



EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP  
**EEG EDU NEWS**  
*Together for a Better Environment©*

Part of **ABU DHABI SUSTAINABILITY WEEK**

**WORLD FUTURE ENERGY SUMMIT**

Middle East's largest future energy and sustainability event

Organised by **Reed Exhibitions**

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**Editorial Team:** Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Vishnu Sunil Kumar, Jipson Joy, Mubeen Mohd. Hussein, Priyanka Menon  
Designed by: Shabbir Hussain Arif



## Habiba Al Mar'ashi

The year 2020 started as usual with our strong commitment to environmental conservation. At a time when the world is burning and drowning due to the effects of climate change, we at EEG, are always striving to work through engaging all sectors of the community and maximising effective partnerships to create a more sustainable future for all of us.

EEG took part in two exhibitions in the month of January, The World Future Energy Summit (WFES) held in Abu Dhabi on the **13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>** and the Health and Fitness Fun Festival from the **22<sup>nd</sup> till the 26<sup>th</sup>**, where we had an opportunity to interact and share EEG's numerous campaigns and initiatives that excel in creating environmental awareness among all sectors of society.

EEG's 2020 movement started with its most popular recycling campaign, the 'One Root One Communi-tree' (OROC) now synonymous in most households, schools and corporate environments across the UAE thanks to its unique integration of waste management and afforestation. The campaign was rolled out on the **20<sup>th</sup> January** and will conclude on the **20<sup>th</sup> May** (read more pg. 4). We are also excited to announce the launch of another popular recycling campaign – 'The Can Collection Day', now in its 24<sup>th</sup> cycle will once again take place across the various emirates on the **27<sup>th</sup> February** and we urge everyone who has participated with us before and those who have not to join us in this national movement and join hands with EEG in our efforts to create a better environment for all!

In January, EEG and McDonald's UAE conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> tree planting activity at Bad'a Al Mutawah School an academic member school as part of the, 'Planting a Greener Future' Project in the capital Emirate of Abu Dhabi. This unique urban afforestation was coupled with an interactive workshop that imparted valuable knowledge on issues pertaining to food and sustainability (read more pg. 4)

EEG as an environmental pioneer always strives to maximise its efforts in order to create awareness and engage the society as a whole towards becoming more conscious, sustainable human beings. With a wide range of programmes and initiatives to participate from which allow everyone to be actively involved in sustainable practices. Awareness is best inculcated in the minds of the future citizens of the world – the children. EEG has therefore, launched another cycle of the popular Environmental Drawing

Competition and the Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition to all school across the UAE and for students of different ages, abilities, and backgrounds to express their dreams and ambitions of a greener society through the medium of art and science communication.

As part of our ongoing efforts to engage with the corporate sector, we have had a busy month of meetings with a plethora of companies at the EEG office and externally to discuss a variety of things ranging from grant applications, new collaborations, waste management deals, interviews with media, and more. Some of the entities we met in the month of January were, UPS, EGBC, EXPO 2020, College of Fashion and Design, BidFood ME, American Consulate, Phillip Morris, Fujairah TV and Vanden.

EEG concluded the busy month of January with its 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting wherein the positive growth achieved by EEG in 2019 was highlighted and the programmes created for 2020 were discussed. EEG expresses its gratitude to all of its committed partners and supporters.

Dear readers, I encourage each and every one of you to join EEG and come on board to utilise the opportunities and get involved in our programmes and activities. There is always a great learning opportunity for everyone and the end goal is to preserve and protect this beautiful planet that is our home! So let us all work together for a better environment



**A technological breakthrough for food waste disposal!**

Bio-Robo Cobo is a unique system for food waste disposal, as it reduces and gets rid of primary waste by 90% and more within 24 hours. It works with a system that guarantees the elimination of food waste by the fastest biological bacterial decomposition. The entire food waste disposal process is done without any emissions or any odour. H.H. Eng. Sheikh Salem bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Chairman of the Department of Civil Aviation, Ras Al Khaimah, stated that the management of food waste is of top priority to the UAE. Kobo technology uses a powerful degradation system through a cultured bacterium made in Japan and currently the strongest inhibiting bacteria in the world. Wakamatsu, Chairman and Managing Director of the Wakamatsu Group, said: "Kobo is very easy to use and comes with an energy-saving design, as it can also be installed indoors efficiently". EEG supported the launch of this revolutionary product by inviting multiple entities within the EEG network to attend on **12<sup>th</sup> January** and learn more about how they can effectively utilise this technology to reduce their food waste and thereby reducing an enormous portion of their carbon footprint on the planet.

