

# EEG CORP NEWS

Together for a Better Environment®



مجموعة عمل الإمارات للبيئة  
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
GROUP



September 2020  
Issue 9

الجائزة  
العربية  
للمسؤولية  
الإجتماعية  
للمؤسسات



ARABIA  
CORPORATE  
SOCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY  
AWARDS

6<sup>th</sup> October, 2020

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## Upcoming Events

## Click on the issue

20 Aug - 30 Nov 2020  
ONE ROOT, ONE COMMUNI-TREE PHASE 2  
Linking the diverse Waste Management Programme with, "For Our Emirates We Plant"

VIRTUAL PLATFORM  
4<sup>th</sup> Panel Discussion  
Date: 20<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020

### UAE A BIO DIVER SITY HAVEN

Biodiversity is the foundation of life on the planet, a key component of ecosystems that provide many goods and services that support the social & economic welfare of the community, such as food, fuel and building materials, it contributes to climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster mitigation, soil fertility regeneration, disease control, and sustainability of genetic resources.

Land and sea diversity is an integral part of the UAE's heritage. The UAE continues to strive towards nature, and biodiversity conservation through a wide range of plans and initiatives in the framework of the National Biodiversity Strategy, the National Strategy to Combat Desertification and the Strategy for Sustainability of the Marine and Coastal Environment, among others.

**REGISTER NOW**

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## Reach Out to EEG for More Details



### BRING YOUR RECYCLABLES:

Every SATURDAY, 9:00AM to 4:00PM  
Villa No. JMR. 68, Jumeirah 1, Between Dubai Zoo  
& Beach Centre.

For more info, call EEG at 04 344 8622, or  
email [eeg@emirates.net.ae](mailto:eeg@emirates.net.ae) - [www.eeg-uae.org](http://www.eeg-uae.org)



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## Habiba Al Mar'ashi

With the beginning of the new Islamic year 1442, I would like to extend my congratulations to all of our readers and their beloved families, wishing the whole Islamic nations endless peace and prosperity.

The year of 2020 has put us in front of many challenges and blessings that we must acknowledge. Here we are standing at the last quarter of the year that was declared as “The Decade for Action”, in the face of the constantly evolving information and the uncertainty it is diving, we remain steadfastly resilient and hopeful because of the deep compassion that binds our community together, the solidarity that we capture every day in the UAE healthcare frontline, and the relentless dedication and commitment of this generation to create a sustainable world that is the hallmark of our shared efforts.

This month marks the fifth anniversary of launching the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals. With Agenda 2030 representing the roadmap for the global community to complete the universal portrait by implementing the SDGs, and the SDGs acceleration framework that builds up on existing efforts to accelerate the progress that was already behind before COVID-19 pandemic, I can still see the true potential of collaborative efforts to resolve the deeply rooted environmental issues.

“Together we reach our fullest heights”, at EEG we ensure that sustainable development is at the core of the momentum forward. The remarkable initiatives we witness each day are indeed inspiring and reshaping the future of the planet. I was glad to attend a virtual meeting that showcased leading female change makers working towards developing business solutions to achieve ocean-related sustainability which tackles SDG14 Life Below Water that aims to conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas, and marine resources.

I had the pleasure to share my insights and statistics about our waste management campaigns amidst the pandemic at the University of Dubai-Centre for Business Research & Consultancy, such platforms and transparent conversations magnify the embedded challenges and reveal the opportunities to help us break-through to a brighter future. A great working group meeting was conducted by the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance and very interesting key

discussions were brought to the table on the short and long-term approaches to sustainable financing. I truly value my membership with GISD since its inception, and looking forward to bringing fruitful discussions in the near future.

We are continuing to welcome all students to participate in the “Neighborhood Recycling Programme” that will be ongoing till the end of this month. The programme helps raising an environmentally conscious generation, and it is open for members and non-members for the first time.

