



EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP EEG EDU NEWS

Together for a Better Environment©



Habiba Al Mar'ashi
EEG Chairperson

Greetings from Emirates Environmental Group!

While the month of February has only 28 days, myriad of significant events transpired in the nation and across the globe pertaining to the subject of environment and sustainability. To begin with, the month started with UAE celebrating the 21st National Environment Day on the 4th of February, continuing the theme, “Sustainable Consumption and Production”. Furthermore, Ghaf tree was announced as the theme for the “Year of Tolerance” by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. While the nation was actively observing and rolling out these events and news, EEG has not been silent. The month of February has been quite noisy for the team at the office as well.

The first half of the month was busy with buzzing phone calls and never ending emails from various entities across the nation, to register for the events rolled out by EEG and the second half was boisterous for the preparations undertaken to make the events successful and meaningful to all. On 28th February, EEG organised and hosted the 23rd cycle of the **Can Collection Day**. The campaign was held across all the emirates simultaneously. With the efforts of 200 entities participating, EEG collected 4,050 kg of Aluminium Cans for recycling.

I am truly grateful to all the families, academic institution, hotels, corporation and government entities who participated and supported in the Day to make this a successful and memorable one. A special thanks has to be given to EGA for coming on board as Co-Sponsors for the campaign. **One Root, One Communi-tree** rolled out in January has continued to bring in more participants in February. The participant's ambitious goals to plant trees under their name and their dedication to recycling and sustainability remains the key drive to participate. (Read more about this in the EEG News and Ongoing Events sections)

From the Education side, EEG's **Environmental Drawing Competition** continue to bring in more participants and their drawings. This year we have seen a 42% increase in registration compared to last year and the numbers are still growing. This is a unique nationwide event where students from bilingual schools, including special needs student institutions show their artistic skills and their dedication to environmental literacy and the goal of the world towards the path of sustainability. Another major event that we have rolled out in February is the annual **Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition**. Once again this is a platform for young minds between the ages of 13 - 18 can show their research, vocational, oration and leadership skills and improve upon them. Events such as these are the ones that truly give the students courage to go out into the world, express their thoughts and improve their critical thinking skills. Education is imperative to allow them to surpass us and be better leaders of tomorrow. Do not miss this opportunity to register and participate.

In February, EEG organised 4 major events and in addition, the team and myself attended or spoke at various events, and accommodated and met with dignitaries within the office or at the specified venues. A total of 25 collaborative and eventful engagements were held between EEG and other entities in February, including meeting with stakeholders and dignitaries. (Read more in the newsletter.)

With successful conclusion of the month, EEG looks forward to March with the launch of more programmes and events. We will begin the month by thanking all the stakeholders who stood together with EEG in the year 2018 to continue the stride towards sustainability at the **Annual Corporate Gala Dinner** to be held on 4th of March. We will be also rolling the **Green Call** project on 19th of March followed by the special project the **Paper Walk** to be conducted on 30th of March during the **Earth Hour** event that EEG participates every year. (Register and be part of this unique platform.)

To conclude, I hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter in detail. In addition to the brief I have given, various news with a positive findings from the local and international media along with numerous activities EEG has attended, hosted or participated, will enthrall you and leave you with a sense of joy. The short month of February has truly been eventful and I hope to continue this trend throughout the year and provide you with more captivating news from EEG in April and beyond.

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EEG organises two Clean Up UAE campaigns in February.

As part of EEG’s yearly campaigns, it organised two Clean Up Drive campaigns in the month of February. The first being held on 4th February, in celebration of the National Environment Day, under the patronage and presence of H. E. Engr. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al-Qasimi. The campaign was a collaboration between EEG and RAK Public Service Department. The event took place in Digdaga area and covered an area of 5 Km. The second clean was organised by EEG for KPMG staff on 24th February 2019. A team from EEG along with staff members of KPMG, went to a desert location near the Dubai Outlet Mall to clean the area and clear off all the waste materials in the desert as a result of irresponsible human activity.



Due to popularity of camping and desert safaris in the UAE, much waste is discarded in the desert, including plastic bottles, camping gears like carpets, food wrappers etc... This in turn negatively affects the wildlife in the area. It is entirely possible for camels and gazelles to consume plastic while grazing on wild plants. Appropriate preparations were taken, and combined collection of 1.5 tonnes of trash was collected from both the venue.

