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06

UAE Launches Plan To Achieve Net Zero Emissions By 2050



30

Nissan Ariya: A Vision For
The Future of Mobility



WE progress
**To lead a new
generation of
visionaries**

Chairman's Message

An ambitious climate commitment made by the UAE to power its way into a clean energy future under the Net Zero By 2050 Strategic Initiative has cemented the nation's leadership on climate change within the region.

For more than a decade now, the UAE has been financing and investing in clean energy projects such as the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park - the world's largest single-site solar park and an important hub in Dubai's Integrated Energy Strategy 2030 - to deliver on climate action and achieve a balance in the nation's energy mix. With an abundance of sunshine throughout the year, solar energy has fast become the focus of the nation's energy investments.

The nation will also unveil the four-reactor Barakah nuclear plant later this year which aims to produce 25 per cent of the country's energy needs when it is fully operational.

The country's pledge to reduce its carbon emissions is the continuation of the



**Prof. Mohammed
bin Fahad**
Executive Editor

nation's inclusive and responsible progress where a sustainable future is envisioned as being fundamental to development and decision-making. With this move, the UAE joins the EU, UK, Norway, the US, and several other countries in setting agendas that align with the global climate programme.

The urgency of addressing climate change has driven the UAE to setting sustainability practices at the heart of its developmental and governance strategies. By raising the bar on a sustainable future, the UAE reinforces its commitment to sustainable development as a signatory to the 2015 Paris agreement on climate change. It also reflects the UAE leadership's forward-looking vision for the future that ensures the growth of a diversified economy through rationalising overall energy consumption and one that is increasingly less reliant on fossil fuels.

Contents



06

COVER STORY

UAE unveils ambitious clean energy plans under the Net Zero By 2050 Strategic Initiative

14

WGES 2021

UAE's sustainable development goals in focus at World Green Economy Summit 2021



20

WORLD FOOD DAY: UAE-FAO strengthen ties; calls for healthy diets from sustainable food systems

26

NATURAL HERITAGE

Ghaf Trees Spread Spirit Of Tolerance At Expo 2020

30



ELECTRIC MOBILITY: Nissan showcases its first all-electric crossover, Ariya, at Expo 2020 Dubai

38

REPORT

Dubai calls for developing integrated strategies to produce, store and use hydrogen energy

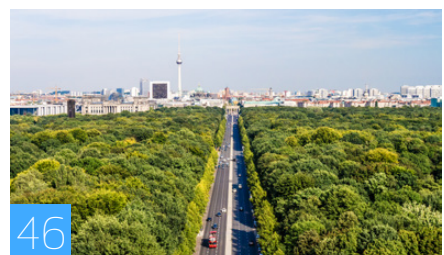


42

INTERVIEW

Sustainability is pivotal to Dubai's holistic tourism experience, says Yousuf Lootah, Vice Chairman of Dubai Sustainable Tourism

GREEN CITY: Berlin, the most viscerally green city in Europe, works towards a sustainable future



46

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KIDS' UNIVERSE: Interesting trivia, general knowledge, games, and more, for the young ones

56

AGRI-FOOD SYSTEMS

FAO: Time to reshape structures under which our food is produced, distributed, and consumed



INFRASTRUCTURE: New report reveals how infrastructure is responsible for 79 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions



Upcoming events

Aquatech Innovation Forum

Date: 01 November 2021

Location: Amsterdam, Netherlands

This year's Innovation Forum will be dedicated to not just the market innovations, but the innovators making it happen. Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Access to water and sanitation for all by 2030) is fast approaching. According to the UN, unless we quadruple our efforts, we will not reach this target.

From utility innovation managers, to start-ups, investors and corporate water managers, the Forum will unite the industry to share their positive and honest stories in a unique, creative and free-flowing festival atmosphere.

Ecocity Forum

Date: 02 November 2021

Location: Sibeliustalo, Lahti, Finland

Dramatic changes in consumption patterns and dominant lifestyles are required to address the climate emergency successfully. Governments and businesses must provide infrastructure, products, and services that enable citizens to live more sustainably. These changes need to happen now because household carbon footprints must drop far below half within just one decade to keep global warming within 1.5 degrees.

Ecocity Forum Lahti 2021 is gathering makers, users, and promoters of digital tools, which can accelerate the transition to 1.5-degree cities and citizens.

World Biodiversity Summit

Date: 10 November 2021

Location: Glasgow, Scotland

World Biodiversity Summit aims to bridge biodiversity and climate and accelerate investment-driven solutions to the biodiversity crisis. It serves as a convening for leaders from across public and private sectors to set the world on a path to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.

Through a platform for conveying transformational commitments, the Summit will highlight bold leadership and investments, build cross-sectoral partnerships and develop initiatives for the conservation and regeneration of the world's ecosystems.

UAE Launches Plan To Achieve Net Zero Emissions By 2050

The government of the United Arab Emirates has announced the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative, a national drive to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, making the Emirates the first Middle East and North Africa (MENA) nation to do so. The initiative, announced at Expo 2020 Dubai, aims to underpin dynamic economic growth alongside positive environmental impact.



UAE is the first MENA nation to pivot to a future powered by clean energy under the Net Zero By 2050 Strategic Initiative

Commenting on the announcement, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said, "We are committed to seize the opportunity to cement our leadership on climate change within our region and take this key economic opportunity to drive development, growth and new jobs as we pivot our economy and nation to net zero. With an investment of over AED600 billion in renewable energy, our vision for a clean future is clear."

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, said, "With our announcement of our plan to achieve climate neutrality by 2050, the UAE continues our effective role in climate control issues, adding our support to international efforts to mitigate climate change with a range

The Net Zero by 2050 initiative aligns with the Principles of the 50 - the UAE's roadmap for accelerating national economic development to mark the country's golden jubilee year



of effective community and economic initiatives. In achieving climate neutrality in the UAE by 2050, we aim to develop an approach that both drives sustainable economic growth and is an exemplar of working together to achieve a better future for humanity."

The announcement aligns with the Principles of the 50 - the UAE's roadmap for accelerating national economic development to mark the country's golden jubilee year, as the nation enters a new 50-year cycle of growth. The major economic opportunities offered by the path to net zero directly support a vision to develop the Emirates into the most dynamic economy.

The announcement took place at the conclusion of a government-wide accelerator programme initiated earlier this year. The Government Accelerator for Climate Ambition and Economic

Development took a holistic approach to developing the framework for the UAE's pathway to net zero, leveraging strategies for green economic growth and job creation.

Present at the ceremony were H.H. Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; and H.H. Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs.

The ceremony was also attended by Mohammad bin Abdullah Al Gergawi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs; Reem bint Ibrahim Al Hashemy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director-General of Expo 2020 Dubai; Suhail bin Mohammed Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure; Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology



and Special Envoy for Climate Change; Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy; and Mariam Hareb Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment.

Dr. Sultan Al Jaber said, "The new Initiative is an open invitation to the world to collaborate with the UAE in developing practical solutions, boosting multilateralism, and creating opportunities for sustainable socio-economic development. Critically, we will leverage the development pathway to net zero as a vehicle to create economic value, increase industrial competitiveness and enhance the UAE's standing as an attractive destination for investment, in line with the UAE's vision of progress for the next 50 years. The UAE Net Zero Initiative offers new opportunities for economic progress and establishes the UAE as an ideal location to live, work, raise families and create communities."

The initiative aligns with the Paris Agreement, which calls on countries to prepare long-term strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and limit the rise in global temperature to 1.5 C compared to pre-industrial levels.

Federal and local government authorities will be responsible for preparing comprehensive studies and developing plans that introduce the measures necessary to reduce emissions while also ensuring economic growth based on principles of sustainability.

For her part, Mariam Almheiri said, "Our announcement of the Net Zero 2050 Strategic Initiative is consistent with our drive to diversify and build a knowledge-based economy, adopt the principles of green and circular economy, protect the environment, attract FDI, and develop competencies in future growth areas."

The UAE has invested in renewable energy ventures worth around US\$16.8 billion in 70 countries



The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCA) will lead and coordinate efforts to execute the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative and ensure collaboration at the national level to fulfil this objective.

The implementation of the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative will entail close cooperation with civil society, foreign governments, and international organizations, including the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA).

The UAE's Special Envoy for Climate Change will continue to enhance the nation's climate action efforts by building international partnerships and joint initiatives that support the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative. The country is leveraging its strong international relations to advance shared interests and drive sustainable development.

The deployment and use of clean energy solutions is one of the main pillars of the UAE's model of addressing the challenge of climate change and reducing GHG emissions.

The country began financing clean energy projects more than 15 years ago and has invested over US\$40 billion in the sector to date. Current trends predict the production capacity of clean energy, including solar and nuclear, to reach 14 GW by 2030, up from about 100 MW in 2015 and 2.4 GW in 2020.

In 2017, the country launched the National Climate Change Plan of the UAE 2017-2050, which sets out a framework for managing GHG emissions, adapting to the impacts of climate change, and diversifying the economy through innovation. In December 2020, the nation submitted its second Nationally Determined

The UAE now enjoys the world's lowest-cost solar power and is home to three of the largest solar facilities in the world



Contribution (NDC) to the Secretariat of the UNFCCC, which entailed raising its climate ambition through several measures, including reducing emissions by 23.5 percent compared to business as usual for the year 2030.

The UAE supports green infrastructure and clean energy projects worldwide and has invested in renewable energy ventures worth around US\$16.8 billion in 70 countries with a focus on developing nations. It has also provided more than US\$400 million in aid and soft loans for clean energy projects.

The UAE now enjoys the world's lowest-cost solar power and is home to three of the largest solar facilities in the world. It is also the first country in the region to deploy nuclear power and to develop industrial-scale carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS).

Recognising that agriculture is responsible for almost one-quarter of global carbon emissions, the UAE is leading efforts to drive innovation in agritech by reducing water and energy use in farming, with the aim of supporting the country's food security strategy by expanding the production of homegrown healthy crops and reducing reliance on food imports.

The UAE is also actively involved in international initiatives that pursue this goal. These include the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate), a multi-country commitment to increasing innovation in the agricultural sector that the nation announced together with the United States at the Leaders' Summit on Climate, held virtually in April 2021 in Washington, DC, with the participation of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

We are honored to extend our congratulations to



His Highness
**SHEIKH KHALIFA
BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN**
President of the United Arab Emirates



His Highness
**SHEIKH MOHAMMED
BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM**
Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE
and Ruler of Dubai

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RULERS OF THE EMIRATES AND
THE PEOPLE OF UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

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The digital solution to sustainability



We are undergoing the largest wave of urban growth in history. At the turn of the 20th century, just 15 per cent of the world's population lived in cities. Now it's over 50 per cent – and by 2050, it's expected that 68 per cent of the world's 9 billion people will be city-dwellers.

This ongoing rapid urbanization presents a unique set of challenges and opportunities for towns and cities, and their inhabitants. With more than 80 per cent of global GDP generated in cities, increasing urban populations provide the potential for significant economic growth, innovation and development.

However, these benefits are not guaranteed. To harness the positive effects of a city's growing population, there are many challenges, including resource depletion, rising pollution and overpopulation, that must be addressed. Here, authorities should look to standards to help cities meet their future potential.

The rapid flow of populations into urban areas puts pressure on local infrastructure, with governments being unable to provide services for everyone. Demand for housing increases, leading to overcrowding which puts a strain on already-stretched resources, such as energy and water.

Sanitation issues, including a lack of proper waste disposal methods, create multiple health hazards for citizens – as does air pollution caused by traffic congestion. The risk of environmental hazards, like flash flooding, also increases due to exposure to climate change, to which cities are inextricably linked: cities consume close to two-thirds of the world's energy and emit more than 70 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

If urban planning is not implemented strategically, this threatens the progressive and sustainable growth that is vital to a city's prosperity. Managing the distribution of limited natural resources, as well as managing healthcare, education, city infrastructure and urban mobility, is a major challenge that must be acknowledged and understood by cities.

This requires a clear vision and long-term planning, which is why the concept of the smart city is of increasing importance to city leaders and town planners. The smart city provides an effective solution to the challenges of current and future urban contexts, using digital technology and data to optimize city functions, drive economic growth, improve sustainability and enhance quality of life for citizens. Standards that help authorities to implement smart city concepts, such as PD 8100 and PAS 182, allow governing bodies and organizations to address issues at different levels and better serve the needs of their citizens.

