

# Environment

creating green communities for a better tomorrow

A monthly publication issued by Zayed International Foundation for the Environment



UAE To Stage COP28 Climate Summit At Expo City Dubai

Buick Wildcat EV: A Stunning Look At The Future





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The legacy of Expo 2020 Dubai continues to live with the announcement of the opening of Expo City Dubai and its transformation into an extraordinary infrastructure built to leading environmental standards, in line with Dubai's plans to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

This clean, green, tech-enabled city of the future driven by sustainability, innovation, education, and entertainment, will now go on to leave a permanent imprint on the minds of people the world over, as under the directive of UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, this exceptional venue will be the centrestage of the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP28) in November 2023.

## Chairman's Message

With environmental sustainability at its core, Expo City Dubai is the most fitting venue to host the international summit that seeks to find solutions to threats posed by climate change as nearly 80 per cent of Expo-built infrastructure, including more than 120 LEED-certified buildings, will be retained and repurposed





**Prof. Mohammed bin Fahad**Executive Editor

in the new city. Other highlights include no single-use plastic, pedestrian-friendly with no cars or heavy vehicles, built-in smart metering for all buildings, and a sustainable community that prioritises the environment's positive impact on human wellness.

As the permanent host country for the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the first country in the region to sign and ratify the Paris Agreement and the first in the region to commit to an economy-wide reduction in emissions as part of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), the UAE has a proven track record in progressive climate action and multilateral cooperation.

As the world's leading climate actors converge at the smart, futuristic Expo City Dubai next year, we are certain that the UAE will successfully mobilise countries to boost their efforts to fight climate change.

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**NET-ZERO:** 29,000 sq m Masdar City Square supports UAE's carbon neutrality goals



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New report by World Government Organisation urges five actions to reduce emissions by over 80%



**#OnlyOneEarth**: UAE promotes eco-friendly practices to mark World Environment Day



### **Upcoming events**

## High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2022

**Date:** uly 5 - 15

Location: New York, USA

The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) is the core United Nations platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Under the theme, "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", HLPF will reflect on how recovery policies can reverse the negative impacts of the pandemic on the SDGs and move countries on to a path to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda.

## Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2022

**Date:** July 18 - 22

Location: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Hosted by the Government of the Dominican Republic, LACCW 2022 will engage and empower stakeholders to drive climate action across countries, communities and economies. Working together opens opportunity to advance climate action, address social inequalities and invest in development that is good for humanity and nature.

LACCW 2022 is a collaboration platform to explore resilience against climate risks; the transition to a low-emission economy; and partnerships to solve pressing challenges.

#### The International Conference on Green Energy and Environmental Technology

**Date:** July 27 – 29 **Location:** Rome, Italy

Under the theme, Speeding up the transition to Sustainable consumption and production with Life Cycle Approaches, the webinar promotes life cycle knowledge, revealing the unintended trade-offs between circular approaches' social, environmental, and economic impacts. This makes life cycle thinking essential for public and private decision-makers to foster progress towards sustainable production and consumption patterns.

## Environment

## UAE To Stage COP28 Climate Summit At Expo City Dubai

nder the directive of UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP28) will be hosted at Expo City Dubai.

The directive underlines the venue's unique proposition as a state-of-the-art destination, which brought the world together in the UAE for



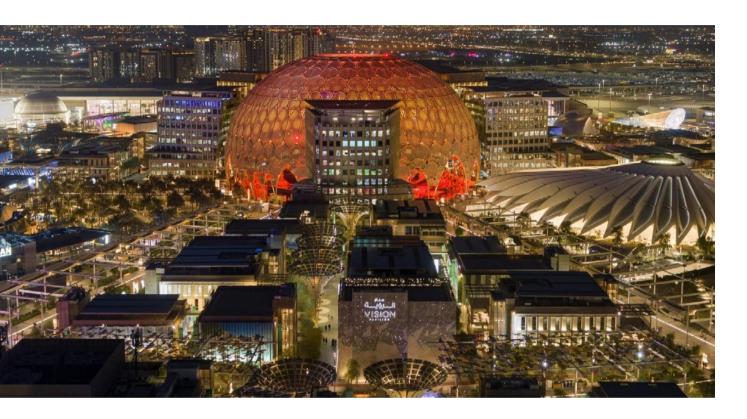
Led by UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the upcoming COP28 climate conference, running for 12 days from November 6 -17, 2023, will be held at Expo City Dubai

six months. Both Expo 2020 and COP28 share similar objectives: achieving sustainability and promoting international action as essential steps towards facing global challenges.

COP28 focuses on key pillars, including the implementation of climate commitments and pledges, inclusion, working together to take concrete action and identifying solutions that contribute to overcoming challenges, and seizing opportunities to ensure a sustainable future for present and future generations.

The selection of Expo City Dubai as the COP28 venue builds on the legacy and message of "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future", and affirms commitment to the themes of sustainability, opportunity, and mobility, while showcasing its sustainable infrastructure, in line with the UAE's vision for COP28.

## The meeting of world leaders in November 2023 will seek to find solutions to the threats posed by climate change



The conference is expected to see over 45,000 participants daily, including heads of state, government officials, international industry leaders, private sector representatives, academics, experts and representatives of civil society organizations.

The new city, announced by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, will be a global hub for innovation and creativity. It will represent a model for the future city that preserves the UAE's legacy as a contributor to the progress of the region and the world.

The UAE has a proven track record in climate action and multilateral cooperation. It is the permanent host country for the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the first country in the region to sign and ratify the Paris

Agreement, and the first in the region to commit to an economy-wide reduction in emissions.

In addition, the UAE has also established itself as a world-class destination for hosting high-level international events focusing on climate action and sustainable development.

Over the past 15 years, the UAE has emerged as a regional leader in renewable and clean energy investments. It invested USD50 billion in clean energy and has recently announced its plans to invest more than USD50 billion over the next decade in additional projects, including hydrogen and ammonia.

The UAE operates three of the world's largest and lowest-cost solar plants and has invested in renewable energy projects in 70 countries. These investments include more than USD1 billion in





grants and loans to 27 island countries that are resource-stressed and particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

The UAE leverages effective and innovative climate action as a key driver to building a new, low-emissions economic growth model, underpinned by sustainability, and one that will create meaningful employment opportunities in new sectors thereby driving the ambitions of the UAE, the region, and the world.

COP28 represents a moment of vital significance as the world seeks to maximise progress since the Paris Agreement. The conference will witness a critical stocktaking moment for climate action under the Paris Agreement, in addition to defining future Nationally Determined Contributions.

With Egypt hosting COP27 in November 2022, the UAE is committed to working closely with the

host government to accelerate global progress in climate action and adapting to the repercussions of climate change.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was launched in 1992 in Brazil. The conferences are formal meetings, held annually since 1995, which aim to find solutions to reduce the impacts of climate change.





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## Environment

# Zayed International Foundation for the Environment participates in panel discussion on 'Armed Conflicts, Environment and Human Rights' at Geneva meet



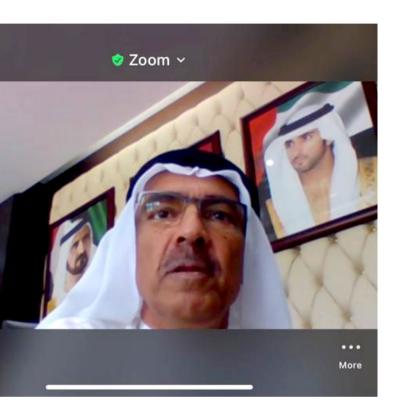
E. Major General Prof. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahd, Deputy Commander of Dubai Police for Academic and Training Affairs, and Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, delivered a keynote address virtually on June 8, 2022, at a panel session titled, Armed Conflicts, Environment and Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland.

The event was organised as part of a joint initiative between the Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue and the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, and panelists highlighted the long-term and irreparable environmental damage arising as a consequence of armed conflict, and its inherent potential to prevent the effective rebuilding of society.

Prof. Mohammed bin Fahd thanked the organisers for hosting a timely and relevant discussion and highlighted the need to facilitate the adoption of concrete implementation measures to strengthen the protection of the environment in armed conflict.

Conflict-related human displacement can also have inadvertent environmental impacts, causing environmental degradation and damaging ecosystems. The state of the environment, in turn, has a direct bearing on the welfare and well-being of people living in that region.

The first of a two-part panel session explored the normative and legal frameworks to guide and help address the threat posed by armed conflicts on the environment and human rights. Prof. Mohammed bin Fahd joined experts and



academics from around the world in the second session where panelists shared experiences from the field on the widespread patterns of environmental degradation caused by armed conflicts, that result in adverse implications for the enjoyment of human rights.

Experts offered insights into the role of governments, international organizations, and civil society in adopting preventive measures at the national and international levels to strengthen environmental protection; empower local communities to be active contributors in post-conflict rebuilding and reconstruction efforts; and address the resulting human rights gaps.

Panelists on the 'Normative and Legal Framework' session included Dr. Lindsey Cameron, Head of the Unit of Thematic Legal Advisers, Legal Division, International Committee of the Red

Cross; Dr. Emma Hakala, Senior Research Fellow, Global Security Research Programme, Finnish Institute of International Affairs; and Yulia Mogutova, Teaching Assistant, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, and PhD candidate at the Université de Genève.

Dr. Hilal Elver, UN Former Special on Right to Food (2014-2020) and, currently member of the High-Level Panel of Experts of the Committee of World Food Security, delivered the keynote address in the first session, which was moderated by Gloria Gaggioli, Director, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

Joining Prof. Mohammed bin Fahd in the 'Experiences from the Field' session were Hassan Partow, Programme Manager, Disasters and Conflicts Branch, United Nations Environment Programme; Nazanine Moshiri, Senior Climate & Security Analyst (Africa), International Crisis Group; and Doug Weir, Research and Policy Director, Conflict and Environment Observatory. Dr. Umesh Palwankar, Executive Director, at the Geneva Centre moderated the session.







# Zayed International Foundation for the Environment educates, drives awareness, and focuses on preservation and conservation measures to mark World Environment Day 2022



he Zayed International Foundation for the Environment observed World Environment Day on June 5 last month with a series of activities involving children, communities, and civil society to raise awareness and drive conversations on conserving and restoring the environment and highlight the resounding message that there is #OnlyOneEarth.

During the diverse activities held across Dubai, H.E. Major General Prof. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahd, Deputy Commander of Dubai Police for Academic and Training Affairs, and Chairman of the Higher Committee of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, urged communities to take meaningful action to make a real difference to the environment.

#### Tree-planting activities

Under the slogan, 'Only One Earth', the Dubai Police

Academy, in cooperation with the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment, hosted a tree-planting ceremony at the headquarters of the Dubai Police Academy.

