

EEG CORP NEWS

Together for a Better Environment®



April 2022
Issue 4



Upcoming Events



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Habiba Al Mar'ashi

Dear Readers,

It's the holy month of the Islamic calendar that prepares us to focus attention towards equality, social order, compassion, kindness, humility and sharing. In the month of Ramadan, we learn righteousness, benevolence, tolerance and environmental preservation. The month of spirituality has come, wishing you a blessed Ramadan filled with the right deeds and actions. As the world continues to think about the future course of actions needed to recover from Post COVID Pandemic, the first quarter of 2022 has already concluded. While the whole team at EEG was on its toes throughout the month of March with organising and attending a myriad of environmental events and conferences - locally and globally both physically and virtually.

We began the month with conducting our major corporate event, the **25th Annual Corporate Gala Dinner** which was held on **2nd March** under the kind Patronage and presence of H.E. Eng. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Chairman of the Department of Civil Aviation RAK and Member of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah Executive Council. This annual event was conducted this year under the theme **"Unified Humanity - Sustainable Planet"**. Read More on page 3. On **3rd March - International Women's Day**, I participated virtually as a speaker in a Round Table discussion organised by Zurich's Women's Innovation Network (WIN) under the theme **"Break the Bias"**. We discussed the challenges women face, gender stereotyping, how to deal with such biases and why we need more women in leadership roles amongst other issues related to diversity and inclusion.

On **16th March**, EEG conducted its first mega-international conference under the title **"Sustainable Urban Development under the prestigious patronage of EXPO 2020 Dubai"**. The conference was one-of-kind that brought together leaders and change makers to critically evaluate **"The Future of Housing Innovations for Developing Affordable and Sustainable Communities"**. Read More on page 5. On **17th March** I virtually presented at the **7th edition of the Knowledge Summit** organised by the **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF)** in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The summit was under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. EEG was also the official **"Supporting Organisation"** for the **Retrofit Tech MENA Summit** that took place on the **23rd**. I attended the event physically and spoke under the topic **"Importance of Retrofitting & Energy Efficiency towards Regional Environmental Goals."** Read More on page 6.

Held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, **Global Business Forum LATAM 2022** was organised in partnership with Expo 2020 Dubai and was hosted at the Expo Dubai Exhibition Centre. I was delighted to attend the **4th edition of the GBF**

Latin America on **24th March**, where I spoke under the session **"GROW - Boosting Growth by Combating Climate Change"**. Read more on page 6. The **6th International Conference on Applied Science Energy and Environment** was conducted on **26th March** at the Tishk International University in Erbil-Iraq. I was delighted to join them virtually and speak under the title **"The Environmental Practices in UAE and Path to Sustainable Use of Energy."** Read More on page 6.

Another flagship recycling activity of the month was the **Paper Walk**, which we organise annually on the sidelines of Earth Hour. As many as **63** participating entities and individuals visited EEG office over the course of the weekend the **26th & 27th** and contributed **18,623 kg** of paper, which included newspapers, cardboards, books etc. Read More on page 7.

With regards to our educational programmes, the Environmental Drawing Competition concluded on **31st March**. It received marvelous and amazing artworks from students across all 7 Emirates. The Awarding Ceremony is scheduled on **12th May 2022**.

The **22nd cycle** of the **Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition** is gaining momentum. The competition is set to take place on **18th April to 21st April** and I'm excited to hear the critical thoughts of our future environmental stewards. Read More on page 8.

On the recycling front, we launched our annual month-long **Green Call Project** - On **22nd March**. It is a unique recycling project involving all sectors of society to recycle old Mobile Phones in exchange for an opportunity to plant saplings of indigenous trees on **22.12.22**. Let me take this opportunity to invite all of you, especially the gadget-loving people, to join the **7th cycle** of the Green Call Project which will conclude on **22nd April**.

We continued our high-spirited journey to increase the Sustainable Green Spaces within the UAE, and planted saplings of **1,984** indigenous trees in March 2022. Read more on page 6. Our Community Programme **"One Root, One Communi-tree" (OROC)** project which we rolled out on **22nd Jan** and will conclude on **22nd May** is also progressing magnificently with many participants already achieving their targets and are eligible to plant trees under their names! Read More on page 7.

The **2nd panel discussion** is planned for **26.4.22** under the title **"The Green Grid Initiative: Commencement of the Renewable Energy Generation?"**. This panel will focus on the challenges of switching to smart green grids, the efficiency of existing grids in the Arab region and internationally. Read More on page 8. Enthusiasm is soaring high at the office of EEG, and we aim to keep the momentum going. I hope you will all enjoy reading this issue of the newsletter, as we bring to you the latest updates of EEG's activities and engagements, along with interesting news from across the world. Let us all work together for a better Environment!