**The World Majlis Conversations: Human and Planetary Health – Blurred Boundaries**

The World Majlis aims to start a global conversation on topics of great significance for our times and our society. The World Majlis, is a space for respectful yet inclusive dialogues. as a source of diverse, high quality, accessible and thought provoking opinion, it addresses the major concerns of our global society. On the **12<sup>th</sup> January** a conversation was held on the topic of "Human and Planetary Health – Blurred Boundaries" at AlJurf Ghantoot, Abu Dhabi, UAE. The goal of these conversations was to generate new perspectives and incubate meaningful connections between people and new ideas. The session was hosted by H.E. Reem Al Hashimy and had guests which included dignitaries such as H.H. Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bint Khalifa Al Nahyan, H.E. Razan Khalifa al Mubarak, EEG Chairperson Habiba Al Mar'ashi and more. The session was designed to inspire a positive outlook on the future while raising awareness that polluting the planet eventually pollutes its tenants.



**EEG attends World Future Energy Summit 2020**

On **13<sup>th</sup> January**, Abu Dhabi became the world's capital of sustainability and welcomed state representatives and business leaders from across the globe at the WFES.

The annual World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi is the leading global industry event and exhibition for future energy, clean-tech and sustainability. Bringing together government and business leaders, **800** specialist exhibitors and **33,500** visitors from **170** countries, it showcases pioneering technologies in energy, efficiency, water, solar, waste and smart cities.

EEG was delighted to once again be part of the prestigious platform as an exhibitor and also to attend the opening ceremony. It got the opportunity to talk to hundreds of visitors across the four days. The World Future Energy Summit inspires the advancement and transfer of ideas, technology and investment across borders and between the public and private sectors worldwide, helping to stimulate sustainable growth for all stakeholders.



**Water Stewardship meeting in Abu Dhabi**

The Alliance of Water Stewardship (AWS) is a global membership collaboration comprising businesses, NGOs and the public sector. The members contribute to the sustainability of local water-resources through their adoption and promotion of a universal framework for the sustainable use of water – the International Water Stewardship Standard, or AWS Standard – that drives, recognises and rewards good water stewardship performance. EEG was delighted to attend the meeting held on the **15<sup>th</sup> January** at the Centro Capital Center by Rotana at the invitation of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) which functions under the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) and is hosted by the Embassy of Switzerland in Abu Dhabi.

The meeting was held in the presence of private and public entities, to highlight the reflections since the past meetings in 2019 September seminar and on the AWG Global Water Stewardship Forum in November in Scotland. Updates from AWS regarding the Arabian Peninsula were also discussed in great detail. Working together towards the next steps, the group also discussed how to effectively advance AWS Water Stewardship in the region through the identification of priorities and articulating an action plan.