The new second cycle of “One Root One Communi-tree” project that yielded very high results in the past phases had begun on the 20th of August, and will continue till the end of November. I urge all our corporate, academic, and family member to join the programme.

At EEG we are committed to our role as a catalyst in environmental awareness and literacy, by providing a platform for school and college students to ensure their engagement and inclusion in all the pivotal activities in climate change and environmental protection.

Our annual educational programmes are set to take place in October and November this year. We strongly believe that youth should be empowered to take the lead in critical environmental conversations, as they will soon be translating these conversations into actions that will pave the way into a moresustainable world.

In this issue, we are sharing with you the latest updates both locally and internationally, along with the inspiring initiatives and meetings that EEG was a part of during the month of August.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to EEG’s programmes, despite the current changes in our lives “It is change that triggers development and progress”.

***“So let us all continue to work together for a better environment”***



## Engaging with GISD

The Emirates Environmental Group has been engaging in extensive deliberations on sustainable financing and COVID-issue bonds on various platforms of GISD Alliance. The noteworthy outcomes of these engagements are truly relevant for the world to collaborate in for an inclusive recovery and development.

**5<sup>th</sup> August** 1). The Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance conducted the meeting of its working group 3 on global liquidity and financial stability, which is chaired by Costa Rica, Ghana and Maldives, and supported by the UN Regional Commissions.

Emirates Environmental Group team attended the meeting, under the leadership of EEG Chairperson, who is also a member of the board of the Alliance since its inception in 2019. The working group deliberated on the policy options related to sustainable financing

with long term and short term approach. A special presentation was delivered by the Senior Economist of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), who focused on using radar charts to compare policy options regarding global liquidity and financial stability. Special Drawing Rights (SDR) allocation was also discussed in light of being the most promising short term option used with redistribution mechanism. Capital-account management and regional monetary arrangements were introduced as the most promising longer-term options. The group also talked about the need to extend more debt-related issues and resilience funds.

**25<sup>th</sup> August** 2). Group 3 of over 60 members from Members states, IFIs, International Institutions and Civil Society Organisations conducted a follow-up meeting to deliberate on Global liquidity and financial stability issues in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, and policy options for the short, medium and long- term.

Further to its joint meeting with Group IV (Debt Vulnerability) and Group V (Private Sector Creditors Engagement) to address overlaps and avoid duplication in analysis of policy options, the group identified 4 action areas that could mitigate the liquidity crisis: (i) General Issue or reallocation of Special Drawing Rights; (ii) Expanding access to Central Bank Currency swaps and repo facilities; (iii) enlarging access to loans and grants; and (iv) Capital Account Management.

These policies are analysed according to the six parameters such as, provision of emergency liquidity, ease of implementation, inclusiveness (i.e. number of eligible countries), contribution to longer-term financial stability, absence of policy conditionality and reduction of the need for foreign-exchange reserves.

3). As a member of Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD Alliance), EEG Chairperson participated and contributed her inputs for ‘GISD Call to Action for COVID-19 Bond Issuance’, which was finalised on 5th August. Through this, the Alliance seeks to motivate issuers to take meaningful steps towards addressing COVID-related challenges, supported by the issuance of innovative Social Bonds and support them in financing a holistic recovery in-line with the SDGs.

The Call to Action for COVID-19 Bond Issuance has defined the five pillars of UN Development System (UNDS) Response, which are:



GISD Alliance has also developed the Sustainable Development Investing (SDI) definition to help the issuers align the response and recovery plan with the widely accepted Social Bond Principles or Sustainability Bond Guidelines administered by the International Capital Markets Association (ICMA). Issuers are therefore, encouraged to provide transparency on the use of proceeds for direct and indirect challenges presented by the pandemic.

To further ensure positive contribution to sustainable development, clear distinction between COVID-related and other purposes must be highlighted at the issuance.

4). EEG is delighted to share with you the launch of the report ‘Renewed, Recharged and Reinforced’, which is the first set of recommendations by the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance convened by the UN Secretary-General to set foundation for the future work.