EEG’s Chairperson speaks at ISGH Conference.

On 13th February, Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, Chairperson of EEG attended the International Sustainable Governmental Housing Conference, which was held in the American University of Dubai. The primary goal of the conference was to bring together experts and professional in the field of Sustainable housing from across the globe to share the regional and international knowledge regarding the emerging engineering markets.



As a well-known figure in the region who actively abet sustainability, Mrs. Habiba was invited to speak at the Conference. She discussed on the topic of “Green Communities: Recycling for a Better Future”, in which she touched upon the subject of education, community engagement, recycling and stakeholder relations, all of which are important aspects required to attain Sustainability and in turn lead to Green Communities.

EEG attends ICBA Open Day.

On 21st February, EEG chairperson attended the Women Only Open Day at the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA). The open day was to display the latest agricultural research development and encourage its use to the local farmers and other representatives in the field.



The open day was held to commemorate ICBA’s 20th anniversary. Marking the occasion, The Minister of State for Food Security, Her Excellency, Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Almheiri gave a presentation and congratulated ICBA for their achievements. In her presentation she discussed food security and how the important aspects of it includes Availability, Access, Utilisation and Stability. The key strategies that are being implemented to maintain food security are Agribusiness Trade Facilitation, Technology-enabled Food production, Reduction in food loss and waste, Food safety and nutrition and finally food risk and crisis management. Furthermore, she also announced the launch of a New Economic Sector to advance the adoption of agricultural technology.

Over the last two decades, ICBA has accomplished a lot, few of their achievements include, using drones for agriculture, climate change resilient Quinoa farming in UAE, establishment of a soil museum, usage of biochar etc...The day ended with a tour of the research facilities, Emirates Soil Museum and a planting activity.

EEG and EGA collaborate to make local schools green.

As part of their CSR sustainability and their dedication to the cause, EEG associated members EGA had approached EEG to join the “Together We Plant Project”. The engagement entails the planting of indigenous trees across 5 schools in Dubai and Abu Dhabi and in addition sponsor recycling centre to be placed in each of the schools.

As part of this meaningful collaboration, EEG approached Al Qeyam Model School, Dubai an academic member with EEG to be privileged for the same. On 21st February, EEG and EGA team visited the school and with the help of the students and faculty of the school, planted 30 indigenous trees at the school grounds. The recycling centres were also installed at the school. EEG will regularly collect the recyclables that will be brought in by both the students and faculty of Al Qeyam, from the school henceforth. This is the second school in Dubai where the tree planting was done. The tree planting will be done in three more schools over the course of the year.

One Root, One Communi-tree

EEG rolled out its popular year-long project “One Root, One Communi-tree” on 19th January. The phase 1 of the project will continue till 19th May. Witnessing incredible contributions every year, the participants who deposit the materials for recycling, display their social responsibility and positively contribute to the global targets of reducing the production of waste thus reducing the overall GHG emissions and reduction of the landfill space required to dispose waste. Phase 1 is targeted to the EEG Student members and Academic members, who can choose to collect and deposit, Paper aluminium cans, glass bottles, toners, plastic and mobile phones within the specified time period of two weeks to qualify to receive a certificate and a tree to plant under their name on 19th December.

So far, EEG has collected 144,333 kg of paper, 5,153 kg of plastic, 333 kg of aluminium cans, 5,190 kg of glass bottles and 23 pcs of toners for recycling. . The collection resulted in mitigation of 574 MT CO2e, saving of 3,627 Million Btu of energy, saving of 696 m³ of landfill space, saving of 2,454 trees from being felled and saving of 8 gallons of gasoline. You can still register and participate via the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/zk98CxpHyRlhqFu1>

EEG's meetings and collaborations.