The event was held in the presence of H.E. Major General Prof. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahd, Brigadier Mohammed bin Butti Al Shamsi, Deputy Director of Dubai Police Academy, and a number of Dubai Police Academy officers.

A group of students from Hemaya Schools for Girls, an initiative of Dubai Police, also attended the event.

H.E. Major General bin Fahd affirmed the importance of planting trees, stating that "it reflects the values and principles and legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, may Allah rest his soul in peace."



He added: "This occasion takes forward the commitment of the Dubai Police and the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment to consolidate pioneering environmental concepts that support the country's efforts in achieving sustainable development and contributes to repairing damaged ecosystems, reforestation efforts, and mitigating climate change."

For his part, Brigadier Mohammed bin Butti Al Shamsi affirmed that "celebrating World Environment Day is an opportunity to drive awareness of enhancing the efficient use of natural resources, the preservation and protection of the environment, and the achievement of sustainable development."

A tree-planting activity was also held at the Al Khawaneej Police Station in Dubai. Officials representing the Zayed Foundation, Dubai Police Academy, and Hemaya Schools were received by

Colonel Ali Rashed Mubarek Al Kutbi, Director of Al Khawanej Police Station.

#### Webinar

A webinar led by Dr. Eisa Abdellatif, Chief Technical Advisor of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment focused on the importance of conserving the planet Earth, and highlighted how the actions taken by individuals and society can make this unique and beautiful planet a comfortable home for humanity.

#### Child-friendly activities at Hemaya Schools

Under the patronage of the Zayed International Foundation for the Environment and in collaboration with the Dubai Police Academy, a series of activities were organised at Hemaya Schools as part of a Childhood and Sustainable Environment Initiative to mark WED 2022.

### Environment



In the presence of H.E. Major General Prof. Mohammed Ahmed bin Fahd and Lieutenant Colonel Abdullah Salem Al-Suwaidi, Director of the Hemaya Schools Office for Education, and several Dubai Police Academy officers, children were drawn into discussions on conservation, sustainability and biodiversity, and enlightened on the urgent need for a clean and healthy planet to ensure a better tomorrow for generations to come.

The sessions concluded with a short environmental story narrated by Dr. Badia Al Hashemi, an assistant professor at the University of Sharjah.

A tree planting activity was also held at the Hemaya School for Boys in Abu Hail, Dubai, in the presence of a number of officials from Dubai Police Academy and Hemaya School for Education.



## UAE And Japan Explore Low Carbon Growth Opportunities

r. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and Special Envoy for Climate Change, has held series of high-level meetings with senior Japanese government and business leaders, to strengthen economic, energy and industrial cooperation between the UAE and Japan and drive low carbon growth opportunities. The meetings also focused on the UAE's preparations



to host COP28 (28th Session of the Conference of the Parties) in 2023.

During the three-day working visit to Japan, Dr. Al Jaber met with senior Japanese government officials including Hagiuda Koichi, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry; Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, Minister of Environment; and Odawara Kiyoshi, State Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Al Jaber's meetings covered a range of different topics, including the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Initiative (CSPI) between the UAE and Japan. He reviewed ongoing joint initiatives between the UAE and Japan in hydrogen and low-carbon blue ammonia and highlighted the ambition of the UAE and Japan to harness new commercially feasible technologies to reduce carbon emissions.

During the visit, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company

(ADNOC), ENEOS Corporation and Mitsui & Co. Ltd. signed an agreement to explore establishing a hydrogen supply chain between the UAE and Japan.

The agreement will assess the potential to convert hydrogen produced as a by-product from ADNOC's refining and petrochemical operations and blue hydrogen produced from natural gas to methylcyclohexane, an efficient form of hydrogen transport, for export to Japan.

Separately, Mitsui signed an agreement to partner with Abu Dhabi Chemicals Derivatives Company RSC Ltd (TA'ZIZ), Fertiglobe and GS Energy in the world-scale low-carbon blue ammonia production facility at the TA'ZIZ Industrial Chemicals Zone in Ruwais, to accelerate Abu Dhabi's position as a leader in low-carbon fuels.

## Environment

### Mohammed Bin Rashid Announces Opening Of 'Expo City Dubai' In October 2022

is Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, has announced the opening of Expo City Dubai, this coming October 2022.

The new city is an ideal smart and futuristic destination for business and innovation, driven by sustainability, innovation, education and



Expo City Dubai – the legacy plan of Expo 2020 Dubai and part of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan – aims to create an environmentallyfriendly, tech-enabled futuristic city entertainment. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid said, "After the historical success of Expo 2020 Dubai, which was visited by more than 24 million visitors, and which left an indelible mark in the 170-year history of World Expositions, today we announce the transformation of the exhibition site into Expo City Dubai, a city that represents the most beautiful ambitions of Dubai.

"Expo City Dubai will be an environmentally-friendly city, one friendly to families, to the economy, and to future generations. A city connected to a port and two airports, and also to beautiful memories in the hearts and minds of millions of people. A city in which the magic of Expo will live on: Al Wasl will continue to shine, the waterfall will continue to delight, and the UAE, Alif and Terra pavilions will continue to fascinate visitors of all ages."

Three of Expo 2020's most visited attractions –the Al Wasl Plaza, the Garden in the Sky observation tower and the surreal water feature, will continue to delight visitors at Expo City Dubai



"This new city will be home to an extraordinary new museum, a world-class exhibition centre, and the headquarters of cutting edge and fastgrowing companies.

"It will continue to host the pavilions of Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Egypt, and others. It will be a city that embodies the dreams of every city, and one which continues to bring joy to our children, our families, and all those we love."

Expo City Dubai – the legacy plan of Expo 2020 Dubai and part of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan – builds on the momentum and resounding success of the six-month World Expo to create an environmentally-friendly, tech-enabled city of the future.

Opening 1st October 2022, it will feature a number of Expo 2020 Dubai's flagship pavilions,

entertainment and technology offerings, while also carrying forward the event's magic, energy and excitement.

With an array of diverse attractions, the comprehensive city will feature offices, leisure facilities, food and entertainment venues, sports facilities and a mall.

It will be reachable by the Dubai Metro and will also house the world-class Dubai Exhibition Centre (DEC), a sought-after venue that hosted a range of global summits, conferences and concerts during Expo 2020 Dubai, DEC will continue to host a range of conferences, events and activations.

Three of Expo 2020's most visited attractions, the iconic Al Wasl Plaza, the Garden in the Sky observation tower and the surreal water feature,





will remain while Alif, the Mobility Pavilion and Terra, the Sustainability Pavilion, will live on as interactive educational experiences.

Later this year, the Opportunity Pavilion will become the Expo 2020 Dubai Museum – a new addition highlighting the history and impact of World Expos and celebrating the success of the six-month event. Other attractions set to stay include the Women's Pavilion, which features female change-makers across the world, and the Vision Pavilion, honouring the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid.

Visitors will also be able to explore the falconinspired UAE Pavilion and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Pavilion. Details of several other Country Pavilions – including reworked versions of Luxembourg, Australia, Pakistan, India, Morocco and Egypt will be announced in the coming months. Expo City Dubai will be free of single-use plastic and retain 80% of infrastructure and buildings that have been constructed, including 123 LEED-certified buildings, epitomising the highest levels of sustainable design, construction and operations.

It will also be the first WELL-certified community in the region, demonstrating the built environment's positive impact on health and wellness.

Offering a wealth of opportunities for businesses that meet its sustainable targets, Expo City Dubai is already attracting interest from a large number of commercial tenants. It will soon become the new headquarters of DP World, Siemens, as well as start-ups and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

## UAE Joins Global Partnership For Hydrogen And Fuel Cells

he Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure has announced that the UAE has joined the International Partnership for Hydrogen and Fuel Cells in the Economy (IPHE), a new achievement added to the UAE's long track record as a pioneer in the field of energy.

The agreement was signed remotely by Sharif Al Olama, Under Secretary of the Ministry of



Energy and Infrastructure for Energy and Petroleum Affairs, and Noe van Holst, President of IPHE. At the signing, Al Olama highlighted the UAE's keenness to ensure the IPHE's success and contribute to the sector's local, regional and international development. Joining the global initiative will support the country's long-term policies related to energy and hydrogen and attract foreign investments.

Joining the IPHE will also support the national role of the energy sector and boost the country's stature as a leading contributor to the development of international agreements, policies and activities related to hydrogen and fuel cell technologies and infrastructure, he said. The partnership will enable access to a global hydrogen knowledge database and encourage cooperation with related initiatives and concerned entities.

"The UAE is aware that the transition to clean energy, especially hydrogen, which is considered the future of global energy systems and the wider economy, will help meet future energy requirements, mitigate the risks posed by climate change, improve the efficiency of energy systems, and protect natural resources and the environment," Al Olama said.

"We are working to upgrade the UAE Energy Strategy 2050, to drive our aim of becoming one among the leading countries in the field of hydrogen energy. We recently launched the Hydrogen Leadership Roadmap, which is a comprehensive national blueprint to support domestic, low-carbon industries, contribute to the country's net-zero ambition and establish the country as a competitive exporter of hydrogen," he added.

## Environment

## UAE President Visits International Centre For Biosaline Agriculture

s part of his field tours in various emirates, UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan visited the International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) in Dubai, which specialises in research aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability in saline and marginal environments. Upon his arrival, HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed was received by Mariam



His Highness Sheikh
Mohamed bin Zayed Al
Nahyan reviewed
measures to boost
productivity and
sustainability during his
visit to ICBA

bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment; Razan Al Mubarak, Managing Director of the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi (EAD), President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Chair of ICBA's Board of Directors; Dr. Tarifa Al Zaabi, Deputy Director-General at ICBA, and a number of officials from the centre.

At the beginning of his tour, the UAE President planted a Ghaf tree, which is known for its ability to withstand difficult climatic and environmental conditions and has acquired a special symbolism in the history and identity of the UAE.

The UAE President's tour included the outdoor area where various trees are planted and on which experiments were carried out, especially plants that tolerate salinity. The tour also included the Desert Life Sciences Laboratory,

## ICBA has carried out research for development activities and programmes in 40 countries in Central Asia, MENASA, the South Caucasus, and sub-Saharan Africa



the Genebank and the Emirates Soil Museum.

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed listened to an explanation from ICBA officials about their most important achievements, national, regional and international partnerships and fields of work, in addition to their future research plans in sustainable management of natural resources, irrigation efficiency, remote sensing, climate-adapted crops and genome research.

The UAE President praised the efforts of the centre's staff and the important role ICBA plays in one of the most important areas related to development in the UAE and the world -agriculture and water.