“United Humanity, Sustainable Planet”

Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) hosted its 25th Annual Corporate Gala Dinner under the patronage of HE Eng. Sheikh Salem bin Sultan bin Saqr Al Qassimi, Chairman of the Ras Al Khaimah Civil Aviation Department, Member of the Executive Council of Ras Al Khaimah Government and Honorary Member of EEG at Sheraton Jumeirah Beach Resort on 2nd March.

The 25th annual event was held under the theme of ‘United Humanity, Sustainable Planet’ to further illustrate the importance of partnerships. The Co-Founder & Chairperson of EEG, welcomed the guests of the evening and said, “As the first Non-Government organisation dedicated to protecting the environment in the UAE, we have pioneered in promoting sustainable practices, whether it is in encouraging families through diverse collection drives or with our corporate members in improving their waste management systems and providing them various opportunities to give back to the society. Our efforts remained focused and strong even during the past two years of the pandemic.”

The Patron of the Annual Corporate Gala Dinner - H.E. Eng. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al Qasimi said: “As the nation and the world shifts its focus towards creating an economy that has enhanced innovations, it is vital that we as leaders focus on the responsibilities that support and underpin platforms that impart great value in spreading the message of sustainability to all. It gives me great pride and joy in seeing that EEG has brought together the Government, the Private Sector and the Academia to help them achieve their strong community based initiatives and programmes that have been designed with the aim of achieving sustainable development of our Country and beyond in mind.”

The Co-Founder & Chairperson also shared impressive numbers and data that EEG has achieved till date. The Gala Dinner was sponsored and supported by McDonald’s UAE - Platinum Sponsor, Wasl Properties - Special Sponsor, Chalhoub Group and Adeeb Group - Silver Sponsors, Farnek - Carbon Neutral Partner, and Arabia CSR Network - Sustainability Partner.

A Snapshot of 25th Annual Corporate Gala Dinner held on 2nd March



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UNEP Engagements

In the month of March, EEG participated in several of UN engagements:

1) UNEA 5.2

EEG virtually attended the United Nations Environment Assembly 5.2 held from **28th February to 2nd March 2022** in a hybrid format. UNEA 5.2 is aimed at creating global momentum towards reducing plastic pollution and also improving the Global Environmental Governance with UNEP. The sessions also discussed the 16 Draft Resolutions proposed by delegates in the 5 Resolution clusters which are **Marine and Plastic Pollution, Nature based solutions, Green Recovery, Global Environmental Governance and Chemicals**.

The assembly included various leadership and multi-stakeholder dialogues on SDG, UNEP Governance and also related to multilateralism. The main session was the committee of the whole which was tasked with discussing and negotiating different draft Resolutions sent for consideration by the Open-Ended Working Group on Committee of Permanent Representatives. The work of the Committee of the Whole was difficult but was completed on time with the cooperation of delegates and also the other stakeholders such as civil society and other groups who gave inputs to the member states. The main highlight of the assembly was the passing of the Resolution for the creation of Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee for addressing Plastic pollution which even the UN Secretary General called as a landmark moment. The Assembly in short showed the success of the coordinated actions in addressing global challenges and also the role of civil society in pressuring member states to take more action for consensus on environmental issues.

2) The Role of Sustainable Food Consumption and Production

There are about 500 million smallholder farms in the world that depend directly on food systems for their livelihoods, as do all of humans in terms of health and well-being. However, unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are a major driver of environmental deterioration, with food as a key component at the intersection of biodiversity, climate change, human health and livelihoods. At the global level, food systems, along the entire value chain from production to consumption, are responsible for around 30% of greenhouse gas emissions and 80% of natural habitat conversion rendering it the main driver of biodiversity loss, (UNEP, 2021).

In light of the upcoming preparatory meeting for Stockholm+50 that took place on 28th March in New York, EEG attended a virtual event on **21st March** co-hosted by Costa Rica, Switzerland, Vietnam and WWF in the frame of the UN One Planet Network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme. The event discussed the connections between sustainable food systems and sustainable consumption and production, and shed light on the synergies between the follow-up processes of the UN Food Systems Summit and Stockholm+50. Concrete examples drawing from National Pathways for Food Systems Transformation was presented during the session, followed by an interactive discussion with member states on a set of take-away messages. The event also discussed the key outcomes of the UN Secretary General's Food Systems Summit and its relation to the promotion of Sustainable Consumption and Production patterns (SDG12 and related goals). It explored how to mainstream food systems into the Stockholm+50 conference, as well as the three Rio Conventions.