Throughout the year, EEG attends numerous events, meet with stakeholders from all entities including governmental and private organisations; dignitaries, and collaborate to host internal and external campaigns and activities. In the month of February EEG team, organised 4 major events and in addition, the team and chairperson attended or spoke at various events, and accommodated and met with dignitaries within the office or at the specified venues. A total of 25 collaborative and eventful engagements were held between EEG and other entities in February. Few of the notable ones include:

- Mr. Marcel Beukeboom, Climate Envoy for the Kingdom of the Netherlands visited the EEG office and met with the chairperson to discuss on 11th February to discuss future collaborations with EEG and Netherlands embassy in UAE.
- The former CSR ambassador for the Government of Sweden, H. E. Bengt Johansson met with EEG chairperson at the EEG office on 17th February. He is a long-time friend and colleague and has been associate with Arabia CSRN and has organised various joined programmes between the Swedish Government and the Swedish businesses in of UAE and ACSRN.
- On 18th February EEG chairperson met with the Vice President Of Commercial & Business Improvement at Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA) at their office. The meeting was held to deliberate on exclusive partnership between EEG and DEWA with the participation in EEG's campaigns.
- In addition, EEG team had other meetings with various entities, i.e. Unilever, American University of Sharjah, EGBC, Sharjah Seen Awards Ceremony, Etuix, Swedish Business Council and Gems Modern Academy.

Environmental Drawing Competition

EEG launched its 13th Environmental Drawing Competition in January to the youth of UAE to express their thoughts and ideas in their own distinct and creative way, demonstrating a sense of care and respect for the environment. Those students who participate in this unique nationwide event is given a platform to truly express their thoughts on sustainability, the environment and the nation in their own artistic way that will move the minds of the audience.

So far, 531 Arabic and English medium schools and 100 EEG student members have registered for the competition. A growth of 42% compared to 2018. Hurry up and register, submit the drawing by 31st March 2019. Those who have already started your drawings, do not forget to submit your drawing by the deadline.

The winners will be invited to attend EEG's Environmental Drawing Competition Awarding Ceremony in May of 2019, where they will be awarded prizes and certificates accordingly. The participation is open to all government and private schools in the UAE and EEG's student members:

<https://goo.gl/forms/AJRjhonWV2CTS0u93>



EEG Collects 4,050 kg of Aluminium Cans at the Can Collection Day 2019.

On the 28th February 2019, EEG organised its annual Can Collection Day campaign. The campaign brought together over 200 entities from all across the UAE. The combined effort of various hotels, families, academic institutions, corporations and government bodies reeled in 4,050 kg of Aluminium Cans for recycling. The collection of the Cans on the Day resulted in the mitigation of 61 MTCO₂ emissions, saving of 98 m³ of landfill space and saving of 921 million BTU of energy. The campaign was a success due to the commitment from all the participants, active help from the volunteers and the supporting entities and sponsors. EEG was able to open 6 sites in 4 different emirates of the UAE. This showed the commitment of the community and the people living in UAE towards recycling and their dedication towards sustainability. Since inception,

EEG has collected 320,400 kg of Aluminium Cans for recycling. This year, EEG has set the yearly collection target to 20,000 kg of Aluminium Cans. So far, EEG has managed to achieve 20% of the yearly target. We still have 80% of the target left for 2019 so let's work together to make this year a truly historic one, reach the target of 20,000 kg of Aluminium Cans ensure a sustainable future for the nation and in turn the globe as a whole.

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GULF NEWS



Gems Modern Academy thanks EEG Chairperson

EEG chairperson attended the Local Advisory Board meeting of Gems Modern Academy on 21st February 2019. She was in the board for the year 2018-2019 and she was thanked for her enthusiasm and guiding the school and the students of the institute in the year.

Her valuable knowledge and ideas in the CSR programmes and her feedback has made considerable improvement to the school and its programmes. She was invited to be on the board for another year, which she happily accepted. She looks forward to continue guiding the school towards progress in the coming year.

EEG Reports on its Activities to the 10YFP Programme

In January and February 2019, EEG has been busy reporting on its activities to the 10YFP Programme. As partners of the Programme, we are committed to and proud of the path-breaking change it is eliciting at a global level. We are also pleased to mention that we have the highest number of reported initiatives in the UAE i.e. 21 out of 24 confirmed initiatives. Some of the activities that we have reported on this year include:

1. The Student's Workshop 2018;
2. The Inter College Environmental Public Speaking Competition 2018;
3. Panel Discussions 2018
4. For Our Emirates We Plant 2018

Thus, we would like to encourage other members of the 10YFP Programme in the region to begin reporting on the portal too. Let us, together, share best practices and successes and bring about a wave of sustainability in the Arab world.