It serves as a resourceful guide to embed commitments to long term and sustainable financing, by providing 64 concrete measures that will coordinate global standards and enable leaders from the public and private sectors to harmonise, promote and substantially scale up investment towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

It also calls for the G20 countries to push the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) to establish global Environment, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) disclosure standards and a list of guidance to the European Commission.

The world has realised the strength of global response amid the challenges posed by COVID-19, and this is an opportunity to unleash sustainable finance to advance the SDGs.

Full Report  
Please click



## Engaging with GUD

**12<sup>th</sup> August** 1). The Global Urban Development (GUD), of which EEG Chairperson is a board member held a webinar called "Inside ZISPOA" on **12<sup>th</sup> August**. The insightful presentations were delivered by GUD Board members, who are key leaders of ZISPOA (Porto Alegre Sustainable Innovation Zone).

It discussed the 6 key pillars of ZISPOA - Innovation and Technology, Entrepreneurship and Startups, Sustainability and Resource Efficiency, Creativity and Collaboration, Participative Management Community, and Friendly Environment to Business.

The GUD group is engaged in some exciting projects for sustainable housing, sustainable innovation and many other global activities.

**21<sup>st</sup> August** 2). A follow-up 2-hour webinar with extensive discussion was devoted entirely to describe and analyze the 5-year history of ZISPOA among the members.

Follow the link to know more about ZISPOA,



**26<sup>th</sup> August** 3). Further on **26<sup>th</sup> August**, the group gathered virtually to discuss potential projects in developed as well as developing countries with strategic and innovative approaches.

For latest updates on GUD, please visit



## Engaging with UNEP

**13<sup>th</sup> August** 1). EEG Chairperson participated in the virtual meeting of Major Groups & Stakeholders organised by the Regional Facilitators of West Asia. The civil society stakeholders have been on the agenda of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to ensure the effective, broad and balanced participation. The meeting discussed the key topics related to provision of comprehensive policy guidance; policy

responses to address emerging environmental challenges; undertake policy reviews, dialogue and exchange of pitfalls; development of strategic guidance on the future direction of UNEP; organising a multi-stakeholder dialogue and enhancing partnerships for achieving environmental goals and mobilising resources for effective implementation.

2). In August 2020, EEG was honoured to provide its recommendations to one of the most high-level documents of the United Nations Environmental Assembly - the Ministerial Declaration - based on the theme, "Strengthening actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals". We have contributed to this document since UNEA-3 in 2017. The adoption of the Ministerial Declaration provides a sense of great faith and confidence in the Assembly among world leaders and other stakeholders.

For example, what are the after effects on biodiversity, what kind of support packages will be available to under-developed and developing countries etc?

Other issues we provided our recommendations on included:

- Shift to circular economy
- Green business development
- Commemoration of UNEP's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- The shortfall of SDGs maturing in 2020 and how to meet them

At the outset, we wanted to ensure that it was important to utilise the momentum built from UNEA-4 for a successful UNEA-5. This would also include addressing issues that did not reach fruition at UNEA-4.

EEG is proud to be able to offer its recommendations to this document, which is a precursor to sustained and impactful actions in the future.

It is also imperative to provide a streamlined and reference to the current scenario the world is reeling under; the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also look forward to UNEA-5 and to understand the aims and strategies UNEP has put in place, especially in these uncertain times.

## **12<sup>th</sup> August** EEG Chairperson invited as a Speaker by University of Dubai

President of the University of Dubai - Centre for Business Research & Consultancy welcomed EEG Chairperson and the Chairman of the Emirates Green Building Council as key speakers in the series of webinars hosted by the University to understand the implications of COVID-19 on environment.