“ Standards that help authorities to implement smart city concepts, such as PD 8100 and PAS 182, allow governing bodies and organizations to address issues at different levels and better serve the needs of their citizens. ”



In a smart city, individual city systems are highly integrated, not just within themselves but also with each other. This means they can seamlessly deliver the best for the local area, fully responsive to the needs of their citizens and businesses. What's more, the smart city agenda isn't only for major cities; it's just as important for smaller cities and towns.

In Barcelona, the city's parks use technology to remotely sense and control park irrigation and the water in public fountains. This program alone increased the city's water conservation by 25 per cent, saving around €472,000 a year. Meanwhile, Copenhagen plans to become the world's first carbon-neutral capital city by 2025, using smart city initiatives such as smart district heating and cooling grids.

Building cities that are smart and sustainable requires effective planning and strategic delivery. Different cities will have different visions, reflecting the needs and circumstances of their different populations. A standards-based approach helps citizens and leaders to adapt and innovate successfully. Smart city standards provide city leadership with the tools needed to develop and deliver their own smart city strategies. For example, BSI's ISO 37106 gives guidance on establishing a city's unique strategy, putting the citizen at the centre and helping the city manage its digital assets in order to create effective services and deliver change.

Meanwhile, ISO 37101 allows for the creation of specific sustainability strategies, through the provision of a management system that helps cities to prioritize their goals and actions.

As a result, standards can help eliminate risks, cut costs and make it easier for leaders to grow and manage towns and cities effectively, whilst also preparing for the challenges that lie ahead. Urbanization should be viewed as an opportunity to be taken advantage of, improving the lives of residents and helping urban centres to meet sustainable development goals. Utilizing standards will allow individuals and groups to lead the way, as their smart towns and cities become the benchmark of the future.

With the demand for businesses to be 'greener' and for more efficient growing, environmental management is now a key focus for all organizations. BSI can help organizations on their journey not only to become greener and more socially responsible but can help save money and reduce waste.

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World Green Economy Summit 2021 Concludes With Dubai Declaration

The 7th World Green Economy Summit (WGES), held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, which concluded on October 7, 2021, hosted 30 high-profile speakers, including former presidents and prime ministers, and business leaders of multinationals. The summit, held under the theme, "Galvanising

14

WGES 2021



UAE's sustainable development goals in focus to promote innovation and creative solutions

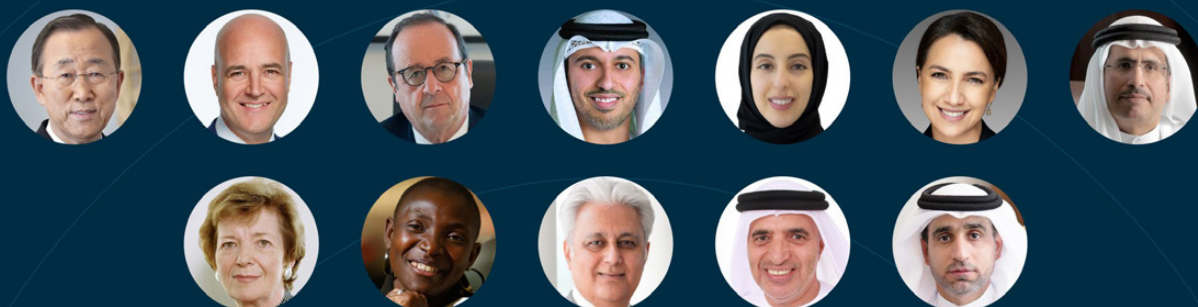
Action for a Sustainable Recovery", brought together many prominent international speakers, in addition to dignitaries and representatives from government organisations, academics, experts and the media.

Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Vice-Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, Managing Director and CEO of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (Dewa) and Chairman of WGES, announced the Dubai Declaration 2021 at the conclusion of WGES 2021, expressing his gratitude and appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, for his patronage of the Summit. He also thanked Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, for his presence at the opening ceremony of the summit and to everyone who contributed to the success of this summit.

The largest global green economy conference was centered around four themes: Youth; Innovation and Smart Technologies; Green Economy and Policies; and Green Finance



الدورة السابعة من "القمة العالمية للاقتصاد الأخضر" تستقطب نخبة من المتحدثين العالميين
7TH WORLD GREEN ECONOMY SUMMIT ATTRACTS PROMINENT INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS



"The summit's seventh edition was held amidst exceptional events and activities, under the theme, 'Galvanising Action for a Sustainable Recovery,' in conjunction with the historic Expo 2020 Dubai held under the theme, 'Connecting Minds, Creating the Future.' These two themes are consistent with the UAE's efforts to promote innovation and develop creative solutions to support the country's sustainable development goals and overall economic growth," Al Tayer said.

"Due to the directives and tireless efforts of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Dubai has maintained its bid to become the global capital of the green economy. The summit witnessed high-level dialogues, panel discussions and seminars on developing innovative sustainable solutions and stimulating innovation to support sustainable development. These centred around its four main themes, the youth,

innovation and small technologies, green economy and policies, and green finance," he added.

"The UAE has served as a global model of resilience in times of crisis. This is evident in its immediate successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to our leadership, the country has been steadily recovering from this global health crisis, with our nation emerging stronger and more resilient," he further added.

Key points of the Dubai Declaration:

- We recognise that climate change is an urgent global threat with impacts that reach beyond the environment agenda to include economic, social, and environmental challenges.
- We acknowledge that sustainable and green recovery should steer our efforts to rebuild the



economy after the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to limit the temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius, aiming for 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, in line with the Paris Agreement, 'COP21'.

- We encourage inclusive partnerships in which governments, businesses and civil society are part of collective action, for current and future generations.
- We encourage further support towards low carbon transition by developing a strategy and a roadmap for green hydrogen in Dubai.
- The World Green Economy Organisation (WGE) will continue as the leading platform and partnership enabler for international cooperation, knowledge-sharing and technology transfer between developed and developing countries,

taking account of the special needs and circumstances of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, aiming to promote design and implementation of green economy policies at national, regional and global levels.

- We look forward to the fulfilment of commitments to the goals of the Paris Agreement, while rendering our full support for a successful UNFCCC COP26 to be held in November 2021 in Scotland, United Kingdom.
- We will coordinate and align the regional response to climate change for an effective implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and other national climate strategies and policies through UNFCCC WGE Regional Collaboration Centre in Dubai, during Mena Climate Week 2022. This will coincide with

WGES brought together world-class experts in critical sectors from around the world to directly focus on advancing the global green economy and sustainability agendas



the next World Green Economy Summit here in Expo 2020 Dubai in March 2022.

Insightful discussions at WGES 2021

On Day 1 of the event, former French President François Hollande delivered a keynote address on the 'The Green Climate Fund, climate financing and progress since COP21. Mary Robinson, Chair of The Elders, former UN Special Envoy on Climate Change and former President of Ireland, graced the event as well to talk about 'Climate Justice for Future Generations.'

The first plenary panel discussion titled 'Road to COP26', included top-level officials including Aminath Shauna, Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Technology of the Republic of Maldives; Molwyn Joseph, Minister of Health, Wellness & the Environment, Antigua and Barbuda; Martha Delgado, Deputy Minister for

Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico; Ahmad Buti Al Muhairbi, Secretary General of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy; and Ovais Sarmad, Assistant Secretary General, United Nations and Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat.

Another plenary discussion panel focused on 'The Coming Green Infrastructure Boom' where guest speakers and participants examined the key challenges and opportunities in designing and building the green finance process. They also tackled various ways to position the GCC towards a green infrastructure and enable it to optimise the benefits arising from this growth.

The WGES also featured multiple fireside chats, including a talk about the crucial role of youth in combating climate change in the Middle East. The Arab Youth Council for Climate Change (AYCCC)



represented the youth sector in the discussions that saw the council sharing its plans to ramp up the participation of the young people in climate change mitigation and development of climate priorities and policies ahead of the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28).

Fredrick Reinfeldt, former Prime Minister of Sweden, delivered a keynote address titled 'Global insight: Learnings from Sweden's sustainable energy transformation.' Additionally, a key plenary panel discussion on 'Building back to NetZero: New Technology, Green Economy and Policies' brought light to how one can rethink, build, and prepare for a net-zero emission future. Panelists also discussed the role of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and digital revolution in reshaping the business operations of different major sectors.

The World Green Economy Summit featured a host of activities, dialogue sessions, and keynote speeches. The Summit put a spotlight on pressing themes and urgent issues, including climate change, sustainable finance, audit and regulatory policies in a green economy framework, disclosure of environmental, social, and corporate governance data, food sustainability and food security, sustainable business, and green technology and infrastructure.



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UAE Bolsters Food And Health Strategies On World Food Day

The UAE has strengthened its strategic partnership with the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) through two strategic agreements: the first concerning the project 'Hand-in-Hand Zimbabwe - Smallholder Horticulture Recovery & Inclusion Project (SHRIP)' and the second involving renewing the Credit Fund for the Sub-regional Coordinator for the GCC and Yemen.



At Expo 2020 Dubai, UAE strengthens its partnership with FAO and steps up plans to promote healthy diets from sustainable food systems

Signed at Expo 2020 Dubai on World Food Day, which is celebrated each year on October 16, the agreements form part of the UAE's leading efforts to promote world food security, strengthen food systems, and contribute to eliminating hunger worldwide.

The two agreements were signed in the presence of Mariam Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, with their terms aiming to strengthen the collaboration between the UAE and FAO by effectively facilitating bi-lateral involvement in projects that are dedicated towards ensuring the availability of sustainable food in global areas affected by poverty.

"We are excited about this collaboration as it supports the efforts of the Sub-regional Coordinator for the GCC and Yemen, as well as their ambitious projects and initiatives, through

The UAE signs two strategic agreements: 'Hand-in-Hand Zimbabwe - Smallholder Horticulture Recovery & Inclusion Project (SHRIP)' and renewing the Credit Fund for the Sub-regional Coordinator for the GCC and Yemen



which we aim to achieve a better future for the food-related sectors and sustainable development in the UAE and the region. It is also our pleasure to sign the agreement supporting the SHRIP - as this reflects the UAE's commitment to establishing collaborations across different areas of the world and enabling smallholder farmers to improve their lives, income, and economic status," said Almheiri.

"One of the most important mechanisms for implementing UAE foreign aid is strengthening international partnerships and working with international partners, especially international organizations such as the FAO for its leading role in implementing projects aimed at eliminating hunger in developing countries. We are pleased to cooperate with FAO in the implementation of a development project in one of the friendly African countries, Zimbabwe, as the project aims to

improve family income levels in rural areas, and aligns with the UAE foreign aid policy towards supporting the achievement of sustainable development goals in beneficiary countries," said Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for International Development Affairs.

"The UAE has been one of our most important partners in the region. It has made numerous contributions to our efforts to provide urgent solutions to boost long-term food security in areas with the greatest need, both regionally and globally.

"I am delighted about the UAE continuing its annual financial support to the region's Sub-Regional Coordinator Office and contributing to the success of the 'Hand-in-Hand Zimbabwe - Smallholder Horticulture Recovery and Inclusion



Project," said Abulhakim Elwaer, FAO's Assistant-Director General and Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa.

The agreement for the project was signed in the presence of Mariam Almheiri; Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi; AbdulHakim Elwaer, FAO's Assistant Director – General and Regional Representative for the Near East and North Africa; and Dr. Dino Franciscoti Motis, FAO's Sub-Regional Coordinator for the GCC and Yemen; Lovemore Mazemo, Ambassador of the Republic of Zimbabwe to the UAE, at a special event on the sidelines of World Food Day celebrations.

As per the agreement, the UAE will financially support the project in Zimbabwe, which aims to reduce hunger and poverty among smallholder farmers by effectively engaging them in the markets. The FAO will implement the project as

per certain standards, including the fulfillment of technical procedures and terms with the aim of achieving the highest benefit from available financial support. The UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment will oversee and ensure the project's implementation in the best manner and in line with the UAE's development goals.

The second agreement regarding renewal of the Organisation's Credit Fund was signed in the presence of H.E Mariam Almheiri, H.E Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi, and H.E Dino Franciscoti Motis.