His Highness stressed that ICBA embodies the UAE's leading role in working to achieve sustainable development at the regional and global levels, by investing knowledge, innovation

and scientific research in finding solutions to the challenges facing biosaline agriculture and soil problems. It is also innovating modern methods to optimally use water for agriculture, and developing agricultural strains capable of adapting under difficult environmental and climatic conditions

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed said the UAE accords food security great priority in its development plans. He said the ICBA's work confirmed the UAE's belief that science was the main way to tackle challenges facing humanity in various areas, especially agriculture and water.

At the end of his tour, the UAE President urged the centre's staff and management to continue supplementing national agriculture, food security and water plans with more important ideas and innovations.



## UAE Delegation Drives Global Food Security Agenda In Netherlands

A UAE delegation, headed by Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, concluded a visit to the Netherlands that aimed to exchange knowledge and best practices in the food sector.

Accompanied by Jamal Al Musharakh, the UAE Ambassador to the Netherlands and Commissioner-General of the UAE Pavilion at



Delegates exchange knowledge and best practices in the food sector with their Dutch counterparts

Floriade Expo 2022, the delegates shared their wide range of expertise with their Dutch counterparts and learned first-hand about the latest Dutch AgTech.

They comprised representatives of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCAE); Ministry of Economy, Ras Al Khaimah Government; Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority (ADAFSA); Abu Dhabi Investment Office (ADIO); Dubai Airport Freezone (DAFZ); Sharjah Investment and Development Authority (Shurooq); and Sharjah Research, Technology and Innovation Park (SRTIP).

The delegation also included members of Emirates Development Bank (EDB); Khalifa University; International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA); Mubadala; DP World; Al Wasl

## Almheiri: "We need to expand the adoption of climate-smart farming systems"



Asset Management Group; Essa Al Ghurair Investment; Ghassan Aboud Group; LuLu Group International; Silal; Soma Mater; Uns Farms; Badia Farms; Madar Farms; Emirates Bio Farm; Elite Agro; and youth representatives.

As the first stop, members of the delegation toured Floriade Expo 2022, a global horticultural exhibition that takes place in the Netherlands once every  $10\,\mathrm{years}$ .

They visited the UAE Pavilion, presented by the UAE Ministry of Culture and Youth, the Salama bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation, and the National Projects Office under the theme "Salt Water Cities: Where Land Meets Sea".

The pavilion highlights the country's journey of sustainability, which involves adapting to the desert environment, characterised by a hot, arid climate and water scarcity, and transforming into a global model of driving socio-economic development while conserving biodiversity and preserving natural resources.

On the same day, the delegation visited the Floating Farm in Rotterdam. Home to 40 cows, the world's first floating farm produces fresh dairy products in a sustainable, circular, and animal-friendly way using innovative agricultural methods and technologies.

The delegates also toured GreenTech Amsterdam 2022, a global meeting place for horticulture professionals and a premier exhibition of related technologies and innovations, where they learnt first-hand about the innovations on display.

In her opening remarks at GreenTech Amsterdam, Mariam Almheiri said, "Climate change and food



insecurity are on the rise, threatening the lives and livelihoods of millions of people, with projections that their impacts will escalate in the next few decades.

"We owe it to the next generations to work together and find ways to give them a bright future – one with abundant resources and a safe climate so they can lead prosperous lives."

She added, "The UAE is no stranger to the challenge. We work relentlessly to transform our food systems into sustainable ones through leveraging innovation and building partnerships. We have set an ambitious goal for ourselves to position the UAE as a global hub for innovation-driven food security and a premier exporter of climate-smart AgTech solutions."

The delegation participated in the UAE Hour,

organised by MoCCAE and GreenTech, in line with the UAE's keenness to share expertise and work with other countries to address critical challenges. At the gathering, Jamal Al Musharakh, and Lody Embrechts, Ambassador of the Netherlands to the UAE, highlighted the cooperation between the two countries in food security.

In addition, MoCCAE outlined the country's pathway toward sustainable food systems, and Al Wasl Asset Management Group introduced the audience to the Food Tech Valley, Dubai's pioneering AgTech city.

ADIO and EDB showcased their finance programmes in the AgTech industry, while Silal presented its vision for the "Cocreation of futureproof production of food and flower systems".

## UAE aims to be a global hub for innovationdriven food security and a premier exporter of climate-smart AgTech solutions



During the visit, Jamal Al Musharakh and Jan-Kees Goet, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost cooperation in building sustainable, climate-smart food systems.

As per the agreement, MoCCAE and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands will work together to enhance food security by adopting technology-based solutions to strengthen the agricultural sector with a focus on horticulture, poultry production, and food processing.

The two sides will also promote bilateral investments in responsible agriculture and facilitate agribusiness trade.

They will also collaborate and share knowledge

on sustainable food production within the framework of the water, energy, and food nexus, implement joint R&D programmes, ensure mutual alignment of food safety standards, and step up cooperation on the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate) initiative, launched jointly by the UAE and the US with the aim of increasing and accelerating investments in climate-resilient agriculture.

Other areas covered under the agreement include promoting the Food Tech Valley among tech developers and investors from the Netherlands, encouraging Dutch start-ups and SMEs to participate in the UAE's global FoodTech Challenge, and organising joint symposiums, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, and other events related to agriculture, food safety, and food security.

## Dubai's New AED1 Billion Library Adopts Highest Standards Of Sustainability

is Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, has inaugurated the Mohammed bin Rashid Library, a new cultural beacon in the region.

Built with an investment of AED1 billion, the library aims to cultivate a culture of reading, while supporting the development of creativity,



The building is designed to reduce water consumption by 50 percent; water is also recycled from air conditioners to irrigate green spaces

knowledge and art at both individual and social levels. It will provide a platform for intellectual, literary and imaginative minds across the region and the world.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Library aims to help people with various interests, especially youth, to access printed and digital books to shape an Arab generation that understands the role of reading and culture in society's development.

Across its seven floors, the Mohammed bin Rashid Library features a significant amount of content. This includes more than 1.1 million printed and digital books in Arabic and foreign languages, over six million dissertations, around 73,000 music scores, 75,000 videos, approximately 13,000 articles, and more than 5,000 historical print and digital journals within an archive covering 325 years, along with about

## Dubai's new cultural icon receives 10 percent of energy from solar panels installed on the roof of the building



35,000 print and digital newspapers from around the world, and nearly 500 rare collectibles.

#### **Environmentally friendly**

The Mohammed bin Rashid Library is also an environmentally friendly library that has adopted the highest standards of sustainability, as it gets 10 percent of its energy from solar panels installed on the roof of the building.

The external structure is designed to insulate the building's interior, reduce heat gain, and help regulate the building's internal environment.

The library, which is strategically located in the centre of the city, has natural lighting thanks to the ceiling windows in the building, and is designed to reduce water consumption by 50 percent. Water is recycled from air conditioners to irrigate green spaces.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Library is part of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives (MBRGI). It has been designed in the form of a wooden stand known as a 'Rahl', with a total area of 581,903 square feet, creating a stimulating environment that advances the cultural and creative landscape in the country.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Library has nine specialised libraries to meet the needs of diverse interests.

The new library's facilities, which use the latest technology and artificial intelligence (AI), include an automated storage and electronic book retrieval system, self-service kiosks, a book digitisation laboratory, and smart robots to respond to visitors' inquiries, in addition to augmented and virtual reality technologies, among others.

## Environment

### UAE Calls For Progressive Climate Action At Bonn Climate Conference

A UAE delegation of climate diplomats have stated the case for progressive climate action as an enabler for global stability, low-carbon economic progress and inclusive prosperity.

The UAE delegation voiced their appeal for greater climate action at the Bonn Climate Change Conference for the 56th session of the



The UAE has placed climate action at the centre of its economic growth and diversification strategy, while contributing innovative and practical solutions to one of the world's greatest challenges

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) subsidiary bodies, held from June 6-16, 2022.

At the conference, countries that are parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) discussed ways to reinvigorate momentum for climate action and set the stage for the 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt this November.

The UAE delegation to Bonn was led by the Office of the Special Envoy for Climate Change and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment with the participation of the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, and Dubai Electricity & Water Authority.

## Minister of Climate Change and the Environment: "Climate change is the defining challenge of our era"



The Bonn Climate Change conference addressed implementation issues under the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement including transparency, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology and capacity building. It also fostered dialogues on the latest findings of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology, Special Envoy for Climate Change, and Chairman of Masdar, said, "The UAE is keen to advance progressive climate action at this important gathering leading up to COP27. In our approach to the COP process, we aim to convert pledges and promises into practical outcomes that will deliver sustainable and inclusive economic growth. The UAE is driving a net zero by 2050 strategic initiative as it is a low-carbon, high-growth economic model that

will guide our sustainable development for the next 50 years. Making the right decisions and investments now will create diversified economic growth that fosters future-critical industries, knowledge and jobs."

"With the two upcoming COPs being hosted in the Middle East and North Africa region, the UAE has committed to working closely with Egypt's COP27 Presidency to raise ambition for climate progress, close the emissions reduction gap, and make measurable progress towards the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement," added Dr. Al Jaber.

Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, said, "The UAE is committed to driving inclusive, robust, and effective collective climate action worldwide. In our quest to achieve net zero by mid-century,





we are adopting a science-based approach to determine the impact of our sustainability measures on the carbon footprint. We are developing the National Strategy for Net Zero 2050 to inform our next steps and have launched the National Dialogue for Climate Ambition (NDCA) that aims to engage all sectors in our decarbonization drive.

"Climate change is the defining challenge of our era, and it is progressing exponentially. We need solidarity to move faster to flatten the climate curve and avert worst-case scenarios. The UAE is keen to share expertise, identify overlapping objectives, and explore areas of collaboration with like-minded nations that prioritise a development approach that is good for people and the planet. Together, we can build climate resilience capacities, boost green investments, and step up meaningful climate efforts."

The UAE has long placed climate action at the centre of its economic growth and diversification strategy, while contributing innovative and practical solutions to one of the world's greatest challenges. The UAE has demonstrated its commitment as the first country in the region to sign and ratify the Paris Agreement, and the first to commit to an economy-wide emissions reduction.

Just last year, the country launched the Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative which provides a roadmap for sustainable economic development through to the mid-century. At present, the UAE is working on updating its third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) – a climate action plan to reduce emissions and adapt to climate impacts – ahead of COP27 in line with the goals of the Glasgow pact.

## UN Official Hails UAE's Strides In Sustainable Development

r. Dena Assaf, United Nations Resident Coordinator for the United Arab Emirates, has commended the UAE's environmentally friendly endeavours in a bid to protect the environment and achieve the UN's 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN official hailed the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi's decision to ban the use of single-use





































plastic bags as well as Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan and other initiatives leading to the UAE's strategic vision for carbon neutrality 2050.