EEG Chairperson gave a detailed presentation on the 'Impact of COVID-19 on Recycling', wherein she gave a statistical walkthrough of how the pandemic has impacted the collection of the recyclable items

in EEG's waste management campaign as an example. Despite the challenges, EEG continues to contribute positively to the advancement of Sustainable Development in the UAE by acting as a focal point for people of all nationalities and ages concerned with environmental protection and responsible waste management. The Chairman of Emirates Green Building Council gave an insightful presentation on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Energy Efficiency Market'. The expertise of both the speakers created a strong platform to discuss the challenges and opportunities for a sustainable recovery.

## **13<sup>th</sup> August** Women Ocean Changemakers

Women play a significant role in the blue economy, yet their input rarely receives the support, recognition and publicity it deserves. On **13<sup>th</sup> August**, EEG attended a webinar on World Ocean Summit Insight Hour to virtually meet the Women Ocean Change makers under the World Ocean Initiative sponsored by The Nature Conservancy.

The webinar showcased leading female change makers working to develop business solutions to achieve ocean-related sustainability.

Three inspiring women from across the globe, leading the way for a sustainable ocean economy, have won the World Ocean Initiative's inaugural change makers competition. To help bring the change makers' ideas to life, they will receive guidance from three renowned female ocean leaders as part of a 12-month mentorship programme. The webinar brought together the change makers and their mentors to discuss their vision for the blue economy, outline the potential impact of their projects and detail what they expect to gain from the mentorship.

Visit the link for more details



### Neighbourhood Recycling Project

We are continuing to welcome participants for the 10<sup>th</sup> cycle of the “Neighbourhood Recycling Project” (NRP) which was launched for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 2010. The current cycle started on 1<sup>st</sup> June and will conclude on 30<sup>th</sup> September. This is the first time that this project is open to non-member students. EEG’s goal behind this campaign is to engage the youth and guide them towards environmental issues and threats that climate change imposes on our planet. It is important for the younger generation to understand the importance of responsible waste management through the means of recycling. We intentionally set out this platform to ensure that our youth will have the opportunity to engage and communicate with members of the society particularly their neighbours. Once the minimum targets are met, the proud achievers will take part in planting a tree under their name at EEG’s tree planting ceremony “For Our Emirates, We Plant” on 20.12.20.

To participate, Please register <https://forms.gle/o6dz8kuT9bp9dmr9>

The current cycle has registered 124 participants till date and the quantities collected are:



### One Root, One Communi-Tree (Phase 2)

One of EEG’S main objectives is to promote positive environmental actions by engaging the different sectors of the community through active participation in specific projects, campaigns and activities.

The “OROC” programme was launched to mobilise and educate the community on the importance of recycling while shedding light on the fight against desertification to preserve our green Emirates.

We call upon all our members to join us and participate in the second phase of “OROC” which was rolled out on 20<sup>th</sup> August and will conclude on the 30<sup>th</sup> November and we have already received registrations from 113 participants. The participants have collected the following



The participants may choose to collect and deposit any or all of the mentioned recyclable materials within the specified time period of two weeks to qualify.

To participate, please register <https://forms.gle/tVt2tV8vAt7yhgrYA>

### Corporate News

#### The Role of Urban Environments in Adapting to a New Normal

Arup, an Urban Development firm based in the UAE and EEG’s corporate member, took an experiential approach, wherein they reflected on the role of urban environments and facilities in surviving the COVID-19 lockdown.

Five employees from the company maintained a log of how their residential complex and neighbourhood facilities supported their well-being and enabled them to adapt to the Work from Home Culture. The reflections and recommendations identified during this personal experience of the five employees collate some lessons to support

urban environment practitioners, developers, planning authorities, and policy makers make informed decisions in shaping our cities, and perhaps in increasing resilience to future challenges. While COVID-19 has posed many challenges, it has also created an opportunity to use this down time to implement strategic interventions that will allow cities to recover better and bounce-forward into the direction of well-being and livability.

Visit the link for more details



## COVID-19 Strategy of Tristar Group

EEG is proud to inform that its Corporate Member, Tristar Group is a leading industry for COVID-19 response strategy. The Founder and CEO recently talked about the measure the company has implemented to ensure the safety of employees.

