

# EEG EDU NEWS

Together for a Better Environment®



مجموعة عمل الإمارات للبيئة  
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL  
GROUP



July 2022  
Issue 7



Eid Al Adh'ha Al Mubarak

## Upcoming Events

EEG  
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

STUDENTS WORKSHOPS

The Quintessential  
**NET ZERO**

Students' Workshops  
24 - 26 October 2022

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EEG  
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Inter College  
**Environmental**  
Public Speaking Competition  
21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Venue Host  
DUBAI INTERNATIONAL  
ACADEMIC  
CITY  
studenthub

TOPICS

1. Water Security and Food Security - Combined?
2. Conquering the 'Fast Lanes of the Planet': Key to Preventing Climate Change?
3. Industrial Animal Agriculture - A Compelling Contributor to Climate Change?
4. Growing Cities - Redesigning Infrastructure Towards Net Zero

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## Reach Out to EEG for More Details



### BRING YOUR RECYCLABLES:

Every SUNDAY, 9:00AM to 4:00PM  
Villa No. 117a - JMR. 68, Jumeirah 1, Between old Dubai Zoo  
& Beach Centre.  
For more info, call EEG at 04 344 8622, or  
email eeg@emirates.net.ae - [www.eeg-uae.org](http://www.eeg-uae.org)



### EDITORIAL TEAM:

Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Mariella Gaspar, Urvashi Punjabi,  
Carlo Cuarto, Jipson Joy  
**DESIGNED BY:**  
Harris Laluan



## Habiba Al Mar'ashi

Dear Members, Followers and Friends of EEG,

Having played a central key role in advocating for the delivery of Climate Action and supporting UAE's Net Zero Strategy, EEG works continuously with its extensive network and wide range of partners and stakeholders to ensure that the environment does not take a setback. We work with all sectors of society, particularly the youth to raise environmental awareness and promote meaningful action. We have launched the 12<sup>th</sup> cycle of the summer project called the "Neighbourhood Recycling Project (NRP)" and urge all students in the UAE to come forward and to lead the transformational change and create a sustainable conscious society. Read more on page 7.

The Brazilian Packaging Association's (ABRE) Sustainability Forum took place between the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> June in São Paulo, Brazil, under the main theme of "Positive Packaging". EEG attended the same virtually. Read more on page 3. In our constant endeavour to reach out to all sectors and stimulate their role in environmental protection. Towards this end, several TV stations, i.e. Dubai TV on 3<sup>rd</sup> June; Sama Dubai Channel on 6<sup>th</sup> June and Al Dhafra TV on 6<sup>th</sup> June conducted interviews with us to be kept abreast with EEG's latest programmes and achievements.

EEG celebrated the green heroes of recycling and sustainability in the UAE through its 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the "Emirates Recycling Awards" organised on the occasion of World Environment Day on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the Dubai Knowledge Park. The unique event was held under the patronage and presence of H.H. 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 - Ras Al Khaimah. Read more on page 4.

I was invited on 9<sup>th</sup> June to address the members of Indus International's Health & Ecology session. More details on page 4. Tristar's Leadership Summit 2022 was organised on 10<sup>th</sup> June under the theme of "Sustainability and Environment" which I attended physically. The summit addressed the challenges of global warming and climate change and evaluated the opportunities available to achieve environmental progress. To commemorate, World Environment Day and World Ocean Day, Funun Arts organised an event that connected art to sustainability on 11<sup>th</sup> June at Novotel Hotel where I was invited as the Honorable Chief Guest. More details on page 4. Gulf Intelligence featured me in a "The Two Minute Warning International Feature Interview Series" on 15<sup>th</sup> June as a part of Gulf Intelligence's Energy Transition Dialogues Project. More details on page 5.

The 11<sup>th</sup> EmiratesGBC Congress was held on 15<sup>th</sup> June at the Pullman Dubai Creek City Centre under the Patronage and in the presence of Her Highness Sheikha Shamma Bint Sultan Bin Khalifa Al Nahyan.

As a founding member I attended and headed a session titled: Net Zero 2050: Public & Private Sector Leadership. More details on page 5. EEG's 3 panel discussion titled "The Battle Against Climate Change: The True Reality" was successfully conducted virtually on 16<sup>th</sup> June. Read more on page 5. EEG's 7<sup>th</sup> cycle of "Recycle.Reforest.Repeat" project was rolled out on 17<sup>th</sup> June and is receiving registrations in massive numbers. If you haven't registered yet, don't wait any longer as the project will conclude on 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Follow the link on page 7 to enroll.