### The UAE SDG Forum

EEG's Chairperson attended and was a panelist on the UAE SDG Forum on the **16<sup>th</sup> January**, in a session titled "The Future of Business: Scaling action of the SDG's Through Business Unusual" as part of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week. The Excellence in Implementation Forum is the UAE's flagship event on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the UAE. The forum was part of Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week; it convenes high-level government officials as well as thought leaders from business and academia to discuss the creative implementation of the **17** goals. The forum was a unique multi-stakeholder platform to support the UAE's government in scaling action for the **17** goals by fostering public-private dialogues, catalyzing new alliances and exploring innovative solutions and programmes to accelerate sustainable development in the UAE. At the same event, the General Secretariat of the National Committee for the Sustainable Development Goals in the UAE, in partnership with the Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum International Prize for Photography, announced the launch of a book entitled "**Our world through the lens**", which includes 100 expressive pictures of the participants in the "Sustainable Development Goals Award". Her Excellency Reem Ebrahim Al Hashimy, Minister of State in the cabinet of the United Arab Emirates, Director General of Expo 2020 and Chairperson of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority. Launched the book with the aim of spreading awareness about the 17 UN sustainable development goals and highlighting the challenges facing human societies by capturing special moments through the lenses of both professional and amateur photographers alike from around the world. Finally, The National Committee for the Sustainable Development Goals, in partnership with the Arab Youth Center, also launched the "**Arab Youth and Sustainability Report**", which is the first of its kind at the level of the Arab world, and aims to focus on highlighting the role of Arab youth in supporting sustainable development goals by highlighting a number of creative youth initiatives and their positive effects Societally in achieving these goals. The Arab Youth and Sustainability Report consists of three main sections. The first section includes an overview of the 17 sustainable development goals and the role of youth in supporting the global agenda 2030, and a case study of a number of countries such as the UAE, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia and their role in supporting sustainable development goals and involving young people in achieving them. The second section provides a glimpse of six young leaders who worked to support the sustainable development goals through their innovative initiatives and creative ideas, while the third section includes 14 initiatives launched and implemented by Arab Youth in Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Yemen, Bahrain, Egypt, UAE, Palestine, Oman, Syria and Sudan.

### EEG Participates in Two High-Level UNEP Subcommittee Meetings

EEG attended two Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) Subcommittee meetings on the **16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> January**. The meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> was a consultative one on the process for review by the CPR. The UNEP Secretariat, along with attendees, discussed the respective roles and responsibilities of the UNEA and CPR Bureaux, including those related to interactions with their respective constituencies. The meeting on the **23<sup>rd</sup> January** was chaired by H.E. Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil. It witnessed presentations and discussions on some critical issues including:

- Implementation of paragraph 14 of UNEA Decision 4 / 2;
- Update on the implementation of UNEA resolution 4 / 19 on Mineral Resource Governance and briefing on the Global Tailings Review;
- Findings from the Resource Efficiency Sub-programme Evaluation;
- The Global Programme of Action for the protection of the marine environment from landbased activities;
- Outcomes of the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Expert Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics

EEG was also invited to provide inputs on certain critical documents after the meeting. These included the 'Emerging consensual elements by the co-facilitators' as well as 'Criteria, modalities and timing for presenting and negotiating draft resolutions and decisions'. EEG would like to congratulate the Secretariat on the organisation of these high-level meetings. We are glad to be able to participate, voice our opinions and provide a regional perspective, when needed. Congratulations, UNEP.

### Arabia CSR Press Conference

The 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Arabia CSR Network's flagship Awards were launched in a press conference held on the **20<sup>th</sup> January**, 2020. It was graciously hosted by the Address Downtown. Emirates Environmental Group is the environmental partner for the awards. The purpose of the launch was to officially commence a new cycle of the awards, announce the online launch of the Awards website and share the features of the new cycle with the media, potential participants and other stakeholders. In addition, the launch highlighted several of the winners of the past cycle from various categories and provided them a space to share their experiences and insights on their Awards journey. This was meant to further recognise their success and also inspire other organisations to follow in their footsteps.

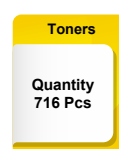
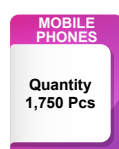
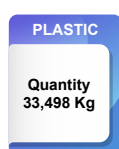


### New Cycle of "One Root One Communi-tree" Project

EEG is pleased to announce that the first phase of its popular campaign "One Root One Communi-tree" project has been launched on the **20<sup>th</sup> January**, The phase will conclude on **20<sup>th</sup> May**, in order to encourage members to maximise sustainable practices. The participants may choose to collect and deposit the required targets of Paper, Plastic, Glass, Aluminium Cans, Toners and Mobile Phones for recycling within a period of two weeks. The last day to receive the registration to participate is the 5<sup>th</sup> May. Participants can participate in Phase 1 of OROC, by copy pasting the following link in their browsers:

<https://forms.gle/EJM3FKT9TQCKJbK4A>

The "One Root One Communi-Tree" in 2019 yielded strong results and helped in the mitigation of 999 MT CO2e, conserved 7,495 Million BTU of energy, saved 2,203 m3 of landfill space, prevented the felling of 5,545 trees and avoided the combustion of 6,347 gallons of gasoline.