The Group had split its 1,000+ drivers among independent housing blocks to reduce the risk of infection and spread. "We also set aside a budget of \$1 million for out of pocket Covid-related expenses. We identified Al Futtaim Health Hub and Aster as potential partners for testing and in-patient care for our employees, if required. We tested all our staff and as could be expected we did have positive cases. In fact, some cases required hospitalisation but our back up arrangements came in handy when we were able to nurse back to good health those staff who tested positive for Covid-19" said the Founder & CEO.

The Group's operations team also conducted special awareness and prevention sessions, and distributed facemasks with the strict instruction to wear while working. In addition to that, the Group issued a special bulletin on "Covid-19 Preventive Measures Guidelines" and introduced a "Health Declaration Form" so that employees who are resuming their work after holidays or business trips substantiate their good health without any symptoms.

Through these initiatives, Tristar Group has prioritised its contribution to the good health and well-being of the society (SDG 3).

[Visit the link for more details](#)



## Local News

### 25 years of preserving Sheikh Zayed's Environmental Legacy

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Ruler's Representative in the Al Dhafra Region and Chairman of the Environment Agency -Abu Dhabi (EAD), has launched a new book titled "25 Years of Preserving Sheikh Zayed's Environmental Legacy". This book comes as a representation and documentation that celebrates EAD's 25 year milestone journey as a leading organisation of local origin and ambitions on a global scale to preserve the emirate's environment for future generations and Abu Dhabi's natural heritage along with its rich biodiversity.

It also dwells on the environment preservation legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, during which astonishing environmental achievements locally, regionally and internationally were observed and how the Abu Dhabi government's adopted and pursued its vision to achieve sustainable development. In His book His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed states, "As a nation, thanks to the wise

leadership of H.H. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and H.H. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, we have a clear vision for our people, economy and environment." His Highness also added, "To prosper and develop, we seek a balance between the aspirations of our people and the needs of our planet. It is through science and understanding that we strike such a balance."

The 140-page book shares insights and a direct look at how the agency was established, which took place in 1996 and its wondrous environmental achievements that started with formation of 'The National Avian Research Centre' to preserve the intangible cultural heritage of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

[To read full Book Please click](#)



### Cement from Salt – A Sustainable Alternative

The world's leading construction material - cement, is a big source of greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for close to 8% of global emissions. In an attempt to lower the environmental hazards of cement production, two Dubai architects have discovered a sustainable method to manufacture cement.

Drawing inspiration from the 'sabhkas' or the salt flats in the UAE, the architects have derived a mechanism to use salt to build a base material in construction.

The UAE's primary source of water is desalinated seawater. After desalination, the leftover salt is usually released back into the sea, and increased salinity levels could pose a threat to marine life and

the ecosystem. The architects proposed a solution to address both these issues - their idea is to extract salt from the brine solutions used in the desalination process and use them as precast blocks in construction.

These salts are rich in minerals, which provide the strength and rigidity required in construction.

Of course, more in-depth research and experimentation need to be conducted to assess its viability for large-scale construction, but a salt-based cement certainly seems to be a promising alternative in the course of a sustainable future.

### The Impact of COVID-19 on the Energy Industry

The energy sector is one that is heavily affected by the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. The British University in Dubai (BUiD) and the Institute for energy systems are conducting a survey to assess the impact of COVID-19 on the energy industry. At EEG, we support such research initiatives that would yield in results to generate approximate figures and help the energy industry to position itself in the path of quick recovery. We encourage all our members to visit the link and fill up the survey for the general good of our country and humanity.

