proud to emulate the environmental ideology of the late Sheikh Zayed



Chief Technical Advisor of Zayed Foundation Dr. Eisa Abdellatif with members of the Dubai Voluntary Diving Team.

who firmly believed that the responsibility to fight the current environmental challenges falls on this generation, both government and people, to ensure the rights of future generations to enjoy these natural resources.”

“The cleanliness of the sea contributes to the protection of the marine environment and its diversity in the region,” he added. “The activities of the sea goers contribute immensely to the accumulation of various types of waste in the seas such as the dumping of damaged fishing gear and nets, throwing plastic bags, etc.”

Waste and plastic junk has a negative impact on the marine life, he added. “When large quantities of waste are released into the sea, it will have a direct impact on the water and the creatures in it. It also impacts humans when we consume seafood. Preserving marine life is therefore essential, and each one of us has the potential to make a real difference in protecting our surrounding environment.”

While supporting continuous clean-up activities, the Zayed Foundation also seeks to direct people toward positive attitudes

in maintaining a clean and sound environment by practice and participation, he added.

Tonnes of fishing nets and ropes are discarded or lost in the sea, year after year, which is a serious threat to both marine life and divers, said Eng. Abdullah Mohsen Ali while speaking at the event. “Fishing gear, including nets, lines, pots, traps, etc account for a significant portion of all beach litter. What is unfortunate is that as these are designed to catch marine organisms, it will continue to entangle marine life even when discarded at sea. Also,



as it is specifically designed to be durable in the marine environment, degradation will happen only over a lengthy period of time.”

As per the MoU signed between the two entities, apart from inspection and cleaning of diving and fishing sites, the initiative also seeks to educate and spread awareness on the significance of marine conservation and protection by publishing photos, videos and reports associated with the clean-up activities.

“Since its inception almost two decades ago, the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment has played a leading role in stimulating and creating awareness of

pioneering initiatives and practices aimed at protecting the environment and achieving the sustainable development of the UAE,” said Dr. Bin Fahd. “These efforts have been carried out under the directives of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Patron of the Zayed Foundation, and the Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.”

The Zayed Foundation is committed to working towards achieving its goals, in partnership with stakeholders on the local and international levels to achieve its mandate and to maintain the UAE’s leading position in environmental sustainability for the benefit of the current and future

generations, he added. He thanked the members of the Dubai Voluntary Diving Team for their support and commitment to this endeavor and to make a positive impact in the UAE’s marine environment.





UAE to host Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on October 21st

The UAE will host the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (COP13) on October 21st-29th, according to Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment.

Themed 'Wetlands for A Sustainable Urban Future' and sponsored by Dubai Municipality, the upcoming 13th meeting of the countries that have adhered to the convention will review progress in implementation of the treaty, examine best practices for wetland management and discuss a range of ongoing and emerging environmental issues. More than 1,000 delegates representing

governments and non-governmental organisations and academics will assemble in Dubai for the nine-day conference.

Wetlands of international importance in the UAE include seven Ramsar sites. These sites along with 2,316 sites across the world are designated by the Ramsar Convention, an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.

"The need for an event such as COP13 is particularly relevant today as countries worldwide grapple with a sharp decline in biodiversity due to growing urbanisation and increased pressure on the land as well as

due to climate change," said Dr. Al Zeyoudi.

The UAE joined the convention in 2007 with seven sites that cover 34,978 hectares and three more sites to come, said the minister.

Speaking at the announcement event, Martha Rojas Urrego, secretary-general of Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, emphasised the significant benefits of wetlands on humanity.

Most of the fresh water comes directly or indirectly from wetlands, she said, noting that they are considered as a source of food such as fish and rice, and they protect cities from storms and even droughts.

Celebration

18 creating greater economic opportunities

UAE celebrates fourth Emirati Women's Day



Held under the theme, “Women on the Course of Zayed,” the country’s leadership celebrated the occasion to highlight its faith in the importance of the contributions of Emirati women and their role in the country’s development.

Emirati Women’s Day is celebrated in recognition of the role Emirati women have played in the sustainable development of their country.

On 28th August, the UAE celebrated the fourth “Emirati Women’s Day,” held this year under the theme, “Women on the Course of Zayed,” and which coincided with the “Centennial of Zayed” and the announcement of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan declaring 2018 as the Year of Zayed.

The country’s leadership celebrated the occasion to highlight its faith in the importance of the contributions of Emirati women and their role in the country’s development. The

slogan of this year’s celebration also aims to reaffirm the role of the founding father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, in establishing the journey of women in the UAE, which he expressed in his many statements, including one that said, “Nothing makes me happier than seeing women take their exceptional role in society, and nothing must obstruct their advancement.”

Emirati women have the direct support of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, His Highness



يوم المرأة الإماراتية EMIRATI WOMEN'S DAY

أغسطس 28 August

EMIRATI WOMEN'S Day is celebrated in recognition of the role Emirati women have played in the sustainable development of their country.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and Their Highnesses the Supreme Council Members and the Rulers of the Emirates.

H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women's Union (GWU), President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, and Supreme Chairwoman of the

Family Development Foundation (FDF), the "Mother of the UAE," has helped to strengthen the presence of Emirati women, through supporting programmes that aim to empower and involve them in the country's overall development. Sheikha Fatima is credited with adding humanitarian dimensions to public work involving women, through her key initiatives that aim to protect women, provide them with overall care, and protect and safeguard their dignity around the world.

Emirati women have proven their presence and giving while serving

their nation in various positions, including as the Speaker of the Federal National Council, FNC, in ministerial positions in the Federal Government, totalling nine female ministers or 27 percent of the ministerial assembly, as well as through their presence in the diplomatic corps, the armed forces, national service, the police and security.

Their presence in space sciences, technology, engineering and medicine is a key factor in achieving the development of the country, which aims to advance the national economy.

Celebration

20 creating green community

‘Emirati women have become key partners in leading sustainable development’



The UAE is ranked first in the Arab World and among the developed countries in women’s rights, according to the annual report of the Arab Women Studies Center of the Arab Women Foundation 2017.

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) organised the 4th Emirati Women’s Day Forum under the theme ‘Women on the Course of Zayed’ at the Armani hotel in Dubai. The forum celebrated Emirati Women’s Day, which is observed every year on 28th August. Hessa Buhmaid, Minister of Community Development; Mariam Al Mehairi, Minister of State for Future Food Security; Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD & CEO of DEWA; government and women leaders in the UAE, and a large number of DEWA female staff attended the event.

“The accomplishments that Emirati women have achieved are the result of the approach to empowering women, which was established by our Founding Father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. He was a strong supporter of women and who encouraged them to take part in various forms of development. Today, Emirati women are actively and efficiently working across all domains. This includes space research, renewable energy, nuclear energy for peaceful uses, manufacturing and launching satellites, aviation technologies, and other industries. On this day,

we remember the achievements of Emirati women and their role in the development efforts that the UAE has been witnessing,” said Al Tayer in his keynote speech at the event.

The UAE is ranked first in the Arab World and among the developed countries in women’s rights, according to the annual report of the Arab Women Studies Center of the Arab Women Foundation 2017, he added. “The report commended the UAE’s leadership and its approach in women empowerment, noting that Emirati women have become key



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The 4th Emirati Women's Day Forum, organized by DEWA, included a panel discussion titled 'Women in the Era of Zayed.'

partners in leading sustainable development, and that they have strong presence in Arab, regional and international feminist activities.”

“The Course of Zayed’ is a message that obliges us to follow on the footstep of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. Since the establishment of the UAE, he believed that the development of our society is achieved by empowering women, encouraging their participation, and giving them opportunities. He also believed that all efforts should be concerted to enable

women to perform their roles to the fullest. During the declaration of the establishment of our country, the late Sheikh Zayed once said, “Nothing pleases me more than seeing Emirati women assuming their role in society and achieving their rightful position. Nothing should hinder the march of women’s progress. Like men, women have the right to assume the highest positions according to their abilities and qualifications,” added Al Tayer.

Al Tayer emphasised the key role that DEWA plays in empowering women in the workplace, so

that they empower society as a whole and contribute to building the nation and preparing future generations.

Thanking DEWA for organising this important event, Buhumaid said, “We are fortunate in the UAE for our wise leadership who believe in the capabilities of Emirati women and the importance of empowering them to enhance their effective roles in the sustainable development of the UAE. This is an approach that was established from the outset of the Union by the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.”



Mariam Al Mehairi thanked DEWA for organising the forum. “Emirati women have always had support and appreciation from the leadership, starting from the care given by the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, who was keen to promote the role of women in society by removing all obstacles in the way of their development and getting their rights. Emirati women today are shining role models in the Arab and Muslim world, and internationally. Today, we see the fruits of this care as we see many examples of successful Emirati women who lead the way for present and future generations,” she said.

“Celebrating UAE Women’s Day is a badge of honour for

women and is evidence of our wise leadership’s faith in the importance of the contributions of the daughters of the nation and their role in the development efforts and our nation’s progress. Today, we celebrate Emirati women and express gratitude to a country that values women,” she said.

“Emirati women have been blessed with all the elements that contribute to their advancement, assisting them in leaving their distinctive marks in all their work. On this occasion, I congratulate every Emirati woman and our wise leadership that empowers them to become an integral part of all the nation’s achievements and successes, and of building a bright future for

generations to come, recalling the values and achievements of the late Sheikh Zayed in all his work and success,” said Fatima Deemas, Senior Manager of Internal Communications and Vice Chairman of DEWA’s Women’s Committee.

The workshop included a panel discussion titled ‘Women in the Era of Zayed’, with the participation of Dr Rafia Ghobash, founder of the Women’s Museum; Dr Amina Bou Chehab, Emirati writer and researcher; Dr Amal Belhouli, Community Affairs Advisor at Watani Al Emarat Foundation; and Hala Kazim, Emirati author, social influencer, entrepreneur, and founder of Journey Through Change. The workshop also included another



panel discussion entitled 'The next generation on the Course of Zayed', with Taif Al Amiri, Director of Government Communications at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment; Aliah Al Hazami, Emirates Youth Council Board member representing Sharjah; and Shaima al-Marzouki, Emirati novelist, author, and DEWA employee, on the panel.

RTA honours female leaders

The Women's Committee of the Roads and Transport Authority, RTA, in Dubai held a host of events marking Emirati Women's Day.