EEG Attends CPR Meetings in Preparation for UNEA-4

On the 29th of January and 19th of February 2019, EEG attended two prestigious Committee of Permanent Representatives Subcommittee meetings through webinar. In the run up to the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4), these meetings are essential to provide Member States and stakeholders with an overview of the preparations to the high-level event.

Committee of Permanent Representatives Subcommittee meeting (29th January 2019)

This meeting was held primarily to discuss two important points:

- The outcome of the negotiating meeting on the summary for policy-makers for the 6th Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6); and
- Consideration of draft resolutions for the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly

145th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (19th February 2019)

The important points of consideration at this meeting were:

- Preparations for the fourth meeting of the Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives as well as UNEA-4;
- Resolution UNEP/EA.2/Res.10: Oceans and Seas;
- Update on the implementation of UN Reforms

EEG is honoured to attend these path-breaking meetings along with stakeholders and Members States from across the world. These meetings provide us with a suitable platform to offer our inputs and concerns to issues under consideration by the highest-decision making body in environment i.e. the UN Environment Programme.

CAMPUS NEWS

EEG invites our Academic Members to Bee Farm

As we embark on the Year of Tolerance, EEG continues to constantly strive for greater collaboration and cooperation between all sectors of society for a sustainable future. EEG has a rich network of corporations on board that practice sustainability in their businesses or are committed in giving back to society. A special addition to our EEG family is ANHB (Al Najeh Honey and Bees) This esteemed organisation is under the chairmanship of H.E. Eng. Sheikh Salem bin Sultan Al Qasimi member of the Government of Ras Al-Khaimah Executive Council, Chairman of the Department of Civil Aviation, Ras Al Khaimah, Chairman of the ANHB Group and Honorary member of EEG.

During a site visit to the farm, EEG staff were taken on an education tour. The great knowledge imparted to EEG by the staff at the farm has now been extended to all the Academic Members of EEG to experience the same and take away with them valuable information regarding Apiculture, the importance of bees to the future of food security.

The invitations for the same has already been dispatched to all the Academic Members of EEG. We look forward to positive responses. This is a rare opportunity for all the schools to organise a field trip and educate their students on the topic by incorporating this as part of the curriculum and to provide students a first-hand experience about the importance of bees!

As a UN Environment accredited body, EEG is rolling out this partnership to effectively implement United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Number No 2, 4, 15 and 17 which looks into Food Security, Quality Education, Protection of our Ecosystems and Effective Partnerships for sustainable Development respectively.

American School of Dubai awarded a coveted \$100,000 prize:

The American School of Dubai, an academic member of EEG has been awarded with \$100,000 by the Zayed Sustainability Prize as the winner of global high schools in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Zayed Sustainability prize is spread across five different categories such as health, food, water energy and global high schools. The main aim of the prize is to create awareness on projects that garner positive benefits to the community.

The school intends to use the prize money provided in three different projects related to sustainable consumption and waste management. The first project is the installation of an industrial compost to help minimise food waste, which will allow them to make their waste management programme more robust. The second project aims to monitor the school's energy consumption with the use of a data dashboard which will allow them to track how much water and energy is consumed by the school. The third project is a smaller initiative which is to have beehives at their campus to create awareness on biodiversity and the importance of beekeeping.

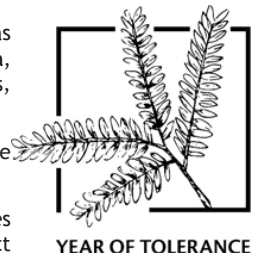
To find out more about ASD and the sustainability prize, please visit: <https://gulfnews.com/uae/education/why-this-school-was-awarded-a-coveted-100000-prize-1.61558530>

Ghaf Tree chosen as Tolerance theme

His Highness Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai has announced the Ghaf tree as the official theme for the Year of Tolerance 2019. The ghaf tree also known as *prosopis cineraria*, has been the UAE's national tree since 2008; and will be used by all government, private and media entities in campaigns, initiatives and programmes for the year.

The Supreme National Committee of the 'Year of Tolerance' announced that "The late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nayhan gave great importance to the Ghaf and issued laws and regulations prohibiting the cutting of the tree throughout the country".