Promote healthy diets

The UAE has also taken a step forward in its efforts to promote healthy diets from sustainable food systems to benefit the community, preserve the environment, and boost the national economy, with a letter of intent signed by the Ministry of

The UAE boosts efforts to promote healthy diets from sustainable food systems to benefit the community and preserve the environment



Climate Change and Environment, Ministry of Health and Prevention, Emirates Nature-WWF, and the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

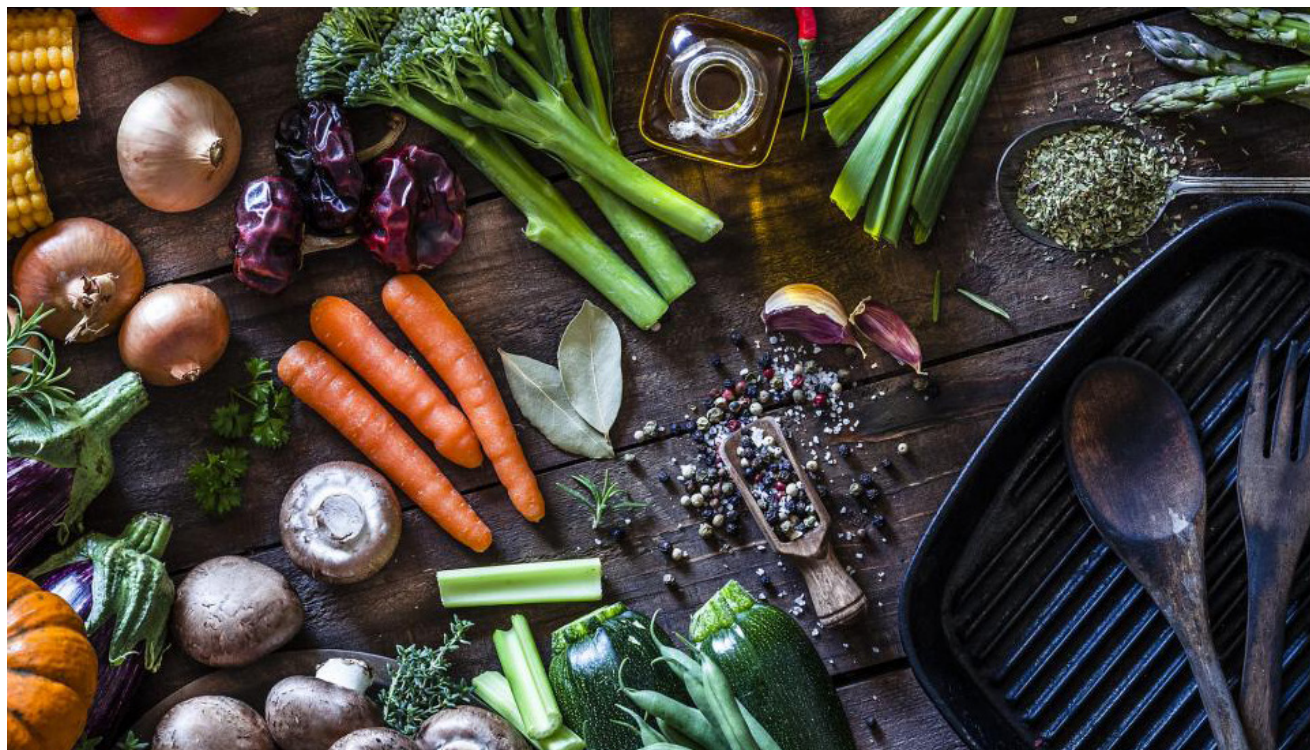
The letter was signed at the UAE's World Food Day celebration, which was marked at Expo 2020 Dubai, in the presence of Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, Dr. Hussain AlRand - Assistant undersecretary for Public Health in the Ministry of Health and Prevention; Laila Abdullatif, Director-General of Emirates Nature-WWF and AbdulHakim ElWaer, Assistant Director-General/ Regional Representative, FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa.

"Improving nutritional intake is a fundamental pillar of the National Food Security Strategy 2051," Almheiri asserted. "It plays a critical role

in strengthening the country's entire food systems and provides a significant impact on community development and improving public health. Its economic benefits are numerous and cannot be understated."

For his part Dr. Hussain AlRand - Assistant undersecretary for Public Health from the Ministry of Health and Prevention, said: "The letter of intent we signed will enable us to examine all opportunities that support our efforts to promote public health through proper and healthy nutrition. A healthy diet is a solid approach to protect the community from the diseases that have emerged as a result of unhealthy eating patterns."

Laila Mostafa Abdullatif, Director General at Emirates Nature-WWF, noted, "Failing to change our diets, is having dramatic impacts on our



health and planetary well-being. The Letter of Intent reflects our commitment collectively to promote the transition towards healthier diets and sustainable food systems, which is beneficial for both people and the planet. To address the global and local challenges, this urgent initiative is needed to transform our connection between food and the environment."

Abdul Hakim El Waer, Assistant Director-General/Regional Representative, FAO Regional Office for Near East and North Africa, said: "The United Arab Emirates is championing many of the transformative and innovative approaches in food and agriculture. So, strengthening our partnership and working together brings us a step closer towards transforming agri-food systems to achieve the sustainable development goals by 2030, not only at the country level, but regionally and globally as well."

The letter of intent strives to understand current barriers and drivers to adopting healthy and sustainable diets. It aims to raise awareness and ensure the target audience understands the importance of healthy diets and sustainable food systems, in addition to identifying potential areas for change through community outreach, education and awareness, and encouraging measurable positive behaviour change.

Transforming our diets and food systems globally, will reduce food-based greenhouse gas emissions by at least 30 per cent, wildlife loss by 46 per cent, agriculture land-use by at least 40 per cent, and premature deaths by at least 20 per cent, according to WWF's 'Planet Based Diets' report which highlights a new approach to making food choices that can help ensure a healthy planet as well as healthy people.

Route 2020 Metro Stations Gain LEED Gold Certification

Seven metro stations on Route 2020 of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) have been awarded the LEED Gold Certification under the LEED V4 BD+C rating system following the US Green Buildings Council (USGBC), part of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) programme.

Abdul Redha Abu Al Hasan, Executive Director,

UAE NEWS



Rail Planning and Projects Developments at the RTA's Rail Agency, said, "The U.S. Green Buildings Council had confirmed that the RTA has the world's highest number of LEED v4 BD+C: NC certified Transit projects. This achievement reflects the authority's standing commitment to leadership and excellence in delivering the Route 2020 project for the region and the world over."

"This achievement is credited to selecting the best locations for stations, and implementing strategies for saving the consumption of power and water. Such strategies are also aimed at curbing carbon emissions, using suitable and recyclable building materials, and reducing construction waste," he added.

"RTA is keen to using cutting-edge technologies and implementing green building technologies as part of its endeavour to nurture a more

sustainable urban environment. It also seeks to enhance the efficiency of the infrastructure in all vital activities and facilities through which it had made significant achievements that had a crucial role in protecting the environment, saving costs and preserving resources," Abu Al Hasan said in conclusion.



Ghaf Trees Spread Spirit Of Tolerance At Expo 2020

The Ghaf tree is one of the indigenous trees that are abundant in the desert of the UAE and is associated with the heritage and history of the region for the immense benefits it brought to the lives of ancestors in the past

The Ghaf is a drought-tolerant tree, which can remain green even in harsh desert environments. It is essential for the survival of animal and plant



A lone Ghaf tree at the Expo 2020 Dubai site, estimated to be more than 70 years old, was preserved when construction first began

species alike. The Ghaf is the national tree of the UAE as it is a historic and cultural symbol of stability and peace in the UAE's desert environment.

Ghaf trees can live for up to 120 years on average. Traditionally Ghaf leaves and pods provided food and its nutritious branches were used for livestock. The tree was also used for its medicinal properties.

In 2019, the Ghaf tree was chosen as a symbol for the Year of Tolerance exemplifying its role as a historic and cultural symbol of stability and peace in the UAE's desert environment.

The late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan paid great attention to the Ghaf and issued laws and regulations prohibiting the cutting of the tree throughout the country.

*The Ghaf is a drought-tolerant tree, which
can remain green even in harsh desert
environments*



For the Expo 2020 Dubai opening ceremony's final act, Al Wasl Plaza was transformed into a magical garden with dancers in fantastical costumes representing blossoming flowers. At the centre of the stage rose a huge silver and white Ghaf tree. The tree ranges from three to five metres, and its roots can go as deep as 30 metres, which is one of the reasons they can survive the harsh summer.

A lone Ghaf tree at the Expo 2020 Dubai site, estimated to be more than 70 year old, was preserved when construction first began. In 2019, organisers released an animated film in its honour, detailing how it has endured the harsh desert conditions through changing times.

Expo 2020 Dubai has established several main focus areas and a set of key performance indicators that revolve around achieving

sustainability, including enhancing the environmental value of the site and promoting local plant species.

Accordingly, millions of plants have been produced in agricultural nurseries including more than 14,000 trees, 2,500 palm trees and 35 million shrubs and more than 460 Ghaf trees.

At the Sustainability Pavilion, Ghaf has another presence. According to Mona Al Ali, Senior Manager, Terra – The Sustainability Pavilion, Expo 2020 Dubai, the Ghaf tree is well known and was chosen in the pavilion to allow visitors to view its roots through a periscope to show how its roots go deep into the soil in search of water and nutrients. This is to show visitors how these plants thrive in this region and can withstand the desert environment.

EU And Switzerland Discuss Future Of Air Quality At Expo 2020 Dubai

Over 60 international officials, policy makers, researchers and business representatives came together at Expo 2020 Dubai to discuss air pollution that causes an estimated 7 million premature deaths worldwide.

Jointly organised by the European Union and Switzerland on 13 October 2021, the event,



Various representatives
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titled "Air Quality beyond Borders: Best Practices in Air Quality management including from the 'European Green Deal' - The Business Perspective", was hosted at the Swiss Pavilion. The discussions focused on the private transport and logistics sectors while integrating relevant insights from UAE policymakers.

Air pollution knows no borders and has become one of the most significant global public health challenges. Despite tangible progress, air pollution still leads to an estimated 7 million premature deaths worldwide, according to the World Health Organisation. Pollution is one of the five main drivers of biodiversity loss, threatening today the survival of more than one million of the planet's estimated eight million plant and animal species. Concerted action is needed to reverse this deadly trend.

According to the World Health Organisation, air pollution still leads to an estimated 7 million premature deaths worldwide



Swiss Ambassador Massimo Baggi, said in the context of the event, "On average, an adult person breathes 20,000 times a day. Clean air is, therefore, our most valuable resource. Switzerland is committed to a regional and international joint effort to reduce emissions and guarantee clean air. Not only do we adopt the EU limit values, but we also contribute to setting them."

He added: "Switzerland is valued partner in this process, because we contribute by providing good research and innovations on the issue. And if there are emission limits in Europe, sooner or later they might spread around the world, which will improve air quality for everyone."

This event follows a webinar hosted on 7th September 2021 by Switzerland and the European Union to mark the second UN

International Day "Clean Air for Blue Skies", when a panel of experts comprising policymakers and scientists from the EU, Switzerland, UAE and United Nations, came together.

Ambassador Andrea Matteo Fontana, EU Commissioner-General to Expo 2020 Dubai, said in his opening remarks, "In July this year, the European Union has proposed a comprehensive plan that will deliver our goals of becoming a climate neutral continent by 2050.

"The decarbonisation of transport sector is central to achieving this ambitious goal. We are committed to a future-proof transport sector, by creating a market for sustainable fuels and technologies, and ensuring broad uptake not only in the EU but globally. Our message is clear, we care, we can, and we do."

Nissan Ariya: A Vision For The Future Of Mobility

Nissan, the Official Automotive Partner of Expo 2020 Dubai, recently demonstrated its vision for the Future of Mobility with an exclusive showcase of the Ariya, the brand's all-electric crossover. Making its first regional appearance at Nissan's inaugural activation at Expo 2020 Dubai, the Ariya symbolises Nissan's forward-looking journey into the future of electrification and sustainable mobility.