Moaza Al Marri, Director of Marketing and Corporate Communication and the

Chairperson of the Women's Committee at the RTA, said, "The RTA views female employees as essential and vital contributors to the achievement of the RTA's strategic objectives. Emirati women are living their golden age as they are privileged by the unlimited support of our leaders who spared no effort in empowering and assisting them to take the highest positions at all levels. They have become key partners in the modern urbanisation of the UAE.

"To mark the event, several pioneer female employees of the RTA have been felicitated for their innovative efforts in steering the RTA's strategic drive. A discussion panel was held hosting one of the RTA's female

leaders to shed light on her professional career," she added.



Celebration

24 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

Emirati women
 are living in golden
 age: Amal Al
 Qubaisi



This year's Emirati Women's Day, held during the Year of Zayed, is an occasion to reflect on the long journey of women's empowerment in the UAE.

“Emirati women are now living in a golden age, due to the support of the wise leadership, and we have advanced from empowering women to empowering the community through women, which is a path that was created during the country's establishment by Sheikh Zayed”

Dr. Amal Abdullah Al Qubaisi, Speaker of the Federal National Council, FNC, paid tribute to the UAE's wise leadership on the occasion of Emirati Women's Day.

“On this day, Emirati Women's Day, we thank President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and the Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and his brother, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed

Forces, and their brothers, Their Highnesses Supreme Council Members and Rulers of the Emirates, and Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women's Union, GWU, President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, and Supreme Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation, FDF, the Mother of the UAE, and affirm our appreciation and renew our pledge to our wise leadership to meet their expectations and always be good role models.

“The choice of the theme, ‘Women on the Course of Zayed’, for this



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

SHEIKH ZAYED established the foundations of the advancement of Emirati women in the UAE.

year's celebrations reflects the role and stature of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan in all our hearts, and we proudly raise our heads high to the entire world as the daughters of Sheikh Zayed. We are following in his path and keeping our pledge," she added.

"Emirati women are now living in a golden age, due to the support of the wise leadership, and we have advanced from empowering women to empowering the community through women, which is a path that was created during the country's establishment by Sheikh Zayed, who believed that

the nation's advancement can only happen through the efforts of all its people," she stressed.

This year's Emirati Women's Day is particularly special as it is held during the Year of Zayed. She also pointed out that Sheikh Zayed established the foundations of the advancement of Emirati women and created its principles, through the country's constitution that is the main legislative guarantee for women's rights, and through his directives, policies and decisions. Sheikha Fatima also contributed and is still supporting and empowering

Emirati women, she added.

Emirati Women's Day is an occasion for pride, a day for meditation, a motivation for more giving, and an accomplishment for Emirati women and the nation, which will continue advancing towards a proud future, Dr. Al Qubaisi stressed.

Women's empowerment is not a slogan that the government uses or a statement repeated by officials, but it is a reality that is highlighted by the overall accomplishments of Emirati women, she said in conclusion.

Celebration

26 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

Al Jalila Foundation reaffirms commitment to women in science



On the occasion of Emirati Women's Day, Al Jalila Foundation, a global philanthropic organisation dedicated to transforming lives through medical education and research, reaffirms its commitment to women in science.

Al Jalila Foundation, a global philanthropic organisation dedicated to transforming lives through medical education and research, marked Emirati Women's Day by reaffirming its commitment to women in science. To date, Al Jalila Foundation has invested AED9 million to empower Emirati women pursuing careers in medicine and scientific research.

The Year of Zayed commemorates 100 years since the birth of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the Founding Father of the UAE, whose timeless legacy and noble values continue

to inspire generations. Sheikh Zayed believed that investing in people's welfare, knowledge and capabilities would produce the highest dividends, and his investments in healthcare and education transformed the country and its quality of life. Sheikh Zayed was a strong advocate for women's rights. He believed that "the woman is half of the society" and should be empowered, respected and developed to contribute equally to the country's success.

The goal of Emirati Women's Day is to highlight the accomplishments of women and honour them

for their contributions to the development and advancement of the nation. In recognition of these remarkable efforts, this year's Emirati Women's Day was held under the theme 'Women on the Course of Zayed'.

In its efforts to be a leader in medical innovation, Al Jalila Foundation invests in the next generation of doctors by offering medical scholarships to Emirati students and research grants to UAE-based scientists. Since 2013, Al Jalila Foundation has awarded 59 medical scholarships of which 65% were to Emirati



AL JALILA Foundation has supported 44 Emirati women to date through postgraduate medical scholarships, research and fellowship grants, with an investment of over AED 9 million.

women pursuing careers in medicine and health sciences. In addition, 7 Emirati women pioneering important research for the region's most pressing health issues are recipients of Al Jalila Foundation research and fellowship grants.

Dr. Raja Easa Al Gurg, Chairperson of the Board of Directors and Member of the Board of Trustees of Al Jalila Foundation, said, "We are thrilled to see so many Emirati women seizing the opportunity to take on leading roles in science. Today, with the support and encouragement of our leaders,

Emirati women are already playing a prominent role across all industries and professions in the UAE. These women have proven to be strong, hardworking and resilient leaders with a goal to improve the lives of their fellow citizens. On this Emirati Women's Day, we celebrate women's contributions to the development and advancement of the UAE and know that by empowering our women, we empower our nation. It is with great pride and gratitude to our nation's leaders, donors and the community that we mark this Emirati Women's Day, in the Year of Zayed, and pledge our

continued commitment to women in science."

Dalia Al Nuaimi, first graduate of Al Jalila Foundation scholarship for the Master of Medical Sciences in Global Health Delivery (MMSc-GHD) at Harvard Medical School, said, "Studying at HMS has added considerable depth to my career path and opened many doors for me as an Emirati researcher. None of this would have been possible without the invaluable support and guidance of Al Jalila Foundation, and the scholarship, which allowed me to follow my dream of studying at



28 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n

Harvard Medical School.”

Emirati women researchers are pioneering groundbreaking research, such as Dr. Habiba Al Safar, recipient of two (2015, 2017) Al Jalila Foundation research grants to study cancer and diabetes.

Dr. Habiba has received numerous accolades for her contributions to science: UAE First Pioneer Medal for Genomics Research (2014); Emirates International Award of Genetic Diseases Prevention in the category of Best Scientific Researcher in the field of Genetic Diseases Prevention (2014); and has ranked number 52 among the most powerful women in the Arab world by

ArabianBusiness.com (2015).

Al Jalila Foundation has supported 44 Emirati women to date through postgraduate medical scholarships, research and fellowship grants, with an investment of over AED 9 million.

Hazza bin Zayed hails Emirati women’s role

H.H. Sheikh Hazza bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Chairman of Abu Dhabi Executive Council, has hailed the remarkable achievements of Emirati women and their efficient contributions to the advancement of the country’s cultural development.

On the occasion of the Emirati Women’s Day, Sheikh Hazza said, “During the Year of Zayed,

we hail with pride the historic accomplishments of Emirati women. We congratulate H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women’s Union, President of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, and Supreme Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation, who is spearheading the UAE women’s empowerment drive, on this occasion and commend her efforts to advance the country’s development march.”

“On this occasion, we thank the mothers of our martyrs who have raised their children on the values of loyalty and giving, pursuing the approach of the late Sheikh Zayed and following in his footsteps,” he added.



UAE begins new era of building, developing space sector

Dr. Ahmad bin Abdullah Humaid Belhoul Al Falasi, Minister of State for Higher Education and Advanced Skills and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the UAE Space Agency, has said that the declaration of the two astronauts who will travel to space under the UAE flag has placed the country in a more competitive and aproud position and will start a new era of the development of its space sector and other relevant scientific and professional sectors.

In his statement on the landmark development, he stressed that the declaration confirms the vision of the wise leadership, which has prioritised building the capacities of the Emiratis.

He added that the UAE's youth are creating a new era of excellence, and they have confirmed their scientific and professional capacities to drive the country to achieve its unlimited space ambitions.

He also pointed out that the selection of the first two Emirati astronauts reflects the success of the country's policies and plans to develop its scientific and technical human resources, and has proved that the UAE is capable of preparing future generations who can lead the space sector.

Dr. Eng. Mohammed Nasser Al Ahbaby, Director-General of the UAE Space Agency, described the declaration as a historical

moment in the journey of the country and its space sector.

In his statement, Al Ahbaby said that the UAE's courageous men will embrace space and represent a country that was only established a few decades ago but has managed to create generations that can explore space and serve humanity.

He added that the UAE is close to achieving the vision of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan to reach space. It was Sheikh Zayed who first established the country's space sector in the 1970s. The declaration honours his legacy while the country is celebrating the Year of Zayed, he further added.

Launch

30 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

Emirates Youth Climate Strategy launched



The newly launched Emirates Youth Climate Strategy 2018-2021 will serve as a springboard for youth involvement in tackling critical environmental and climatic concerns

Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, has launched the Emirates Youth Climate Strategy 2018-2021, in commemoration of the UN International Youth Day, observed every year on 12th August.

In line with the UAE Youth Global Initiative, rolled out by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, the strategy aims to help young Emiratis maximise their potential to enhance the country's

reputation, and raise awareness of its values and heritage abroad.

Dr. Al Zeyoudi said, "The UAE invests heavily in youth development. A prime example of such an investment is the UAE Youth Global Initiative, launched by Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed, that seeks to bridge the gap between young Emiratis and their counterparts around the world. United, they will become a great force that can drive positive changes on a global scale."

"The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, MOCCA, is a

firm believer in enabling youth to create out-of-the-box solutions that help ensure sustainability of natural resources and achieve environmental goals. Stemming from our belief, we have launched the Emirates Youth Climate Strategy 2018-2021 that will serve as a springboard for youth involvement in tackling critical environmental and climatic concerns," he added.

Providing an integrated framework for the young generation, based on future opportunities, priorities and needs, the strategy aims to



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

THE YOUTH are an integral part of the UAE's sustainable development and its efforts to create the future.

develop youth environmental leadership skills through a host of programmes and other activities in partnership with local and international stakeholders. Its three objectives comprise raising awareness about climate change among the young generation across the globe, building youth capacities to address the issue, and promoting youth participation in climate action and related decision-making.

To achieve these objectives, the Youth Council at the ministry will collaborate with strategic partners at home and abroad in

holding brainstorming sessions and innovation labs for young people to share their views on devising relevant strategies and policies. The council will also provide awareness and training programs to equip the young generation with specialized professional and practical skills through youth mentorship opportunities and youth circles.

Other activities will include engaging youth in relevant volunteering programmes, as well as local and international forums and conferences to exchange knowledge and showcase the

results of pilot projects and research related to climate change and the environment.