I physically attended on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> June in my capacity as a Member of United Nations GISD Alliance, the Alliances Strategy Meetings in London. The primary purpose of the meetings was to contribute to the delivery of UN SDG's and exercise active environmental stewardship. Read more on page 3. As a member of WGBC's Board of Directors, I also attended the WorldGBC+20: Leadership Summit for Sustainable Built Environments that took place in London from 27<sup>th</sup> June till 1<sup>st</sup> July. The event included several interactive plenary sessions that brought together sustainability experts in urban development from different parts of the world. The Summit recorded the participation of 43 Green Building Councils from around the world. More details on page 6.

On the educational front we have started accepting registrations for the 22<sup>nd</sup> cycle of "Student's Workshops" scheduled to take place virtually between 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> of October under the theme "The Quintessential Net Zero". More details on page 8.

The Pan-Arab undergraduate programme - the 'Inter College Environmental Public Speaking Competition' is scheduled to take place between 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November as a hybrid event. It is currently in its 22<sup>nd</sup> cycle. The main objective of this competition is to create the much needed discourse amongst the youth on sustainability issues. More details on page 8.

As for our Community Waste Management Programmes; the second phase of "One Root, One Communi-tree" (OROC) project will start from 22<sup>nd</sup> July and will conclude on 30<sup>th</sup> November. I urge you to come forward and become sustainability ambassadors and contribute your recyclables to create a healthy environment.

Dear Readers, I'm honoured to disclose that I was awarded on 30<sup>th</sup> June, the Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice for my work in the realm of augmenting Environmental Sustainability. This Award is an annual event that celebrates and commemorates the legacy of Mother Teresa. Read more on page 6. We always have so many news to share, so join us and be a part of this wonderful organisation. I believe that the best way to learn and contribute is through working together, as unison is the only way to advance towards a better future.



## GISD Engagements

In the month of June, EEG participated in a couple of GISD engagements:

### 1) GISD Work-stream on SDG-related Reporting/Metrics

EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson, in her capacity as one of the members of UN's Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance (GISD), attended a meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> June to discuss the new GISD Work-stream on SDG-related Reporting/Metrics. The GISD Alliance and the CFO Coalition for the SDGs ("CFO Coalition") have sought to help companies and investors better align their businesses with the 17 UNSDGs. Incorporating the SDGs in business strategies and investment decisions is necessary to both manage risks and unlock opportunities. The GISD Alliance identified SDG-aligned, sector-specific metrics for 8 different sectors. Drawing from reporting frameworks and sustainability reports, the Alliance's recommendations help companies set targets, and track their SDG alignment. Meanwhile, the CFO Coalition has sought to help its membership adopt SDG-linked corporate financing tools. It has undertaken a mapping survey and is creating practical guidance for setting appropriate targets. Since these tools usually make the coupon dependent on an issuer's SDG performance, they must first identify credible SDG-linked metrics that can be structured into the bond or loan. The work-stream members discussed in detail the existing collaboration with partners to tailor the presentation of the metrics, the CFO Coalition-GISD collaboration. The members have also shared relevant learnings related to the sector-specific metrics.

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### 2) GISD Strategy Meeting



The outlook for the world economy is bleak. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt international markets and economies; the war in Ukraine has had a tremendous impact on food, energy and financial markets; economic challenges such as rising global inflation risk leading to monetary tightening are derailing an incipient recovery; and an escalating climate crisis continues to show snippets of the potential catastrophic effects of inaction. The increasingly turbulent global situation is weighing heavily on the already grim prospects of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Uncertainty continues to impact the private sector and its ability to significantly scale up investment that is aligned with sustainable development. The Secretary-General has issued an urgent call to rescue the SDGs and avoid a downward spiral with devastating consequences for people, planet, and prosperity. Effective and actionable solutions to (a) scale up long-term investments and (b) strengthen alignment of private business and finance with sustainable development are urgently needed. Against this bleak background, the UN GISD Alliance convened on 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> June in London for the Strategy Group meeting

which EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson attended in her capacity as one of the Board Members of the Alliance. The overarching objective of the Strategy Group Meeting was to identify how GISD Members are planning to adjust to a rapidly changing global context and what contributions the Alliance can make to turn the tide on the implementation of the SDGs. The discussions included:

The discussions included:

1. Concrete actions to advance the Alliance's work programme
2. Proposals to develop GISD responses to the current crises
3. Recommendations for the Annual Meeting 2022 with the Secretary General

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The discussions were enriched by the participation of Lord Nick Stern (IG Patel Professor of Economics and Government, London School of Economics) and Mr. Amar Bhattacharya (Senior Fellow, Brookings), who spoke at the meeting on 'The Road to COP 27 - Financing a sustainable and resilient future.' Another important part of the meeting was the launch of the Model Mandate which was first published by ICGN in 2012 and has been updated in partnership with the UN Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance. The Mandate offers guidance on how to incorporate the UN Sustainable Development Goals into investor stewardship activities. It provides asset owners with example contractual terms to consider when agreeing mandates with asset managers in their efforts to preserve and enhance long-term value.