Nissan showcases its first all-electric crossover, Ariya, at Expo 2020 Dubai

The Ariya – Nissan's first all-electric crossover SUV – offers powerful acceleration and smooth, quiet operation, as well as an interior with a welcoming, luxurious lounge-like atmosphere. Its stress-free autonomous driving features, concierge-like assistance and seamless connectivity heighten on-road confidence and provides a welcoming environment for the driver and passengers. And with an estimated range of up to 610 kilometres, Ariya is the perfect partner for daily commutes and road trips alike.

The Nissan Ariya is the first production model to represent Nissan's new electrified brand identity, forging a path toward a new automotive era where electrification, optimized platform packaging and seamless vehicle AI technology will become standard.

Built on an all-new Alliance-developed EV platform, the Ariya is the ultimate expression of

Nissan aims to achieve carbon neutrality across its operations and the life cycle of its products by 2050



The interior is more akin to a sleek cafe lounge on a starship, evoking performance and intrigue, than to a traditional automotive cabin. The advantages provided by the company's all-new EV platform have enabled the Ariya to offer the most spacious cabin in its class.

The compact nature of the powertrain components made it possible for Nissan's engineers to install the climate control system under the hood allowing the designers to utilize the whole length of the cabin without obstructions, such as a transmission tunnel or cabin systems tucked under the instrument panel. The quiet EV drivetrain and the generous use of sound-absorbing materials result in an exceptionally quiet cabin, allowing everyone inside to relax and enjoy the stress-free, lounge-like space.

The materials throughout the interior are carefully selected to avoid the overly traditional feel of some luxury vehicles, while giving an

Nissan Intelligent Mobility, the company's strategy to further improve the appeal of its vehicles and achieve the ultimate goal of a future with zero emissions and zero vehicle fatalities. Representing the three main pillars of Nissan Intelligent Mobility (Intelligent Power, Intelligent Drive and Intelligent Integration), the Ariya combines advanced electric-vehicle technology with a new level of seamless human-machine interface connectivity, offering an entirely new driving experience.

Design: a completely reimagined appearance

The all-new Ariya is Nissan's ultimate expression of style and technology, with each complimenting the other in aesthetics and function. The surprisingly short overhangs, aggressive roofline and large wheels provide an elegant appearance that flawlessly balances sport and luxury.





impression of premium futurism in technology and utility.

Intelligent Power: formidable EV performance for a wide range of needs

The Nissan Ariya's all-electric drivetrain is an example of seamless integration of advanced EV technology. It takes the excitement and potential of zero-emission mobility to the next level by integrating excellent power delivery, charging capabilities and extended range.

With four core models offered, including two-wheel-drive and all-wheel-drive versions, the Ariya meets the driving needs of a wide range of customers.

The Ariya two-wheel-drive model with 63 kWh of usable battery capacity is ideal for urban commuters and first time EV owners looking for

quality and style in their next-generation EV. The Ariya two-wheel-drive model with 87 kWh of usable battery capacity¹ offers a larger battery, delivering additional range for those looking to venture on longer journeys.

The Ariya e-4ORCE all-wheel-drive model with 63 kWh of usable battery capacity¹ offers an attractive balance in performance and value in its segment. With slightly less emphasis on range, this model offers ample performance and innovative new technologies, including twin electric motors and e-4ORCE control technology that deliver balanced, predictable power to all four wheels, equal to or better than many premium sports cars.

The Ariya e-4ORCE all-wheel-drive model with 87 kWh of usable battery capacity¹ features the highest level of Nissan Intelligent Mobility available, including ProPILOT 2.0 which offers

The Nissan Ariya forges a path toward a new automotive era where electrification, optimized platform packaging and seamless vehicle AI technology will become standard



hands-off single lane highway driving capability. Whether the two- or all-wheel-drive model, the power and performance of the Ariya will bring excitement back to the daily commute and urge drivers to explore further.

e-4ORCE: Ride comfort and handling without compromise

The twin electric motor, all-wheel-drive Ariya models will feature Nissan's most advanced all-wheel control technology, e-4ORCE. The "e" in e-4ORCE stands for Nissan's 100% electric motor drive system.

By specifically managing power output and braking performance for smoothness and stability, e-4ORCE enhances driver confidence by tracing the intended driving line over almost any road surface, while never needing to change driving style or input. When cornering on snow-

covered roads, for example, the vehicle can faithfully trace the driver's intended line thanks to ultra-high-precision motor and brake control. With the confidence to handle such a variety of road surfaces, driving becomes more enjoyable.

Engineers fine-tuned the e-4ORCE's precision control technology and twin electric motors to provide unparalleled ride comfort. Vehicle pitch and dive are minimized by adding regenerative rear-motor braking to the usual front-motor regenerative braking employed by typical EV and hybrid systems today.

A smooth, powerful on-road presence

Staying true to Nissan's heritage of producing fun-to-drive, exciting cars, the Ariya's all-new EV platform has been optimized to deliver exceptional handling. The battery pack sits under the center of the vehicle to ensure a low center of gravity and near-equal weight distribution, front and rear. The battery pack's flat design and integrated cross-member in the battery case, allow the Ariya to have a flat floor and impressive structural rigidity. Suspension components are optimized to take advantage of this, ensuring stable handling and a comfortable ride while also suppressing vibrations and noise from entering the cabin space.



Sheikh Zayed Mosque's Reflective Pools Dazzle In New Cultural Series

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre periodically publishes its cultural series, "Art and Architecture", on the Centre's Instagram page @szgmc_ae. The publication is part of a larger national effort to keep alive the country's unique culture and traditions that are rooted in Islam.

The Centre's cultural tour guides educate



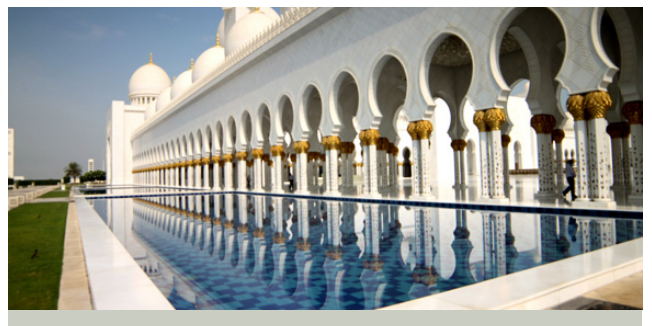
followers on social media platforms, and those interested from different cultures of the world, about the Mosque's Islamic distinct features, which convey messages of tolerance, coexistence, and cultural rapprochement, through the harmony and diversity of its details.

The newest episode features the reflective pools that surround Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque and represent one of the most important aesthetic features inspired by Islamic architecture.

Pools and fountains are known as main elements in decorating Islamic gardens. With a total area of 7,000 square meters, the pools are decorated with thousands of mosaic pieces in blue shades. They are designed to surround the Mosque from the outside and bring its architecture to life, reflecting the mosque's magnificent columns and becoming even more spectacular by the lighting

at night. These reflective pools have rectangular shapes, which enhances its aesthetic value and attracts the attention of visitors.

The pools at Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque also contribute to reducing heat and mitigating the impact of drought. Ancient people turned water structure into an engineering miracle by transferring water of different sources to stone formations, such as pools, basins and fountains.



The Role Of Cloud Seeding In Reengineering Earth

A panel session titled 'Reengineering Planet Earth' was hosted by the World Majlis at Expo 2020 Dubai as part of the Climate and Biodiversity Week.

Participants included Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous, Director-General of National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) and President of the Regional Association II (Asia) of the World



Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

In his address, Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous highlighted the important role of cloud seeding as a catalyst for reengineering the planet earth through mitigating drought, enhancing water resources and ensuring its sustainability. For nearly two decades, the UAE has allocated huge investments towards implementing cloud seeding operations to effectively tackle water scarcity.

Al Mandous said, "Weather modification is successful in reengineering environment, as cloud seeding can significantly limit global warming and its detrimental effects such as droughts and high-water evaporation rates. Cloud seeding is effective in improving the micro-physical processes within the cloud, helping us harvest more water from the cloud and enhance precipitation by a global average of 18 percent."

He added that the potential future effects of climate change include prolonged drought in some regions and a surge in tropical storms in others. This mandates collective action to prevent the long-term consequences of climate change on future generations.

Accordingly, the UAE adopted cloud seeding technologies to offset the lack of natural water resources and increase the amount of rainfall. This has allowed the country to adapt to the challenges of drought in the Arabian Peninsula.

The UAE started its cloud seeding operations in 2002 in response to its shortage of water resources. The country's cloud seeding infrastructure subsequently expanded over the years until suitable cloud candidates were targeted year-round over the entire UAE from 2010 onwards.

Dubai Achieves 98 Per Cent Of Paperless Strategy's Objectives

The Dubai Paperless Strategy has accomplished 98.86 per cent of its government transactions digitalization objectives across all participating government entities, revealed Digital Dubai at GITEX Global 2021. A total of 43 Dubai Government entities taking part in the Strategy have succeeded in digitalizing their internal and external processes. Collectively, they offer more than 1,800 digital



The Dubai Paperless Strategy has accomplished 98.86 per cent of its government transactions digitalization objectives across all participating government entities

services and boast over 10,500 key processes. The new accomplishment is in line with the Dubai Government's strategic objectives to establish the emirate as a world digital capital, boost government productivity, ensure optimal resource consumption, digitize procedures and services, and promote happiness for customers.

At the heart of the Strategy and of the entire digital transformation project is government integration, which has led to a notable shift towards automating procedures and services.

These, in turn, helped save a total of 331 million sheets of paper that would have otherwise been used for transactions, cutting costs by more than AED1.3 billion and saving over 14 million man-hours across the government. From an environmental standpoint, the Strategy saved more than 39,000 trees that would have otherwise been used to produce paper.

Digital Dubai has awarded the '100% Digital Stamp' to 19 new government entities that have implemented the Dubai Paperless Strategy at a rate of 100%



During its press conference at GITEX, Digital Dubai applauded the government entities that implemented the Dubai Paperless Strategy with a 100% completion rate, awarding them the '100% Digital Stamp'.

The conference was attended by Abdulla Al Basti, Secretary General of The Executive Council of Dubai; Hamad Al Mansoori, Director-General of Digital Dubai; and Wesam Lootah, CEO of the Smart Dubai Government Establishment, part of Digital Dubai; along with officials and representatives from the participating government entities.

Digital Dubai has awarded the '100% Digital Stamp' to 19 new government entities that have implemented the Dubai Paperless Strategy at a rate of 100%. These entities join the first four government departments to win the Stamp in March 2021.

"Dubai is taking a new and significant step forward in its quest to digitalize all aspects of life in the emirate, guided by its leadership's ambitious vision and clear objectives to make sure Dubai has a fully digital government by December 2021, where all transactions will be 100% paperless," asserted Hamad Al-Mansoori.

The Dubai Paperless Strategy is set to enhance the smart city experience for all residents and visitors.

It facilitates and streamlines government transactions, curb the use of paper in customer transactions or between Dubai Government employees, and design 100% paperless experiences available on the DubaiNow application, which includes all city services divided into 12 main categories.

As the world strives to achieve net-zero emissions, hydrogen will be crucial to decarbonize hard-to-abate industries, such as steel, cement, aviation and shipping, it noted.

The report is launched by Dubai Future Foundation (DFF) in partnership with the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, the

'Hydrogen: From Hype To Reality': Report



New report by Dubai Future Foundation stresses importance of developing integrated strategies to produce, store and use hydrogen energy

Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MoCCA) and the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA).

Speaking on the launch of the report, Suhail bin Mohammed Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, said, "The UAE is one of the leaders in the fields of renewable and clean energy and a forerunner in adopting innovative methods to enhance the efficiency of the energy sector. To achieve these priorities, the country launched the UAE Energy Strategy 2050 that targets an increase in the share of renewable and clean energy sources in the energy mix to strike a balance between its economic needs and environmental goals.

"Hydrogen energy is one of the solutions that support sustainable development. It can be produced from available traditional sources,

The report states that the UAE could become not only a leading hydrogen economy in the region but also a major exporter of hydrogen



such as oil and gas, or from renewable sources, including solar energy and wind, in addition to geothermal energy and organic sources. Hydrogen production from fossil fuels is currently the most cost-competitive in our region at US\$1.5 per kilogram."

Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, CEO of DEWA, commended the collaboration with DFF in issuing the report, noting that green hydrogen represents one of the pillars of a sustainable future that depends on accelerating the transition to carbon neutrality to support a green economy.

He said, "Producing green hydrogen is part of DEWA's efforts to support the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 that aims to provide 75 percent of Dubai's total power capacity from clean energy sources by 2050. The Green Hydrogen project in the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar

Park, is the first facility in the Middle East and North Africa to produce hydrogen using solar power. The plant was designed to facilitate future applications and test platforms of different uses for hydrogen. This project will contribute to paving the way for building an economy based on clean energy."

The report states that the UAE could become not only a leading hydrogen economy in the region but also a major exporter of hydrogen. Policymakers in Dubai are recommended to pursue the 'Producer & Hub' export sector development strategy for either high or medium domestic and international hydrogen demand. This could add up to AED 32 billion annually to Dubai's GDP, create over 120,000 jobs and offset CO2 emissions equivalent to 84 days per year of the UAE's crude oil production by 2050.

DHL Appoints TotalEnergies To Install PV Solar At Dubai Facilities

DHL Global Forwarding, the leading provider of air, ocean and road freight services, and France's TotalEnergies have signed a contract for a solar energy project in Dubai. This is in continuation of their Strategic Cooperation Agreement signed in 2019.

TotalEnergies will solarize eight of DHL's sites in Dubai to cover the equivalent of over 46,000 sq m



The project complements Deutsche Post DHL Group's sustainability roadmap to achieve zero-emissions logistics from 2050 onwards

of photovoltaic panels. The solar system will save more than 6,000t of CO₂ the first year. The project complements DHL Group's sustainability roadmap to achieve zero-emissions logistics from 2050 onwards.

"With an annual average of 8.7 hours of sunshine per day, Dubai has a clear advantage in terms of solar energy which can advance our sustainability goals further," said Amadou Diallo, CEO, DHL Global Forwarding Middle East and Africa. "This partnership will not only drive forward the use of alternative fuels but also optimize our overall energy consumption, and help us achieve our ambitious target to reduce all logistics-related emissions to zero by the year 2050."

The whole solar system will produce over 14,000 MWh per year, enough energy to power over 16,000 homes yearly in the UAE. In addition to

Over 14,000 MWh of electricity will be produced per year on eight sites



supplying the sites with solar power eight electrical vehicle charging stations will also be installed. Thus, DHL Global Forwarding will contribute to the Group's goal of electrifying 60% of its fleet by 2030.

Hamady Sy, Managing Director at TotalEnergies Renewables Distributed Generation Middle East and Africa declared: "We are delighted to support DHL Global Forwarding with their green initiatives in the UAE of which solar will play an important part, and look forward to helping them reducing their carbon footprint in the region and beyond".

Not only does the solar system produce more sustainable energy, but the program also includes that 85% of the solar modules are recycled. Furthermore, they are produced exclusively in Landfill Free certified factories. All this contributes to making the entire product cycle

more sustainable and saves more than 150,000 tons of CO₂ over the contract duration.

In keeping with its policy of "burn less – burn clean", DHL Global Forwarding is consistently optimizing the carbon efficiency of its transport network, its fleet, and its real estate. In order to achieve its sustainability goals, Deutsche Post DHL Group is investing €7 billion in climate-neutral logistics solutions through 2030, by which point at least 30 percent of its fuel needs should be met by sustainable fuels.





'Sustainability Is Pivotal To Dubai's Holistic Tourism Experience'

Yousuf Lootah, Vice Chairman of Dubai Sustainable Tourism, elucidates on the key sustainability pillars in tourism that are driving tourism growth in the emirate of Dubai

1. Tourism is today one of the key pillars of Dubai's economy. What do you foresee as its importance in the long-term diversification strategy of the emirate?

Dubai has created and maintained a sustainable and diversified economy, with tourism playing a pivotal role in the city's economic growth and diversification. To ensure sustainability and long-term prosperity for current and future generations, we will continually strive to broaden and leverage the city's offering across our key tourism pillars from heritage to entertainment, outdoor adventures to beach activities, from gastronomy to family-oriented experiences, and shopping to luxury.

A key aim of our tourism strategy is to regularly showcase the dynamic evolution of our city

proposition and the versatility of our portfolio that delivers truly customisable experiences for each and every visitor. This has been further enhanced by the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, which will further increase the diversity of Dubai's offerings and experiences and help Dubai achieve its goal of becoming the best place in the world to live in, work and visit.

We will continue to build on the holistic tourism experience by increasing the diversity of our festivals and events portfolio, particularly our major events such as Dubai Shopping Festival, Dubai Summer Surprises and Dubai Food Festival, in addition to strengthening the Dubai Fitness

Challenge and keep pace with the global shift to wellness and health.



2. How do the 4 key pillars under the Dubai Sustainability Tourism initiative contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of Dubai's tourism-linked economy?

Under the Dubai Sustainability Tourism (DST) initiative, the pillars (1. Standards 2. Awards 3. Programmes and 4. Education) have played a crucial role in raising the awareness and engagement of hotel staff to support them in driving environmental initiatives and educating them about sustainable tourism.

A summary of some of the key initiatives under these pillars are outlined below:

Pillar one: Standards

19 Sustainability Requirements have been introduced to strengthen the process of collaboration in further enhancing the hospitality sector and the visitors' experience, with the long-term objective of advancing sustainability performance across the sector and strengthening the competitiveness of Dubai's tourism linked economy along with DTCM's classification system.

Pillar two: Awards

The Dubai Sustainable Tourism Awards demonstrate Dubai Tourism's commitment to supporting the emirate's sustainable tourism

initiative in keeping to the 'Carbon Abatement' strategy that sets forth the city's ambitions to reduce carbon emissions by 16% by 2021. The main objectives of the Awards are threefold: develop guidelines that enable the tourism industry to become more sustainable; create a network on sustainability and enable sharing of best practices; and recognise sustainability efforts and accomplishments within the industry.

Pillar three: Programmes

The Performance Measurement and Management initiative allows DST to analyse the carbon footprint of Dubai's hospitality sector via 11 carbon emission sources on a monthly basis with the primary methods being the Carbon Calculator - a software developed in partnership with the Dubai Carbon Centre of Excellence.

The Carbon Calculator was launched in 2017 and the emirate's hotel establishments are mandated to record and submit their consumption of 11 emission sources, dating back from the year 2014, across electricity, district cooling, water, waste, diesel and petrol for transportation, diesel and petrol for generators, fire extinguishers, and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) through the software on a monthly basis, allowing the findings to be collated for valuable industry insight.

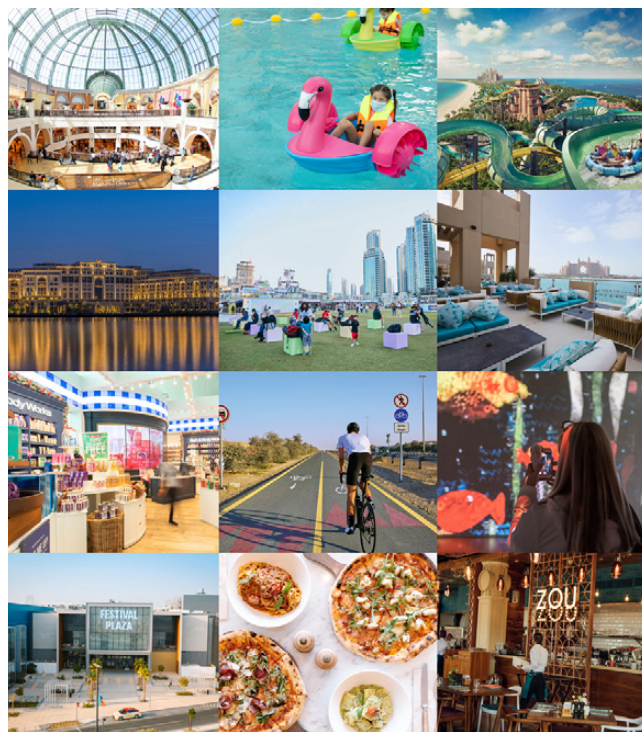
The results from the Carbon Calculator are used to generate the Hotel Emission Analysis Report, which is personalised for individual hotels, offering an overview of each establishment's emission performance, as well as a comparison against the results of the average for the same hotel classification.

Pillar four: Education

In collaboration with the Dubai College of Tourism, DST has developed an online Sustainable Tourism Vocational Online Educational Curriculum designed to provide hotel staff with the education and knowledge on implementing and driving sustainable tourism practices within their hotels. Participants will gain knowledge on three sustainability pillars: Environmental Pillar, Economic Pillar and Social Pillar.

As a part of the educational element of DST and to further raise awareness among hotels in Dubai of the importance of adopting eco-friendly

practices, an innovative awareness mechanism, the Sustainability Hospitality Board Game, was developed in partnership with Emirates Nature WWF as a key component of DST, enabling hotels and their employees to play a crucial role in driving green tourism practices. The Board Game helps hotel staff learn how to efficiently manage their resources by saving on electricity and water, and also helps participants understand which areas of the hotel activities are responsible for consumption, and how to optimise the efficiency of those areas.



3. How will the roll out of the Sustainability Requirements framework advance the hospitality sector?

In crafting a successful strategy to help accelerate industry momentum, DST is cementing opportunities for partnerships across public and private sectors, with the ultimate goal of achieving a cleaner, greener environment for Dubai. Additionally, sustainability is not just important for the environment, but it also encourages more efficient business behaviours, processes and practices.

These policies and industry standards are now part of the hotel establishments' classification

criteria and are being constantly reviewed and refined by hoteliers and industry experts with a view to making it practical and effective for all stakeholders.



4. What are the chief ways by which the hospitality sector can improve their internal sustainability operations?

Compliance and implementation with the 19 Sustainability Requirements as they cover a variety of areas including sustainable management approaches, performance metrics, energy, food and water management plans, guest education, employee training initiatives, the presence of sustainability committees within hotel establishments and corporate social responsibility programmes for local communities.

The effectiveness of the framework is evident in the fact that so far relevant staff of 528 hotels have been trained in the implementation of these requirements. Some examples of this are sourcing locally from UAE based suppliers, introducing and driving waste management plans and taking an active role in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives in the city.

5. How does DST align with Dubai's Carbon Abatement Strategy 2021 and the larger framework of the UN SDGs?

Dubai Tourism launched its Dubai Sustainable Tourism initiative to serve as a roadmap to ensure that the city continuously remains at the forefront in terms of sustainable tourism. The mandate is to enhance the sustainability of the tourism sector, therefore positively impacting

interconnected industries across the ecosystem within the city, hence, DST is dedicated to improving and encouraging conservation of the emirate's resources and reducing the carbon footprint of Dubai's tourism industry in line with Dubai's Carbon Abatement Strategy issued by the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy. The DST initiative is also in support and aligned with the SDGs of the broader goals of promoting the development and implementation of green, renewable and clean energy projects across the UAE, and is a part of our contribution towards achieving overall sustainable development targets set by the United Nations.



6. What are the goals of the Get into the Green Scene campaign?

The launch of the 'Get into the Green Scene' initiative is aimed at Dubai residents and visitors to help raise awareness of the city's sustainable attractions, whilst also highlighting the ease of incorporating sustainable practices into everyday life.

The initiative includes a sustainability calendar, featuring a series of environmental days throughout the year as well as ways in which people can engage within the theme of that calendar day. Included are simple, but fun, eco-conscious actions that promote the city's natural spaces and hidden gems.

'Get into the Green Scene' Days include Earth Day (22 April), Plastic Free Bag Day (3 July) and International Coastal Clean-Up Day (18 September).

7. What are the achievements – till date, that are contributing to establishing Dubai's position as a leading global sustainable tourism destination?

Inspired by the vision of His Highness, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai, and as part of the vision to transform the city into one of the world's leading sustainable tourism destinations, Dubai Tourism launched its DST initiative in 2016.

Since its launch, DST has successfully implemented seven citywide initiatives to help promote energy conservation, create energy efficient services, and encourage environmentally sustainable practices across Dubai's tourism industry. This includes the Sustainability Requirements Framework; Dubai Sustainable Tourism Awards; Performance Measurement and Management; Sustainable Tourism Vocational Online Educational Curriculum; Sustainability Hospitality Board Game; Awareness campaigns and Ecotourism.