UAE observes International Youth Day

The United Arab Emirates observed "International Youth Day" on 12th August 2018, highlighting the great importance attached to the welfare and progress of the youth.

The UAE Government seeks to empower the young generation and prepare them to contribute to the welfare of the Emirati community by instilling in them



leadership qualities and by engaging them in the decision-making process, both at the legislative and executive levels.

“Our leadership has dedicated a lot of attention to the youth and ensured that they are well prepared to contribute to the nation’s ongoing development drive. As a result, the UAE’s youth have become a global role model in leadership, excellence and national responsibility,” said Shamma bint Suhail Faris Al Mazrui, Minister of State for Youth Affairs, to the Emirates News Agency, WAM, in a statement to mark the occasion.

She added that the UAE policy is based on investing in human capabilities, particularly the

youth as being the country’s most treasured resource for the sustainable development drive, led by President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan; HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai; and HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

She indicated that the UAE’s policies for empowering the youth and developing their capabilities are focused on education and innovation, as well as on providing a conducive environment for them to excel and play a vital role in the society.

She referred to the steps taken by the UAE to engage the youth in the development process, including the launch of the Arab Youth Centre by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid during the World Government Summit 2017.

He also launched the One Million Arab Coders initiative in October 2017 to empower young Arabs with the skills needed to contribute to the development of the digital economy.

In 2018, H.H. Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs, launched the Arab Youth Opportunity Platform to enhance opportunities for Arab youth in different specialisations.



Yemeni ambassador commends UAE's "time-honoured humanitarian legacy"

The Yemeni Ambassador to the UAE has commended the country's humanitarian efforts that, he said, are inspired by the long-lasting legacy of late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. Speaking on the occasion of the World Humanitarian Day (WHD), Ambassador Fahad Saeed Al Menhali, said the UAE's colossal efforts and contributions in his country will remain an indelible testament to the support provided by the country's wise leadership to Yemen; people and government, at a time the Houthi rebels are blocking aid convoys dispatched by the UAE to address the basic needs of locals at the embattled nation.

"The UAE humanitarian role in

Yemen comes in continuation of the time-honoured relations between the two brotherly peoples and countries," he said, adding that the UAE noble humanitarian role will go down in the annals of history as the world's largest donor of development aid relative to its national income.

The ambassador highlighted the extensive and far-reaching aid provided by the UAE during the Year of Zayed, including the assistance directed to build hospitals, houses, roads, power grids and water wells in the country to improve living conditions of Yemenis and help them survive their daily suffering. The ambassador affirmed that the UAE's

comprehensive humanitarian aid distinguishes itself by the fact that it does not discriminate on the basis of religion, belief, sect, faith, creed, or race.

Over 100,000 benefit from projects in Iraq

The Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation has emphasised that its development and relief projects in Iraq in the 'Year of Zayed', target those living in the areas affected by Daesh. The projects focus on meeting the needs of displaced families, or those who have returned home recently.

The projects prioritise the most underprivileged segments of society, especially widows, orphans and needy families.

Sustainability

34 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

Ministry of Climate Change headquarters receives LEED Platinum Certification



The Ministry's environment-friendly building was designed using sustainable material and technologies that promote energy and water efficiency, in accordance with international standards that promote the preservation of the environment.

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, MOCCA, headquarters in Al Ruwayyah, Dubai, has been awarded the Platinum Status, the highest ranking in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, LEED, System of the US Green Building Council. Earning 82 points, MOCCA became the first new federal government building to receive the highest ranking in building design and energy efficiency in the region.

Commenting on the award, Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change

and Environment, said, "In line with the directives of our wise leadership to make the UAE one of the best countries in the world by 2021, and in keeping with the accelerated efforts of the country in implementing a green economy approach through the UAE's Green Development Strategy and Green Agenda, we were keen to adopt best practices for this project that will serve as a model for the future projects in the region."

Dr. Al Zeyoudi added that the ministry's environment-friendly building was designed using sustainable material and

technologies that promote energy and water efficiency, in accordance to international standards that promote the preservation of the environment.

The ministry succeeded in saving about 46 percent of the water used through leveraging water rationalisation techniques, including double flow water tanks and low flow taps. In addition, the building contains a wastewater treatment plant, where this water is used to irrigate the green spaces and plants outside the building. In terms of energy efficiency, the building relies on



MOCCAЕ'S NEW headquarters combines modern architecture with sustainability standards, with more than 75 percent of the construction completed with recycled or reused material.

state-of-the-art technologies and environment-friendly practices to save around 41 percent of electricity consumed. The grid of solar panels installed on the roof of the building and the surfaces of parking spaces also provide clean, carbon-free energy that covers a significant portion of the building's requirements. Producing more than 323 MW/H of electricity annually, the grid helps to improve the internal environment and air quality. The building also contains charging stations for electric cars.

MOCCAЕ's new headquarters,

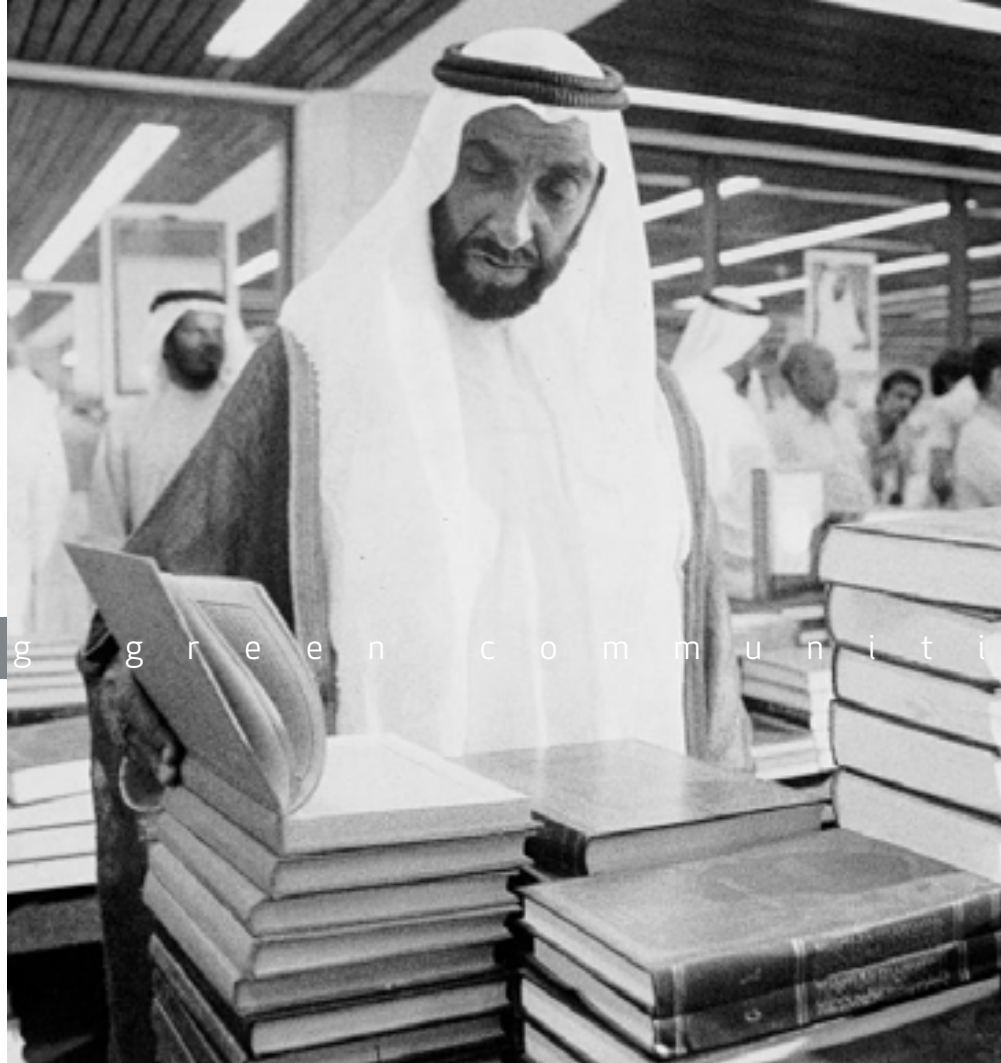
which was built in cooperation with the Ministry of Infrastructure Development, the Ministry of Finance and the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, which installed the solar panels, combines modern architecture with sustainability standards, with more than 75 percent of the construction completed with recycled or reused material.

The project is committed to international standards and the requirements for green buildings and sustainability, making it compatible with today's demands and able to provide an

appropriate, comfortable and healthy working environment for employees and visitors.

LEED certification is awarded in accordance with standards that ensure that the building is designed and built to stringent regulations that aim at achieving the highest performance in the energy, environment and human aspects. This is achieved through the development of a sustainable building site, preservation of raw materials, water and resources, in addition to energy efficiency, design efficiency and internal environment.

Sharjah takes
 ‘Year of Zayed’
 celebrations
 beyond borders



A panel at Sao Paulo International Book Fair in Brazil highlighted the legacy of the UAE’s Founding Father, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

This year, the UAE is marking the centenary of the birth of its founding father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and Sharjah was seen dedicating a panel in its cultural programme for the Sao Paulo International Book Fair, to celebrate the truly remarkable life and achievements of the UAE’s greatest visionary.

Titled ‘Year of Zayed’, the panel shed light on the fact that the prosperity, harmony and modern development that today characterises the UAE is due to the long-term vision and

formative role played by the UAE’s founding father.

Moderated by Khalid bin Qiqqa, the panel comprised Dr. Hamad bin Sarai, Professor of Old History at the United Arab Emirates University; Saeed Hamdan, Director of Program Management in the National Library Sector at the Department of Culture and Tourism in Abu Dhabi.

The two researchers highlighted late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan was an immediate advocate for closer cooperation between all Gulf states, and

primarily responsible for uniting the seven emirates and establishing the Union.

Dr. Sarai underscored that the Founder of UAE is one of the most influential Arab and Muslim role models whose early reforms in education, healthcare, public housing and other areas of community development based on the principles of inclusion and sustainability, and his persistent efforts in these field, are an example for the region.

Bin Sarai pointed out that they were, and still are sublime,

Dr. Hamad bin Sarrai

Saeed Hamdan

Moderador: Khaled bin Qiqa



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w



THE SELECTION of Sharjah as Guest of Honour at the 25th edition of the Sao Paulo International Book Fair is a culmination of the emirate's on-going actions in the past 50 years.

authentic, persuasive, thorough and simple.