The Ghaf tree has always played a significant part in Emirati culture, it maintain desert ecosystems and has many cultural uses as well. The tree is a drought-tolerant evergreen tree that requires very little water to survive therefore, making it the perfect choice to promote afforestation around the country. EEG uses only indigenous local trees as part of it's "For Our Emirates We Plant" programme, and will be using the national Ghaf tree as part of its tree planting initiatives for the year 2019. Importance of transitioning to a more sustainable source of energy as a necessity for a better future for current and upcoming generations.



Launch of a new category in the Fatima Bint Mubarak Excellence Programme

Her Highness Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak, President of the General Women's Union, President of the Family Development Foundation and Chairperson of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, Honorary President of the Abu Dhabi Businesswomen Council, announced the launch of a "new category of honor and motivation" within the Fatima Bint Mubarak Community Excellence Programme. The new category has been launched within the category of innovative entrepreneurship, at the local, regional and international level, to include women entrepreneurs in the countries of the world, starting work in early 2020. This was announced in a speech given on behalf of her by Her Excellency Noura Mohammed Hilal Al-Kaabi, Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development, during Abu Dhabi Entrepreneurship Forum held under the theme of "Knowledge-based competitive economy: future and innovation".

She stressed that the forum represents important dimensions in cooperation for a better investment future for Arab women, highlighting the system of creativity, innovation, technical development and artificial intelligence and its impact on the future of entrepreneurship development. It also aims to encourage business owners and professionals around the world to benefit from the attractive business environment and to present ideas and initiatives to support the spirit of innovation in the UAE. The forum seeks to enable business owners and professionals to share their experiences and discuss the areas and advantages of joint investments and commercialisation of trademarks locally.

To find out more please visit: <http://www.alkhaleej.ae/economics/page/8e4fd8a0-a43e-4b1f-80e7-c23a0687d084>

Hatta Mountains designated a Ramsar site

Dubai's Hatta Mountain Reserve was declared a Ramsar Site of International Importance on the 1st of February. The Hatta mountains became the third area in Dubai to be declared a Ramsar site and the ninth across the UAE.



The Minister of Climate Change and Environment highlighted the fact that UAE's environmental efforts have led to the designation of 43 protected areas that are internationally acclaimed for providing shelter to many threatened species. He further added "Thanks to Dubai's commitment to preserving its wetlands, the emirate now holds three Ramsar Sites of International Importance: Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary, Jebel Ali Sanctuary, and Hatta Mountain Reserve". To know more please visit: <https://rsis.ramsar.org/rs/2368>

Launch of Connect with Nature

The Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), Emirates Nature-WWF and the International Fund for Houbara Conservation (IFHC) officially launched the 'Connect with Nature' initiative aimed at encouraging the youth to participate in conservation of the local community.

The initiative was built on the foundation of HH Sheikh Zayed's environmental legacy through promoting and developing the UAE by educating the youth. Connect with Nature provides young people with the tools that will help them to develop the UAE into a sustainable and model region for environmental preservation. The initiative targets youth aged between 15-24 with a variety of challenges, games and expeditions to participate in, which will increase their knowledge of the local heritage and protected sites of the country.

The Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) has verified the sighting of the rare Arabian Caracal

In February, EAD recorded the sighting of the Arabian Caracal (*Caracal caracal schmitzi*), also called as Al Washaq in Arabic. The sighting was on Jebel Hafeet, Al Ain which was declared as a National Park in 2017. This unique sand coloured cat was last seen in Abu Dhabi in 1984. The sighting was recorded via a network of 45 remote cameras operated by the EAD as part of a long term monitoring programme of the threatened wildlife species across the protected areas in Abu Dhabi.



According to Dr. Shaikha Salem Al Dhaheri, Secretary General at EAD, "The rediscovery of the Arabian Caracal in Abu Dhabi highlights not only the importance of the preservation of vital habitats in the Emirate, but also sheds light on the advanced research tools and methods we apply to learn more about our environment and all that it encompasses. The Agency will continue its efforts in maintaining and monitoring local wildlife and natural ecosystems that will help to preserve the environment for future generations, and invite the public to join us in this endeavour".

The once widely distributed Caracal in the region, is becoming increasingly rare in the Arabian Peninsula due to illegal hunting and habitat destruction. However, EAD was able to capture a footage of this male caracal thorough their monitoring programme.