On the sidelines of her participation in the Arab Green Summit 2022 in Dubai, Assaf stated that the UAE has begun to involve all sectors in preparation for hosting the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP28) in 2023, noting that the summits and preparatory meetings held in the UAE mainly aim to search for alternative solutions to fossil fuels.

The UN official stressed that developing the circular economy for a sustainable future is the responsibility of everyone, and not only of government and private sectors.

She added that this can be accomplished by sharing ideas and solutions to work together, expressing her pleasure at representing the UN at the UAE, a role model to be followed by other countries.

Assaf commended the UAE's efforts as the country was one of the first countries to announce its vision for carbon neutrality "zero-carbon" by 2050.

She noted, "As an organisation, the UN is confident that the UAE will reach goals even before the specified date; we hope that innovation being developed in the UAE will support the region and the whole world."

The UN official highlighted the necessity of taking advantage of creative talents of young people in Arab societies to come up with innovative solutions that can be better used for a sustainable future in the region.



### Buick Wildcat EV: A Stunning Look At The Future

Buick has unveiled the Wildcat EV concept an expressive vision of the brand's new design direction as it transitions to an allelectric future.

The Wildcat was developed to convey the allnew design language that will influence Buick production models for the foreseeable future. Buick's new tri-shield logo, mounted prominently



As Buick embarks on its journey of full electrification, the Wildcat EV concept is built to be a platform for futuristic features, including biometrics, artificial intelligence, and aromatherapy

on the body front and rear, symbolizes the design transformation and new production models will wear it starting next year.

"The Wildcat EV concept represents the real design future for the brand," said Sharon Gauci, Executive Director, Global Buick and GMC Design. "Buick has always been forward looking and this expression is a glimpse of where we're going, and the optimism we have for the limitless possibilities of an electric future."

The Wildcat EV concept also introduces a new, expressive face for Buick, distinguished by a bold, forward-leaning front-end appearance that features a low-mounted, trapezoidal grille. Sharp, high-mounted and horizontal check markshaped lighting flanks the vehicle, while the outer edges of the grille house primary lighting. The lighting elements are configured to create a

## Buick, once known for comfortable cruisers, is getting into the EV game with the release of the Wildcat EV concept



unique welcome choreography when the driver approaches. Further, the vehicle — a 2+2 coupe — strikes a powerful, expressive presence, with an all-new, laid-back proportion complemented by a low, wide stance. The windshield wraps around and flows into the side glass, which tapers dramatically with the fast roofline to accentuate the aggressive profile.

"From every angle, the vehicle looks like it's ready to pounce," said Bob Boniface, director, Global Buick Design. "It's the result of careful attention to the proportions and sculptural beauty derived from the intersection of forms, not lines."

Additional exterior design highlights include distinctive semi-swing doors for easy entry and exit; unique aluminum trim that appears to flow seamlessly into the interior seat structures; micro-LED lighting technology and thin-beam

projector lenses for the front lighting; and bladestyle taillights embedded in the roof's sail panels, culminating in check mark-style horizontal lamps that echo the front lighting signature.

The futuristic design also features an external "state of charge" indicator visible in the exterior hatchback glass and a jet age-inspired 18-spoke "turbine" wheels.

"The more you look at the Wildcat EV concept, the more the details reveal themselves," said Boniface. "Its timeless proportions acknowledge the brand's rich design legacy, while our latest technology moves you forward."

#### A blend of modernity and warmth

Inside, the Wildcat EV concept's cabin has an inner glow that is inviting and comforting, all while integrating new technologies designed to make the riding experience more enjoyable.

"It's a space intended to strike an emotional chord," said Therese Pinazzo, Buick exterior and interior design manager. "It is defined by simple, graceful forms that convey balance, harmony and a feeling of warmth."

The 2+2 configuration, delineated by a prominent





console that extends from the base of the instrument panel to the rear seating area, uses unique graphic and color contrasts to create the perception of visually floating elements intended to accentuate the cabin's lightweight feel and spaciousness.

Color plays an important role in the warmth and comfort the interior conveys. Legato Green flows through the cabin and is accented with brushed or polished aluminum trim. Lively orange elements, including the seat belts, also add visual distinction.

Additional interior design elements include cockpit-style seats with cantilevered headrests that appear to be floating, and a lightweight, flat-bottom steering wheel.

When it comes to technology integration and infotainment interaction, a sweeping touch screen

is the access point on the instrument panel, along with a complementing screen on the console.

The Wildcat EV concept is built to be a platform for futuristic features such as artificial intelligence, biometrics and aromatherapy. The vehicle is designed to detect an elevation in driver heart rate and automatically adjust vehicle settings to calm them down. For example, when Zen Mode is activated, it will dim the cabin lights, disperse calming aromatherapy scents and activate massaging seats.

Everything about the concept is intended to convey what's possible — in design, technology and the transformative experience of EV mobility.

"We are on the cusp of true change, and this concept is a tangible vision of it," said Gauci. "It inaugurates the next chapter in Buick's design heritage, as we make the crucial transition to our

# The Wildcat was developed to convey Buick's all-new design language and influence the automaker's future production models





all-electric future."

#### Wildcat: A Concept Legacy

For nearly 70 years, the Wildcat name has been reserved for innovative, progressive Buick concept vehicles that push the boundaries of design and technology. Like the new Wildcat EV concept, the first Wildcat — introduced in 1953 — was a show vehicle that previewed nextgeneration Buick design. The Wildcat II and III concepts followed in 1954 and 1955, respectively, and the designs of all were overseen by legendary chief designer Harley Earl. In 1985, another Wildcat concept debuted. It was a futuristically styled, mid-engine and AWD supercar developed to showcase new engine technologies.

Buick vehicles offer sculptural designs, refined performance, modern interiors and thoughtful personal technologies. Buick's award-winning customer service and sales experience, along with the Avenir trim, the highest expression of Buick luxury, are attracting new buyers to experience Buick's unique approach to attainable luxury.



## Masdar City Launches New Net-Zero Development

asdar City, a world-class technology and innovation hub and a pioneering sustainable community in Abu Dhabi, along with its consulting partners Woods Bagot and Faithful+Gould, has advanced its contribution to the UAE Net-Zero by 2050 Strategy with the groundbreaking ceremony of its latest development – the Masdar City Square (MC2).



29,000 sq m Masdar City Square supports UAE's carbon neutrality goals; set to feature Abu Dhabi's first net-zero energy office building The MC2 development covers an area of 29,000 sq m, extending Masdar City's commitment to net-zero, sustainability, technology, and wellbeing by nurturing an expanded community of businesses operating in harmony with the environment. Work on the development will begin this year and is scheduled for completion in 2024.

The development includes seven single- and multi-tenant office buildings and a parking facility, all reflecting innovative design.

Six of the buildings will be built to the highest green construction specifications while the MC2 Headquarters building will be Abu Dhabi's first net-zero energy office building, as it will use no more energy than it produces by integrating energy efficiency-focused design and systems and renewable energy technologies.

### New development will contribute to the UAE's initiative to reduce carbon emissions by 2050



This contribution to net-zero is of great importance to the UAE, which in 2021 became the first country in the Middle East and North Africa region to commit to achieving net zero emissions through its UAE Net-Zero by 2050 strategic initiative. The MC2 Headquarters building will be immediately identifiable by its innovative solar photovoltaic panel canopy.

Ahmed Baghoum, Acting Executive Director, Masdar City, said, "Masdar City, a testbed for sustainable urban development, is already home to one of the world's largest clusters of green buildings with Estidama and LEED certifications. With the completion of MC2, and its seven new green buildings, including Abu Dhabi's first netzero energy office building, we are further demonstrating how urban development can be both economically and environmentally sound and sustainable."

Six of the MC2 buildings will be 4-Pearl Estidama, LEED Platinum, and WELL Gold certified. LEED Platinum is the highest certification provided by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design programme. WELL Gold is the second-highest certification provided by WELL, the world's first building standard that focuses exclusively on human health and wellness. Estidama Pearl Rating System is the green building rating system developed by the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council.

The innovative buildings in MC2 add to Masdar City's legacy as a regional pioneer in net zero and green construction. In 2017, Masdar City's Eco-Villa Project became the UAE's first net-zero energy villa which uses around 72% less energy and 35% less water than a conventional villa, and mitigates 63 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

#### Environment

#### **AUS Students Win Top Sustainability Honors**

arvesting salt from desalination waste, developing marine oil filtration prototypes that combat oil spills and assessing the life cycle of Sharjah's water pipes were three of the outstanding projects by American University of Sharjah (AUS) students that won top honors at the 10th Sharjah Sustainability Award, organized by the Environment and Protected Areas Authority in Sharjah (EPAA).



The Sharjah Sustainability
Award aims to encourage
students at schools and
universities to create and
implement sustainable
solutions to pressing
environmental problems

Nada Ahmed, an architecture student, won under the architecture category for "Saltscapes" which investigates ways to recycle, reuse and harvest salt from desalination waste.

"The project started with a study of the environmental, economic and social aspects of the desalination industry. The main environmental impact comes from dumping highly concentrated saline discharge into the sea, which reduces oxygen intake in the sea ecosystem, increases water temperature because of the high salinity of seawater and contaminates freshwater reserves," said Ahmed.

"In my project, the desalination building acts as a salt harvesting machine where the salt is deposited on the removable threads surrounding it, making the building itself performative and constantly changing," she said.

# The competition included projects from 150 schools and 180 university students from various disciplines and educational establishments



Designing and manufacturing marine oil filtration prototypes won mechanical engineering student team Omar Matar, Mohammed Sumar and Mazin Mohammed Faris "The Sharjah Sustainability Award for Outstanding Team."

"For six months, we researched the many types of oil spills and their environmental effects, leading us to create systems that separate the different classes of oil from marine water to reduce the adverse impact on the ecosystem. We received support from the AUS Undergraduate Research Fund, which helped us work on the prototypes and test them inside the UAE. We aim to expand our research by testing different mesh sizes, chemical coating compositions, and relative boat designs to create a prototype that can effectively clean up oil spills," said Matar.

Winning first place under the category of

industrial processes were construction management graduate students Ahmad El Masri, Mazhd Shaban and Ibrahim Abu Laila. Their project consisted of an assessment of the environmental impact of the lifecycle of water distribution pipes in the city of Sharjah.

"The current method used in assessing the environmental impact of pipe neglects some vital life cycle stages such as operation, demolition and waste processing. This may deceptively underestimate the impact of the pipeline implementation and lead to a less sustainable system.

"The main inspiration of the project was to develop a holistic life cycle using a sustainable approach in the selection of pipe materials for water distribution systems in Sharjah, and eventually in the UAE," said El Masri.