Hamad bin Sarrai emphasised that Sheikh Zayed succeeded in instilling noble values and tolerant ethics into the future Emirati generations, through the tools of education and careful upbringing.

Saeed Hamdan, Director of Programme Management in the National Library Sector at the Department of Culture and Tourism in Abu Dhabi, shared reflections on the address of H.H. Dr. Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed

Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah; for being selected the 'Cultural Personality of the Year' at the 'Sheikh Zayed Book Award'.

Hamdan underlined that the selection of Sharjah as Guest of Honour at the 25th edition of the Sao Paulo International Book Fair is a culmination of the emirate's on-going actions in the past 50 years during which His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan Al Qasimi has strongly believed in cultural development and succeeded in promoting Emirati culture around the world.

Director of Programme Management in the National Library Sector emphasised that the presence of late Sheikh Zayed in collective Emirati memory was a key intellectual and creative subject that was addressed by dozens of Emirati and Arab authors.

The Arabic library has more than 150 titles on Sheikh Zayed, covering his humanitarian efforts, biography, development plans and politics. The titles also comprise panegyrics, written verse and poetry collections in high praise of his personality and noble values.

Initiative

38 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i

Models of Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque on display in 19 UAE embassies



The initiative of displaying models of Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque across a number of the country's embassies aims to promote the country's commitment to cultural pluralism and diversity, a policy, the foundation stone of which was laid by late Sheikh Zayed.

Models of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque are now on display at a number of UAE embassies and cultural centres around the globe in a new visible manifestation of the culture of inclusion, tolerance and inter-faith dialogue instilled by the Founding Father and adopted by the UAE with different world nations and peoples.

The initiative of displaying models of the mosque across a number of the country's embassies has been launched by the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre in collaboration with the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in order to promote the country's commitment to cultural pluralism and diversity, a policy, the foundation stone of which was laid by late Sheikh Zayed.

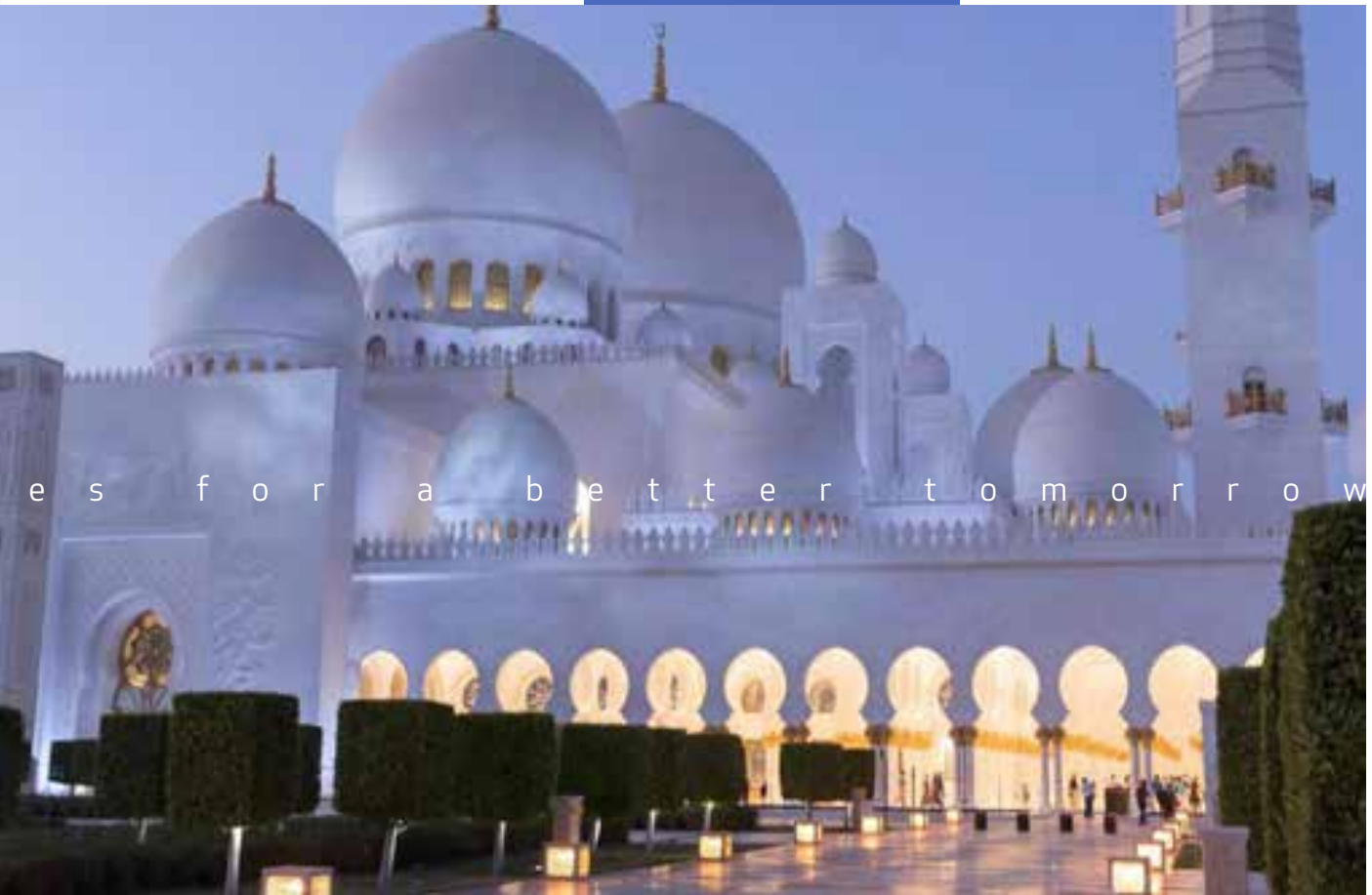
Models of the landmark mosque are now on display in 19 UAE embassies and cultural foundations around the globe as part of the initiative.

A delegation of government and faith leaders from the United Arab Emirates presented Yousef Al Otaiba, the UAE ambassador

to the United States, with a model of the mosque, recently, to display it at the UAE Embassy in Washington, DC.

"As we celebrate the Year of Zayed in 2018, it is an honor for the Embassy to display this inspiring testament to Sheikh Zayed's legacy," said Ambassador Al Otaiba.

"The Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque reflects the UAE's commitment to the spirit of diversity in culture, thought and civilisation that Sheikh Zayed valued," said Dr. Yousif Al Obaidli, Director-



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MODELS OF the landmark mosque are now on display in 19 UAE embassies and cultural foundations around the globe as part of the initiative.

General of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre.

“The initiative adds to the efforts made to reflect and immortalise the principles valued by the Founding Father, which he inspired from the moderate teachings of Islam, a religion that calls for inculcating the concepts of peaceful co-existence, tolerance, and cultural pluralism.”

The Centre will support the concepts of moderation and tolerance ingrained in the UAE’s DNA by hosting and launching a series of initiatives that foster

interfaith dialogue, inclusion and cultural diversity, he added.

Delegation visits ‘Founder’s Memorial’

A delegation from the Ruler’s Representative’s Court in Al Ain has visited “Founder’s Memorial”, which was established to honour the UAE’s Founding Father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and celebrate his legacy and noble values.

During the visit, the delegation was briefed on the memorial innovative artworks and visitor services centre, which includes

pictures and stories that highlight Sheikh Zayed’s life and interactive experiences as well as his vast influence on the UAE and the world.

The delegation also viewed a presentation on Sheikh Zayed’s life and values. They also learned about Sheikh Zayed through art, nature, words, stories, and multimedia experiences.

The inauguration of the Founder’s Memorial, was held on the 26th of February 2018, through the unveiling of The Constellation.



'Zayed Murals' in Ajman document life of Sheikh Zayed

The Ajman Municipality and Planning Department has completed a project, titled, the "Zayed Murals," to celebrate the Year of Zayed, which commemorates the Founding Father, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, who led with wisdom and vision, making the UAE a beacon of glory and prosperity.

Dr. Eng. Mohammed Ahmed bin Omair Al Muhairi, Executive Director of the Infrastructure Development Sector at the Department and Chairman of its Year of Zayed Committee, said that the department completed the project in one month, under the direct orders of Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Chairman of the Department.

The project decorated the emirate with murals of Sheikh Zayed, who presented a leading example to humanity and wrote, with letters of light, a story of a father who spared no efforts to make every citizen and resident of the UAE happy, he added.

Al Muhairi stated that the department delegated the task of supervising the project to a team of qualified employees, who communicated with professional artists to complete the murals with levels of professionalism befitting the stature of the late Sheikh Zayed.

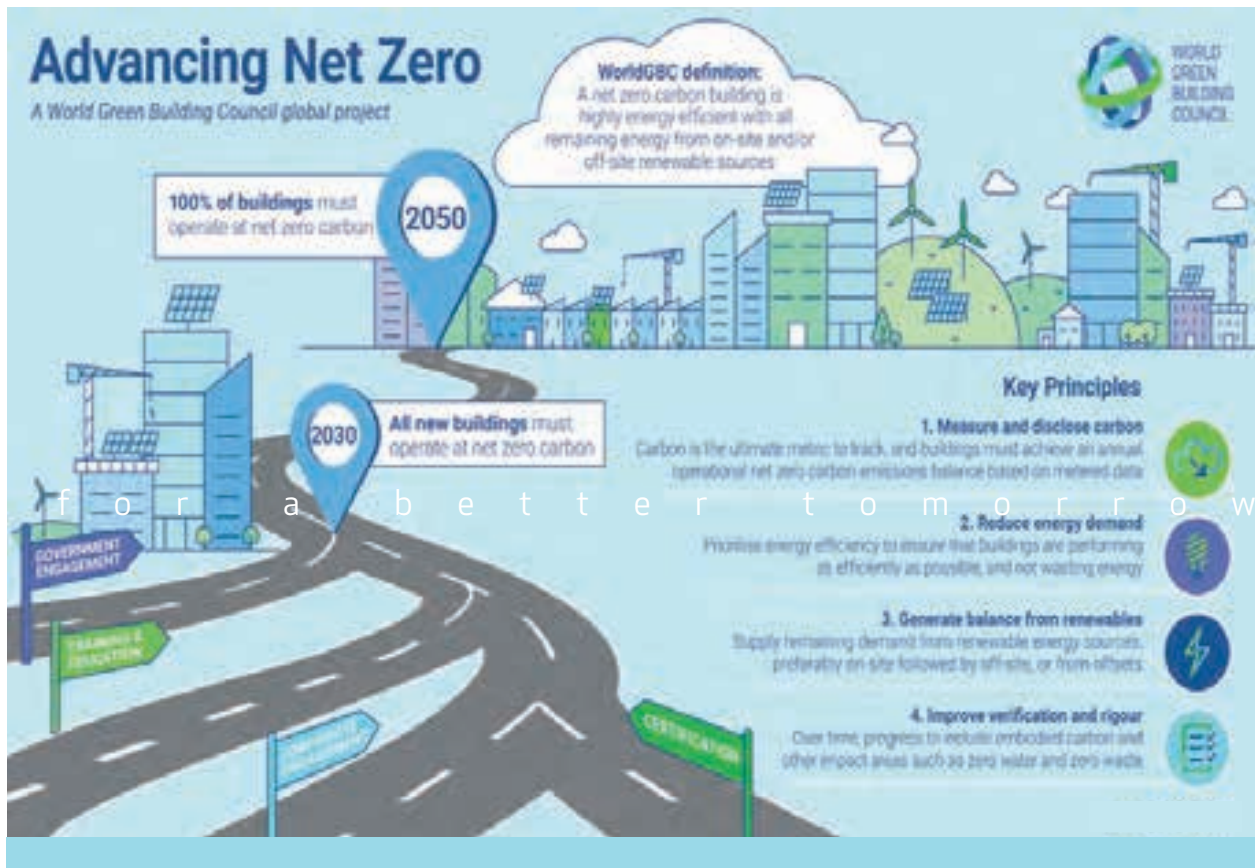
He explained that the first mural includes the logo of the Year of Zayed in green, which represents the reforestation initiatives of