**3rd
March**

Zurich Women's Innovation Network (WIN)

The insurance industry is always looking for innovative ways to attract, retain, and support female employees in their career development. Every company has a different strategy, but Zurich is making waves in the insurance arena through the Zurich Women's Innovation Network (WIN). WIN was founded in 2012 by Zurich employees. Its core strategy is aligned with Zurich's workforce sustainability commitments, with specific focus of building meaningful connections, developing leadership skills and inspiring confidence. Innovation lies, quite literally, at the core of WIN.

In celebration of the International Women's Day under the theme "Break the Bias", EEG Chairperson was invited by the Chair of Women's Innovation Network (WIN) - Middle East to join a virtual Round Table event on **3rd March**. The session shared thoughts on how to enable women on their path to independence aiming at forging a diverse and inclusive future. The discussion also revolves on the hurdles which women they face in the industry, how to address gender stereotypes, the progress on gender equality in life and work, the need of more women in leadership, and etc. Together we can forge women's equality. Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias.



**8th - 9th
March**

GISD Strategy Group Meeting

The Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance seeks to deliver concrete solutions to scale-up long-term finance and investment in sustainable development (see GISD Joint Statement). The Third Annual Meeting of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance, that took place in October last year, represented the conclusion of the initial two-year term of the joint efforts to find and advance solutions to the urgent problem of aligning finance with the Sustainable Development Goals. This also included efforts to bridge the investment gap for achieving the SDGs. During this time, the Alliance took significant steps towards unlocking private finance in a multitude of ways.

The next phase of the GISD Alliance will build upon the progress made so far and will expand the impact of the work with the implementation of the key deliverables and the establishment of new areas of activity. With this, the GISD Strategy members, had a virtual meeting on **8th and 9th March** which EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson attended in her capacity as GISD Alliance board member. The meeting featured very important sessions focussing on GISD's outreach and engagement activities, with critical interventions by GISD Alliance Co-Chair and the Lead of the new GISD Engagement Group.



14th-16th March 7th International Date Palm Conference

The 7th International Date Palm Conference was held at Emirates Palace Hotel, in Abu Dhabi, from 14th to 16th March, 2022, which was attended by 475 international researchers, and experts, from 42 countries. The Conference was under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE. The 7th International Date Palm Conference truly reflects the great interest of His Highness to support the field of science and scientists, and appreciation to the role of scientific research in the field of sustainable development in the UAE, as well as His Highness' interest in date palm and agricultural innovation fields, which represent an important economic, social and cultural value that has its unique position in the UAE's development journey.

EEG was proud to be on board as a Conference supporter. The 7th International Date Palm Conference, aims to provide an opportunity to update the scientific knowledge on various aspects of the date palm production, protection and marketing. The conference also aimed to present and compare the UAE's modern experiences with those with similar experiences in date producing and manufacturing countries. The 7th International Date Palm Conference, is a great example of an international conference, as it presents valuable researches and studies in various aspects of date palm cultivation, industry and trade, therefore, it could be characterised by comprehensiveness, where its vision involves introducing new and advanced experiences and expertise from around the world.

16th March The Sustainable Urban Development Conference

Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) and Global Urban Development (GUD) collaborated to organise an international housing conference at the Dubai Expo 2020 in Dubai, that showcased cutting-edge technologies with the potential to revolutionise the housing sector, cut housing costs drastically, provide employment opportunities and create walkable mixed-use climate-resilient sustainable innovation communities.

The conference received the patronage of EXPO 2020 Dubai under the leadership of H.E Reem Ebrahim Al Hashimy, Managing Director for the Expo 2020 Dubai Bureau and Member of the Higher Committee of Dubai Expo 2020 the conference. Knauf UAE and HOK UAE joined as Silver Sponsors. Arabia CSR Network came on board as the Sustainability Partner and the conference was a carbon neutral event courtesy of Farnek.

The conference was supported by EGBC and CEBC through the dissemination of invites to their networks, members and stakeholders respectively. Pre and Post Live Interviews were conducted by Dubai TV, Fujairah TV and Dubai Eye Radio where EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, emphasised the role of the conference and its potential to facilitate a change towards urban sustainable development. The discussions quantified the emerging trends in the first of its kind International Green Conference at EXPO Dubai. The conference aimed to present and discuss the current characteristics of the building sector and its impact on energy, environmental quality, economic and social status, to depict the existing phenomena, problems, and opportunities, analyse future trends, synergies & challenges and critically investigate the potential pathways towards a partial or full decarbonisation of the building sector. The Sustainable Urban Development Conference was a noteworthy platform which lifted the veil off a most critical and thought provoking theme: - "The Future of Housing Innovations for Developing Affordable and Sustainable Communities". The conference presented a galaxy of thoughts and experts from different regions of the world who shared insights and experiences related to the theme and sessions of the conference.