#### Environment

#### UAE Calls For Need To Promote Awareness To Tackle Growing Ocean Pollution

he UAE is undertaking various measures to protect its marine environment in the wake of growing ocean pollution, said Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment.

Addressing a packed gathering of environmentalists, ecologists, ocean explorers, researchers, marine biologists, public and



Mariam bint Mohammed
Almheiri highlights various
measures implemented in the
UAE to protect its marine
environment

private sector officials at the Global Marine Sustainability Forum in Abu Dhabi, Almheiri said: "The pollution of our oceans is now reaching alarming levels through the release of toxic chemicals and plastic waste. These materials stay centuries-long in the sea and create a harmful ecocycle - from the mouth of fish to the stomach of humans. We are undertaking a series of initiatives to promote the Clean Ocean campaign in our Global Marine Sustainability Week to raise the awareness of these issues."

At the event, Eve Bazaiba Masudi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Environment for the Democratic Republic of Congo, delivered the keynote address, along with Vera Songwe, UN Under-Secretary-General.

Almheiri added that the oceans, which provide livelihoods for hundreds of millions of people

# Every minute, one garbage truck of plastic is dumped into our ocean - World Economic Forum study



worldwide and hold a great deal of biodiversity, are facing increasing threats. She underlined the significance of coordinated international efforts to develop and implement sustainable solutions to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 14 - Life Below Water.

The minister also highlighted the various measures implemented in the UAE to protect its marine environment, such as regulating the fishing activities, expanding the aquaculture industry, establishing marine protected areas, combating marine pollution, and rehabilitating impacted marine areas.

Additionally, she underscored the UAE's commitment to planting 100 million mangroves by 2030 as part of its efforts to expand its mangrove cover.

Bazaiba Masudi, Deputy Prime Minister and

Minister of Environment for DRC, in her remarks said, "The DRC offers abundant natural resources, rich ecosystems, enormous expanses of vegetation and substantial water resources. The Congo Basin Forest is regarded as the second green lung of the world after the Amazon in Latin America, but it is endangered by destructive human actions."

Khalid Seddiq Al Mutawa, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Global Marine Sustainability Forum, said: "Oceans and seas are vital to life on earth. They cover 70 percent of our planet, and humans rely on them for food, energy, and water. Nevertheless, we have caused enormous damage to these resources. By eradicating pollution and overfishing, we can protect all marine life around the world and begin managing it responsibly."



#### WGS Report Urges Five Actions To Reduce Emissions By Over 80%

knowledge report published by the World Government Summit (WGS) organisation has called upon countries and governments around the world to intensify their efforts in fulfilling their commitments to achieve CO2 emission reduction goals in key national sectors.

Titled 'Path to net zero, Priorities for governments', the report, published in



Report recommends adoption of comprehensive framework to aid in implementing net zero initiatives, covering six key dimensions: governance, net zero policies and laws, R&D and innovation, technology, financing and incentives

partnership with Arthur D. Little, noted that "the concepts of net zero and decarbonisation have evolved to be commitments signed by the highest authorities in every sector".

The report also stressed that "the opportunity is still available for governments to turn the scales on climate change and achieve national ambitions for the future".

Commenting on the report, Mohamed Yousef Al Sharhan, Deputy Managing Director of World Governments Summit Organisation, said, "This report promotes constructive dialogue on an important issue facing the world today, which is net-zero and the consequent policies that are not limited to governments but require the participation of everyone. By enhancing public-private partnerships and changing consumer priorities, production methods, and resource

#### New report urges governments in the Middle East to focus on harmonising national priorities and strategies to achieve climate neutrality



handling, governments can lead societies towards a more sustainable future."

For his part, Thomas Kuruvilla, Managing Partner, Arthur D. Little, said, "Our latest report comes at a turning point for governments to exchange best practices and overcome key challenges on the path to net-zero. There are many areas where governments can create new national economic opportunities in the future as well as help to decarbonise the sectors."

## Framework to Implement Net Zero Initiatives for Governments

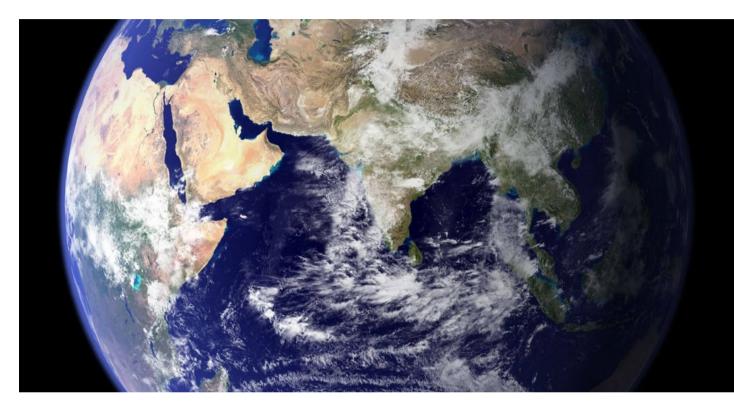
The report recommended the adoption of a comprehensive framework that aid governments in implementing net zero initiatives, covering six key dimensions, namely; governance, net zero policies and laws, R&D and innovation, technology, financing and incentives.

In terms of governance, the report pointed out that "the national governance model will ensure inclusiveness so that each individual, regardless of their position or profession, will benefit from this transformation in the future, and be responsible for their contribution to this success."

Regarding net zero policies and laws, the report explained that governments "will need to introduce appropriate, integrated and comprehensive policies and tools to ensure that all sectors are organised in the right direction and are compatible with each other."

In terms of research, development and innovation, it highlighted that these "are essential factors for reducing emissions, and accordingly countries will need to strengthen their policies, frameworks and spending on research and development in this field."





As for technology, the report said, "There is no doubt that the technological leaps globally will help planned programmes and initiatives gradually achieve the goals of net zero but will need to be constantly monitored and studied to ensure economic feasibility and reduce market and technology risks."

On financing and incentives, the report indicated that "each government will have to deal with the need for financing to achieve its commitment to net zero and to find the appropriate mix and mechanism, including the participation of the private sector."

#### Leading international experiences

The report presented lessons learned from several leading experiences, most notably that of the UK, which has set a goal of becoming home of the "green industrial revolution".

The report touched on the UK's experience in terms of developing innovative and environmentally friendly equipment and tools for the future of net zero. By engaging with the private sector and developing laws, the report added that it would shift consumer demand towards environmentally friendly products.

Presenting the experience of the United States, the report stated that achieving the goal of net zero in the largest economy in the world will require transformations in five main areas, namely, decarbonising the electricity sector, and then transferring this across sectors to electric power, as well as reducing energy waste, cutting methane emissions and developing technologies to remove carbon from the atmosphere.

## **UAE**, a unique experience through 4 tracks The report explored the UAE's ambitions that aim

# The UAE is first in the MENA region to pledge to achieve net zero by 2050



to achieve net zero by 2050. The UAE became one of the few nations among the top  $10\,\text{oil}$  producers, and the first in the MENA region, to officially make such a bold pledge.

The UAE is working towards achieving its objectives through four main tracks, namely, the energy track, where the UAE Energy Strategy 2050 targets increasing the share of clean or sustainable energy in the overall energy mix to 50 percent by 2050.

The strategy also aims to mitigate the carbon footprint of energy generation by 70 percent.

The second is the industrial track, where the UAE is working towards increasing the industrial sector's GDP contribution to AED 300 billion by harnessing innovations in treatment technology to mainstream the use of alternative fuels and

green solutions, alongside waste recycling.

For the mobility track, the UAE's National Smart Mobility Strategy 2030 will stimulate policy development towards a seamless mobility ecosystem, while on the environment track, the UAE is developing waste-to-energy and circular economy initiatives, alongside habitat restoration and sustainable agriculture programmes.

#### 5 key areas for governments to focus

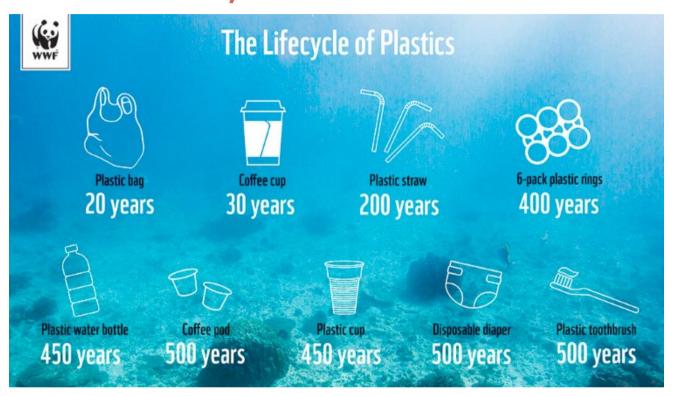
The report advised governments to consistently monitor five key areas: effective planning, stakeholder inclusivity, sustainable financing and capacity building, efficient monitoring and reporting, and continuous improvement. It urged nations to maintain a mindset that prioritises continuous improvement, and an approach that motivates adaptive learning.

### Environment

#### New Guide Steers Path To Achieve Goals Of Single Use Plastic Policy

n awareness session on the Single Use Plastic Policy (SUPP) Guide was held in Abu Dhabi to familiarize government and private sector institutions and the Green Business Network on the new policy.

The guide, in both Arabic and English, published by the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), seeks to provide information on the policy to



government and private institutions and their employees. The aim is to declare Abu Dhabi government entities free of single-use plastic and non-plastic materials, by limiting the use of these products, and transition towards multi-use alternatives with less environmental impact.

The guide is a component of the SUPP launched by the Agency in March 2020 to gradually reduce the consumption of single-use plastic materials throughout Abu Dhabi, while promoting more reusable products. The guide focuses on the ban of single-use products in all government offices, and their presence at any events or activities organised by government authorities. These materials include single-use plastic and non-plastic bags, such as paper bags. This is in addition to single-use cutlery, including forks, spoons, knives, and chopsticks made of plastic, wood, bamboo or other single-use materials.

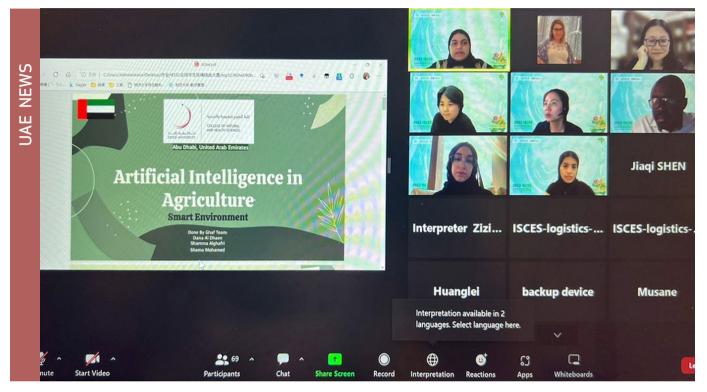
Other materials outlined in the guide are disposable plastic and paper straws, plastic, cardboard or aluminium food containers, disposable cups and lids for beverages of plastic or paper, single-use plastic, cardboard and aluminium plates, and disposable chopsticks. Also mentioned are single-use plastic, glass or cardboard bottles.