## 1<sup>st</sup> June Global Major Groups Open Dialogue on Stockholm +50

EEG virtually attended on 1st June, the Global Major Groups Open Dialogue on Stockholm +50. The objective of this event was to have an open session on various topics / themes / dialogues related to Stockholm+50 between global Major Groups, local CSOs, environmental activists, media, businesses, science, and governments. They brought together various stakeholders (business, science, media, government, etc.) to bring new ideas to the table. It is only by dialogues, communication, and speaking out with diverse groups of stockholders, state-actors and non-state actors, people to people discussions that one can make a tangible change, spread awareness and agree on collective actions. The main purpose was to give different major groups a space to express their opinions, voices, concerns, experiences and present their key messages to Stockholm+50. The speakers stated the importance of working together to make a difference in the carbon use, the importance of accelerating our actions for the environment and to be more engaged, there is a need to work regionally and internationally and not just in Stockholm. Moreover, food waste and the reasons for why companies should invest in food waste which is a global problem and the need for actions. Besides, a discussion was focused on the importance of environmental prevention plan, and how we could be more efficient. Lastly, it was argued that regionally and globally, governments need to change, to allow environmental actions and we should identify our roles because we all have a responsibility vis-à-vis our environment.

## 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> June EEG at ABRE's Packaging Sustainability Forum

EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi virtually joined the Brazilian Packaging Association's (ABRE) Sustainability Forum that took place between the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> June in São Paulo, Brazil. It was under the main theme of "Positive Packaging" and its role in the sustainable consumption chain. Over the course of the Forum, the participants had a hybrid fair model that addressed several topics and had the presence of national and international cases. The first day was dedicated to debates on the concept of positive packaging and how it is present in everyday life. During the second day, the discussions focused on communication and consumer engagement and the last day focused on structuring initiatives to have a more sustainable consumption chain. In Mrs. Habiba's session, she explored and shared how packaging can serve a more sustainable society, how packaging can communicate and engage consumers for more sustainable behaviours and most of all, how can brands and organisations like EEG foster engagement programmes for the recycling of packaging. Furthermore, she shared the learnings of EEG about building circularity across the UAE. The International Sustainability Forum gathered FMCG companies, packaging supply chain, environmentalists and experts, to build collaboration and discussed the sustainability for today and tomorrow's societies.



## 6<sup>th</sup> June Emirates Recycling Awards

As a celebration of the World Environment Day, EEG organised the Annual Awarding Ceremony, the “Emirates Recycling Awards” to award its Waste Management & Recycling Champions. This year we also celebrated the silver jubilee or the 25<sup>th</sup> cycle of this unique and one of a kind programme. This event was conducted under the prestigious patronage and presence of H.E. Engr. Sheikh Salem bin Sultan bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Chairman of the Ras Al Khaimah Civil Aviation Authority and member of the Executive Council of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah. Since 1991, EEG has been the pioneering non-government organisation that has rallied thousands of individuals and institutions under the banner slogan of “Together for a better environment.” EEG established recycling initiatives at a time when the concept of recycling was not yet established in the UAE. EEG offers recycling of several waste streams or end-of-life items at one go, rewards top collectors of recyclable wastes on an annual basis, and produces very valid data of each recyclable item and the environmental benefits achieved.

The strong sustainability impacts of these programmes are manifested through the continuing success of EEG’s waste management and educational programmes. All of these programmes are directed at the grass-root levels, to create awareness and commitment about environmental responsibility at the individual as well as on the institutional level. The silver sponsors of the event were: McDonalds UAE, Tristar, ACER, The Body Shop UAE and the in-kind support sponsors were Air Arabia, L’Oréal, Wild Wadi, Dabur, Almarai, Atyab Al Marshoud, Thalgo, Tetra Pak, Brother International, Pizza Express, ITL Cosmos, Nikai, EMAX Electronics and Dubai Aquarium and Underwater Zoo. A selection of hotels from all over UAE also presented various vouchers to host the winners and the teachers of the winning educational institutions in their prestigious hotels.



The winners of EEG’s Emirates Recycling Awards 2021 were:

	Academic	Individual/Family	Corporate
Aluminium Cans	New York University Saadiyat Island Abu Dhabi	Mark Monteiro	Canpack Middle East One Person LLC
Paper	Latifa School For Girls	Nia Treeza Tony	AG Engineering Dubai
Plastic	Our Own High School - Dubai	Nia Treeza Tony	Abela & Co Al Aweer
Toners	-	Shahd Hassan Al Suwaidan	Sharjah Electricity, Gas & Water Authority
Glass	New York University Saadiyat Island Abu Dhabi	Aashika Singh	Taj Waste Management LLC
Mobile	Our Own High School, Dubai	Shivani Adduri	Dubai Public Prosecution
E-waste	-	Manan Nilesh Chandak	Danube Home
Scrap Metal	-	Shafeeka Jamal	McDonald’s UAE

In EEG’s continuous efforts to minimise the environmental impact of its activities, 5.90 metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced as a result of organising this programme were offset, by making a sustainable contribution to voluntary climate protection, in collaboration with EEG’s devoted corporate member, Farnek.