Sheikh Zayed and his constant and diligent work to increase the number of green areas in the country.

The artist, Majid Ahmed Al Saudi, completed the entire mural in a record time.

The second mural is by artist Rami Al Zaghwi, who drew the largest logo of the Year of Zayed in graffiti style, is the largest of the murals and contains several abstract elements about the future envisioned by Sheikh Zayed for the nation.

The third mural, by the artist, Majid Ahmed, is a portrait of Sheikh Zayed, with the sentence, "the true resource is the resource of men."



EmiratesGBC: Region should commit to net zero carbon buildings

Emirates Green Building Council, EmiratesGBC, an independent forum aimed at conserving the environment by strengthening and promoting green building practices, has called upon all businesses, entities, and cities in the UAE and the region to formally endorse and sign the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment.

Announced globally by the World Green Building Council, WorldGBC, the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment challenges businesses and organisations across the world to take advanced climate action by setting ambitious targets to eliminate operational carbon emissions from their building portfolios by 2030 and to

advocate for all buildings to be net zero in operation by 2050.

These targets are set to meet the Paris Agreement ambition of below 2 degrees of global warming. Last month, 19 global cities, representing 130 million urban citizens, committed to cutting greenhouse gas emissions by ensuring that new buildings operate at net zero carbon by 2030.

The commitment's aim is to generate the next wave of high momentum to cut down global greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and inspire national governments to step up national climate action plans over the next two years. More cities, states and regions are set to

commit to enacting regulations or planning policy to drive construction of new buildings operating at net zero carbon from 2030 and enable all existing buildings to operate at net zero carbon by 2050.

Saeed Al Abbar, Chairman of the EmiratesGBC, said, "We will not have sufficient time to reach the Paris Agreement targets, which calls on decarbonising the global economy within 20 to 30 years if we delay action.

"We need to achieve tangible results and the Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment is a unique opportunity to ambitiously work toward reducing energy demand and controlling carbon emissions."

‘UAE an important actor for promoting global humanitarian work’



World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is held every year on 19 August to pay tribute to aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service, and to rally support for people affected by crises around the world.

H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler’s Representative in Al Dhafra Region and Chairman of the Emirates Red Crescent, ERC, has affirmed that the UAE, under the leadership of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, is moving forward in enhancing its approach to supporting international humanitarian principles via numerous development initiatives and ongoing support to victims of conflicts and disasters around the world.

Sheikh Hamdan said that the

country plays a vital role in enhancing emergency response to humanitarian crises that plague many countries in the world.

In a statement issued on the occasion of the UN World Humanitarian Day, designated on 19th August every year, Sheikh Hamdan reiterated the country’s humanitarian commitment in alleviating the suffering of people, pointing out that the UAE has become an important station in enhancing the international humanitarian work, thanks to the guidance of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed

Al Nahyan and the support of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

He emphasised the UAE’s interest in strengthening its humanitarian efforts around the world as well as adopting initiatives that would make a difference in various countries by providing comprehensive humanitarian



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ERC HAS recently expanded its activities and operations and strengthened its response to the critical humanitarian conditions in the region.

assistance to beneficiaries wherever and whenever they wish. His Highness went on to say that World Humanitarian Day coincides with the Year of Zayed, which has witnessed many initiatives in the humanitarian and development fields.

Sheikh Hamdan reiterated that the UAE’s achievements in the aid sector, impose a greater commitment to humanity in order to alleviate the suffering of unprivileged communities around the world. He also referred to the country’s permanent efforts in reducing poverty by

providing the basic necessities of life to beneficiaries across the world His Highness said that the UAE welcomes the international recognition from different countries, peoples and humanitarian organisations highlighting the volume of efforts undertaken by the UAE in the humanitarian and development aid sectors.

“On this occasion, we call on all parties in conflict areas to respect the international humanitarian law and to act with responsibility to protect civilians and humanitarian workers,” Sheikh

Hamdan added. He appealed to the international community to shoulder its responsibility to alleviate the hardships of the underprivileged caused by the spread of poverty and hunger in the region, calling on donors to fulfill their commitments to regional and international humanitarian organisations to avoid any gap in the fulfillment of humanitarian needs which may exacerbate the suffering of refugees and displaced persons whose numbers are increasing as a result of successive crises and disasters, especially in the Arab world.



ADIHEX to celebrate legacy of Sheikh Zayed

The 16th edition of the Abu Dhabi International Hunting and Equestrian Exhibition, ADIHEX, will be held from 25th to 29th September at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.

Held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler's Representative in Al Dhafra Region and Chairman of the Emirates Falconers' Club, this year's exhibition with "The Year of Zayed" as the main theme, will focus on Sheikh Zayed's interests including the protection of the environment, falconry, sustainable hunting and equestrian.

Majid Ali Al Mansouri, Chairman of the Higher Organising Committee of ADIHEX and

Secretary-General of the Emirates Falconers' Club, said, "The 16th edition of ADIHEX has been dedicated to celebrating the legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.

"The exhibition will highlight the initiatives of the UAE leader in areas of falconry, equestrian, conservation of the environment and sustainable hunting."

ADIHEX 2018 is organised by the Emirates Falconers' Club and will be sponsored by H.H. Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Flat Racing Festival, Wahat Al Zaweya, the Dhabian Equestrian Club, Smart Design LLC and Tiger Properties.

The exhibition is supported by

the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, EAD, the International Fund for Houbara Conservation, IFHC, the Department of Culture and Tourism, DCT, and The Cultural Programmes and Heritage Festivals Committee, in addition to many local, regional and international media partners.

The 16th edition of ADIHEX also has attractions that appeal to the large number of trade and consumer visitors such as the promotion and preservation of environmental and cultural heritage, hunting equipment, tourism, safaris, weapons, falconry, equestrian, sports fishing, marine sports, outdoor leisure and vehicle equipment, in addition to arts, crafts and entertainment for children.



f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

Dubai Tourism participates in environmental campaign

Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing, Dubai Tourism, has successfully participated in the 'Recycle. Reforest. Repeat.' campaign, launched by the Emirates Environmental Group, EEG, to contribute to the national objective of reducing the level of wasted paper consumed.

This, in turn, helps combat widespread desertification, with employees at the department achieving results above and beyond their target, responsible for recycling 280kg of paper during the course of one month.

As an accredited UN organisation, EEG has collaborated with the United Nations Convention to Combat

Desertification, UNCCD, in its efforts to restore degraded soils. The project has reinforced the need to preserve the environment by constructively engaging the community, challenging companies, academic institutions, families and individuals to a month-long mission campaign.

Commenting on the programme, Yousuf Lootah, Executive Director - Tourism Development & Investments at Dubai Tourism, said, "Supporting initiatives such as this, is a key enabler to help transform Dubai into a more sustainable working environment. Encouraging effective resource management by reducing the amount of wasted paper is the first step in

empowering employees towards more sustainable business practices and we were delighted to extend our support to the Emirates Environmental Group to help achieve this shared vision."

"The Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing joined the Emirates Environmental Group in global celebration of the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, submitting a noteworthy 280 kg of paper for recycling. The local efforts of the Department contributed to the mitigation of 32 metric tons of CO2 emissions, saving 140 trees, 54 MWh of energy and 26 m3 of landfill space, successfully tackling the critical global issue of land degradation," said Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Chairperson of EEG.

Minister of State for Food Security participates in World Food Summit



Held under the theme, 'Better Food for More People,' the World Food Summit 2018 at Copenhagen, Denmark, saw senior European and global dignitaries discuss pressing issues around food production and consumption.

The importance of gastronomy in ensuring healthy eating was one of the main topics addressed by Mariam Hareb Almheiri, Minister of State for Food Security, at the World Food Summit 2018, which took place recently in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Titled 'Better Food for More People,' this year's summit saw the UAE minister join senior European and global dignitaries in the Danish capital to discuss pressing issues around food production and consumption. Taking part in a panel discussion 'Zooming

in on possible points of impact,' Almheiri reviewed how applying basic gastronomy skills can be a tool to a higher level of food safety, with the concept being that a full understanding of food and ingredients makes it easier to make healthy choices.

"Today, one in 10 people in the world fall ill after eating contaminated food, with 420,000 dying every year. Gastronomy – or the knowledge on how to properly prepare, preserve and contain food - is fundamental to improving this. In 2014, more than 1.9 billion adults were overweight and of

these, over 600 million were obese. By focusing on the quality of food we could expect to see an improvement in consumption habits and a reduction in health-related illnesses, such as obesity and diabetes," she added.

Almheiri also discussed the issue of food waste during the session, with gastronomy playing an important role. The ability to cook seasonally or with local ingredients has been identified as something that can spare resources used in connection with production and transportation. She was also able to use the



e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

IN 2014, more than 1.9 billion adults were overweight and of these, over 600 million were obese.

discussion to highlight the significant steps that the UAE has taken to ensure high quality, sustainable food production for its citizens.