The conference featured 5 comprehensive thought provoking sessions namely:-

1. Integrating Technologies: Constructing Sustainable Housing
2. Re-examining Policies: Inclusive Role of Leadership
3. Accelerating Progress: Learning from Best Practices
4. Empowering People: The Role of Financing
5. Altering Urban Designs: Paths to Sustainable Communities



17th March MBRF's 7th Knowledge Summit

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai; the 7th edition of the Knowledge Summit organised by the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was opened on 5th March, followed by virtual conferences on 16th, 17th and 18th March under the theme (Knowledge: Protecting People and the Planet through Pandemics).

On 17th March, EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson was invited for a virtual Talk Show under the session "Coexistence and synergies in the marine space" which included topics such as promoting ocean literacy and ocean citizenship, uncovering the opportunities of the blue economy for Small Island Developing States, and restoring ocean health and productivity. The EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson shared deep insights and facts about the topic which was highly appreciated by the audience. In its 7th edition, the Knowledge Summit 2022 focuses on the role of knowledge in achieving Sustainable Development and facing global challenges such as pandemics, poverty, hunger and climate change, by devising the right solutions to protect the planet and ensure that all people live in prosperity, peace and justice. The launch of the Knowledge Summit is part of UAE's objectives to promote the transfer and dissemination of knowledge and highlight the opportunities and challenges of building knowledge societies, considering the unprecedented changes that have taken place due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



22nd March Workshop on World Water Day

The World Water Day is observed on **March 22nd** every year to raise awareness on the issues of water conservation and access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis. To mark this important day Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) in association with Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) organised an online workshop titled "Protecting Ground Water". EEG invited its student members as well as its corporate members to participate in this workshop. The workshop was presented by the Education and Awareness department of DEWA, the session revolved around this year's topic for World Water Day, 'Groundwater- Making the Invisible, Visible'. The workshop was interactive with the participation of around 51 EEG student members and 87 entities. The session elucidated the importance of groundwater and how we can conserve water. The workshop also made the participants aware of the UAE's scarcity of groundwater and how we avail drinking water by desalination. The attendees were engaged throughout the workshop by Q & A and they expressed their views and concerns on the topic.

22nd - 23rd March Retrofit Tech MENA Summit

EEG attended the recently conducted Retrofit Tech MENA that took place from **22nd - 23rd March** as one of the official "Supporting Organisation". EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson also attended the event as a keynote speaker under the topic "Importance of Retrofitting & Energy Efficiency towards Regional Environmental Goals." She shared her views on how retrofitting and making buildings and industries energy efficient is aligned with UAE's Energy Strategy 2050. She expressed her concerns over rising global temperatures and related changing climate and discussed major findings of the latest IPCC report. She shared how energy efficiency is essential to combat climate change and how it can be achieved by implementing the latest technologies in older infrastructures by retrofitting. Mrs. Habiba's keynote speech also included Dubai's building retrofitting strategy and the major clean energy projects in Dubai and how they are crucial for a green economy, in line with UAE's target to become Net Zero by 2050. She also elucidated the technological breakthroughs in recent years and how we are experiencing the Industrial Revolution 4.0, which makes transformation of the old infrastructures inevitable. The Retrofit Tech series of events are amongst the most prominent platforms for the key players in the Energy Efficiency, Sustainability and Retrofitting sectors to meet, network and exchange ideas on how to achieve the region's ambitious sustainability goals.



23rd - 24th March Global Business Forum LATAM

EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson attended as a Speaker at the Global Business Forum LATAM in a panel titled "GROW - Boosting Growth by Combating Climate Change." The Co-Founder and Chairperson spoke on the opportunities for economic growth in the region that can come from combating climate change with renewable energy. She also spoke on countries financing renewable energy projects through the use of instruments such as sustainable bonds and the role that investors and accelerators can play in creating innovative partnerships to not just provide finance but share best practices. This 4th edition of the Global Business Forum Latin America was organised by Dubai Chamber in partnership with Expo 2020 Dubai. It took place on **March 23rd & 24th** at the Dubai Exhibition Centre - Expo 2020 and was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai. Global Business Forum Latin America is a business conference exploring new avenues of economic cooperation between the UAE, Latin America and the Caribbean region. More than 800 delegates representing over 50 countries attended the event including government and business leaders, policymakers and investors from Latin America, the Caribbean and GCC regions. The high-level forum was one of the largest and most anticipated business events at Expo 2020 Dubai.