## 9<sup>th</sup> June Indus International

EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson addressed the members of Indus International’s Health & Ecology session on 9<sup>th</sup> June. Indus International is a non-profit organisation providing opportunities for women of various nationalities living in Mumbai, India to meet together, exchange ideas and work towards acquiring a greater understanding of the different cultures and people of the world in which we live. Equally important is its goal to promote fellowship and friendship among its members, and to provide a forum for holding of lectures, symposia, seminars and audio-visual presentations on various subjects. During the session, Mrs. Habiba shared a brief introduction and information about EEG. Her presentation also focused on how she started EEG and her journey as the first environmentalist in the UAE. She shared her motivational experience and how she started a green movement against the tide in the arid desert of the UAE, the challenges, her deep-rooted work way ahead of time before sustainability became a culture and what sustainability means not only for her, but for the nation.

## 11<sup>th</sup> June Only One Earth to Revitalise

World Environment Day and World Ocean Day are being observed at a time when the planet is facing multiple crisis – from climate change to biodiversity loss. In line with this, Funun Art organised a special event which connected art to sustainability on 11<sup>th</sup> June at Novotel, Dubai World Trade Center which EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson attended as its Honourable Chief Guest. There was Art talk on connecting sustainability & art, Seminar & panel discussion bringing youth on board along with 11 other professional Panelists who shared their expert thoughts & ideas. Furthermore, there were Sustainable art workshops where artists painted on clay pots, old drums, tyres, etc... which will form part of the sustainable corner at the Novotel.



During the event, Mrs. Habiba shared valuable initiatives about EEG and shared a very important point: “Responsibility befalls each and every human being on the planet. While we are consuming Earth’s resources and surviving on its ecosystem services, we have clearly overstepped the planet’s carrying capacity. Our collective ecological footprint stands at 1.6 Earth, which means we need more than one planet to sustain us. So, can anyone escape the responsibility? As individuals we need to look closely at every aspect of our lives and how it is affecting the Earth and its natural systems.” She further reiterated: “Everyone everywhere can help create a more sustainable planet. You can help and ensure that this unique and beautiful planet remains a secure home for humanity. Let us come together as Citizens of the World, to confront these impacts of climate change and empower humanity to stimulate the changes our planet rapidly needs to avert environmental crisis.”

## 15<sup>th</sup> Two Minute Interview Series

June

EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson was featured in “The Two Minute Warning International Feature Interview Series” by the Gulf Intelligence which was published on 15<sup>th</sup> June via its social media pages. The Interview Series is part of Gulf Intelligence’s Energy Transition Dialogues Project, which has achieved a social media reach of 15M so far. “The Two Minute Warning International Feature Interview Series” takes a deeper dive into what is the biggest overhaul in global energy markets in a century. Exclusive interviews reveal timely market knowledge and insights, examining ‘why should we care?’ and ‘what will happen next?’ in the global push for a lower carbon future.

Mrs. Habiba spoke under the topic “Playing ESG Correctly Enabled Companies to Thrive During Crisis”. During the session, she shared her personal observations in terms of social and environmental progress and how the UAE and the GCC changed in terms of the level of awareness among companies and the community at large, etc. During her interview, she shared a very important point: “Youth is and has always been a focus of our attention. I have found young people to be interested, aware and motivated. They do understand the critical issues of the day, either environmental or social. They have a freshness of vision that helps them to see beyond the immediate and into the future; - their future. They have resolve, so they are bold in their statements and actions. If given proper guidance and requisite opportunities, youth will continue to be aware and committed towards social and environmental issues. They realise that it is their future that is at stake, and they want the leaders and others of the present generation to act in a responsible way so that their growth and well-being is not compromised.”

[Watch Here](#)

## 15<sup>th</sup> EmiratesGBC Congress

June

Held on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the Pullman Dubai Creek City Centre, the 11<sup>th</sup> EmiratesGBC Congress kicked off with its theme of ‘Path to Net Zero 2050’ where panels and experts talked about the importance of adapting to the climate change crisis dominating the world. Inaugurated by H.H. Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, Honorary President of EmiratesGBC and CEO of Alliances for Global Sustainability (AGS), the annual congress was inspired by the UAE’s Net-Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative. H.H. Sheikha Shamma said: “The UAE’s Net-Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative is the key national driver for energy transition and decarbonisation. To achieve this, it is important that all stakeholders to come together and take concerted action, underpinned by the strategic direction that positive climate action will unlock economic opportunities that benefit all.”