[Visit the link for more details](#)



## Emirati Women's Day

"The Emirati Women's Day", was celebrated on **28<sup>th</sup> August** this year under the slogan "Woman is a model for tolerance" in honour of the triumphant march of women led by Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, President of the Women's Union and Chair of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, Supreme Chairwoman of the Family Development Foundation, the "Mother of Emirates", who played a major role in portraying Emirati women as a proven active and essential partner in the society and bearers of distinguished positions among the wise leadership and major contributors in building And elevating the state through their participation in all sectors and efficient decision-making and most importantly, Her Highness's role in empowering Emirati women to enter the battlefield of life in all social, educational, environmental, economic and political fields and to make decisions, not just participate in it.

Several facts emphasized the effective role of women in the Emirati society: Her effectiveness in decision-making and her leadership positions according to the report for the year 2019 issued by the Center for Arab Women Participation, stated that her presence reached half the membership of the National Council.

As of now Emirati women occupy 66% of public sector jobs. Her contribution to the national economy as the number of Emirati businesswomen reached more than 23,000 who are running various projects that contribute to the development of the economic sector.

On the academic level, half of the students from all colleges and majors are Emirati female students, where the astronomy sector is the most prominent field in which the "The Daughters of the Emirates" have dominated and achieved an active presence.

Emirati women have transitionally moved from the stage of participation to the stage of decision-making in leadership and administrative positions. Today, Emirati Women is a source of pride for her country and an emblem of success in every creative field.

Emirates Environmental Group would like to extend its congratulations and blessings to the "Mother of the Emirates", Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, for her great efforts to empower and enhance the pivotal role of woman in the blessed development process and instilling the values of tolerance, coexistence and peace in the society and the world.

## International News

### Financing for Climate Change

The role of financing for sustainable development has become more prominent than ever in recent times, with different corporations and financial institutions investing in green bonds and CSR initiatives. In August 2020, GSD member, Calpers expressed its growing concerns about the need for reforms in financial systems on a multi-stakeholder level. A group of large investors, like Calpers, Schroders, and DWS, have decided to incorporate climate change risks within their accounts and audit reports, so as to improve transparency and the management of these risks. Doing so has enabled a rethinking of capital expenditure in favor of sustainable development. The newly adopted scheme has even encouraged the UK's Financial Reporting Council to undertake a major business review, to allow for sustainable variables to be integrated with the reporting process. Another group

of companies have evaluated the reasons as to why blended finance has not attained the predicted level of success. For blended finance to work, financial expertise must be directed towards this system, and bridge any gaps in the public-private sector collaboration. Also, it is crucial to strengthen public institutions that can support the steps taken by blended financing, and uphold transparency to lure investors. All in all, once these small fixes are in place, finance can effectively be utilised in achieving sustainable development.

For more details, please follow the links below,



### Former Military Base Now an Exotic Natural Reserve?

A land left fallow by military is now a thriving natural reserve thanks to conservationists. Interestingly, the former Milovice military base in Czech used to have great biodiversity due to military activities but after the land was left fallow the area was overtaken by bush grass and other invasive species.

Conservationists introduced wild horses, bison and Tauros - animals especially chosen to successfully remove invasive species and save endangered ones. The Tauros were especially cross bred to make them genetically as similar to their extinct native species, Aurochs, as possible. These types of animals used to be common in Europe.

The project started five years ago and as time has passed, the natural improvements have become more and more pleasingly visible. Even at

the early stages of their introduction, flowers started to grow in the region instead of dense invasive grasses and now flower types and colour vary according to different seasons. This includes the blue colored, gentian flower. Insects and other animals have also become abundant.

Visit the link for more details



Blue Adonis butterfly was also spotted, for the first time, since 1967 and now they plan to enlarge the sanctuary to 360 hectares (890 acres).

The animals live quite independent of any human care and have natural food sources available.



### The Recycling Magazine

EEG motivates its avid-readers to be informed on the sustainability-related issues. The Recycling Magazine is one of the resourceful magazines, where one can learn all about the trends, analyses, opinions and facts of the recycling industries. The magazine offers extensive information about all aspects of recycling management, reports about human resource-related changes in the recycling industry, and feature articles about conventions and conferences.