Bearing the theme "Towards a Resilient Future", the forum spotlighted reforms reshaping Latin American and Caribbean economies and new initiatives and efforts to position the regions for growth in the post-Covid era and beyond. The forum centres on three pillars, namely Reform, Empower and Grow. It was aimed to examine changing business dynamics in Latin America brought about by economic reforms, discussed new ways to support SMEs and entrepreneurs in the region, capitalise on new growth opportunities in the post-COVID digital world and utilise trade, foreign investment and regional integration as tools to drive sustainable growth. "GBF Latin America 2022 took place at a reasonable time as countries in the region emerge from the pandemic and adopt progressive strategies to future-proof their economies and build cross-border partnerships and drive sustainable growth. While challenges remain, there are also huge opportunities, especially with growth sectors showing strong potential at the moment such as digital economy, healthcare, logistics and technology," said H.E Hamad Buamim, President and CEO of Dubai Chamber.

26th March The 6th International Conference on Applied Science Energy and Environment

In order to enable the knowledge and information accessible to everyone, Faculty of Education, Tishk International University held its annual International Conference on Applied Sciences, Energy and Environment in a Hybrid format on **26th March 2022**. The ICASEE-2022 conference was designed to attract the research communities to promote connections between theory and practice and explore different perspectives on the application of research findings into different practices. The conference welcomed scholars coming from international and regional platforms as well as experts, engineers, lecturers and senior lecturers working in the broad areas of academic world and environmental protection. The ICASEE-2022 opened the channels, and paved roads of scientific collaboration and brought experiences together with expertise for further innovative thoughts and more creative research.

EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson joined the conference as a speaker in a session under the title "The Environmental Practices in UAE and Path to Sustainable Use of Energy." Her presentation focused on providing the students and attendees with a brief overview of the UAE history, its development; and the energy consumption patterns over the years in the country. The presentation also highlighted the existing and upcoming renewable energy projects in the country along with data about energy use, efficiency, the segregation of energy responsibilities, distribution of energy, the challenges and its applications. Her presentation touched upon the role of EEG as an NGO and its contributions towards preserving the environment through the means of education and action programmes. The ICASEE-2022 conference, with its broad spectrum of themes and branches also covered plans for embracing sustainable environment and cleaner energy through applied science research. The event targeted present new insights to values and standards of environmental protection, future trends of progressive mechanisms of improvement while looking more closely into the current dynamics in the world between old and new trends, local and global tendencies, progressive and conservative views, stabilisation and destabilisation patterns and national and global identities.



30th EGBC Board Meeting

March

EEG Chairperson, a Co-Founder and Board Treasurer of Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC) recently attended a virtual board meeting organised by EmiratesGBC on 30th March. The discussion revolved around the organisation-wide policies, the overall business strategy, Finances, and the memberships.

The board also had a discussion on all of the EGBC's programme updates on: 1) Responsible Construction Training Program; 2) Green Schools Coalition; 3) Annual Congress and Awards; 4) Embodied Carbon Working Group; 5) EmiratesGBC Women's Network; and the 6) Green Key. The board also discussed on the strategy and way forward for the second quarter of the year.



For Our Emirates We Plant

EEG conducted two Tree Planting events in the March of March. Emirates Environmental Group continued in the month of March its mission towards increasing the sustainable green patches and contributing in the urban afforestation strategy of the UAE. It partnered with the **National Bank of Fujairah** and in collaboration with **Fujairah Environment Agency** to organise a massive activity under the "For Our Emirates We Plant" programme. This Tree Planting Activity took place at **Dibba Al Fujairah** on **Saturday 6th March**. **265 saplings** of indigenous Sidr and Ghaf trees were planted at the honey protected area which upon maturity in 2 to 3 years will sequester 1.56 MTCO₂e from the atmosphere annually.

The second tree planting for the month of March and the third for the year 2022 was conducted on **19th March**, the event was held under the patronage and presence of H.E. Engr. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al-Qasimi, member of the Executive Council of the Government of Ras Al-Khaimah and Chairman of the Department of Civil Aviation in Ras Al Khaimah. This event brought together 8 organisations from various fields namely: Majid Al Futtaim, Magrudy's, Atyab Al Marshoud, Lafarge, SThree, GTI Fujairah Fzc, Association of Rotary Clubs - UAE and Gartner. In total 1,719 saplings of indigenous trees were planted that upon maturity in 2 -3 years will sequester 10.14 MTCO₂e from the atmosphere annually. The opening ceremony showcased Emirati heritage and culture as a talented local group of men performed Rizfah dance making the event vibrant and exciting for the attendees. The event concluded with a live cooking session by local Emirati Women, invited by EEG, who served local cuisine to all the participants and dignitaries present on the day. This unique attraction highlighted the Emirati culture of togetherness and hospitality. These important events resulted in direct deliverables of UN SDG Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing UN SDG Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities; Goal 12: Responsible consumption production; Goal 13: climate Action and Goal 15: Life on land and Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals.