The event included three panel discussions moderated by Head of sustainability services at JLL, Ms. Hanife Ymer, Chair of the EmiratesGBC Women’s Network, Ms. Farah Yassine, and EGBC’s Co-founder and Treasurer & EEG’s Co-Founder & Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi. The 3<sup>rd</sup> panel, was headed by Mrs. Habiba and talked about the overall idea of a net-zero 2050, specifically on public and private sector leadership. She opened the session by sharing an important point: “The UAE Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative aligns with the Paris Agreement, which calls on countries to prepare long-term strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and limit the rise in global temperature to 1.5 C compared to pre-industrial levels. The UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategy builds on the country’s three decades of climate efforts and represents a strategic target for the next three decades.” The panelists included Mr. Saeed Alabbar, CEO at AESG, Mr. David Gatward, chief engineering and technical services officer at Abu Dhabi Ports, Ms. Nazly Asadollahpour, ESG director at MAF, Mr. Abdulazeez Maddi, a specialist at the Department of Municipalities and Transport -Abu Dhabi and Engr. Faisal Rashid, senior director, demand-side management supreme council of energy.

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## 16<sup>th</sup> EEG’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Panel Discussion

June

The effects of climate change have become more prevalent in the last few years in terms of unpredictable natural disasters and erratic weather patterns. This has resulted in massive crop failures, mass migrations, damage’s to infrastructure and so on. The world is on track to shoot far past climate change targets unless countries make drastic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible. Climate scientists say there is little margin for delay if the world wants to hold global warming to relatively tolerable levels. The battle against climate change is a multi-dimensional concern affecting everyone across all levels. To facilitate the decade’s most significant discussion, EEG conducted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Panel discussion under the theme: “The Battle Against Climate Change: The True Reality” on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

In her opening remarks, the EEG Chairperson said that “Climate resilient development is enabled, when governments, civil society and the private sector make inclusive development choices that prioritise risk reduction, equity and justice, and when decision-making processes, finance and actions are integrated across governance levels, sectors with timeframes. Climate resilient development is facilitated by international cooperation and by governments at all levels working with communities, civil society, educational bodies, scientific and other institutions, media, investors and businesses; and by developing partnerships with traditionally marginalised groups, including Women, Youth, Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities and Ethnic Minorities. These partnerships are most effective when supported by enabling political leadership, institutions, resources, including finance, as well as climate services, information and decision support tools.”

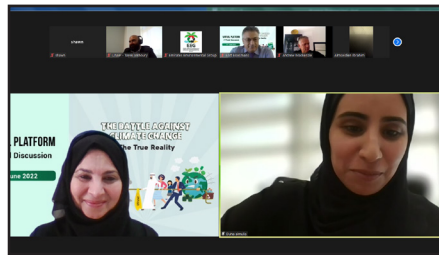
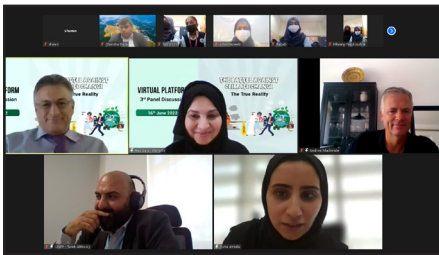


The distinguished plenary session speakers who contributed their expert views were:

1. **Mr. Tarek Alkhoury**, Regional Coordinator, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production, UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
2. **Ms. Duha Almulla**, Head of Environmental Affairs Section - Green Development and Environmental Affairs Department, Ministry of Climate Change and Environment
3. **Mr. Bart Boesmans**, Chief Technology Officer, ACWA Power
4. **Mr. Andrew Mackenzie**, Senior Lecturer, Business School, and Head of Institute of Sustainable Development, Middlesex University Dubai

The panel addressed the actual reality of the progress towards sustainable actions. It addressed the impact of activities of major sectors on climate change, the steps taken to tackle the issue, the time required to attain sustainable economic models and the challenges to change.

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## 26<sup>th</sup> June *Kalayaan 2022 (Independence 2022)*

Emirates Environmental Group supported the “Kalayaan 2022 (Philippines Independence 2022)” on **26<sup>th</sup> June** at the World Trade Center Dubai. It was a joint project between Emirates Loves Philippines and the Philippine Business Council - Dubai & Northern Emirates (PBC).

The event was graced with His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Member of the Cabinet and Minister of Tolerance and Co-existence as the Keynote Speaker. He re-affirmed the significant contributions Filipinos provide to the success of the UAE. Also present at the event was His Excellency Sheikh Majid Rashid Al Mualla, CEO of Majestic Investments and Office of Sheikh Majid Al Mualla, who, in his speech, offered his support to the Filipino community, particularly the business sector. As part of the ‘Salamat UAE’ (Thank You, UAE) segment of the event, Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) supported the ‘Isang Lata, Bawas Basura’ (One Can, Less Waste) project to promote the Aluminium Can Collection among the PBC community, its members and the Filipino Community in the UAE.