Dubai Tourism has also stepped up its sustainability efforts through DST and its collaboration with its network of stakeholders. DST continues to support Etihad ESCO, Dubai Carbon, Emirates Environmental Group, Emirates Wildlife Society – WWF and Emirates Green Building Council, as well as the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, DEWA and Dubai Municipality as strategic partners.



Berlin is one of the greenest cities in Europe, with more parks, gardens and forested areas than any other European city.

Berlin: A Green Destination For Nature Lovers

In 1930, French diplomat and writer Jean Giraudoux wrote that Berlin is "no city of gardens [but] a garden itself." Between green space and water, nearly half the capital city of Germany belongs to Mother Nature.



Being the most
viscerally green city in
Europe, Berlin actively
works towards a
sustainable future

Currently, there is a big movement in Germany, and also in Berlin, on improving green infrastructure. A government plan is being written on building green infrastructure in cities. Berlin's city government also has an agreement to protect its green spaces and trees. In fact, over 30% of the city area is green spaces and woodland. With 2,500 parks and gardens, 440,000 trees and 180km of navigable waterways, Berlin combines that big city feeling with idyllic green spaces.

Thirty years after the fall of the Wall, many old industrial heritage buildings, roofs and backyards in former East and West Berlin are now remarkable inner-city locations, oasis grow over the former fractures and break into this once divided city.

Berlin is a city that embraces sustainability in all its many forms. The city has an array of

Over 30 per cent of the Berlin city area is green spaces and woodland



vegetarian and vegan restaurants and in late 2015, American magazine Saveur, renowned for its exploration of world cuisine, ranked Berlin as the new vegetarian capital – another area where the city is already setting sustainable trends.

Green Mobility

A connected, automated, shared, electric, sustainable mobility – that's what Berlin wants to achieve through its collaboration with eMO, the city's agency for smart and electric mobility. With around 550 electric vehicle charging stations, the city leads the rankings in Germany. Its pioneering role in this sector is further underlined by over 270 projects providing locally generated energy, more than 1500 communal heating/power stations or micro power plants, and around 6000 photovoltaic power plants.

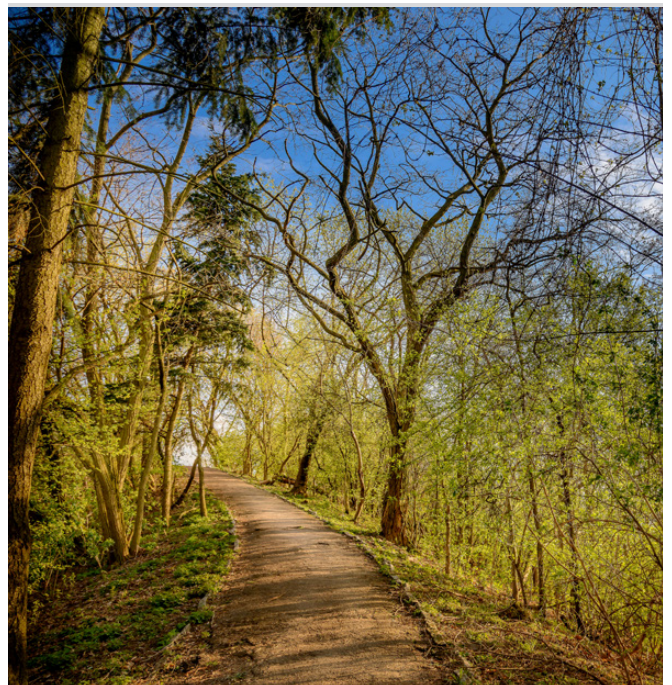
Many projects are underway to make traffic

smoother, cleaner and safer. Important technological milestones include tests on autonomous driving and on communication between vehicles and their surroundings. Other approaches are already set up. With fLotte Berlin for instance, the city offers the free rental of cargo bikes in some districts and even the police use them now thanks to 'Ich entlaste Städte', a project that provides private companies and public organizations across Germany with the opportunity to test a cargo bike for a few months at very low cost.

Food and Health

Reducing the distance between the farm and the fork – that is what is offered at InFarm, an expanding startup based in Berlin that develops a 'glass-walled vertical farming' system capable of growing anything from herbs to vegetables and fruits.

The tall glass units are packed with herbs and





lettuce in special trays slowly turning under LED lights. Not only is the produce growing here digitally monitored and controlled, but it also has the shortest of food supply chains to the end consumer. Its ambition: to provide 100% fresh, local and pesticide-free produce for Berlin inhabitants, and to offer an innovative urban food system which is healthy, transparent and sustainable.

With its 3,7 million inhabitants and a constant influx, the need for initiatives focusing on healthy and sustainable food is essential in Berlin. The city wants to favor the production of organic products to a hyperlocal level, while respecting the environment. That's how Berlin created the House of Food foundation, whose aim is to significantly increase the share of organic products in day-nurseries, schools, canteens, cafeterias and catering in public institutions.

The idea is to bring together cooks, food experts, teachers and designers to offer advice and cooking courses. With the urban vegetable gardens, local citizens are also being encouraged to cultivate useful crops, using public green spaces in their neighborhoods to plant rows of vegetables or fruit trees.

Green Neighbourhoods

In each of its 12 boroughs, Berlin has idyllic green spaces for picnics on spreading lawns, outdoor sports and walks surrounded by nature. The Volkspark Friedrichshain in Prenzlauer Berg is Berlin's oldest public park.

Here, you have a wonderful view out across the city from 74 and 48 metres up on two small, greened hills, originally created from World War Two rubble and demolished bunkers. Today in Berlin, locals have the benefit of enjoying over

With around 550 electric vehicle charging stations, Berlin leads the rankings of electrical mobility in Germany



2,500 stretches of green space, all of which provide a slice of nature in the city and habitats for wildlife.

Renewable Energy

As part of the federal Smart Energy Showcase program, WindNODE promotes the showcase for intelligent energy. The Berlin-based enterprise focuses on a future in which our electrical energy needs are almost completely covered by renewable sources. How? By identifying flexible energy users in industry and in large residential areas who can align their electricity consumption with the fluctuating supply of wind and solar power plants. Their aim is thus to integrate large quantities of renewable electricity into the energy system.

In many ways, Berlin demonstrates the desire to offer its inhabitants and visitors a city with a

sustainable future. Local citizen and business initiatives reinforce this common endeavour.

The Act to Implement the Energy Turnaround and the Climate Protection in Berlin sets the framework for energy policy and climate conservation. The act stipulates that CO₂ emissions will be reduced by 85 percent in 2050.

The Senate of Berlin is also working towards phasing out coal – based power and heat generation by the year 2030. The act has also developed a roadmap to ensure carbon neutrality by underpinning it with specific strategies and measures. Berlin offers creative solutions by responding to the diverse challenges of the future in an environmentally and citizen-friendly way all thanks to smart collaboration between the city, its businesses and the scientific community.

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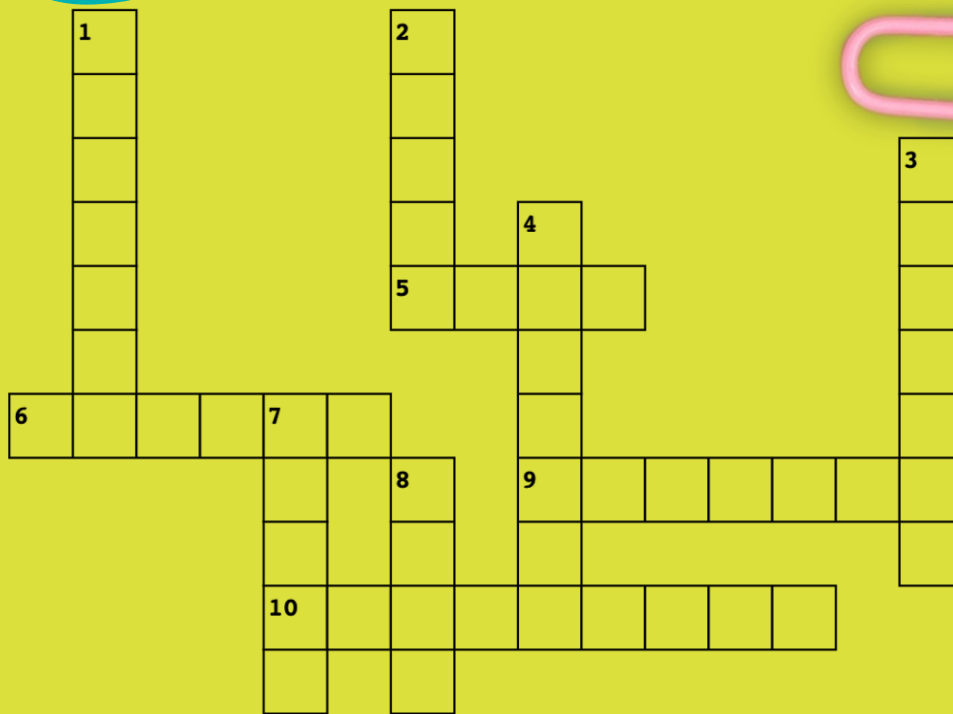
Answers: 1. SUSTAINABLE 2. GREENERY 3. LANDSCAPE 4. TREES 5. CACTUS 6. OASIS 7. DESERT 8. FAUNA

Word
Search

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

DESERT
SOLAR
EARTH
TURTLES
TERRAIN
CHARITY
OCEANS
GLOBE
MOUNTAIN
WEATHER
LEAVES
DUNES
WILDLIFE
STORM
ROCKS

Crossword Puzzle



Across

5. Drops of fresh water that fall as precipitation from clouds
6. Arid land with little or no vegetation
9. A fertilizer that is derived from animal or vegetable matter
10. A system formed by the interaction of a community of organisms with their physical environment

Down

1. Use again after processing
2. Of or relating to or associated with the moon
3. Shield from danger, injury, destruction, or damage
4. Science of life
7. A large natural stream of water
8. Smallest particle of an element

Answers: 1) Recycle 2) Lunar 3) Protect 4) Biology 5) Rain 6) Desert 7) River 8) Atom 9) Organic 10) Ecosystem

WORD OF THE DAY:

**OVER-
POPULATION**

Overpopulation means that the population of a place is too high. Specifically, there are too many organisms of a certain species in a habitat, so the number of organisms living there is larger than the carrying capacity of the habitat. The habitat cannot support these numbers over time without hurting itself.

The term "overpopulation" is most often used to refer to the number of humans living on Earth.

The world's population has greatly increased in the last 50 years. The main reason is the reduction in death rate, especially for infants and children. The result is that many more people survive to the age when reproduction is possible.

- Reduction of death rate

1. By reducing the effect of infectious diseases
 - a. widespread use of antibiotics, increased use of vaccinations against some viral diseases
 - b. wider provision of clean water (modern sewage systems etc.), which reduces parasitic diseases.
2. By increasing food production
 - a. the world-wide use of pesticides, and later anti-pest treatments.
 - b. the invention of high-yielding varieties of crops and later, genetically-engineered crops.

The scientific consensus is that the present population growth and increase in use of resources is a threat to the ecosystem. The InterAcademy Panel Statement on Population Growth called the growth in human numbers "unprecedented", and stated that many environmental problems, such as rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, global warming, and pollution, were made worse by the population expansion. At the time, the world population stood at 5.5 billion, and optimistic scenarios predicted a peak of 7.8 billion by 2050, a number that current estimates show will be reached around 2030.



WORLD VEGAN DAY - NOVEMBER 1

World Vegan Day is an annual event celebrated by vegans around the world every 1 November. The benefits of veganism for humans and the natural environment are celebrated through activities such as setting up stalls, hosting potlucks, and planting memorial trees. It coincides with vegan month, which is the whole of November, so you can really embrace the vegan lifestyle before the festive period begins. To work alongside vegan month, Veganuary was created to encourage people to ditch the meat as part of their New Year's resolutions. A total of over 500,000 people took the pledge in January 2021, but it is thought more people took part without signing up.