One Root One Communi-Tree (OROC) Phase 1



UAE's steady economic development and the growing population is closely associated with the surging waste generation in the country. In recycling, material recovery without segregation is not possible. Hence we need to start segregating the waste at the source. EEG, through its flagship recycling programme has brought significant transformation in UAE's participation in waste segregation and recycling. The ongoing 'One Root One Communi-Tree' (OROC) Phase 1, which is running from **22nd January 2022 to 22nd May 2022**, gives UAE residents from families, academics, public and private sector, an opportunity to recycle plastic, paper, cans, glass, toners, mobile phones and e-waste.

Register with us to join the eco conscious society for a greener and sustainable future.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Green Call



With the advancement of technologies at such a rapid rate, we all have few mobile phones lurking in the back of our drawers, which are eventually dumped in the garbage and end up in landfills. Mobile phones contain hazardous materials such as lead, mercury, arsenic, cadmium and brominated flame retardants. When these phones are thrown away and are burnt, these toxic metals are released into the environment polluting it. We invite you to participate in our mobile recycling drive "Green Call", where you can collect old phones and responsibly recycle them with us. With recycling, **80%** of the materials are recoverable and keeps the environment clean while supporting the circular economy. EEG calls on all students, individuals, academics and corporates to join together as a community and be part of our green army. Register in the 7th cycle of "Green Call", which was rolled out on **22nd March** and will be running until **22nd April**.

To register for this programme, follow this link:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Paper Walk

In celebration of Earth Hour, EEG rolled out its well-known annual paper collection campaign "Paper Walk". This campaign was rolled out since 2009 and is now in its 14th cycle. While millions of people all around the world celebrated the Earth Hour by a coordinated commitment of switching off non-essential electric lights, a total of **63 EEG supporters** collected **18,623 kg** of paper and this resulted in reduction of **72 MT CO₂e**, Saving of **418 Million BTU** of Energy, Saving of **59 m³** of Landfill Space and Saving of **317 trees** from being felled. EEG's **Paper Walk** campaign is an attempt to spread awareness that our natural resources are limited. From the equator to the boreal forests, roughly **15 billion trees** are cut down every year out of which **37%** is attributed to timber harvesting which in turn is used for paper manufacturing. It is our constant endeavor to spread awareness for the sustainable consumption and bring a positive change towards recycling within UAE community.



EEG Welcomes Firetti Contemporary

We are delighted to welcome “Firetti Contemporary” as a corporate member to help contribute in making impactful difference to the environment. Firetti Contemporary is a gallery where art and creative concepts align from the region and beyond, encouraging global engagement through creating meaningful and sustainable collections. By representing both established and emerging artists from all over the world, Firetti Contemporary strives to build a multidisciplinary art space with a strong identity to an international platform. Bringing together like-minded individuals and pioneers of the artistic and expressive future, the gallery assembles a dynamic curation of works that encourage the importance of individuality as well as establishing collective alignment. The gallery embraces the central place that art can play in sustainability and social issues, whilst doing so its mission is to become a vehicle for social change, instilling values in our society through the inspirational power of art. Know more about Firetti Contemporary at <https://www.firetticontemporary.com/>

EEG Welcomes GoWIN

EEG is pleased to welcome GoWIN as its new Corporate Member. Specialised in selling discount vouchers, GoWIN vouchers are also self-customised. Holders of all valid “GoWin Discount Voucher” benefit from a variety of discounts options that are available and offered by second party outlets and points of sale agents. GoWIN customers automatically enter to participate free raffle draws. GoWIN Participating Outlets are the official point of sale/agent to sell and honor “GoWin Discount Vouchers” and promote free Raffle Tickets. For further details and detailed T&Cs, visit their website: <https://www.gowin.ae/en/home/>

Local News

DEWA and Etihad WE Water Sharing Hub

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) and Etihad Electricity and Water Authority (Etihad WE) have completed the strategic interconnection project in Masfout, which allows the exchange of up to two million gallons of potable water in case of emergencies or other purposes. The project supports the efforts of both organisations to promote water sustainability in the UAE. This project is part of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two parties to develop, operate and maintain strategic water interconnections and link the two water systems in specific locations to allow for water transfer in case of emergencies. The UAE Water Strategy 2036 aims to ensure sustainable access to water during both normal and emergency conditions and address long-term future water security challenges. The water interconnection between DEWA and Etihad WE is a joint effort to ensure water security and protect water resources as well as increase the efficiency and operational capacity of water networks. This ensures that services provided are according to the highest standards of efficiency, reliability, availability and quality as well as securing different needs for ambitious developmental plans to keep pace with the growing demand for water in light of the UAE's economic growth. The strategic interconnection of water networks between Etihad WE and DEWA, comes within the framework of the directives from the country's wise leadership to implement the recommendations, which has resulted in a sustainable strategy for water security within the priorities of the country's national agenda, which aims to integrate resources benefitting the advanced infrastructure owned by both parties through interconnection and water exchange in emergencies. This reduces operating risks and ensures continuity of services with the highest level of quality for all consumer sectors. These interconnections cover the Northern Emirates and areas under Etihad WE jurisdiction, it guarantees a sustainable and reliable water supply without interruption.