**EEG attends the Health & Fitness Fun Festival**

Under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation and the Head of the General Women's Union, the annual Health & Fitness Fun Festival was conducted from the **22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> Jan**. The festival is a high-profile health-focused event in the UAE. The Festival brings together health and fitness enthusiasts, medical experts, fitness clubs, organisations focused on healthy living, nutritionists and chefs to promote health awareness and fitness while having fun. The theme of the Health and Fitness Fun Festival 2020 was environmental safety, where the impact of the environment on public health and the safety of individuals was highlighted, and the importance of spreading community awareness on important Environmental topics was emphasized on. EEG was delighted to be part of the prestigious platform as exhibitors at the festival, and was honored to receive the 'Environmental Awareness Partners' certificate. EEG got the opportunity to promote environmental health and sustainable living to hundreds of students and visitors across the course of the event through a series of workshops that were conducted for the attending students.

**Planting a Greener Future**

Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) in partnership with McDonald's UAE conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> session of phase 3 of the 'Planting a Greener Future' project at Bad'al Mutawah School in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi on the **26<sup>th</sup> January**. The educational-urban-afforestation programme aims at engage government schools and delivers a robust educational programme designed to prepare students for the future and adopts a responsible and ethical approach to environmental Protection and Preservation. Aligned with a number of national and international sustainability strategies, 'Planting a Greener Future' compliments several of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. On a national level it supports the "Sustainable Environment and Infrastructure" chapter included in UAE Vision 2021 national agenda. An interactive educational workshop under the theme of "Elements Define Us" inspired by natures' Fire, Air, Water and Land, was held for the students after the completion of the tree planting and addressed specific issues varying from food security, renewable energy and plastic pollution.



**EEG's 22<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting**

Emirates Environmental Group and its valued Board Members and Executive Committee Members gathered on the **29<sup>th</sup> January** for the 22<sup>nd</sup> EEG Board Meeting. The Chairperson welcomed the attendees and shared with them the various programmes and campaigns that were conducted in the second half of 2019, depicting the positive growth achieved in the action programmes and waste management programmes. The Board Members were also shown the plan of activities for the year 2020 and the plan of action for the next six months. The attendees had a clear perspective of the upcoming events for 2020 and assured EEG of their support and active involvement in all of the presented programmes.



**Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award**

Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, Chairperson of the Emirates Environmental Group, attended the second cycle of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award, which is organised by "SUQIA" under the "Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives"; Wednesday, **29<sup>th</sup> January**. its an effort to enhance the role of the state in developing solutions to the challenges faced by poor and afflicted societies around the world. The award aims to encourage Institutions, research centers, innovators and youth from all over the world to find innovative and sustainable solutions to the problem of water scarcity in the world by using solar energy to purify and desalinate water. The award was launched in the belief that providing access to potable water gives hope, increases happiness and improves life by enabling children to thrive. The UAE has established a global position in actively finding real solutions to ensure access to safe drinking water by launching a US \$ 1 million global award for sustainable solutions to water scarcity. The Award is comprised of 3 main categories: the first category is the Innovative Projects Award; it is consist of Large Projects Award and the Small Projects Award, and the second category is the Innovative Individual Award; and it is consist of the Distinguished Researcher Award and the Youth Award. The third category is the Innovative Research and Development Award; it is consist of the National Institutions Award and the International Institutions Award.