The guide provides examples of versatile alternatives, such as cutlery made of stainless steel, cups, dishes, mid-size bottles and large mugs made of glass or melamine or its equivalent.

To successfully implement the policy, the guide urges government agencies to benefit from the Agency's Green Business Network, to support environmental awareness by hosting workshops, and organising various initiatives to instigate change in consumer behaviour.

#### Al-based Agri-Tech Project Earns UAE Students Top Environment Prize

team of three students from Zayed University's (ZU), College of Natural & Health Sciences (CNHS), have recently won the second prize in the Smart Environment Category at the 2022 International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability (ISCES 2022), which was held at Tongji University in China. Their project focused on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in agriculture, focusing



on data collection using affordable smart technology and drones.

Zayed University congratulated the three outstanding students, Shamma Al Ghafri, Shamma Mohammed and Dana Al Dhaen, members of the "Ghaf" project team.

"Ghaf" is the Arabic name for Prosopis cineraria, which holds a significant cultural and historical presence in the UAE. The ZU students' project mirrors the nation's forward-thinking objectives and ambitions regarding climate change, working towards safeguarding a sustainable future for coming generations.

The AgriSensor Drone solution is a cost-effective technology to gather data about the plant's overall health and, in turn, be an active deterrent of drought or disease. The technology adopts a special type of sensor that can gather reflectance

information and project a digital image of the scene, plant vegetation stage, and leaf data.

The sensor will be attached to agricultural drones, which can spot drought using AI, which may also be used to spray the general vegetation. The sensor will gather the data on a mini-computer and relay it back to the operator.

Senior student, Al Ghafri said, "Research states that by 2025, half of the world's population will live in water scarcity regions. A major solution for this problem is to use Artificial Intelligence in the irrigation of crops to determine the optimal amount of water for crop growth without excess water use or wastage."

ISCES has been successfully held for 10 years by the United Nations Environment Programme and Tongji University since 2011.

### Environment

### A Sustainable Leader: Munich, Germany

unich, Germany's third-largest city is paving the way for other cities across the world when it comes to sustainability.

While the EU hopes that 20 per cent of energy will come from renewable sources such as wind, solar and biomass. In Munich, authorities have gone one step further, targeting a 100 per cent clean electricity supply by 2025, which would



Not content with excelling in the world of sports, culinary, and the automotive industry, Munich also leads the way when it comes to sustainability make the city a world leader in sustainability. With a population exceeding one million, Munich must produce 7.5 billion kilowatt-hours each year. The city has invested around 9 billion euros into clean energy projects to date, such as a hydropower plant along a river inside the city and a solar plant in Spain. Since the EU's electricity grid is integrated, clean energy benefits the entire region.

Munich engages in an economic model that incentivizes long-term sustainable development over short-term gains. Their tourism model considers local businesses, residents, and sustainability for a well-rounded approach.

#### Munich Airport

Since June 2021, aircrafts at Munich Airport have been refuelling with "green paraffin". After thorough technical testing, the fuel depot at the

# The third-largest city in Germany aims to create climate-neutral and resilient neighbourhoods by 2030



airport was opened for climate-friendly fuels of the future. This means that sustainable fuels, socalled "Sustainable Aviation Fuels" (SAF), can be delivered, stored, and refuelled at the Munich Airport, provided they meet the relevant quality specifications for Jet-A1 fuel.

#### **Transport**

In 1990, seven young visionaries aspired to change Munich. Under the name Munich 2000 Autofrei eV, they pursued the goal of drastically reducing car traffic, improving the public transport network and setting up more footpaths and cycle paths. They wanted to win over the people of Munich towards more environmental protection with positively charged campaigns. Older vehicles that do not meet certain environmental standards are banned from Munich's city center. The city prioritises pedestrians and bicycles over cars. Munich's

public transportation is fast, clean, safe, well-connected, and energy-efficient. They even provide individual bicycle classes for senior citizens, immigrants and people with disabilities.

#### The Pfand System

The idea behind the Pfand system is to produce less waste and make it possible to recycle a lot of packaging. If you buy water or soft drinks in disposable bottles in a Munich supermarket, convenience store or at a petrol station, you automatically pay a little more than is indicated on the price tag. This is called the "mandatory deposit system" or "Pfandpflicht" in German.

When the bottles are empty, you can take them back to any supermarket, convenience store or petrol station to return them. There are automated machines that also take back the bottles. After which, you will receive the extra sum paid for the product.







This system motivates people to not simply throw their bottles on the ground, leave them in parks or pollute other public spaces. In Germany, nearly 99 per cent of the deposit bottles are returned.

#### **Urban Green Spaces**

Munich is home to one of the largest urban parks in the world, the Englischer Garten – and that is just one of the dozens of parks sprinkled throughout the city. The parks in Munich offer countless ecological benefits, including keeping the city cool on hot days, reducing air and water pollution, providing a home for small animals, recreation for residents, and prime real estate to escape the city's bustle and connect with nature.

The English Garden is one of the largest innercity parks in the world and it's even larger than the Central Park in New York. Over the course of

two centuries, the English Garden has undergone constant change, with new buildings and green spaces being added again and again.

#### **Green Energy**

The city of Munich owns the utility company, Stadtwerke München (SMW), which has already invested in offshore wind projects – including one on Sylt Island in northern Germany.

With a budget of roughly 9 billion euros, SWM has launched several new clean energy projects, including a hydropower plant on the river Isar, which produces enough electricity to supply 4,000 Munich homes a year. At Munich Zoo, even elephant dung has been converted into sustainable fuel.

A total of 1 billion euros has been invested into 1,300 wind turbines for 4 gigawatts of capacity.

### Munich is home to one of the largest urban parks in the world - the Englischer Garten or the English Garden



This large economic stimulus sustains 18,000 jobs, and plans are on to increase capacity to 9 gigawatts to stimulate further job growth, supporting a projected 33,000 positions. Overall, the goal of promoting sustainable energy has already propelled Munich's green energy sector, expanding infrastructure and jobs.

#### **Green Hotels**

The four Munich hotels The Westin Grand Munich, Sheraton Arabellapark, Sheraton Westpark and Aloft Munich have taken various measures to implement energy-saving and environmental protection measures in their hotels.

The hotels use energy-saving, dimmable light bulbs, refillable soap dispensers, motion detectors for lights and water, and reusable packaging. The hotels also promote cooperation with sustainable and local suppliers.



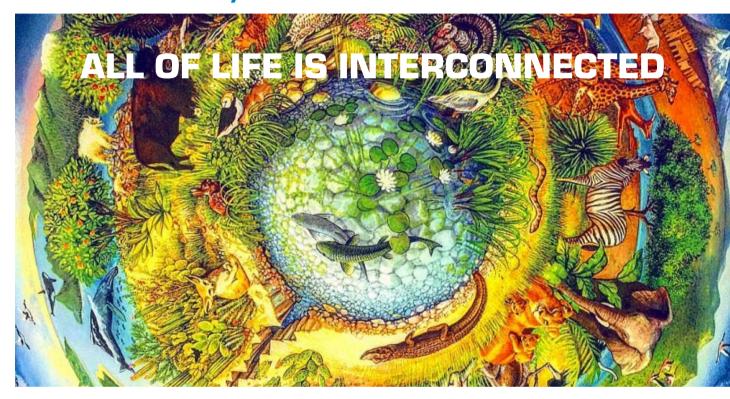
All hotels operate according to the Green Key, a leading standard for excellence in environmental responsibility and sustainable business in the tourism industry. In addition, the hotels have been awarded the Project Icarus Gold Medal for sustainability in the meetings industry.

Though climate change negotiation is state-led, many cities around the world are taking control. Munich for instance, has successfully been able to push their energy sources and investments into renewable energy for a better future.

#### Environment

#### UAE Promotes Ecofriendly Practices To Mark World Environment Day

s the scale of the climate and nature loss crises demands that all members of society unite on a collective journey to overcome the planet's shared environmental challenges, a host of organisations across the UAE have come forward to promote sustainability and conscious consumerism to mark the World Environment Day celebrations held annually on June 5.



Under the 2022 World Environment Day theme, "Only One Earth", the focus was on "Living Sustainably in Harmony with Nature" Under the theme, #OnlyOneEarth, organisations across the UAE have called for collective, transformative action to celebrate, protect and restore our planet.

# DEWA: Conservation awareness campaign

In conjunction with World Environment Day, held this year under the theme "Only One Earth", the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) launched an awareness campaign to encourage society to conserve electricity and water and adopt sustainable practices that protect the environment and natural resources.

These include using digital services, electric vehicles, installing solar photovoltaic panels, planting trees, and reducing plastic.

In addition, DEWA's Innovation Centre at the

### From conservation awareness campaigns and a new waste management programme, organizations in the UAE rolled out a slew of activities to mark World Environment Day



Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park also organised a cleaning campaign for the area around the Solar Park.

## Mubadala: Focus on local and global environmental conservation

Mubadala Investment Company, an Abu Dhabibased sovereign investor, reinforced its commitment to supporting the ongoing efforts and achievements of its partners the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund (MBZ Fund) and Emirates Nature-WWF.

Through its partnership with MBZ Fund, Mubadala focuses on countries where portfolio companies operate such as Guinea, Indonesia, and Thailand, which also represent some of the world's richest biodiversity hotspots. In Guinea, funds are directed to preserving endangered marine species including critically endangered marine

turtles, threat assessments on the Atlantic humpbacked dolphin, and the African manatee.

In Indonesia, funds support the marine ecosystem, in particular coral reefs and seagrass, in the Makasaar Strait, as well as terrestrial ecosystems through wildcat conservation in Aceh Province. Furthermore, in Thailand, the support focuses on migratory wading birds and their mud-flat and mangrove habitats, and the Smooth-coated otter.

In the UAE, in collaboration with Emirates Nature-WWF, the aim is to maintain and restore local natural heritage and biodiversity, address climate and air quality issues, and lower carbon emissions, among other priorities.

# Dubai Sustainable Tourism: Celebrates sustainable initiatives

Dubai Sustainable Tourism (DST), part of Dubai's





Department of Economy and Tourism (DET), celebrated sustainable practices across the city to further enhance Dubai's position as a leading sustainable destination.