Global Recycling Day

Throughout the year, we extract vast amount of natural resources from the Earth to be used for the productions of materials for the daily needs of human beings. The quantity of materials such as Aluminium, plastic, paper etc... which can be easily reused or recycled are being disposed of incorrectly, leading to an unsustainable cycle of production and consumption. This unsustainable method of dealing with waste is putting strain on the planet. One of the best way to reduce the strain is by recycling.

To commemorate its significance, in 2018, 18th of March has been announced as the Global Recycling Day annually. Be part of this international movement and contribute to the important cause of recycling.

Here are some of the active ways to be part of it all:

- Organise a recyclable material collection
- Visit to recycling operations plants
- Take part in the social media campaign by using #RecyclingGoals social media campaign.
- Show your support on your social media channels
- Share the news with the media

To show your support follow the social media channels

- Facebook: Global Recycling Day
- Instagram: @globalrecyclingday
- Twitter: @GlbRecyclingDay

In addition, follow and use these hashtags to learn more and share your contributions: #GRD #GRD2019 #GlobalRecyclingDay #RecyclingIntoTheFuture #SeventhResource #RecyclingGoals #GRDSchools #GRDInnovation

For more information, visit the official site: <https://www.globalrecyclingday.com/>

Young Champions of the Earth

UN Environment is calling for nominations for the 2019 Young Champions of the Earth! It is the organisation's most prestigious prize for environmentalists aged between 18-30 who have impactful ideas to change the world's future.

Launched in 2017, the main aim of the prize is to engage the next generation of change-makers and thought leaders as they embark on a mission to build the world. With climate change as a threat to our natural ecosystems and societies the competitions seeks individuals who can see beyond the crisis and have the courage to invent the future by carving a new and greener economy. Seven winners will be selected who will receive \$15,000 seed money to invest in their project along with invitations to attend high level UN meetings, tailored training and mentorship to share their big ideas with the world.

Do you think you have what it takes to be the 2019 Young Champion of the Earth? Find out more details on: <http://web.unep.org/youngchampions/stories/five-reasons-apply-be-young-champion-earth-2019>

Kilguini Serena Safari Lodge launches its Solar Power plant:

A full-fledged solar power plant has been implemented in **Kilguini Serena Safari Lodge in Tsavo, West National Park in Kenya** which will provide for the entire power requirements of the facility while also enhancing environmental sustainability.

The solar power plant produces **307kWp** utilising SMA solar off-grid technology with **670kWh** of usable lead acid battery storage which has the capacity to supply the Lodge's total energy requirements during normal weather conditions. During adverse weather additional energy needs are met by using synchronized diesel generators which were previously the main source of energy before the solar plant was commissioned in 2017.

The solar power plant has been a joint effort of collaboration between Serena Hotels and Mettle Solar OFGEN. All of Serena Hotel's programs are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and the power plant aligns itself specifically within SDG Goal 13 on climate action with the main aim of fighting climate change and its effects on the environment. Since the installation of the solar power plant 15 months ago, **467 tonnes** of carbon dioxide have been avoided. To know more please visit: <http://www.theserenaexperience.com/?p=1848>



Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

According to IUCN, much more work has to be done to stop the loss of biodiversity and ecosystems. In spite of the commitments by governments of the world in 2010 to prevent biodiversity loss by 2020, further actions has to be undertaken to ensure a resilient ecosystem

The development of post 2020 global biodiversity framework and initiating the preparation, scope and content of this framework started in 2016, when the IUCN members and stakeholders adopted the Resolution 6.096: "Safeguarding space for nature and securing our future: developing a post 2020 strategy".

The strategy, will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and support other conventions. IUCN has been actively involved to make this framework a success. To read more about their contribution, read the Post-2020 Resources on the IUCN website.

For more information, read via link: <https://www.iucn.org/theme/global-policy/our-work/convention-biological-diversity-cbd/post-2020-global-biodiversity-framework>

UNCCD NEWS

Update on 17th Session of the Committee that reviews the Implementation of the UNCCD

The 17th Session of the Committee that reviews the Implementation of the UNCCD (CRIC17), was held at the Arthur Chung Conference Center on January 28th to 30th in Georgetown, Guyana. The session reviewed the first global assessment of land degradation based on the Earth observational data provided by 145 countries, between 2000 and 2015. The reporting countries used harmonised approach to report the data.

Furthermore, the session carried out interactive dialogues on the related emerging issues including.