**71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day of India**

On the occasion of the 71<sup>st</sup> Republic Day of India, H.E. Mr. Vipul the Indian Consul General hosted a dinner reception in Grand Hyatt Hotel on the **29<sup>th</sup> January 2020**. Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, EEG Chairperson was amongst the distinguished guests who joined the special gala dinner reception, which saw several hundred guests, including senior government figures, diplomats and business leaders. The significant event served as a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the relationship between the UAE and India. The event saw a Keynote Address from H.E. Mr. Pavan Kumar – Ambassador of India to UAE and several performances to mark the patriotic occasion.

EDUCATIONAL NEWS

**14<sup>th</sup> EEG Environmental Drawing Competition**

Emirates Environmental Group launched its 14<sup>th</sup> cycle of the annual “Environmental Drawing Competition” in the **1<sup>st</sup> week of January** to guide the youth to express their thoughts and ideas in their own distinct and creative way, demonstrating a sense of care and respect for the environment. The unique, one of a kind national level event truly brings the ideas and thoughts of the young generation out in the open and leaves us with hope and belief that sustainability and preservation of the environment will thrive in the future. EEG cordially invites its student members and UAE’s academic institutions to join the competition. The winners will be invited to attend EEG’s Environmental Drawing Competition Awarding Ceremony on **20<sup>th</sup> May 2020**. 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://forms.gle/Zm8EMVtGnFHRyYbmd7>



**A special anniversary with EEG!**

EEG was delighted to welcome 7 young climate warriors who are celebrating **10 years** of being student members with the Emirates Environmental Group! Noor Khalid Bin Hamad, Maryam Khalid Bin Hamad, Rayan Khalid Bin Hamad, Ruben Simon Roy, Yousef Abdul Jalil AL- Saad, Saif Abdul Jalil AL-Saad and Anam Ehtesham all began their journey with EEG at the start of the last decade and have been actively involved in participating in our recycling programmes, our educational programmes and our action programmes with determination and passion to contribute to the conservation of the environment and the planet. These young-eco warriors are a perfect example of the efforts taken by the youth of today to demonstrate effective action through perseverance and leadership in the field of sustainability. EEG is proud to be a home that nurtured and supported these young future sustainability champions and we look forward to see the paths you create in climate action.

LOCAL NEWS

**Sheikh Mohammed's new Dubai Council outlines tough targets for public sector**

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai published a letter on **4<sup>th</sup> January**, directed to residents and visitors of Dubai that included 12 principles based on the Rulers observations and consultations on the occasion of the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his accession as Ruler of Dubai. Points included setting up ‘Dubai Council’, which will be chaired by HH Sheikh Mohammed himself, as well as H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Crown Prince of Dubai and H.H. Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed, Deputy Ruler of Dubai. The announcement came as an urge to shift the economy to adapt and excel amidst the fierce competition. The targets announced are in response to maintaining sustainable, excellent and high standards in UAE’s growth during the changing times. His Highness emphasized on the importance of updating, unlearning and relearning to better equip the UAE during periods of volatility and uncertainty, by



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

learning from our past and renewing our institutions and changing our tools. To read more, please click here:

<https://tec.gov.ae/en/media-centre/press-releases/2019/hamdan-bin-mohammed-approves-executive-council-s-2020-agenda/>

**International Renewable Energy Agency holds 10<sup>th</sup> assembly in Abu Dhabi**

The International Renewable Energy Agency, Irena, welcomed 1,500 delegates from around the world to its annual assembly in Abu Dhabi on the **11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January**. The UAE took a leading role in the discussions on the topic of global energy transition as the organisation, currently headquartered in Abu Dhabi is marking its 10-year anniversary and is looking ahead to an ambitious 10 years forward. The officials from IRENA announced that the global supplies of power from renewables need to be doubled from the current share of 26%. An estimated 57% of global power needs to be derived from renewable energy sources by 2030, which is predicted to require doubling of the annual investment from \$330 billion to \$750 billion. An array of sessions, ministerial roundtables and panels covering the latest and emerging developments across the technology, policy-making, and green finance sectors to advance the global dialogue on how to move towards a cleaner energy mix, tackle climate change and cut carbon emissions were held during the summit. The discussions held over the two days of the assembly focused on empowering youth and driving gender equality in the renewable energy sector while shaping the Irena agenda and its priorities for the next year.