Upcoming Events

EEG's 2nd Panel Discussion



EEG's 2nd Panel Discussion is scheduled for **26th April**. It will raise the curtain on the most critical topic of the Century - “The Green Grid Initiative: Commencement of the Renewable Energy Generation?” This panel discussion will focus on the challenges of switching to smart green grids, the efficiency of existing grids in the Arab region and internationally, the commercial availability of technology, the changes required in policies, international relations, environmental and geological challenges of establishing the grids, the key players involved, the role of private sector, the role of individuals (household panel) and the role of recycling organisations in the renewable economy. The objective of the plenary session is to understand the need to shift from the conventional grid system to a green grid system. Join this session <https://forms.gle/LR57APnfjJfabRzt6> and be a part of the forthcoming happening in the UAE Sustainability scope.

Neighbourhood Recycling Project (NRP)



The year 2022 is looking forward to a post pandemic economic growth, but it is important that we move forward keeping in mind our environmental actions. Through Emirates Environmental Group's various environmental programmes we try to involve all sectors of the community to come and participate in our sustainable movement. One of such eco programmes is the Neighbourhood Recycling Project (NRP), which aims to involve the youth in their summer break to engage in local actions for environment conservation by participating in a **community based recycling campaign**. The 12th cycle of NRP will be launched on **1st June** and we invite all the students to participate and join us in this green cause. Participation and registration details will follow soon.



Recycle. Reforest. Repeat



Every year the **World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought** is observed on **17th June**. Land degradation and desertification matters now more than ever in this pandemic induced economic crisis. To commemorate this important day, EEG will be rolling out its ever-popular paper recycling campaign called the '**Recycle. Reforest. Repeat**' in its 7th consecutive year from **17th June to 22nd July**. RRR aims to involve households, communities, public and private sector to participate in 'paper collection campaign' and in turn get an opportunity to participate in our tree plantation drive. Stay tuned for the registration details!

UN News



UNCCD COP15

UNCCD
NEWS

'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity' this is the theme of the upcoming UNCCD COP15 to be held from 9-20 May 2022 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Releasing the brand for the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP15) the theme is a call to action to ensure land, the lifeline on this planet, continues to benefit present and future generations. About 70% of all ice-free land has been altered globally. Two billion hectares of land is degraded, according to World Resources Institute. The international community has pledged to restore one billion hectares of degraded land by 2030, according to the Global Potential for Land Restoration: Scenarios for the Global Land Outlook 2, with half of the global commitments made by Parties to the Convention. COP15 is expected to agree on actions to increase investment for land restoration and tackle the growing impacts of drought. The Convention is the global voice for land, helping to rally commitments for sustainable land and water management worldwide for a resilient future, with healthy land as a solid foundation for all life. It is ratified by 197 countries, including Côte d'Ivoire, which did so in 1997. UNCCD conferences of the parties are held every two years. COP14 was held in New Delhi, India, in September 2019. COP15 was re-scheduled from late 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



UN Environment Assembly Concludes with 14 Resolutions

UNEP
NEWS

The 5th UN Environment Assembly concluded this month in Nairobi with 14 resolutions to strengthen actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The Assembly is made up of 193 UN Member States and convenes every two years to advance global environmental governance. The world's ministers for the environment agreed to establish an Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee with the mandate to forge an international legally binding agreement to end plastic pollution. Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), said this was most significant environmental multilateral deal since the Paris accord. The 14 resolutions adopted by the UN Environment Assembly are:

Resolution to End plastic pollution: Towards an international legally binding instrument
Resolution on an Enhancing Circular Economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production
Resolution on Sustainable Lake Management

[Click for more](#)


UN to Honour Most Promising Initiatives to Restore Nature

UN
NEWS

Over 75% of Earth's lands and 66% of oceans are currently severely altered by human activity. A recent report found that as part of international climate and biodiversity goals, countries have promised to restore one billion hectares of ecosystems - an area larger than China. With this, the United Nations has published a call for countries to nominate World Restoration Flagships to honour the most ambitious and impactful global initiatives to rebuild degraded ecosystems. Governments are invited to present their most inspiring efforts for the call. More than 80 expressions of interest have already been registered and the first 10 World Restoration Flagships will be celebrated on the margins of the UN General Assembly in September 2022. The partnership of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, co-led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), is announcing the final stage of submissions of World Restoration Flagships to raise the profile and celebrate restoration efforts worldwide.