- The gender action plan as a tool to improve the living conditions of people affected by land degradation;
- New and innovative sources to finance initiatives to combat land degradation; and
- Progress towards achieving the goal of the Sustainable Development Goal on the neutrality of land degradation (LDN).

The meeting was attended by Civil Society Organisations from across the globe, who prioritised the following points and addressed them.

- Achieve greater recognition of the contributions of community-led initiatives to achieve the LDN by policy makers, financial institutions and others.
- Advance the security of land tenure of communities in general, but more specifically of women and youth through a decision of the COPD of the UNCCD on the implementation of the VGGT.
- Improve the participation and capacities of civil society and especially of women's groups in the decision-making processes related to the establishment of neutrality objectives of land degradation and national drought plans to guarantee sustainability.
- Ensure access to appropriate funding sources for community-based transformative initiatives to achieve LDNs and the civil society organizations that support them
- Transform our society to achieve greater sustainability and equity, especially gender equity.

The session concluded by stating that India is going to host COP 14 at the Vigyan Bhavan conference center in New Delhi from 7th to 18th October.

UNEP NEWS

United Nations Environment Assembly to launch on 4th March

United Nations Environmental Assembly of UNEP is hosting its 145th meeting of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representative between 4th March and 8th March.

Over the course of 5 days, the assembly will discuss various issues. The meeting will be initiated by The High Commissioner and Permanent Representative of Ghana and Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, who will propose the adoption of the provisional agenda.

Towards the end of the fifth day, the assembly will have deliberated and update the gathering on matters such as budget and programme performance, progress of pollution mitigation, progress on environment and health, progress mitigation of various pollutants, sixth global environmental outlook, consultations of the Ministerial Declarations, compilation of draft resolutions and decisions and so on. The meeting will conclude with the Chair's summary of the meeting.

The Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representative meeting is to be held before the 4th Environment Assembly high level segment that will be held on 11th to 15th March 2019.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Earth Hour Dubai 2019 & Paper Walk 2019

To celebrate Earth Hour which is to be held on **30th March 2019** globally from **8:30 pm - 9:30 pm** local time, EEG is participating in the Earth Hour walk conducted by DEWA and also organising exciting activities. To compliment with our sustainable goals on a national and global level, EEG is once again rolling out its annual **Paper Walk** on the day of the event. This campaign which is exclusive to the EEG student, individual, academic and corporate members will bring together our members to attend the walk with EEG team along with participation in the educational and fun activities we have planned out. The student, corporate and academic members who bring **10kg, 100kg and 150kg** of paper for recycling under the Paper Walk Project and participate in the walk will be eligible to receive a certificate of participation. We look forward to having an exciting evening will all our members. Look out for our invitation regarding the same.

**Green Call Project 2019**

As the world population increases and as the ease of access to technology continues to grow, the e-waste generated from the usage of electronic devices are only expected to grow. E-waste is and will continue to be a global pandemic that impact the environment in an unsustainable way.

To deal with this issue, EEG launched its Mobile Recycling Campaign in 2010. To further give incentive to the students initially and eventually to all sectors of the society, EEG launched its Green Call Project in 2016.

This year EEG is once again rolling out this popular project on **19th March 2019 - 19th April 2019**. This is to coincide with the Global Recycling Day which falls on **18th March 2019**.

Last year a total of **28** entities participated in the project and planted **36** trees under their name.

A total of **966** mobile phones were collected for recycling, this resulted in saving of **793** trees from being felled and **3,369** gallons of gasoline. This year, our projected target for the collection of mobile phones under this project is **1,250**.

We look forward to the participation from all entities across the nation. Mark your name by planting trees under this project.

Annual Corporate Gala Dinner

22nd Annual Corporate Gala Dinner

حفل العشاء السنوي ال 22

**ONE WORLD ONE FAMILY
عام التسامح
YEAR OF TOLERANCE**

Special Sponsor | **Diamond Sponsor**

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This is a carbon neutral event courtesy of | Sustainability Partner

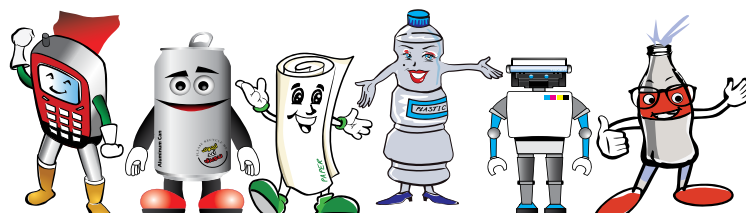
EEG's MEMBER RENEWAL/NEW JOINEES

EEG warmly welcomed 1 new and 4 renewed academic members, 12 new and 5 renewed student members in the month of February