**UAE embraces solar Abu Dhabi:**

The Department of Energy in Abu Dhabi confirmed that Abu Dhabi's production of solar energy will double by 133% in the next two years, to reach 3.5 gigawatts in 2022 instead of 1.5 gigawatts now. The expected increase in production will come from Al Dhafra Solar Power Station, which is the largest plant in the world for the production of solar energy with a production capacity of 2 GW.

**Dubai:**

H.E. Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Managing Director and CEO of Dubai Electricity and Water Authority, confirmed that the share of clean energy in total energy in Dubai will jump this year to 9% instead of 7% as previously announced. He also confirmed the opening of the third phase of the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Solar Energy Complex in February, after its completion in record time, noting that the full productive capacity of this stage amounts to 800 MW.

**Northern Emirates:**

H.E. the Minister of Energy and Industry, said that the year 2020 will be marked by tremendous projects in the Northern Emirates on renewable Energy, stressing that among the most prominent of these projects is a large solar energy project in the northern regions which is the first of its kind, and it is expected to be launched before the end of the year 2020. His Excellency pointed out that this year will witness the full start of the first Barakah nuclear plants that was implemented according to the highest standards of safety and quality and will serve as an example to all new nuclear power projects in the future. They have also committed on ambitious target of solar energy production of 44 gigawatts by 2050 and for 50% of the energy mix to be from renewable and clean energies.

**"Masdar" launches the first "Green" real estate investment fund with a value of one billion dirhams**

Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company "Masdar", one of the companies of "Mubadara Investment" companies, announced, during an event held within the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, the launch of the first sustainable real estate investment fund in the UAE. The initial value of the fund will range from 950 million AED to 1 billion AED. The fund provides investors with an attractive option for investing and achieving returns from sustainable real estate assets, which contribute to building a better future for all. This real estate investment fund will be listed on the Abu Dhabi Global Market, and the fund will initially include four commercial properties within Masdar City, which focuses on low carbon real estate development. The private real estate investment fund will be launched as a qualified investment fund available for similar investment funds in the market and selected clients through a private placement. The properties cover 57,493 sq. Ft. Of net leasable area, and all of them have a Pearl 3 rating or higher according to the Pearl Rating System from Estidama in Abu Dhabi. The launch of the Green Real Estate Investment Fund is an important progress on the road to implementing the Abu Dhabi Declaration of Sustainable Finance signed last year by 25 leading government agencies and institutions, including "Masdar" and Abu Dhabi Global Market. They aim to establish a vital and sustainable financial sector to support the UAE's efforts to contribute to Achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

**New achievements to reduce energy consumption at Dubai airports**

Dubai International Airport succeeded in lighting the aircraft park across the airport, which covers an area of 12.5 km 2, using the most bright and efficient LED lights, after completing a major modernization project. The project is expected to achieve an annual energy savings of approximately 7,000 megawatts per hour, equivalent to compensating 495 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions or planting more than 8,000 seedlings over a period of 10 years. This shift and dependence on high-efficiency LED lights only consume 810 kW, which is a significant decrease in annual consumption of 63%. The development is an essential part of the project that was announced by Dubai Airports and "Etihad Esco" last year to replace 150,000 traditional lighting units at Dubai International Airport for LED lamps. Dubai Airports has launched a series of green initiatives since 2019, including a project to replace the fleet of ground services vehicles with electric and hybrid vehicles, and install a solar array of 15,000 panels in the Terminal 2 of Dubai International Airport, which is the largest project of its kind in the Middle East. In addition to banning single-use plastics at Dubai International Airport and Al Maktoum International Airport at **1<sup>st</sup> January 2020**. These initiatives come together with other environmental projects planned in the future to help Dubai airports support and develop air navigation in Dubai while achieving sustainability goals. In October 2019, both Dubai International Airport and Al Maktoum International Airport achieved a qualitative addition in their journey towards neutrality by reaching the third level of the Airport Carbon Accreditation Program for Airports Council International.