“The UAE has made great strides in ensuring food security as a national priority. Among the mechanisms we have set in-place are a national committee on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); the development of an innovative ‘sustainable agriculture label’ to promote high quality products produced sustainably using AgTech (agricultural technology); the development

of a UAE standard on food product nutrition signs and the establishment of a government accelerator programme to overcome obstacles that hinder the progress of urban farming applications. These, along with our other programmes, are all aimed at creating a cultural movement that values food, strengthens our relationship with it and inculcates a better understanding of our food needs as a society moving forwards,” added Mariam Almheiri.

The panel discussion was attended by HRH Princess Marie of Denmark and ministers of

agriculture from governments around the world. On the sidelines of the summit, the UAE minister met with Jakob Ellemann-Jensen, Danish Minister for Environment and Food, and undertook a number of site visits to sustainable food production facilities in and around the Danish capital.



UAE and Australia strengthen bilateral ties in agriculture, environment protection



UAE delegates met top Australian officials and toured multiple environmental and agricultural facilities in the country and have signed an MoU on sanitary and phytosanitary conditions for trade in food, feed, animal by-products, and plants.

A UAE delegation, led by Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, concluded an official visit to Australia on 14th August 2018 to promote collaboration on various environmental fronts.

During the three-day visit, the delegates attended bilateral meetings with top Australian officials and toured multiple environmental and agricultural facilities in the country.

At the Parliament House in the Australian capital, Canberra,

the two countries ratified a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU, on the sanitary and phytosanitary conditions for trade in food, processed food, feed, animal by-products, plants and plant products.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Al-Zeyoudi, on behalf of the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, MOCCA, and David Littleproud, Australia's Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources, on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, DAWR.

As per the MoU, the two countries are mandated to step up cooperation on trading of plant and animal resources. In addition, with regard to sanitary and phytosanitary matters, the MoU is set to boost compliance in both countries with stringent guidelines that prevent the entry, establishment and spread of diseases.

Speaking on the visit, Dr. Al-Zeyoudi said, "The UAE enjoys deep-rooted economic, environmental and cultural ties with Australia. Our visit aimed to build on our strong bilateral



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THE TWO countries are mandated to step up cooperation in trading in plant and animal resources.

relations and identify new opportunities for collaboration. We also sought to share expertise in relevant areas and signed an agreement that will spur food trade between our countries.”

In line with the nation’s strategy to enhance the participation of the private sector in government-led ventures, the UAE delegation also comprised representatives from the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi and Mawarid Holding.

“We aim to encourage private businesses at home to learn from successful experiences of other

countries and replicate such best practices at home for the benefit of the UAE’s agricultural and environmental industries,” Dr. Al-Zeyoudi added.

During the visit, Dr. Al-Zeyoudi attended multiple bilateral meetings with leading Australian ministers and officials including Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Minister for International Development and the Pacific; Julie Bishop, Foreign Minister; and Steven Ciobo, Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment.

The UAE delegation also visited

the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation in Canberra, where a panel discussion was hosted to explore various topics, such as the effects of climate change on water resources and biodiversity. The delegates attended multiple meetings at the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences.

Delivering a lecture to a receptive audience that comprised faculty members, ambassadors and members of the public at the University of Canberra, the Minister of Climate Change



and Environment showcased the UAE's ambitious climate and clean-energy vision and highlighted the concrete actions the country has already taken in this context.

UAE, New Zealand foster food security cooperation

Mariam Hareb Almheiri, Minister of State for Food Security has got a firsthand experience of the New Zealand's experience in areas of limnology, and agricultural and food sciences as part of the UAE's endeavours to develop sustainable food solutions.

This came during the minister's visit to the cities of Wellington, Nelson and Auckland, during which she got onsite knowledge

on the best practices pursued by New Zealand, being among the top world countries in the field.

She was also briefed on the Garden-to-Table Initiative aimed at teaching children how to grow, harvest, prepare and share fresh, seasonal food, with the objective of learning from New Zealand's vast experience in this domain.

UAE's cooperation ties with New Zealand have borne fruit over the past period, with the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi, for example, having developed a crop calculator to optimise the allocation of the groundwater used to irrigate crops. The model calculates the soil water balance by considering the inputs (rainfall and irrigation) and losses (plant

uptake, evaporation, run-off and drainage) of water from the soil profile. The crop calculator is an initiative to promote optimum groundwater use in agriculture sector and to protect red zones where groundwater levels are falling rapidly.





Sharjah to host workshop on coastal wetlands in Arabian Peninsula

A workshop entitled 'Developing a regional strategy for monitoring of coastal wetlands and waterbirds in the Arabian Peninsula' will be held in the first half of September in Sharjah.

It will be organised by the Environment and Protected Areas Authority (EPAA) in cooperation with the Wetlands International and BirdLife International, with the participation of more than 20 government representatives, the partners of both organisations in the region, and representatives of a number of other environmental organisations.

EPAA Chairperson Hana Saif Al Suwaidi said, "EPAA is keen to

coordinate and cooperate with government agencies, academic institutes and organisations, regional organisations, and research centres on everything related to the EPAA's work."

Al Suwaidi explained that the workshop will identify, document and monitor the changes in the ecological status of internationally important wetlands (Critical Sites).

The two-day workshop aims to take stock of existing initiatives, capacity and agree on a regional waterbird and wetland monitoring strategy, identify gaps, needs and opportunities, joint products and timeline. The workshop will also discuss the way forward concerning the

production of a regional situation analysis on the status coastal wetlands.

There will also be discussions about an analysis of the status of coastal wetlands in the region. It is hoped that participants will reach agreement on the estimated number of waterbird population.

The workshop seeks to develop a draft regional waterbird and wetland monitoring strategy based on the outcome of the discussions. It also seeks to gain support to the implementation of the regional waterbird and wetland monitoring strategy, and to communicate with regional stakeholders concerning the development of the situation analysis.

Initiative

52 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

Green Dubai
to empower
customers to
make sustainable
decisions



[Green Dubai, launched by DEWA, aims to empower customers to adopt a conscious and responsible lifestyle through the sensible use of electricity and water.](#)

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, DEWA, has launched Green Dubai, which includes three initiatives that will help make Dubai the most sustainable city in the world. The move supports DEWA's efforts to empower customers to make sustainable decisions that contribute to protecting the environment and natural resources.

In its first phase, Green Dubai will include Shams Dubai initiative, which encourages building owners to install photovoltaic solar panels and connect them to

DEWA's grid. To date, DEWA has connected over 1,145 buildings to Dubai's power grid with a capacity of nearly 50MW.

Green Dubai also includes the Green Charger initiative to install Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations. DEWA has installed over 100 Green Chargers across Dubai and is working to increase the number to 200 stations by end of 2018. To encourage customers to use eco-friendly electric vehicles, DEWA provides free charging for electric cars registered in the Green Charger initiative until the end of 2019.

'High Water Usage Alert', the third initiative under Green Dubai, helps customers discover possible leaks in their water connections, after the meter. The system sends instant notifications to the customer if there are any unusual increases in consumption, which helps the customer to check the internal connections and repair any leaks, with the help of a specialised technician. This contributes to reducing incurred costs by limiting water wastage.

Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD & CEO of DEWA, said, "Green Dubai aims to empower customers to

GREEN DUBAI

IS THE COLOUR OF CHANGE

Green Dubai is DEWA's initiative to empower customers like you to make sustainable choices for a greener planet. Under Green Dubai, there are 3 initiatives to make Dubai the greenest, smartest and happiest city in the world.

e s f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o

High Water Usage Alert

With this alert, you will be notified of your high consumption of water that could indicate possible internal water leakage. It is for you to carry out your preventive maintenance for a Greener Dubai. For more information please visit www.dewa.gov.ae

Shams Dubai

Installing photovoltaic solar panels on your rooftop, you can harness the sun's energy to power your home or offices, increase the value of your property and lower your carbon footprint. Choose clean energy through Shams Dubai, for a Green Dubai.

EV Green Charger

DEWA encourages the use of environmentally-friendly electric vehicles by providing about 200 charging stations across Dubai by end of 2018. DEWA empowers your sustainable journey with free charging for Green Charger registered users until end of December 2019.

YOUR HAPPINESS IS OUR PRIORITY

IN ITS first phase, Green Dubai will include Shams Dubai initiative, which encourages building owners to install photovoltaic solar panels and connect them to DEWA's grid.

adopt a conscious and responsible lifestyle through the sensible use of electricity and water. This supports the Demand Side Management Strategy to reduce electricity and water use by 30% by 2030, generating clean solar energy, and encouraging the use of eco-friendly electric vehicles."

New MoU to monitor environment

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, MOCCA, and the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation, FANR, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, MoU, to strengthen cooperation

in fields related to climate change and environment.

Sultan Alwan, Assistant Under-Secretary of the Regions Sector at MOCCA, and Christer Viktorsson, Director-General of FANR, signed the agreement, in the presence of Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, and Abdulla Nasser Al Suwaidi, FANR's Chairman.

Commenting on the agreement, Alwan emphasised that the agreement aims to assess the environment and make

projections for the future through leveraging the latest technologies in practical training and capacity.

According to the MoU, the ministry and FANR will strengthen cooperation in different scientific, training and vocational areas. It also entails boosting cooperation in research areas and preparing and developing legislations and regulations related to the presence of radioactive material in the environment. It also covers future cooperation in assessing and measuring the concentration of radioactive materials in natural resources.

Initiative

54 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

DEWA commissions 2MWp Solar Carport Project



Spanning an area of 13,200 square metres, the project covers a total of 885 parking spaces in the two locations and will produce enough clean energy to offset up to 1,500 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

The Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, DEWA, has commissioned the 2MWp Solar Carport Project, at its headquarters and at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, MOCCA, building.

DEWA launched the project last year as part of the Shams Dubai initiative, to increase reliance on clean energy. This project covers a total of 885 parking spaces in the two locations, using 6,700 locally manufactured solar modules, spanning an area of 13,200 square metres with a total production capacity of 2,000 kW.

This is equivalent to a reduction of about 1,500 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

“The Solar Carport project at DEWA’s headquarters and at MOCCA is part of our efforts to encourage the public to benefit from DEWA’s Shams Dubai initiative that supports the Smart Dubai initiative, launched by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

“It also achieves the objectives of the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy

2050 to make Dubai a global hub for clean energy and green economy by providing 7 percent of its total energy from clean energy sources by 2020, 25 percent by 2030, and 75 percent by 2050,” said Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD and CEO of DEWA.