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP			
Al Qeyam High School	New	The Apple International School	Renewal
		Modul University DMCC	Renewal
		Gems Modern Academy	Renewal
		Falcon British Nursery	Renewal
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP			
Advaith Viswanath	New	Shradha H. Shenoy	Renewal
Samantha Priscilla Santhosh	New	Philip Serrao	Renewal
Hriday Ujval Thakkar	New	Prithvi Sujeeth Mulki	Renewal
Haya AlMahmood	New	Lohita Swaminathan	Renewal
Basma AlMahmood	New	Akshita Satapathy	Renewal
Abdulla AlMahmood	New	Nirja Kumar	Renewal
George Joseph	New	Amoghavarsha Bhat	Renewal
Ashay Ashok	New	Grace Thomas	Renewal
Sarah Lalipurwala	New	Thomson Abraham Thomas	Renewal
Myra Bhalla	New	Stephana Sara Thomas	Renewal
Yuvika Bhalla	New	Husena Lalipurwala	Renewal
Shagun Maheshwari	New	Vibha Kamath	Renewal
		Gokul Nair	Renewal
		Mirana Gabini Mathew	Renewal
		Madiha Javed	Renewal

The collection of materials for recycling in the month of January, resulted in the following benefits:

- » GHG Reductions 498 (MTCO₂)
- » Saving of 3,806 Million BTU of Energy
- » Saving of 731 m³ of Landfill Space
- » Saving of 1,856 trees from being felled
- » Saving of 90 Gallons of Gasoline



PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 108,948 kg of Paper from 260 participants during the month of February 2019, a decrease of 23% compared to January 2019. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2019 so as to enable us to work towards our 2019 target. The Top Collectors were:	Our Own High School - Al Warqaa (Boys)	1,800	Vibha Kamath	1,367
	American School of Dubai, Al Barsha	1,510	Kriti Kamath	1,351
	Sweihaan School for Boys Al Ain	1,470	Nehan Naseem	1,140
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 6,352 kg of Plastic from 121 participants during the month of February 2019 an increase of 5 % compared to January 2019. We encourage our participants to reduce the amount of plastic ending in landfills by increasing their collections in the year 2019. The top collectors for the month were:	Sharjah Indian School (Boys)	480	Namaa Ismail AlZarooni	50
	American School of Creative Arts & Sciences	380	Sara Khalid Bin Hammad	49
	Our Own High School - Al Warqaa (Boys)	200	Philip Serrao	46
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 5,074 kg of Glass Bottles from 33 participants during the month of February 2019, an increase of 110.6% compared to January 2019. We encourage our participants to collect more in the year 2019. The Top collectors were:	American University of Sharjah	90	Sara Khalid Bin Hammad	106
	-	-	Riddhi Agarwal	27
	-	-	Namaa Ismail Alzarooni	15
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (pc)	Families	Quantity (pc)
EEG has collected 4,300 kg of Aluminum Cans from 99 participants during the month of February 2019, an increase of 991% compared to January 2019. The top collectors for the month were:	American School of Dubai, Barsha	60	Aritra Ghosh	25
	North London Collegiate School Dubai	41	Angel Hanz Gabrielle Vales, Nirja Kumar & Varun Pabreja (Tie)	16
	Our Own High School - Al Warqaa (Boys)	26	Raja Mumtaz Hussain	12
CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools		Families	
EEG has collected 214 pcs of Toners from 20 participants during the month of February 2019, an increase of 240 % compared to January 2019. We encourage our participants to be active in the year 2019. The Top collector:	-	-	Gokul Nair	53

MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN
 EEG has collected 5 pcs of Mobile Phones from 2 participants during the month of February 2019, a decrease of 99% compared to January 2019. **This is a poor collection!** We urge all our participants and encourage them to collect more for the year 2019.

EEG invites all its members & participants to intensify efforts for the year 2019 to contribute significantly to the betterment of our environment and achieve the set targets for the above campaigns.