From desert conservation reserves to sustainable restaurateurs and eco-hotels, to cultural pursuits and eco-tourism attractions, DET shone a light on 50 of the city's pioneering initiatives in environmental conservation and sustainability across the tourism ecosystem on the occasion of the 2022 World Environment Day.

**Conservation & nature initiatives:** From Bedouin practices to nature reserves and safaris, Dubai has long had a harmonious connection with its surroundings. Environmental protection is ingrained into the very DNA of Dubai's natural landscape and is something that continues to be enhanced and celebrated.

**Sustainable hotels & resorts:** Hotels across Dubai are constantly striving to become greener and demonstrate respect for the planet. The city's hotels are currently implementing a series of sustainability requirements set by DST as part of continuing efforts to position the city as a leading sustainable destination.

**Sustainable gastronomy:** Restaurants across the city are shifting towards utilising locally sourced ingredients to both drive sustainability promises and offer guests more authentic experiences.

**Sustainable leisure & wellness:** Many of Dubai's leisure, health and fitness pursuits provide sports equipment generated from recycled materials, as well as a range of spa treatments and snacks from ethically sourced, sustainable ingredients.

Sustainable culture: From old town city tours to

# The UAE has made enormous strides in fostering a sustainable environment through innovation and has taken major steps to address climate changes



inspiring exhibitions focused on Dubai's sustainable future, the city is rich in cultural and educational experiences both sustainable in their very nature and content.

## Museum of the Future: Promoting a sustainable future

To mark World Environment Day, the Museum of the Future championed a more sustainable future for all by urging its guests to make small changes to help safeguard the planet and its biodiversity and highlighted the everyday changes people can make to conserve natural resources, for example, using less water and using public transport.

Majed Al Mansoori, Deputy Executive Director at the Museum of the Future, said, "We are taking our own steps to protecting the environment, such as using plastic-free packaging and reusable shopping bags, and providing water dispensers to reduce the use of plastic bottles We also deploy technology to help design the future and develop plans to respond to the current and future challenges facing the planet."

The museum places a heavy emphasis on sustainability. The building itself was designed in line with environmental and sustainability standards and obtains a large percentage of its energy through solar panels that cover its façade.

It contains a smart irrigation system in its garden, which contains more than 100 species of native, hardy plant species. Most of the mound is covered in succulent species commonly found growing naturally in coastal areas in the Middle East. .

# Dubai Airports: New waste management programme

Dubai Airports marked World Environment Day





by kicking off a new waste management initiative that will play an integral role delivering on its commitment to keep 60 percent of all waste from Dubai International (DXB) from entering landfills by the middle of 2023.

As part of the new programme, the operator has implemented an innovative food waste treatment plan which is expected to capture and compost more than 2,000 tonnes of food waste annually from food and beverage outlets, lounges and hotels across DXB terminals and concourses.

Decomposing food waste in landfills results in the emission of methane gas which is 72 times more harmful to the environment than CO2.

The innovative new food waste plan was created in partnership with Dubai Airports' waste management partner BEEAH Group, the Sharjahbased sustainability pioneer.

It uses a special high-tech biodigester compost system installed in multiple locations across DXB that dramatically increases the speed at which food waste breaks down and becomes reusable compost and clean wastewater.

The DXB waste diversion strategy is designed to sustain a resilient waste management system that identifies the least economic, environmental, and social impact methods to capture, treat, reuse, or recycle all forms of waste.

To date, the programme has already achieved greater than 40 percent reduction in waste, including a special initiative that captures 100 percent of all cooking oil used in airport F&B outlets and converts it to biodiesel fuel.

# UAE Explores Future Of Energy Sector At MENA Europe Future Energy Dialogue In Jordan

Suhail bin Mohammed Al Mazrouei, UAE Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, has asserted the UAE's pioneering efforts in forecasting the future of the energy sector in cooperation with its global partners, and its rise as a globally trusted energy supplier.

The minister's comments came during his participation as the head of a UAE delegation to



the 'MENA Europe Future Energy Dialogue', held at the King Hussein Bin Talal Convention Centre, Dead Sea, Jordan.

Al Mazrouei joined the Minister of Energy and Trade of the Czech Republic and the Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources in a ministerial panel discussion on the prospects for partnerships between the Middle East and North Africa, and explored the most prevalent global challenges and the future of energy, including climate change and digital tech solutions.

The UAE minister affirmed that the UAE's work with international partners will shape the future of the energy sector, which is currently seeing great challenges. He underscored the UAE's Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative, which is a culmination of the UAE's efforts aimed at helping mitigate climate change and its work in

transforming challenges in this sector into opportunities to build a brighter future.

Al Mazrouei said that the MENA Europe Future Energy Dialogue, which comes after the recent announcement of the Industrial Partnership for Sustainable Economic Growth with Jordan and Egypt, confirms the UAE's commitment to strengthening international partnerships for a more prosperous and stable future.

During the conference, which featured around global 700 participants, a joint declaration was signed by the participating countries announcing climate action ambitions in the MENA region. Agreements to establish road maps in building regional and continental bridges connecting energy markets and establishing terms to develop bilateral cooperation projects were also signed.

#### Environment

#### Ministry Of Climate Change And Environment, Arctic Circle Launch 'Third Pole Process'

he Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCAE) and Arctic Circle have announced the launch of the "Third Pole Process".

Headed by Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, former President of Iceland, Arctic Circle is the largest network of governments, corporations, universities. think tanks, environmental



associations, indigenous communities, and concerned citizens aimed at spurring dialogue and cooperation on the future of the Arctic and the planet.

The Third Pole Process is a comprehensive effort to mitigate the threats of melting glaciers and water insecurity aggravated by climate change. The Third Pole region is a term that denotes the geographic vicinity of the Himalayas, which includes India, China, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and several countries in Central Asia.

The Third Pole Process will bring together governments, scientists, and experts to strengthen the regional knowledge of the challenges of diminishing water resources. It represents an active engagement with governments and institutions to enhance

scientific research and partnerships to inform policy making. The Process will be marked by milestone moments through a series of forthcoming Arctic Circle Assemblies in Iceland and Arctic Circle Forums in other countries.

Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, said, "The UAE is committed to supporting global efforts to protect the natural world. If left unchecked, glacier melting will trigger higher biodiversity loss, impede economic growth, and lead to more acute food and water shortages.

"Joining forces with Arctic Circle to roll out the Third Pole Process will go a long way in forging meaningful partnerships and sharing experience to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the Third Pole region," she added.

#### New USD50bn Investment Marks Milestone In UAE's Climate Action

ariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, stated that the announcement made by President HH Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan to invest an additional USD50 billion to scale up climate action through the deployment of clean energy solutions at home and abroad is yet another milestone in the UAE's long track record of sustainable development.



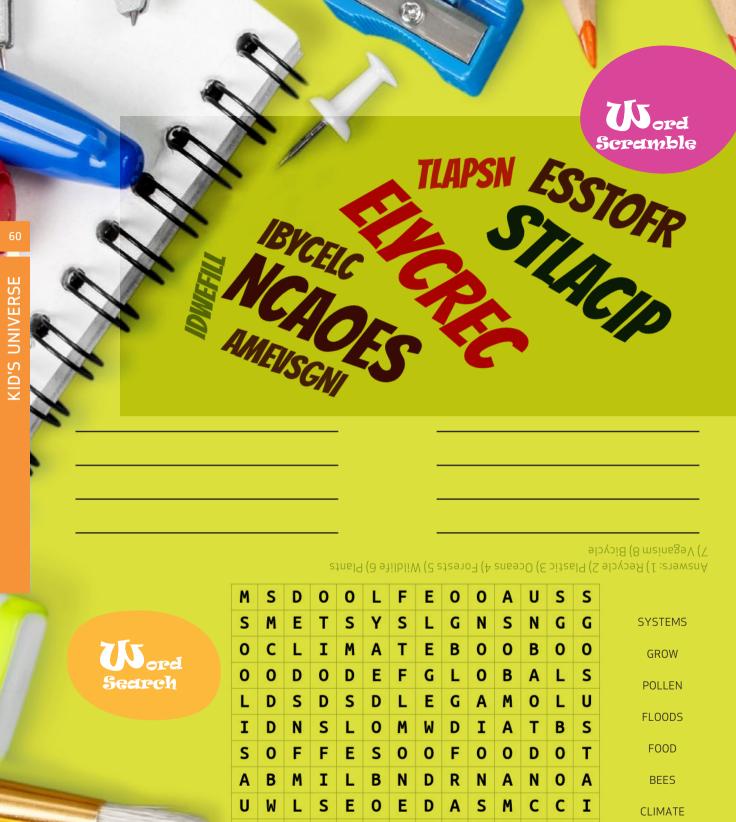
The UAE President made the announcement at the Leaders Meeting of the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate.

"Due to the future-oriented vision of its wise leadership, the UAE has joined the ranks of countries at the forefront of the fight against climate change. We have issued environmental protection laws and strategies and rolled out relevant initiatives. We have also adopted a proactive approach to promoting clean energy solutions as the sustainable, alternative energy sources of tomorrow," said Almheiri.

She noted that in line with its steadfast commitment to climate action and the Paris Agreement, the UAE has introduced multiple roadmaps along the way that reaffirm its keenness to build a sustainable future for the next generations. These include the UAE

Hydrogen Leadership Roadmap to position the country as a leading producer and exporter of green and blue hydrogen in the pursuit of net zero, and the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative, the first of its kind in the MENA region.

The Minister added, "Our country has repeatedly underscored its dedication to developing and implementing long-term strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming. As we gear up to host the 28th UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) next year, we remain determined to enhance environmental protection, advance government agendas, and boost the participation of the private sector through driving innovation and developing cutting-edge climate-smart technologies in the agriculture and food sectors to conserve natural resources."