Read the latest news on Waste and Recycling Middle East & Africa at, for more details, please click

### IUCN Conservation Guidelines

The IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group recently published the first-ever global guidelines for preserving the ecological connectivity of nature. The purpose of these Guidelines is to utilise the existing knowledge of best-available practices to support the efforts to combat fragmentation.

These Guidelines serve as tools to (1) apply ecological connectivity between protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and (2) develop ecological networks for conservation. Through these features, the Guidelines promote the best practices

for protecting the ecological networks that maintain, enhance and restore connectivity across both human and natural ecosystems.

Owing to the growing demand for innovating solutions for sustainable development at local and international levels, these guidelines also define and elucidate ways to create and maintain ecological corridors and ensure effective conservation of biological diversity.

Full Report  
Please click



## UN News

### Uniting Business LIVE

The 75<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly will begin online from 15<sup>th</sup> till 30<sup>th</sup> September. On this massive virtual gathering, the UN Global Compact is set to host a special online event 'Uniting Business LIVE' from 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> September, which will convene business leaders, governments and civil society to showcase their commitment to the UN's mission.

Over a series of three forums, leading Chief Executives, corporate sustainability experts and business leaders will come together to discuss and address gaps in progress of sustainable development, drive

business ambition on the SDGs and highlight cooperative and action-oriented solutions that are accessible for implementation.

As the world moves from reflection to action, this will be a great platform to learn how business can take clear steps and demonstrate bold leadership for the Decade of Action to transform business models and economies to become more just and inclusive, ensuring no one is left behind.

Visit the link for  
more details



### The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Convention on Mercury

This year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Convention of Minamata is being celebrated with the hashtag stating we can #MakeMercuryHistory. Minamata Convention on Mercury was adopted under the auspices of UNEP in 2013. It was named after Minamata Bay in Japan to emphasise the tragic health damage caused by industrial mercury pollution in 1950s and 1960s. The problem of Mercury's accumulation in the atmosphere is not an easy one to solve. Total atmospheric mercury concentrations are now about 450% higher than natural levels (UNEP, 2019). Due to restoration efforts, corals are expected to be back in the Minamata Bay. However, people still suffer from methyl-mercury poisoning in the past. The Minamata Convention will help us reach closer to our Sustainable Development Goals. By the end of 2020, Parties are required to cease the manufacture, import and export of many mercury-containing products listed in the Convention.

For more details  
please click



UNEP NEWS

### The Ocean League Campaign

The UNEP and The Ocean Agency joined forces in collaboration with creativity partner Adobe and launched "The Ocean League" campaign activation for #GlowingGone on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020, which portrayed how power of art and creativity can drive positive change for ocean protection and climate action. The campaign powered by Adobe Sign, is committed to inspire and enable people to be the creative minds and thinkers this world needs for a better change. Adobe has created specially designed ocean-themed Photoshop Camera lenses, giving everyone the opportunity to immerse themselves in virtual underwater worlds to create unique images that will be shared with decision-makers at key conferences across 2020 and 2021.

For more details  
please click





**UNCCD CRIC19**

The UNCCD’s Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) has announced the dates for its 19<sup>th</sup> session. The CRIC19 will be held from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at the World Conference Center Bonn, Germany.

UNCCD NEWS

CRIC19 aims to review the effective implementation of the Convention, Land Degradation Neutrality Fund and the Drought Initiative. Intergovernmental Working Group will also represent its interim report to Parties for consideration. This report details insight on implementation measures for addressing drought under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). There will also be a review of the development and promotion activities for targeted capacity building. UNCCD’s reporting and reviewing process is to be reconsidered as well.

Parties will exchange views through interactive dialogues and share experiences on the key topics of the agenda. Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Northern Mediterranean and Central and Eastern Europe are expected to participate and convene ahead of the session on 9 February 2021 at the UN Campus Bonn.