## 27<sup>th</sup> June *WorldGBC Leadership Summit 2022*

The World Green Building Council (WorldGBC) is a global action network of over 70 Green Building Councils around the world. It catalyses the uptake of sustainable built environments for everyone, everywhere. Transforming the building and construction sector across three strategic areas—climate action, health & wellbeing, and resources & circularity. To mark its 20 years’ anniversary, WorldGBC hosted the WorldGBC+20: Leadership Summit for Sustainable Built Environments on **27<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July** in London which was attended by the EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson, in her capacity as one of WGBC’s Board of Directors.

As part of London Climate Action Week 2022, the event enabled participants and members to reconnect with fellow change makers, discover new solutions and celebrated 20 years of accomplishments across the WorldGBC network. The Leadership Summit brought together progressive leaders and special guests from across the WorldGBC network with the attendance of more than 43 GBC’s from around the world. On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the event, 27<sup>th</sup> June, WGBC hosted the WorldGBC Board meeting and the Corporate Advisory Board (CAB). As part of the Leadership Summit, the WGBC organised the WorldGBC+20: Global Solutions Forum on 28<sup>th</sup> June. Panel 1: Urban Resilience Strategies: Collaborations for Climate and Social Justice The in-person event covered five themes that are critical to accelerating sustainability in the built environment.

1. Panel 2: Enabling the Circular Economy for Social Prosperity
2. Panel 3: Mainstreaming Whole Life Carbon: Plugging the Data Gaps
3. Panel 4: Financing the Built Environment’s Deep Green Transformation
4. Panel 5: Energy Efficiency: the Golden Rule for Net Zero in the Built Environment

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The other remaining days of the leadership summit focused on the Annual General Meeting, CEO Network and GBC University meetings, panel discussions, and a special day out of the network.

## 30<sup>th</sup> June *Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice*

Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson, was one of the recipients of the prestigious Mother Teresa Memorial Award for Social Justice 2021. The Awards commemorate the legacy of Mother Teresa. It was instituted in the memory of Mother Teresa in the year 2005, who was canonised a Saint by H.H. Pope Francis in the Vatican. Mrs. Habiba won the award for her philanthropic efforts to the furtherance of environmental sustainability not only in the UAE but throughout the Arab Region and her relentless work in the realm of augmenting Environmental Sustainability. Mrs. Habiba’s selfless act in the field of Sustainability and environment and her efforts towards Environmental planning and long-term strategy in Sustainability in the Arab Region is highly commendable.



She was presented with the award alongside 8 other recipients on 30<sup>th</sup> June at Manarat Al Saadiyat in Abu Dhabi at a ceremony organised by the Harmony Foundation held in partnership with the Supreme Council of Motherhood and Child, UAE under the Chief Patronship of Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak (Mother of the Nation). Past awardees include luminaries like Dr. Oby Ezekwesili (Nigerian Presidential Candidate -2019 & Founder- Bring Back Our Girls), Nobel Laureates like UNHCR- The Refugee Agency, H.H. Dalai Lama, Ms. Malala Yousufzai, the Nobel laureate who has become a global icon for the education of the girl child, Médecins Sans Frontières, etc.

### EEG’s Active Work on the Ground

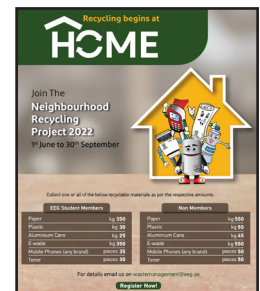
EEG continues to strive to reach to all sectors of the society including the Media, towards that end EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson was interviewed by Dubai TV on 3<sup>rd</sup> June; Sama Dubai Channel on 6<sup>th</sup> June and Al Dhafra TV on 6<sup>th</sup> June. During her interview, she shared a brief introduction about EEG and further added that the organisation focuses on the society as a whole regardless of their gender and nationality which is considered as one of the most important success factors of the organisation. Reaching all sectors to activate their role by including them in the environmental protection system and by raising awareness and providing practical platforms that encourage them to participate.

EEG Chairperson shared the works of EEG and the engagement platforms that it has rolled out to engage with youth at the grass-roots level since its inception in 1991. Moreover, EEG concentrates on the corporate world and brings it on board its work to conserve natural resources by launching innovative and practical initiatives and programmes covering ‘education’ ‘conservation of resources’ ‘waste management and recycling’ ‘Urban Afforestation’ and others. The Chairperson also shared the active participation that the organisation receives from educational institutions, the public and private sectors, families and individuals as they interact and volunteer throughout the year and from all the Emirates.