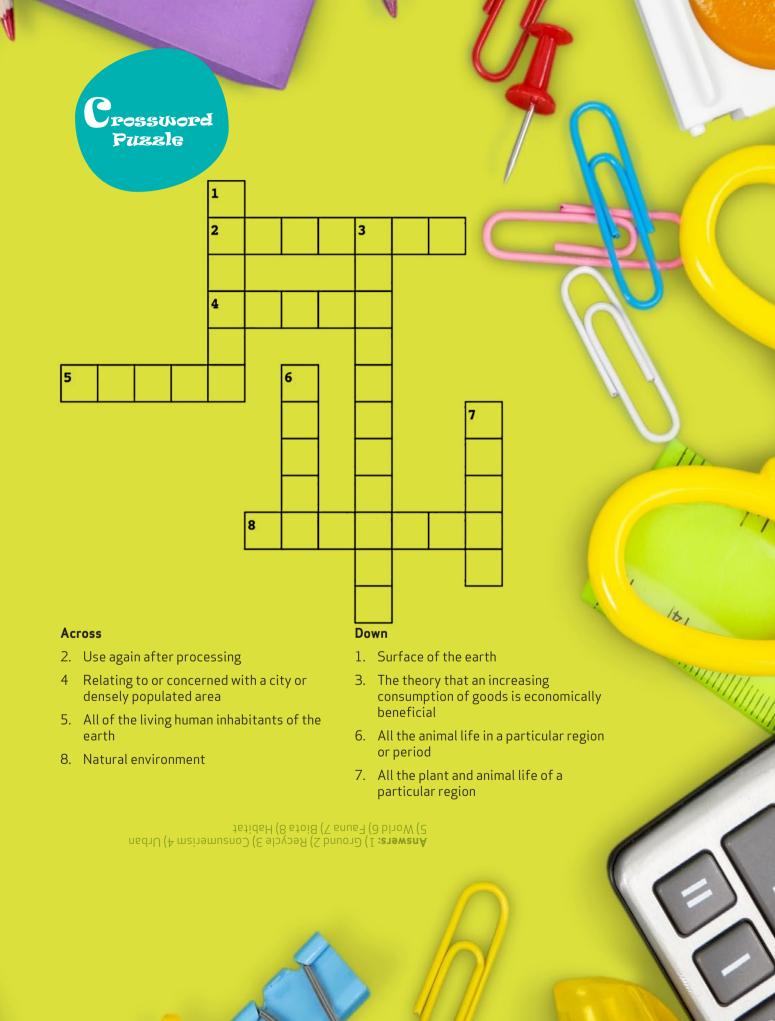


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# WORD OF THE DAY: VEGANISM

Veganism is a philosophy that says people should not use animals. There are vegans who choose not to eat animals, and vegans who choose not to use them in any other way either.

Vegans avoid food that comes from animals, including meat, eggs and dairy products (like milk, cheese, and yogurt). A vegan diet is sometimes called a strict vegetarian diet. Some vegans also do not eat honey. Many vegans try not to use any other animal products, such as leather, wool, feathers, bone, or pearl. They also try to avoid buying and using products that have been tested on animals. They may believe in animal welfare and animal rights, and may campaign for these causes.

Some people become vegan because they disagree with the treatment of animals in the modern animal farm industry. Other reasons to become vegan are for health, religious reasons, to protect the environment, or because of world hunger.

Veganism is particularly great for the environment!

Factory farming is significantly responsible for deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, pollution, and water shortages.

- Livestock and their byproducts are accountable for 51% of all greenhouse gas emissions, worldwide.
- 2,500 gallons of water are needed to produce
   1 pound of beef.
- Animal agriculture is responsible for up to 91% of the Amazon rainforest destruction.



#### SHARK AWARENESS DAY -JULY 14

Like top predators in any ecosystem, sharks play an essential role in keeping the seas healthy and productive, and yet various threats make these ocean oligarchs a persecuted and vulnerable species.

Sharks are one of the oldest species on the planet, with fossil records showing they were cruising our oceans at least 420 million years ago. Modern-day sharks have been around for about 100 million years – even that's back when the dinosaurs existed!

Nowadays there are over 500 species of shark, ranging from the tiny dwarf lantern shark, able to fit into the palm of your hand, to the gigantic whale shark, which can clock in at up to 10m. However, this is nothing compared to the megalodon, a now extinct relation of the modern-day great white, which may have reached sizes of a whopping 20m!

The sad fact remains that these magnificent creatures are threatened far more by us humans than we are by them. In fact, while there are around 10 fatal shark attacks a year (for context, cows kill 20 people a year, ants kill 50 and falling coconuts kill 150!), the various dangers they face all combine to mean an estimated 100 million sharks are killed by humans each year.

These include overfishing and bycatch (through which their food source is depleted and they're often killed as collateral damage in the fishing process), pollution, the worldwide

demand for commodities such as shark-fin soup and shark-tooth medallions, and an inflated sense of threat at beaches and other coastal regions where sharks are known to swim the waters, leading to excessive culls.

Shark finning in particular is an especially cruel and wasteful practice, in which just the fins are taken for food and the live animals thrown back into the sea where they will soon drown or be eaten by another predator.

As a result of these activities, experts believe that over the past 50 years shark numbers have declined by more than 70%, a devastating loss to the biodiversity of our oceans. And that's why Shark Awareness Day is so important, helping to preserve these vital fish now and well into the future.

Shark Awareness Day aims to both dispel the fear, stigma, and misinformation surrounding sharks and also raise awareness of this creature's plight, inspiring people all over the world to take action in their defense.

#### INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY -JULY 29

The beautiful, awe-inspiring tiger is one of our planet's most iconic animals. But here's the shocking truth. Wild tiger numbers dropped by more than 95% since the beginning of the 20th century. In recent years, conservation work and the commitment of various governments has halted the decline in global tiger numbers. But there's a lot more work to do.

As top predators, and 'umbrella species' tigers help to keep their environment healthy. It is the way things naturally work in the wild – the predators prey on other animals, in this case herbivores (plant eaters) such as deer. But without enough tigers to eat them, herbivores can overgraze and damage the land, disrupting the balance of the local environment. Local people also depend on a healthy environment for food, water and lots of other resources.

Climate change poses a growing threat to us all – tigers included. Rising sea levels are threatening critical tiger habitat, warming temperatures affect distribution of tree species which can impact tiger prey species, and there is an increased danger to tigers and tiger habitat of extreme weather events, like flooding or forest fires.

In addition, habitat changes due to climate change can bring tigers closer to human communities, leading to increased conflict and suffering for both humans and tigers.



What can you do to help?

Things to Do...

Switch off all lights!

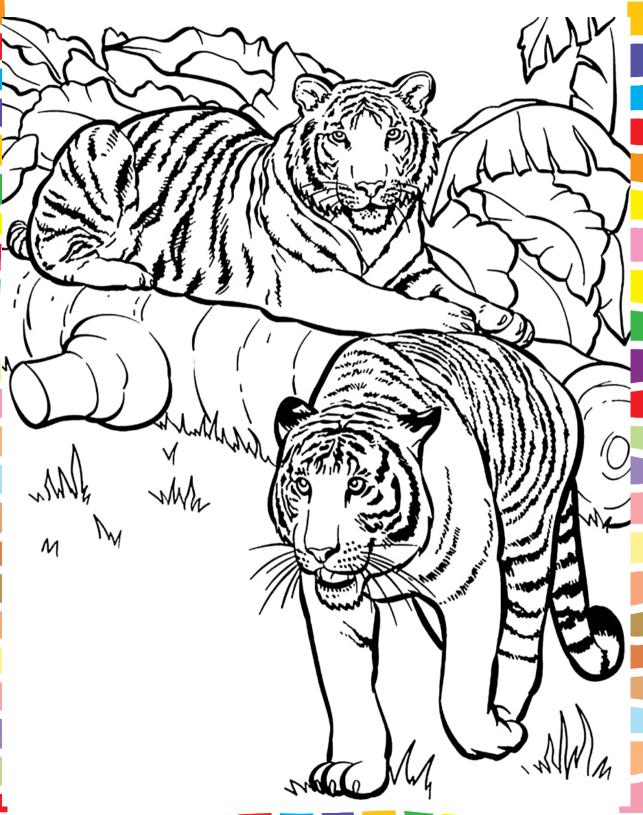
Don't leave the tap running!

Carry a water bottle!

Use reusable straws

Grow a plant at home!

# **COLOUR ME!**



#### New Summer Campaign To Reduce Energy Consumption

mirates Central Cooling Systems Corporation (Empower) has announced the launch of its annual summer campaign to reduce cooling energy consumption during summer under the theme "Set and Save 24 C".

Launched in June and continuing until the end of the summer season, the campaign aims at consolidating the culture of sustainability



among its customers for the company to continue contributing to the green economy as the pioneer in providing environmentally friendly and district cooling services, which uses up to 50% less energy compared to traditional cooling solutions.

As part of its campaign, which is being organised for the ninth year in a row, Empower aims to reach its customers across residential and commercial units provided with the company's services.

The campaign aims to urge and encourage the customers to rationalise district cooling consumption by setting the air conditioner thermostat at 24 C. This will reduce consumption bills, protect the environment, save energy, and preserve resources towards a green future.

Setting air conditioners to the automatic mode at 24 C is an ideal option for effective and comfort

cooling. This process ensures low pressure on the district cooling network and contributes to a significant reduction in carbon emissions, which in turn reduces global warming.

"Rationalising energy consumption should be a common focus for all of us, whether as a service provider or beneficiaries because it is a sustainable practice that brings great and multiple benefits to the community and even to future generations," said Ahmad bin Shafar, CEO of Empower.

He stressed that the demand for Empower services is increasing from all over Dubai, as the company has marked a 21.6% growth in the registration rate for district cooling services in the first five months of this year, compared to the same period of last year.



**Tyre Pollution** 

Vehicle exhausts were once considered major contributors to air pollution but with developments in filtering technology and more stringent regulations, they have become a less polluting source.

New studies indicate that particle pollution caused by tyre wear is far greater than that pumped out of the exhausts of modern vehicles. According to a recent article by Olivia Rosane in *EcoWatch*, the particulate pollution from car tyres is nearly 2,000 times worse than that from vehicle exhaust pipes.

The Emissions Analytics is the independent emissions-testing group which





**Dr. Eisa M. Abdelllatif**Chief Technical Advisor
Zayed International
Foundation for the
Environment

assessed the emissions from both tailpipes and tyre wear under "normal" driving conditions. They call it a surprising result, which builds on a 2020 company report

that tyre wear emissions were more than 1,000 times greater than tailpipe emissions when a 2011 Volkswagen Golf, carrying maximum load, was driven for 320 kms at high speeds. Recently, 14 tyre brands were tested on a Mercedes C-Class driven at normal speeds with only a driver in the car, to simulate "normal" conditions. The company found that under these normal conditions, the tyres emitted around 1,850 times more pollution than the tailpipes.

This is a growing cause for concern because tyre emissions are entirely unregulated while microplastic and nanoplastic particles from tyre pollution are probably harming aquatic ecosystems and contributing to more than 5% of ocean plastic pollution. They are also contributing to air pollution, releasing more than one trillion ultrafine particles per kilometre, as reported in *The Guardian*.

These particles are health hazards for humans and animals, especially when they enter the brain. In addition, carcinogenic chemicals have been found in 250 tyre brands. Tyre manufacturers should address these concerns and bring them in line with the best brands of today. Moreover, regulatory tools are urgently needed to curb the extent of tyre pollution.

Let us all be responsible and do our best to save the Earth, our home planet.



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