“Through this project, we also aim to reduce the reliance on traditional energy sources, by helping Dubai’s governmental entities meet the target set by the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy to cut 20 percent of energy consumption in all government buildings by 2020,” added Al Tayer.



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THROUGH SHAMS Dubai, a total of 1,145 buildings have been connected to DEWA's network, with a total capacity of 49.9 MW.

He stated that the Shams Dubai initiative, launched by DEWA in 2015 encourages homeowners to install photovoltaic solar systems on the rooftops of their buildings and connect them to DEWA's network.

Through Shams Dubai, a total of 1,145 buildings have been connected to DEWA's network, with a total capacity of 49.9 MW.

RTA makes 12.6 Gigawatt-Hour electric power savings Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority, RTA, has announced that it had made electric power

saving as much as 12.6 Gigawatt-Hour in 2017, in addition to reducing carbon emissions by 5,430 tons. Making such savings contributes to realising RTA's strategic objective of nurturing a sustainable environment through saving power consumption.

"A plan has been endorsed to replace the conventional street-lighting units of high-intensity discharge, HID, type by light-emitting diode, LED, lights, following savings amounting to 50 percent resulting from Traffic and Roads Agency's pilot project of replacing HID by LED units

in several areas of Dubai", said Maitha bin Adai, CEO of RTA's Traffic and Roads Agency.

The replacement of HID lights by LED lights is part of the its power-saving initiatives, which include the partial switching off of lights in residential areas and revising the street-lighting hours while taking into consideration the security and safety of road users.

"The resultant power savings is expected to reach 22 Gigawatt-Hour in 2018, i.e. almost double of that achieved in 2017," Maitha concluded.



Empower to host 8th IDEA District Cooling Conference 2018 in Dubai

Emirates Central Cooling Systems Corporation, Empower, is preparing to host the 8th International District Energy Association, IDEA's, District Cooling Conference 2018 for the 3rd year. The conference will be held from 9th to 11th December, 2018, in Dubai.

Held under the slogan 'Effective Energy for Smarter Cities', the conference will shed light on various developments and practices on innovative solutions in district cooling systems and projects. It also reflects the role of the UAE in supporting sustainable development in the region and the world, and its efforts in district cooling, which has become an essential part of

planning and designing modern buildings, especially in areas with warmer climates.

In preparation, Empower has started to mobilise logistics and operations including preparing its plant room in Palm Jumeirah Crescent which delegates will as part of the technical tour on the last day of the conference.

"The UAE utilises district cooling to prepare to face the future, in line with the sustainable development goals, the UAE Vision 2021, and the UAE National Agenda," said Ahmad bin Shafar, CEO of Empower.

"The conference will promote the concept of smart cities. It will also focus on energy efficiency in

smart cities, the role of district cooling systems in conserving natural resources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The event will include workshops and lectures, in addition to the accompanying tradeshow, which reviews the most advanced district cooling solutions, and a technical tour to Empower plant in Palm Jumeirah Crescent," he added.

The delegates will also visit the Atlantis Hotel's District Cooling Energy Transfer Station set up for the iconic Aquarium that houses thousands of marine animals, and filtration room, showcasing how the district cooling serves to maintain the Aquarium with its temperature requirements of various species.



Dubai Properties' energy-saving initiative set to offset 1,450 tonnes of CO2 annually

Dubai Properties, a member of Dubai Holding, has completed the instalment of energy-saving systems in its communities that will offset an estimated 1,450 tonnes of CO2 emissions annually.

The master developer enlisted Honeywell, the Fortune 100 software-industrial company, and Signify (formerly known as Phillips Lighting), the world leader in lighting, to carry out energy efficiency upgrades at its Business Bay Executive Towers development as it continues its drive towards enhancing the sustainability of its communities.

The enhancements include the upgrading of building systems and facilities in 11 towers, which

will lead to 3.3 million kw/hr of energy savings annually, an approximate saving of AED1.5 million in energy bills. The resulting CO2 emissions offset are equivalent to removing 310 cars from the road for one year or planting 336 trees.

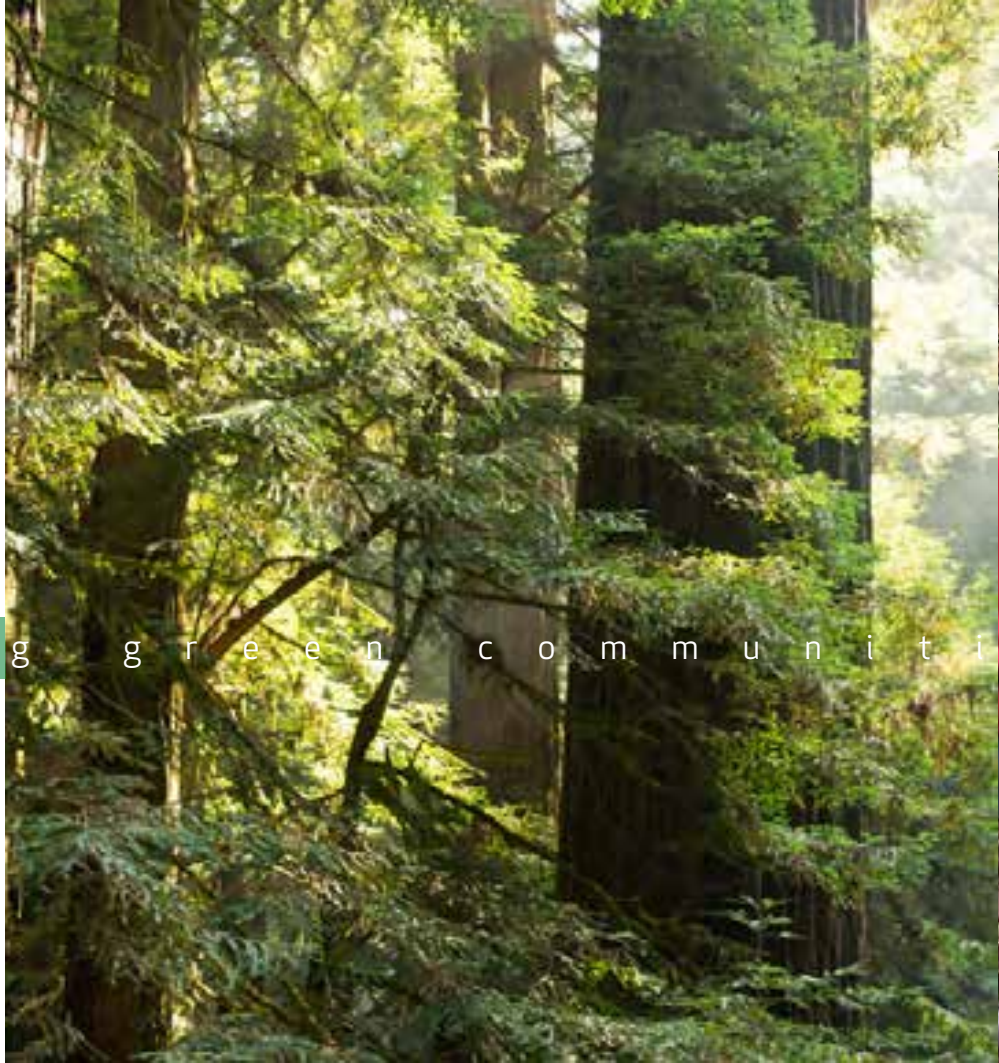
Raed Al Nuaimi, Group CEO at Dubai Properties, said, "We are deeply committed to creating sustainable and energy-efficient communities, and this is yet another step in the right direction." In keeping with Dubai's efforts to double energy efficiency by 2030, Dubai Properties collaborated with Signify to retrofit the existing lighting in 11 residential buildings and corresponding parking area with LED lights,

covering a total of 16,000 light points and ultimately resulting in improved comfort levels for residents and visitors to the community.

Goktug Gur, President and CEO of Signify in the Middle East, Turkey and Pakistan, said, "Retrofitting buildings to make them more energy efficient can have a hugely beneficial impact on the environment, in addition to ensuring a significant financial impact."

In collaboration with Honeywell, an upgraded and fully-digital building management system, BMS, has been implemented to monitor and control mechanical and electrical utilities across building systems and facilities.

UN Environment and partners show global restoration success in unprecedented study



[A new UN report chronicling several case studies in forest and landscape restoration presents a variety of time-proven opportunities to bring infertile land back to life.](#)

Showing the success of large-scale restoration of landscapes burdened by natural or man-made disasters, UN Environment launched the report: Restoring forests and landscapes, the key to sustainable future, on 28th August, 2018.

The unprecedented study chronicles the results of long-term and large-scale research and outlines several case studies in forest and landscape restoration. The report bears a positive message, presenting a variety of time-proven opportunities to bring infertile land back to life.

With wildfires, droughts and the steadily increasing number of migrants driven from their homes by land degradation, food insecurity or conflict over natural resources dominating the news, the report comes at a pivotal moment.

Securing enough healthy and fertile landscapes are key to address these pressing challenges. With 40% of global soil cover already being used for agricultural purposes, room for expansion is limited. Every year, we are losing ecosystem services – including food production –

worth more than \$6 trillion a year to erosion and other forms of degradation.

Nations around the world recognize the economic benefits that investing in restoration brings, and while the threats posed by degradation are daunting, our growing understanding of how natural systems work present enormous opportunities for positive change.

As of 2018, almost 50 countries, including India, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mexico, and Peru have already committed to bringing more than



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EVERY YEAR, we are losing ecosystem services – including food production – worth more than \$6 trillion a year to erosion and other forms of degradation.

160 million hectares – the size of the Indian subcontinent – into restoration by signing on to the world’s largest restoration initiative – the Bonn Challenge.

“It’s clear that there is a growing movement for large-scale landscape restoration,” Erik Solheim, head of UN Environment said. “All our international partner organizations working in this field agree it’s now time to significantly scale up this work. There is clear potential for an area of 350 million hectares of degraded land to be restored by 2030, something that give a

huge boost to the fight against climate change, biodiversity loss and poverty. It’s essential that we mobilize and seize this opportunity.”

Boosting the momentum generated by the Bonn challenge and ultimately aiming to restore more than 2 billion hectares of degraded land worldwide, the government of El Salvador supported by UN Environment proposed to declare the next 10 years ‘Decade for Ecosystem Restoration’, devoted to promoting the rehabilitation of degraded, damaged and

destroyed lands.