### Neighbourhood Recycling Project (NRP)

The 12<sup>th</sup> cycle of the Neighbourhood Recycling Project (NRP) was rolled out on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 and shall conclude on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The project provides urban afforestation opportunities when a pre-determined quantity of recyclable material is collected with the project time span of two weeks. The project was rolled out in 2010 with the aim of engaging the student body during the summer months to develop their oratory, organisational and perseverance capabilities by contacting 20 neighbouring families. The NRP helps spread EEG’s message of the conservation and preservation of the environment and the natural resources. Those who achieve the target are provided opportunities to plant native trees under their names and promote the concept of urban afforestation and combat desertification.

We urge all the students to register for this beautiful summer project and roll up their sleeves and to collaborate with EEG to gather and recycle more recyclable waste and divert them from landfills.



To register , please fill in the details via this link: [Click Here](#)

### Recycle.Reforest.Repeat

Land degradation and desertification matters even more in this pandemic induced economic crisis. It means that fewer wild spaces to buffer us from zoonotic diseases and extreme weather patterns, such as droughts, sand storms, dusts, floods etc. The 2022 Desertification and Drought Day celebrated globally on 17<sup>th</sup> June was a unique occasion to remind everyone that land degradation neutrality is achievable through strong community involvement and co-operation at all levels.

To facilitate environmental action of different stakeholders, EEG launched the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the paper recycling project “Recycle.Reforest.Repeat” on 17<sup>th</sup> June and the project is running until 22<sup>nd</sup> July. If you haven’t yet registered for it, visit: <https://forms.gle/PMeXikmSPfrZS1BZ6> and participate in paper recycling campaign to can get an opportunity to participate in our urban afforestation drive.



## Educational News

### GEMS Education Students Display Innovative Solutions

Twelve GEMS schools took part in an initiative under the theme “STEAMability” directed on finding innovative solutions to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN DSG’s). Five teams of children with exceptional abilities, slow learners, as well as children of determination, presented to an audience of fellow students, parents and educators.

Their prototypes and demonstration models circled around subjects of stopping water wastage on campus, security against intruders at school, model car for land, sea and air travel amongst other ideas. The teams independently finalised their projects without assistance from their teachers in only three weeks that were presented at Gems Legacy Schools.



## One Root, One Communi-Tree (OROC)

The 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the 13<sup>th</sup> cycle of the “One Root, One Communi-Tree” (OROC) project, started on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022 and concluded on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022. We are grateful to all the participants for coming forward and contributing towards a Sustainable Future! We are launching the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of this project on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 and it will run until 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022. The Phase 1 of this project recorded the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of participants (344 volunteers) and the highest number of trees (780) since the inception of this project. These trees will be planted by the participants under their names to mark their noble efforts on 22.12.22.

We are optimistic that we will receive the same support and more for the Phase 2 that we received in Phase1, from the Eco-Community. Start collecting your wastes, and visit the following link to register for this recycling campaign:



[Register Here](#)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Panel Discussion

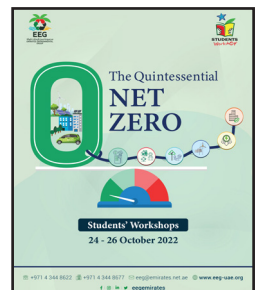
To discuss radical changes in the packaging industry and to ensure sustainability and recyclable practices under the title “Taking Packaging, Full Circle” EEG is organising the 4<sup>th</sup> Panel Discussion on 22.8.22 in a hybrid format for the first time since 2020. This panel discussion aims to bring to the table ways to improve sustainability in the packaging world and to discuss the latest innovations, policies and best practices to ensure that this industry is low in Carbon emissions. A call to action for all stakeholders in all sectors is to consider how they can think and act in a more circular way to help the country transition to a successful, sustainable and circular low carbon economy. Transitioning to a circular economy and achieving UN SGD 12&13 will require concerted efforts from national and local governments, the private sector, the academia and the public.



We are delighted to have on board supporting this panel the World Packaging Organisation. The plenary session's Main Sponsors are Al Bayader International and McDonalds UAE. Co-Sponsors are Jotun and Taghleef Industries. In our concerted efforts to work with our partners and associates to expand the reach of our messages, we have the ACSRN, the EmiratesGBC, the CEBC and the Swiss Business Council. Register here <https://forms.gle/EunhDeY8Az3RtvUb8> to attend physically or virtually, and join this critical discussion that will answer pressing questions of how can the general public influence the packaging industry? Should package manufacturers be forced to submit a recycling, circular loop plan to governments and their customers for every type of packaging material developed?