### ***To fight garbage crisis, Palestinians turn trash into fashion, furniture***

Research suggests waste in Palestine may increase by more than 2,350 tons daily by 2022. A few young Palestinians, however, are carving out a creative solution to waste management and are making careers out of repurposing garbage. A.M. Qattan Foundation's Recycled programme, is supporting budding artists and the fight against pollution. The foundation is not-for-profit focusing on cultural education, and its recycling programme pushed Palestinian fashion designers beyond the boundaries of their creativity in making outfits using recycled materials. To help spread the message of sustainable fashion in Palestine, various designers are now working with entities such as the Palestinian organisation Equality of Environment to show their clothes at refugee camps throughout the West Bank and lead workshops for youth on how to remake waste into clothing.

## UN NEWS

### IUCN NEWS

#### ***The Historical Journey of Indigenous Peoples in Climate Change Negotiation***

A historical achievement was made during the 25<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP25) of the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Madrid, Spain, in December 2019: the adoption of the two-year work-plan of the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform (LCIPP) by the closing plenary of Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) 51. The adoption of the work-plan recognises the values and roles of indigenous traditional knowledge and cultural practices while implementing three functions of the LCIPP: knowledge, capacity for engagement and climate change policies and action starting from January 2020. It took almost 20 years for the roles and contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities in climate change resilience to be recognised. The struggle of indigenous peoples began when the first world climate change conference was held in 1979. Indigenous elders who began their early journey into climate change history said, "We were a handful of people there to scream for the rights of indigenous peoples to participate in the negotiation but we were hardly visible."



### UNCCD NEWS

#### ***The world celebrates UNCCD Land Anthem***

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) released the official music video titled 'Born from the Land' with award-winning musicians Ricky Kej and Baaba Maal, who are both UNCCD Land Ambassadors. This video also features Lonnie Park and IP Singh.

The brand-new music video, whose lyrics are available in the six United Nations' languages, will be distributed worldwide through social media and various music platforms. Ricky Kej, who is known internationally as a music composer, a No.1 artist on the United States Billboard chart and a Grammy Award winner for his album titled, Winds of Samsara, is passionate about raising awareness and environmental consciousness. He advocates for the land and nature-based solutions as fundamental to actions that, at once, help fight climate change and biodiversity loss while delivering the Sustainable Development Goals.



### UNEP NEWS

#### ***UNEP proposes a cross-cutting theme for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly***

EEG actively participated in meetings conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme with the other member states and stakeholders for the subcommittee of the permanent representative committee in the latter half of 2019. These consultation sessions have resulted in coming to a consensus on the theme for the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to be, "Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals". Member States will begin to look to a more practical approach towards nature-based solutions to achieve the sustainable development goals. After the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly shared a document "The Beginning of Reflection", which consisted of some comprehensive principles and standards that should be part of the final topic. This topic was successful and included results geared towards action and finding solutions; and conducting extensive and comprehensive consultations. And based on the results of previous sessions; strong scientific foundations; ease of communication and persuasion. The fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly should be able to mobilize, stimulate and revitalize member states and stakeholders to achieve sustainable development goals and implement more successful solutions. All of this should be done while trying to avoid repetition and overlap with the mandates of other regional and international forums.





EEG will be hosting its **1<sup>st</sup> Panel discussion** for the year 2020, on the topic of **Sustainable Fashion. A Moment or a Movement?** It will explore the role of the fashion industry in achieving environmental sustainability.



EEG is delighted to nationally roll out the 24<sup>th</sup> cycle of the **Can Collection Campaign**

**Sponsorship opportunities are available to all these programmes, Please reach out to us to get more details on each of them**

### EEG MEMBERS' UPDATE

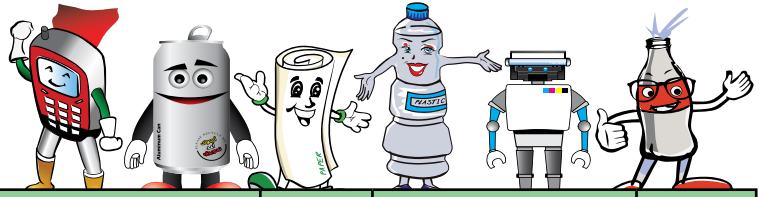
EEG Engaged with various entities in the UAE and gave presentations and conducted meetings. EEG Welcomed 2 new Academic members and 4 renewed academic members, EEG also Welcomed 18 new student members & 8 renewed Student member in the month of January 2020