“Forest and landscape restoration is clearly an idea whose time has come. After testing the approach successfully in over 50 countries, we are now ready to scale up. A global ecosystem restoration movement is our best hope to limit climate change, create green jobs, and improve food and water security at the same time. We are ready to work with all stakeholders who want to join us on this journey,” said Tim Christophersen, Chair of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration.

Conservation

60 c r e a t i n g g r e e n c o m m u n i t i e s

Primates in peril: highlighting endangered species at International Primatological Congress



Out of the 511 currently living species of primates, 60% are threatened with extinction and 75% are seeing their populations in decline.

Over 850 primate researchers and conservationists from around the world met in August at the International Primatological Society Congress, to share the latest news and findings in primatology research, and to shine a light on the 25 most endangered primates in the world.

Our closest biological relatives, several species of primates are faced with severe threats to their existence. Out of the 511 currently living species of primates, 60% are threatened with extinction and 75% are

seeing their populations in decline.

The Congress – the largest meeting in the world of primate researchers and conservationists – was organized by the secretariat of the Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) in collaboration with local partners and hosted a number of top researchers from around the world. Taking place in Nairobi, this year’s conference was ideally situated to look at some of the primates indigenous to Africa, especially the species that are severely threatened.

“It’s fantastic to see that over 20% of the primatologists here are from African countries,” IPS President Prof. Karen Strier said. “This is an important indication of the strength of research and conservation here at a time when both are so urgently needed.”

Among African primates, Madagascar’s species are under the greatest threat, with at least 87% of all primate species there threatened, including the well-known lemurs, who are at risk from habitat destruction, bushmeat consumption, and capture to be sold as pets.



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THE INTERNATIONAL Primatological Society is the largest society for primatologists, with over 1200 members from 67 countries.

Engaging local communities in the protection and conservation of existing population is key to save these species from extinction.

“We firmly believe that working with and sharing knowledge with the people of local communities presents the only chance to save lemurs and the forests,” said Jonah Ratsimbazafy, Secretary-General for the Association for the Study of the Primates of Madagascar, which provides training and education opportunities and since 2015 has established over 20 hectares of protected forest, now managed

by the local communities.

Two species of the African Red Colobus monkey also made it to the list of most endangered primates – a rare occasion for two closely related species to both be critically endangered, and an urgent indication of a need for action.

Threats to primate communities are not limited to Africa, however. The Tapanuli orangutan – an Indonesian species only identified last year – was immediately classified as critically endangered and will certainly be on the 2018-

2020 Most Endangered list. And the plan to construct a hydrodam in Batang Toru will most likely make this species disappear.





47% drop in environmental violations by industrial establishments in Dubai

The Dubai Municipality has recorded a 47 percent decrease in environmental violations committed by industrial establishments in the first half of the year compared to the same period last year.

Alia Al Harmoudi, Director of the Environment Department in the municipality, said that most of these violations were related to obtaining environmental permits and protection of air from pollution. She said the percentage of violations with regards to obtaining environmental permits was 55 percent from January to June 2018 compared to the same period last year, while violations related to the protection of air from pollution decreased by 24

percent between January and June 2018 compared to the same period last year. Al Harmoudi stated that 444 environmental permits have been issued for industrial and service projects in the first half of this year, an increase of 60 percent compared to the same period in 2017.

Explaining that the Environment Department is keen to employ the latest technologies in the field of environmental monitoring, she said, "We have expanded the scope of the use of drones to include environmental monitoring and control in all industrial areas to monitor and control any pollution cases emanating from industrial activities and projects." She said that the drones have high-

quality specifications, which enable users to shorten the time and effort and obtain accurate results, in addition to the ability to carry weights and flying to heights of up to 500 meters.

Al Harmoudi pointed out that the effective use of drones contributes to shortening the time taken by the inspection team, reducing the need to move to different locations, especially in environmental emergencies. "This technology also contributes to achieving sustainability standards by rationalising fuel consumption by reducing vehicle movements of the inspection team, thus contributing to the reduction of carbon emission and environmental protection," she added.



f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

WETEX 2018: Ideal platform for green innovations and solutions

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, DEWA, said that the Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition, WETEX, 2018 is the ideal platform to show the latest solutions and green innovations.

WETEX 2018, to be held from 23rd - 25th October, is organised under the directives of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of Dubai Executive Council and President of DEWA.

The exhibition, to be held at the Dubai International Convention

and Exhibition Centre, is a platform where companies, decision-makers, investors, buyers and interested parties from around the world meet to make deals, review the latest solutions, and learn about current and future projects.

The exhibition will showcase global green innovations in water, clean and renewable energy, environment, oil and gas fields. It's a platform that helps nurture international interest in green innovations, supports a sustainable environment and the shift into a green economy.

This is done by reducing carbon emissions that have a negative impact on our health, environment and development.

“We are organising the exhibition as it is a realisation of the directives of our wise leadership to promote the sustainable development and the green economy of the UAE, and to achieve the UAE Centennial 2071 objectives of securing a happy future and a better life for future generations,” said Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD and CEO of DEWA and Founder and Chairman of WETEX.

The UAE is witnessing a growing demand for green technology solutions, especially in light of the new laws and the introduction of new standards for electrical devices set by the government, with the advantages being the reduction of the operational costs and of carbon emissions.



MOCCAЕ, Borouge join forces to protect the environment

The Abu Dhabi based Borouge and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, MOCCAЕ, sealed an MOU on 8th August 2018 to enhance plastics innovation and increase their efforts to protect the UAE climate and environment. The MOU was signed by Saif Mohamed AlShara, MOCCAЕ's Assistant Under-Secretary for the Sustainable Communities Sector, and Ahmed Omar Abdulla, CEO of Abu Dhabi Polymers Company, Borouge.

Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al-Zeyoudi, Minister of Climate Change and Environment said, "While plastic is an essential component in many modern industries in the world and has proven economic value in securing our livelihoods,

we now realise the need to strike a balance between its economic value and protecting the environment against its adverse effects by opting for greener choices when consuming plastics in a smart way and disposing of it properly."

"Through the MoU, we can contribute significantly to the protection of climate, environment and natural resources by benefiting from Borouge's outstanding innovative capabilities in providing creative plastics solutions, in addition to jointly enhancing social and environmental awareness and promoting sustainable behaviours in tackling plastics waste challenges more responsibly," he added.

Borouge seeks to "help to achieve sustainable developments, protection of our environment and natural resources and enhancement of plastic waste prevention as well as waste management practices," said Ahmed Omar Abdulla.

These efforts will support the implementation of the UAE sustainable waste prevention and management practices to provide an overall national framework based on global benchmarks. Both, Borouge and the Ministry have also agreed to promote the active development of plastics circular economy initiatives by increasing the recycling and enhancing the reusability of recycled plastics waste, to extend the lifespan of plastics.



f o r a b e t t e r t o m o r r o w

Plastic-Free Summer campaign in Dubai

The Environment Department of Dubai Municipality has launched the Plastic-Free Summer campaign to highlight the issues of plastic pollution and the damage it does to the environment and natural resources. The campaign will be accompanied by many environmental and educational workshops and entertainment events aimed at raising the level of environmental awareness and encouraging positive environmental behavior.

Alia Al Harmoudi, Director of Environment Department said that the Plastic-Free Summer campaign targets all family members, residents and tourists, each of whom has a prominent role in contributing to reducing

plastic pollution that negatively impacts the marine life and in reducing carbon footprint in the field of water, air and waste.

Tasnim Al Falasi, Manager of Environmental Awareness Section in the Environment Department said that the campaign will contribute to enhancing the environmental habits of the community and will make a clear difference in the individual's use of plastic and its alternatives and will be an opportunity to raise the awareness of the society about the harmful effects of plastic in our daily lives at home and work.

The campaign aims at reducing plastic pollution by contributing to changing the culture of future

generations and society and enhancing their environmental awareness, which starts through individual practices and seeks to preserve the environment and its resources and not to neglect this environmental heritage.

The campaign includes the "Environmental Choice Challenge" activity, which aims at educating the individual about the choices available around him among the environment-friendly items.

The "Environmental Replacement" activity allows the individual to replace existing plastic collectibles with environmentally-friendly items, which is a drive towards positive trends in reducing plastic pollution.



Hydrogen Economy for Arab Countries

Being an expert on Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technology, Heinz Sturm stated that the energy future of the world lies in hydrogen fuel cells and batteries for electric mobility in order to combat climate change. Hydrogen can be produced from water by separating it from oxygen; then they combine again when using it as fuel and they are back to water. So water is just changing face, but nothing is lost.

The Hydrogen Economy can help Arab countries to reduce energy bills, develop sustainable waste management and reduce carbon footprints. All sectors of the economy need clean energy sources to reduce pollution. Hydrogen can be produced efficiently and used to generate electricity, heat, fuel, chemicals and even water, which is a challenging issue in arid regions.

Electric vehicles are powered by electricity either from batteries or fuel cells. Conversion of environment-friendly hydrogen plus oxygen from the air takes place in fuel cells onboard the vehicle. A full hydrogen tank can take you 500 km or more, before having to visit the next hydrogen filling station for a few minutes. This is much faster than charging battery-powered electric vehicles, which usually takes too long. The Arab world needs a network of hydrogen filling stations for clean and affordable hydrogen gas, or battery charging stations for electric vehicles to be widely used. This is one of the important steps to escape the fast impending climate disaster.

We definitely need to be more active in climate protection by protecting air, water and soil, while reducing any resource consumption significantly in addition to an efficient waste management system. This requires the availability of clean, affordable energy worldwide. This is a real challenge in Arab countries where more than 40% of the population is in poor, rural and urban areas with no access to adequate energy services and almost 20% are relying on non-commercial fuels for different energy uses.

Good urban planning and air quality solutions, including clean energy and green transport, are important components of climate change mitigation. If these sectors integrate, plan at an early stage and develop an energy system of hydrogen and fuel cells, we will see the emergence of sustainable communities in cities of the Arab world. Decentralized fuel cells in buildings can produce on-site electricity to meet the energy requirements detaching from large centralized power plants.

Electric vehicles will provide good health, fast mobility, clean air, less noise pollution and also lead to conservation of natural resources. So, as a new concept of transport, this will make our life easier.

If we produce hydrogen via gasification technologies using steam refurbishment of biomass waste, then we can also solve the challenging problem of waste disposal in the Arab world.

In the UAE, the Ministry of Energy & Industry is considering this technology for future use and studies are being conducted to determine the best way and timing.

Let us all change course and go green, cheap and easy by introducing the Hydrogen Fuel Cell for energy production.

Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif

Chief Technical Advisor

Zayed International Foundation for the Environment



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