For more details please click



**EEG Upcoming Events**

**UAE A BIODIVERSITY HAVEN**

**VIRTUAL PLATFORM**  
4<sup>th</sup> Panel Discussion

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020

**OROC**

**ONE ROOT, ONE COMMUNI-TREE**

**PHASE 2**

20 Aug – 30 Nov 2020

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

**EEG MEMBERS’ UPDATE**

EEG warmly welcomed 6 renewed Corporate members and 1 New Individual member during the month of August 2020

**CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP**

Al Etihad Energy Services Co.	Renewal	Farneq Services LLC	Renewal
DNV GL AS Dubai Branch	Renewal	Total Abu Al Bukhoosh	Renewal
ABB Industries LLC	Renewal	Expo Dubai 2020 LLC	Renewal

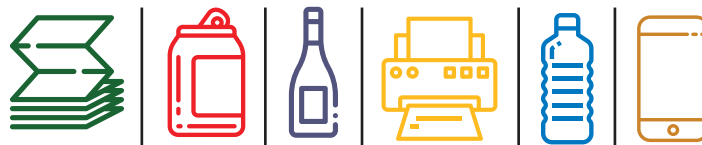
**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

Alvy M. Ortiz	New		
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The collection of materials for recycling in the month of August resulted in the following benefits:

- » GHG Reductions 275 (MTCO<sub>2</sub>)
- » Saving of 1,899 Million BTU of Energy
- » Saving of 466 m3 of Landfill Space
- » Saving of 1,187 trees from being felled
- » Saving of 248 Gallons of Gasoline



PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (kg)	Individuals	Quantity (kg)
"EEG has collected 67,583 kg of Paper from 223 participants during the month of August 2020, an increase of 2% compared to July 2020. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2020 so as to enable us to work towards our target. The Top Collectors were:	Trans Gulf Electromechanical LLC	12,340	Fatima Abdullah Mohammed Abdulla Al Zanhani	1,010
	AG Engineering Dubai	2,270	Lacksana Karthikeyan	995
	Det Norske Veritas (DNV) - Abu Dhabi	1,720	Madiha Javed	885
CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (kg)	Individuals	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 206 kg of Aluminum Cans from 20 participants during the month of August 2020, an increase of 55% compared to July 2020. The top collectors for the month were:	The Oberoi Beach Reosrt, Al Zorah	49	Trisha Nikhilkumar Sayani	70
	Delta Hotels by Marriott	35	-	-
	Rove Healthcare City & US Consulate (Tie)	10	-	-
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (kg)	Individuals	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 5,631 kg of Plastic from 114 participants during the month of August 2020 an increase of 39 % compared to July 2020. 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:	Abela & Co Jabel Ali	685	Fatima Abdullah Mohammed Abdulla Al Zanhani	150
	The Oberoi Beach Resort Al Zorah	640	Fatima Salman Al Sabri	125
	Abela & Co Al Aweer	400	K. Meera	78
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (kg)	Individuals	Quantity (kg)
EEG has collected 247 pcs of Toners from 4 participant during the month of August 2020, an increase of 1,135 % compared to July 2020. We encourage our participants to be active in the year 2020. The Top collectors were:	Sharjah Electricity & Water Authority	152	Mishka Punjabi	82
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Individuals	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 3,128 kg of Glass Bottles from 34 participants during the month of August 2020, an increase of 147% compared to July 2020. We encourage our participants to collect more in the year 2020. The Top collectors were:	Department of Tourism Development Ajman	760	Aashika Singh	55
	Delta Hotels by Marriott	530	Riddhi Agarwal	28
	Movenpick Grand Al Bustan Hotel L.L.C	260	Fatima Abdullah Mohammed Abdulla Al Zanhani	20
MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN				
EEG has collected 47 pcs of Mobile Phones from 4 participants during the month of August 2020. We have achieved 22.7% only of the annual target. We thank our participants and encourage everyone to collect more for the remaining months.				