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP		ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP	
Dubai English Speaking School	New	The Arbor School	Renewal
Gems Heritage Indian School, Dubai	New	British International School, Ajman	Renewal
		Bright Riders School	Renewal
		Mayoor Private School	Renewal
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP			
Adil Najmal	New	Alina Abdul Kader	Renewal
Aditya Challamarad	New	Chris Jacob	Renewal
Gaurika Gautam	New	Lacksana Karthikeyan	Renewal
Geetika Mahajan	New	Paveethiraa Manivelan	Renewal
Hanan Boutahri	New	Reet Oberoi	Renewal
Himesh Pesswani	New	Saif Abdul Jalil Al-Saad	Renewal
Maria Messac	New	Sundaresh Sundaragopal	Renewal
Manit Uppal	New	Vandana Subramanian	Renewal
Misha Anand	New		
Neil Antony Benny	New		
OM Uppal	New		
Rena Mariam Zacharia	New		
Shaivi Shah	New		
Sneha Bansal	New		
Tarak Malhotra	New		
Tvisha Mulki	New		
Vedika Gautam	New		
Vivek Jude Manoj	New		

## WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME - MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

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

- » **GHG Reductions 793 (MTCO<sub>2</sub>)**
- » **Saving of 5,065 Million BTU of Energy**
- » **Saving of 907 m<sup>3</sup> of Landfill Space**
- » **Saving of 3,568 trees from being felled**
- » **Saving of 1,230 Gallons of Gasoline**



<b>PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN</b>	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 197,125 kg of Paper from 249 participants during the month of January 2020, an impression increase of 173% compared to December 2019. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2020 so as to enable us to work towards our 2020 target. The Top Collectors were:	The School of Research Science	6,140	Thomson Abraham Thomas	574
	Our Own High School - Al Warqaa (Boys)	2,230	Stephana Thomas	550
	Sharjah American International School UAQ	1,520	Vidyuth Balaji	543
<b>CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN</b>	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 1,315 kg of Aluminum Cans from 25 participants during the month of January 2020, a decrease of 4% compared to December 2019. Let us work together to achieve our targets. The top collectors for the month were:	-	-	Navya Karapath	18
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN</b>	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 5,568 kg of Plastic from 134 participants during the month of January 2020 a decrease of 39 % compared to December 2019. We encourage our participants to reduce the amount of plastic ending in landfills by increasing their collections in the year 2020. The top collectors for the month were:	El Ekhlash Kindergarden	120	Anam Ehtesham	125
	Our Own High School - Al Warqaa (Boys)	100	Parichay Sachdev	85
	Ajman School for Secondary Education	50	Namaa Ismail AlZarooni	70
<b>TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN</b>	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 906 pcs of Toners from 11 participants during the month of January 2020, a decrease of 14 % compared to December 2019. We encourage our participants to be active in the year 2020. The Top collectors were:	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN</b>	School	Quantity (kg)	Families	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 264 pcs of Mobile Phones from 5 participants during the month of January 2020, a decrease of 75% compared to December 2019. We urge our participants and encourage them to collect more for the year 2020. The Top collectors were:	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN</b>	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 4,845 kg of Glass Bottles from 50 participants during the month of January 2020, a decrease of 89% compared to December 2019. We encourage our participants to collect more in the year 2020. The Top collectors were:	American University of Sharjah	165	Aashika Singh	120
	El Ekhlash Kindergarden	20	Barbara	37
	Falcon British Nursery	10	Mana Al Suwaidi	23

EEG invites all its members & participants to intensify efforts for the year 2020, the year of Expo to contribute significantly to the betterment of our environment and achieve the set targets for the above campaigns.