The event was established in 1994 by Louise Wallis, then Chair of The Vegan Society in the United Kingdom, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the organisation and the coining of the terms "vegan" and "veganism". This day is not only dedicated to vegans but on World Vegan Day, people take the time to look at the current world situation and raise awareness on the many issues that the world is facing regarding our food supply and its impact on the environment. World Vegan Day encourages people to understand why veganism is important as well as an opportunity for people to try out the lifestyle themselves.

The World Vegan Day helps us understand the reason behind people who are vegan and helps connect them to the world, opening up the possibility for more people to broaden their perspective. Not only contributing by becoming vegan but also thinking about the environment in their daily lives or simply, eating less meat than before!

What can you do to help?

Things to Do...

- ☒ Reuse plastic bags
- ☒ Carry your own bags when shopping!
- ☒ Cycle around
- ☒ Take short showers!
- ☒ Don't waste food!



NOVEMBER 5

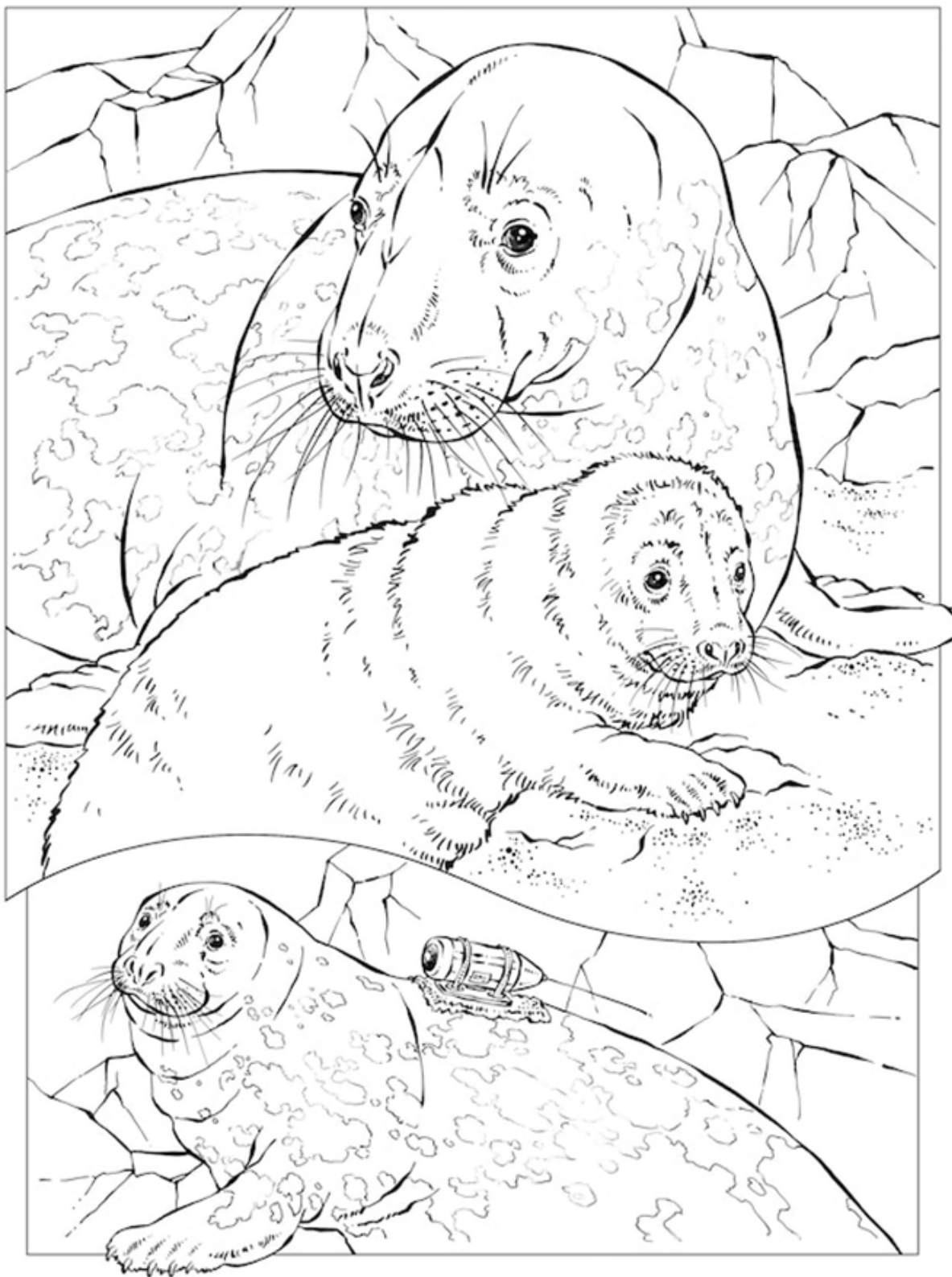
Tsunamis are rare events but can be extremely deadly. In the past 100 years, 58 of them have claimed more than 260,000 lives, or an average of 4,600 per disaster, surpassing any other natural hazard. In December 2015, the UN General Assembly designated 5 November as World Tsunami Awareness Day, calling on countries, international bodies and civil society to raise tsunami awareness and share innovative approaches to risk reduction.

World Tsunami Awareness Day was the brainchild of Japan, which due to its repeated, bitter experience has over the years built up major expertise in areas such as tsunami early warning, public action and building back better after a disaster to reduce future impacts.

Facts about Tsunamis:

- Tsunamis are rare events, but they are the deadliest and costliest among all hazards. The 2011 Tohoku Earthquake in Japan cost more than US\$235 billion and was the costliest disaster in world history.
- Over 700 million people live in low-lying coastal areas and Small Island Developing States exposed to extreme sea-level events including tsunamis.
- Over the past two decades, tsunamis have accounted for almost 10 percent of economic losses from disasters, setting back development gains, especially in countries that border the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

COLOUR ME!



UN Chief Urges Lifesaving Transformation Of Food Systems

World Food Day is not only a reminder of the importance of what we eat, but also "a call to action to achieve food security around the world," the UN chief said in his message marking the day, commemorated annually on 16 October. Secretary-General António Guterres pointed out that currently, almost 40 per cent of humanity - some three billion people, can't afford to eat healthily.

FOOD SECURITY



And as hunger, undernourishment, and obesity are on the rise, the economic impacts of COVID-19 "have made a bad situation even worse," he said, noting that the pandemic has left an additional 140 million people "unable to access the food they need. At the same time, the way we produce, consume and waste food is taking a heavy toll on our planet."

"It is putting historic pressure on our natural resources, climate and natural environment - and costing us trillions of dollars a year," warned the UN chief. An agri-food system comprises all the activities related to the production, processing, distribution, preparation and consumption of food.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), that's something we play a part in, every time we eat: "The food we choose

and the way we produce, prepare, cook and store it make us an integral and active part of the way in which an agri-food system works."

In a healthy and sustainable agri-food system, local market shelves are stocked with nutritious food, but less is wasted and the supply chain is more resilient to shocks, such as extreme weather, price spikes or pandemics - all without worsening environmental degradation or climate change.

"In fact, sustainable agri-food systems deliver food security and nutrition for all, without compromising the economic, social and environmental bases, for generations to come" said the UN agriculture agency. "They lead to better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life for all."

FAO Hails New Momentum And Energy On Agri-Food Systems

World Food Day 2021 celebrations began with a global event where participants noted that while the challenges of global hunger, climate crisis and COVID-19 remain formidable, there is also a new momentum and energy behind efforts to transform agri-food systems, making them more fit for purpose. A UN Food Systems Summit mapped out the broad outlines of how the world needs to move forward



World Food Day celebrations emphasise how the world needs to move forward to reshape the structures under which our food is produced, distributed, and consumed

to reshape the structures under which our food is produced, distributed, and consumed.

"Together, we have been rolling up our sleeves to lead the implementation and drive the transformation," QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations said in his address to the FAO-hosted World Food Day celebration in Rome, Italy. He also pointed to the contribution made by the ground-breaking World Food Forum convened earlier this month in Rome - a global movement that seeks to harnesses the energy and creativity of young people to shape a better future for our food.

Qu noted that this year's World Food Day finds the world at a critical moment. Despite difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, "in the past year we have also witnessed the

Hundreds of millions of people worldwide are afflicted by hunger – last year, that number rose to 811 million



resilience and strength within each of us." He paid tribute to "all our Food Heroes around the world who continued to work against all the odds to ensure we had food to eat."

Even before COVID-19, hundreds of millions of people worldwide were afflicted by hunger and that number has increased in the last year to 811 million. That's despite the world producing sufficient food to feed everyone. He also noted that 14 percent of food is lost, and 17 percent is wasted.

The momentous challenges humanity faces were also highlighted by Pope Francis and Italy's president, Sergio Mattarella in their messages to the World Food Day event.

"We are currently witnessing a real paradox in terms of access to food: on the one hand, more than three billion people do not have access to a

nutritious diet, while on the other hand, almost two billion are overweight or obese due to a poor diet and a sedentary lifestyle," the pontiff said.

Mattarella said: "The state of global food security has significantly worsened. The international community needs to make sure we follow through properly on the recommendations of the recent Food Systems Summit, making use of the natural synergies of the UN system and the competencies of the Rome-based UN agencies."

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in his address: "The way we produce, consume and waste food is taking a heavy toll on our planet. It is putting historic pressure on our natural resources, climate and natural environment and costing us trillions of dollars a year."

His rallying call was echoed by the heads of the two other UN food agencies based in Rome.



"To build more fair and equitable food systems, we need to listen to the voices of small-scale producers and rural communities," said Gilbert F. Hounbo, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). "We need broad-based partnerships that ensure small-scale farmers are fairly rewarded for their labour. Major priorities are pricing systems that reflect the full and true cost of production and deploying more finance to neglected and vulnerable rural communities," he added.

The theme of this year's World Food Day, "Our actions are our future," calls on everyone to be a food hero contributing to the transformation of agri-food systems for Better Production, Better Nutrition, a Better Environment and a Better Life, leaving no one behind.

The transformation of agri-food systems must

start with ordinary consumers and the daily choices we make about the foods we consume, where we buy them, how they are packaged, how much we throw away – it all impacts our agri-food systems and the future of this planet, Qu wrote in an opinion piece marking World Food Day.

"All of us have the potential to be food heroes. Our actions are our future. But it doesn't end with you and me. The adage goes: 'We are what we eat,' he added.

FAO's toolbox enables it to make an impact on these complex systemic problems. Its work towards the objectives, Better Production, Better Nutrition, a Better Environment and a Better Life, is underpinned by a new ten-year strategic framework, defining concrete inputs.

According to FAO estimates, up to \$40-\$50 billion in annual investments on targeted

Up to \$40-\$50 billion in annual investments on targeted interventions are needed to end hunger by 2030



interventions are needed to end hunger by 2030. Many low-cost, high-impact projects can help hundreds of millions of people better meet their food needs.

Targeted Research and Development and digital innovation to make farming more technologically advanced and improved literacy rates among women can significantly help reduce hunger. Better data, governance and institutions are also essential, as FAO works with partners forging their own national pathways to transformation.

Among FAO's flagship programmes is the Hand-in-Hand Initiative, aimed at boosting rural transformation, urban food systems and resilient agri-food systems by scaling up investments. Currently 34 countries have joined the programme, based on matchmaking between suitable partners and targeting the world's poor.

This year's celebrations were officially launched with the hybrid event in Rome. The celebrations also included a special lecture by the Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum Professor Klaus Schwab, and a Dialogue on Tea and Coffee, exploring the traditions behind these beverages. Events marking World Food Day are held in around 150 countries, including at the Expo 2020 Dubai.



New Report Reveals How Infrastructure Defines Our Climate

A new report, published ahead of the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) has called for a radical change in how governments plan, deliver and manage infrastructure - emphasising the often-overlooked role infrastructure plays in combating climate change, mitigation, and adaptation efforts. The new report, Infrastructure for climate action, is co-published



Report titled 'Infrastructure for climate action' highlights how infrastructure is responsible for 79 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions and 88 per cent of all adaptation costs

by UNOPS, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the University of Oxford.

The research looks in detail at the influence of infrastructure on climate action across energy, transport, water, solid waste, digital communications and buildings sectors. The findings highlight that infrastructure is responsible for 79 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions, as well as 88 per cent of all adaptation costs.