EEG MEMBERS' UPDATE

EEG Welcomed 2 new corporate members and 5 renewed corporate members and 2 new individual members in the month of March 2022

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Firetti Contemporary Gallery LLC	New	DBB Contracting LLC	Renewal
Abu Dhabi Terminals LLC	New	Dubai Duty Free	Renewal
ABB Industries LLC	Renewal	McDonald's UAE	Renewal
Arup Gulf Limited (Dubai Branch)	Renewal	-	-

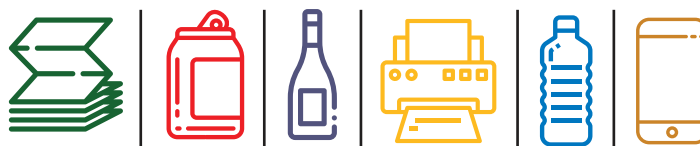
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Eyas Sabi El Nabulsi	New
Dr. Sudhir Rama Varma	New



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

- » GHG Reductions 425 (MTCO₂)
- » Saving of 3,115 Million BTU of Energy
- » Saving of 876 m³ of Landfill Space
- » Saving of 1,863 trees from being felled
- » Saving of 627 Gallons of Gasoline



PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 102,178 kg of Paper from 226 participants during the month of March 2022, an increase of 62% compared to February 2022. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2022 so as to enable us to work towards our target. The top Collectors were:	Keolis MHI	14,892	Jagadip Sai Seetharaman	1,320
	Global Shipping and Logistics LLC	11,365	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	1,198
	Multiplex Middle East	7,457	Jamila Ali Al Zaabi	1,177
CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected 384 kg of Aluminum Cans from 19 participants during the month of March 2022, a decrease of 94% compared to February 2022. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2022 so as to enable us to work towards our target. The top Collectors were:	Hilton Ras Al Khaimah Beach Resort	140	-	-
	Grand Central Hotel	46		
	Crowne Plaza Hotel Dubai	41		
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected 12,191 kg of Plastic from 114 participants during the month of March 2022, an increase of 21% compared to February 2022. We encourage our participants to reduce the amount of plastic ending in landfills by increasing their collections in the year 2022. The top collectors for the month were:	Al Naboodah Construction Group	1,940	Mezna Ali Al Zaabi	273
	Abela & Co Al Aweer	1,273	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	254
	National Corporation for Tourism and Hotels	1,035	Fatima Abdullah Mohammed Al Dhanhani	100
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Pcs)
EEG collected 264 pieces of Toners from 10 participants during the month of March 2022, an increase of 102% compared to February 2022. We encourage our participants to be active in the year 2022. The top collectors were:	Eltizam Assets Management Group	20	Toshith Bhaumik	82
	Grand Central Hotel	16	Tanisha Khorana	78
	Verger Delporte	12	Jovan Shino Chacko	34
MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected 154 pieces of Mobile Phones from 6 participants during the month of March 2022, a decrease of 25% compared to February 2022. We encourage our participants to be active in the year 2022. The top collectors were:	Eltizam Assets Management Group	25	Bhakti Venkatesh Hegde	60
			Veda Dinesh	32
			Mehak Bhatia	30
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 10,388 kg of Glass Bottles from 41 participants during the month of March 2022, an increase of 67% compared to February 2022. We thank our participants for their support to us and encourage them to continue collecting in the year 2022 to help us achieve our targets. The top collectors were:	Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone	4,670	Sultan Ali Al Zaabi	599
	Dubai Duty Free	1,200	Aera Ali Al Zaabi	591
	Platinum Heritage	700	Saher Vidya Kumar	106
E-WASTE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 298 kg of E-waste from 15 participants during the month of March 2022, a decrease of 80% compared to February 2022. We encourage our participants to continue collecting and prevent these materials from ending in landfills. The top collectors were:	Monjasa	48	Abdulrahman Ali Al Zaabi	67
	Emirates Literature Foundation	35	Laila	40
	Dubai Duty Free	23	Hari Prakash Subramoniam	20
SCRAP METAL COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Companies	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 22 kg of Scrap metal from 3 participants during the month of March 2022, a decrease of 90% compared to February 2022. We invite and encourage our participants to put more effort and to join this new programme. The top collector was:	-	-	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	15

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