"To bridge the infrastructure gap and improve the quality of life, we need sustainable infrastructure that adapts to uncertain climate conditions; contributes to the decarbonization of the economy; protects biodiversity and reduces pollution. Sustainable infrastructure is the only way to ensure that people, nature and the environment thrive together" said Inger

Report aims to guide decision-makers so that infrastructure can accelerate progress towards the Paris Agreement and SDGs



Andersen, Executive Director of UNEP. The report calls on governments to treat infrastructure as a priority sector for climate action. It also calls for unified planning to tackle emissions from infrastructure.

The authors argue that in order to tackle climate change, governments need to radically rethink how infrastructure is planned, delivered and managed in order to make it suitable for a low-emission and resilient future.

Speaking on the publication of the new report, UN Under-Secretary-General and UNOPS Executive Director, Grete Faremo said: "Our world is facing a climate emergency, with changes that are unprecedented, intensifying and, in some cases, irreversible. This well-researched report highlights that radical changes to how we approach infrastructure are needed to stop the worst effects of climate change."

The report also presents some of the key steps that practitioners can take to ensure infrastructure projects incorporate climate adaptation and mitigation measures, while still aiming for long term sustainability. Focusing on national examples, it highlights infrastructure projects that have contributed to the achievement of national climate and development targets.

"The central question is how infrastructure can be provided in ways that are sustainable, resilient and compatible with a net zero future. Providing climate-compatible infrastructure requires a myriad of choices, from the moment an infrastructure project is first conceived, to the end of its life when it is decommissioned or repurposed" said Professor Jim Hall, Professor of Climate and Environmental Risk at the University of Oxford.

World Heading For Catastrophe Without Bolder Climate Plans: UN

New and updated climate commitments fall far short of what is needed to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement, leaving the world on track for a global temperature rise of at least 2.7°C this century, according to the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) latest Emissions Gap Report 2021: The Heat Is On.

The report, now in its 12th year, finds that the



Updated climate commitments ahead of COP26 summit fall far short, but net-zero pledges provide hope, say new report

updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of countries – and other commitments made for 2030 – only take an additional 7.5 per cent off predicted annual greenhouse gas emissions in 2030, compared to the previous round of commitments. Reductions of 30 per cent are needed to stay on the least-cost pathway for 2°C and 55 per cent for 1.5°C.

Released ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), the latest round of climate talks taking place in Glasgow, the report finds that net-zero pledges could make a big difference. If fully implemented, these pledges could bring the predicted global temperature rise to 2.2°C, providing hope that further action could still head off the most-catastrophic impacts of climate change.

“Climate change is no longer a future problem. It is a now problem,” said Inger Andersen, Executive

Latest UN Report finds new and updated NDCs only take 7.5% off predicted 2030 emissions, while 55% is needed to meet the 1.5°C Paris goal



Director of UNEP. “To stand a chance of limiting global warming to 1.5°C, we have eight years to almost halve greenhouse gas emissions: eight years to make the plans, put in place the policies, implement them and ultimately deliver the cuts. The clock is ticking loudly.”

As of 30 September 2021, 120 countries, representing just over half of global greenhouse gas emissions, had communicated new or updated NDCs. Alok Sharma, incoming COP26 President, said the report underlined why countries - especially the biggest emitters, the G20 nations - must come forward with stronger commitments to 2030 if we are to keep 1.5c in reach over this critical decade.

Zeroing in on net-zero

Net-zero pledges – and their effective execution – could make a big difference, the authors find,

but current plans are vague and not reflected in NDCs. A total of 49 countries plus the EU have pledged a net-zero target. This covers over half of global domestic greenhouse gas emissions, over half of GDP and a third of the global population. Eleven targets are enshrined in law, covering 12 per cent of global emissions.

If made robust and implemented fully, net-zero targets could shave an extra 0.5°C off global warming, bringing the predicted temperature rise down to 2.2°C. However, many of the national climate plans delay action until after 2030, raising doubts over whether net-zero pledges can be delivered.

The potential of methane and market mechanisms

The Emissions Gap Report also focused on methane and market mechanisms. Reduction of



methane emissions from the fossil fuel, waste and agriculture sectors can close the emissions gap and reduce warming in the short term.

Methane emissions are the second largest contributor to global warming. The gas has a global warming potential over 80 times that of carbon dioxide over a 20-year horizon; it also has a shorter lifetime in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide – only 12 years, compared to up to hundreds for CO₂ – so cuts to methane will limit temperature increase faster than cuts to CO₂.

Carbon markets, meanwhile, have the potential to reduce costs and thereby encourage more ambitious reduction pledges. Revenues earned through these markets could fund mitigation and adaptation solutions domestically and in vulnerable nations where the burdens of climate change are greatest.

COVID-19 recovery opportunity largely missed

Finally, the report finds that the opportunity to use COVID-19 fiscal rescue and recovery spending to stimulate the economy while backing climate action has been missed in most countries.

The COVID-19 pandemic led to a drop in global CO₂ emissions of 5.4 per cent in 2020. However, CO₂ and non-CO₂ emissions in 2021 are expected to rise again to a level only slightly lower than the record high in 2019.

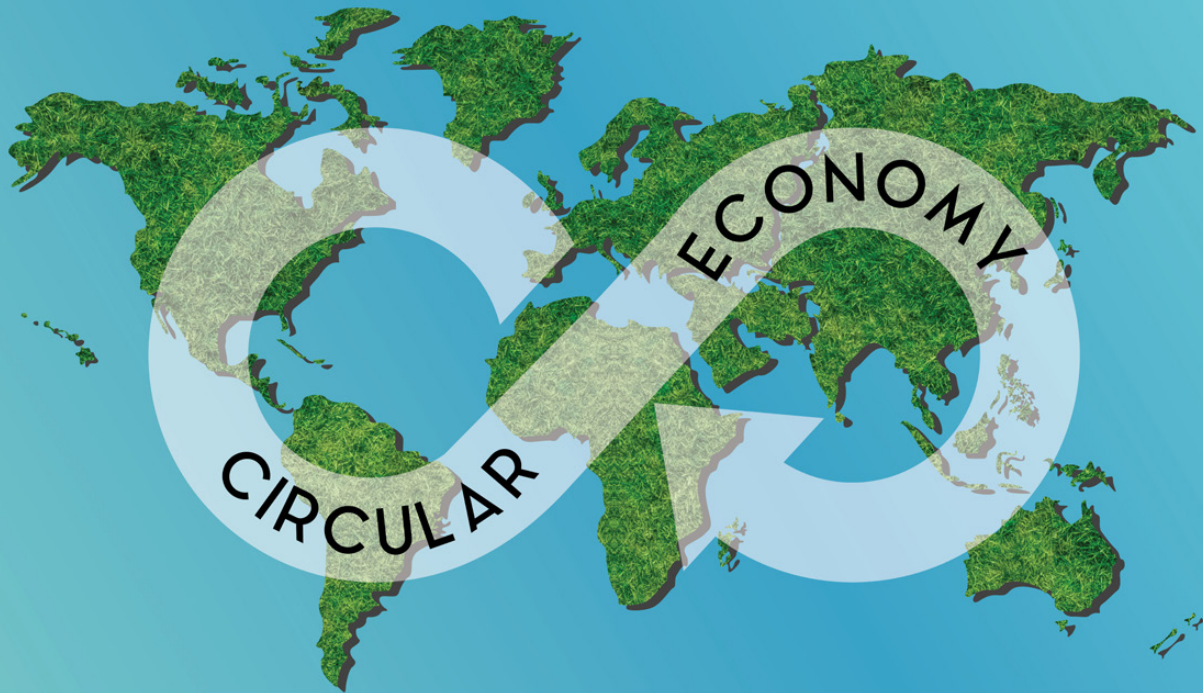
COVID-19 spending has been far lower in low-income economies (USD 60 per person) than advanced economies (USD 11,800 per person). Gaps in finance are likely to exacerbate gaps in vulnerable nations on climate resilience and mitigation measures.

Dubai Supreme Council Of Energy Launches Circular Economy Committee

The Dubai Supreme Council of Energy has launched the Circular Economy Committee to bring public and private entities together to support the circular economy. The Committee will develop actionable initiatives to upscale current applications and introduce best international practices in circular economies.

"The UAE attaches great importance to achieving

UAE NEWS



sustainable and effective use of natural resources by transitioning to a green economy and increasing the share of clean and renewable energy sources. The UAE Circular Economy Policy identifies the country's priorities in terms of a circular economy including infrastructure, sustainable transportation, manufacturing, food production and consumption," said Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Vice Chairman of the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy.

Al Tayer stated that the Committee aims to encourage investment in the circular economy and propose viable suggestions that support the upscaling of current applications and best international practices in this regard.

"We aim to develop and launch innovative tools and initiatives in collaboration with our strategic partners to promote the adoption of the circular

economy model across different sectors and ensure its application according to methodologies that link all effective players. We also strive to support start-ups and develop the capabilities of entrepreneurs in this vital sector in addition to encouraging the utilisation of modern technologies capabilities by enhancing the efficiency of natural resources and promoting sustainable practices to reuse resources, reduce waste, limit carbon emissions, and build a better future for generations to come," he added.

A circular economy is an economic system that focuses on reducing the extraction of natural resources, minimising waste, and regenerate natural systems. In a circular economy, raw materials, components and products keep their value for as long as possible, while renewable energy sources are used.

What are the updates from COP26?

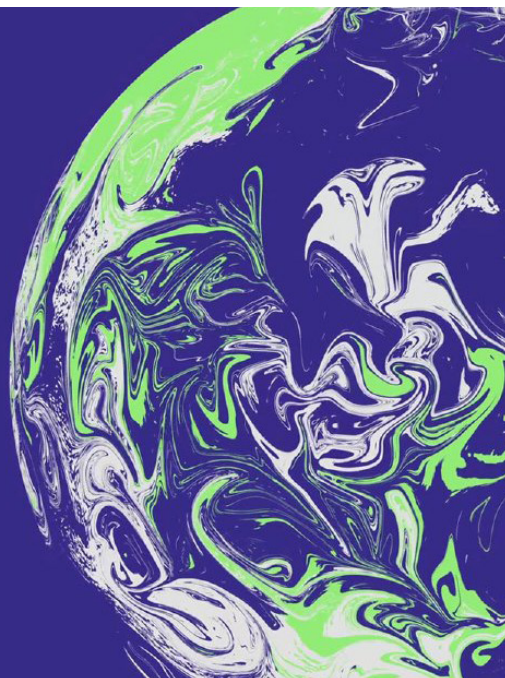
World leaders met for two days in Glasgow to discuss climate change issues in preparation for COP26. Major commitments were made to reach carbon neutrality - some by 2070, some by 2060, others even by 2050. But what about credibility?

One good thing is that world leaders reaffirmed their commitments to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, the SDGs; and other relevant initiatives. What remains a major challenge is Article 6 of the Paris Accord which relates to the Carbon Market issue which is now down to one positive text and many areas of disagreement.

01-12 NOV 2021
GLASGOW

COP26

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



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

Encouraging achievements include the commitment of more than 100 countries - hosting more than 85% of the world's forests, to halt and reverse deforestation and land degradation by 2030 which is critical for biodiversity and sustainable land use. It will be impossible to meet SDGs in these countries without healthy forests that can help them adapt to climate change. For this purpose, donor nations committed \$1.7bn to help indigenous people who live in forests.

The methane pledge was not that lucky although over 100 countries joined. This is because China, India, Australia, and Russia refused to join. Japan will provide an additional \$10bn in climate finance over the next five years, which means that the \$100bn collective target will be met in 2022, one year earlier.

Equally important is the initiative to accelerate coal plant closures which release around a third of all CO2 emissions. China, India, and the US account for 85% of the net increase in emissions. South Africa is receiving \$8.5bn from the US, UK, France and Germany to shift to clean energy and provide alternative jobs in mining regions.

Panama, Bhutan and Suriname are forming a carbon negative coalition to facilitate global transfer of knowledge and best practices.

These are the important highlights of COP26 so far and we hope to hear more encouraging results soon.

**THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD
IS IN OUR HANDS.
ACT NOW!**





إرفعه عاليًا ليبقى شامخًا

LIFT IT UP WITH PRIDE