## Students Workshops

As a UNEP accredited organisation, Emirates Environmental Group strives towards implementing the UN SDG Goal number 4 by educating and empowering the younger generations and instilling values of environmentalism and arming them with confidence, critical thinking skills and sound knowledge on existing sustainability issues. To educate students about the factors contributing to climate change, and enable them to incorporate ecofriendly habits to build a sustainable future, EEG is conducting the 22<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the “Students Workshop” under the theme: “The Quintessential Net Zero” from 24<sup>th</sup> October to 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The workshop will be conducted physically for the first time since the onset of pandemic in 2020.



The activities conducted under this workshop will cover solutions from the perspective of Energy use, Food consumption, Upcycle, Organic farming with key understandings to achieve the UN SDGs. The workshops will similarly provide an opportunity for teachers to network and absorb new techniques of inclusive teaching and learning, which can be translated within the classrooms.

To participate in this programme, please register online by clicking the following link:

[Register Here](#)

## Inter College Environmental Public Speaking Competition 2022

EEG has just rolled out the 22<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the Inter College Environmental Public Speaking Competition (ICEPSC). This programme empowers the youth to take on leadership abilities; conduct research, exercise critical thinking habits, encourage teamwork and challenge public speaking skills and captivate the audience in scientific and creative discussions. The topics for the year were chosen with extreme scrutiny, taking suggestions from previous participants, educators, sponsors, judges and the wide pool of resourceful people. Considering the current situation faced by the global community, to encompass the shift in focus towards the need for sustainability during and after the pandemic.



The Competition is scheduled to take place from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. In this 22<sup>nd</sup> cycle, we aim to root it deeper by extending this previously 2-day event to 4 days, to enable more student participation and enable more institutions to benefit from this unique one of a kind intellectual platform.

To enroll your students for this enthralling competition, register here:

[Click Here](#)





UNCCD NEWS

### Latest Climate Report Underscores Urgent Action

The State of the Global Climate in 2021 report released in May 2022 by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) confirms that the past seven years have been the warmest seven years on record. According to the Report, drought affected many parts of the world, including the Horn of Africa, Canada, the Western United States, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey. East Africa is facing the very real prospect that the rains will fail for a fourth consecutive season, placing Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia in a drought of a length not experienced in the last 40 years. It states further that humanitarian agencies are warning of devastating impacts on people and livelihoods in the region. In South America, drought caused big agricultural losses and disrupted energy production and river transport. Drought resilience was at the top of the agenda of the 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) that took place in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The WMO report shows that we may be closer to over-shooting the desired temperature rise unless drastic measures are taken. It further states that the average global temperature in 2021 was about 1.11 (± 0.13) °C above the pre-industrial level.

[Click for more](#)



UNEP NEWS

### Global Digital Coalition

A UN-backed coalition of 1,000 stakeholders from over 100 countries recently launched an Action Plan to steer digitalisation towards accelerating environmentally and socially sustainable development. The Coalition for Digital Environmental Sustainability (CODES) aims to help re-orient and prioritise the application of digital technologies to meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and address the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and waste.

The flagship CODES Action Plan, launched during the Stockholm+50 international environmental meeting, proposes a comprehensive and strategic approach to embed sustainability in all aspects of digitalisation. This includes building globally inclusive processes to define standards and governance frameworks for digital sustainability, allocating the necessary resources and infrastructure, and identifying opportunities to reduce potential harms or risks from digitalisation. "Digitalisation is changing the way the world works, but the new world of work must be a sustainable one. It is critical that digital innovations and technologies accelerate environmental sustainability. UNEP is committed to supporting CODES and digital sustainability as a core part of our new Digital Transformation programme" said Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme and CODES co-champion.

[Click for more](#)

## EEG MEMBERS' UPDATE

EEG Welcomed 9 new student members, 7 renewed student members, 1 new academic member and 1 renewed academic member in the month of June 2022

### STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Sharrvaesh Modan Mohan	New	Shaurya Tankkar	New
Taher Mustafa Mukadam	New	Nileena Mariam Jonesh	Renewal
Dhyan Jithin Rajan	New	Stuti Kamath	Renewal
Shikha Shah	New	Aradhana Suresh	Renewal
Crizelle Dsouza	New	Sean Sanoop George	Renewal
Akshay Akhileshwaran	New	Anshuman Satish	Renewal
Akshaj Pai KS	New	Nia Treeza Tony	Renewal
Tanusri Baranitharan	New	Mugunthan Kannan	Renewal

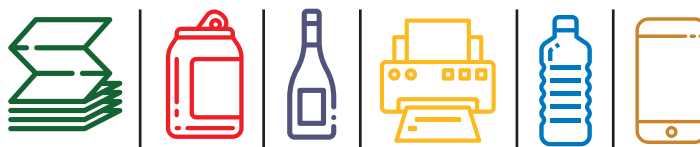
### ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP

MSB Private School	New	Cambridge International School	Renewal
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The collection of materials for recycling in the month of June resulted in the following benefits:

- » GHG Reductions 449 (MTCO<sub>2</sub>)
- » Saving of 3,075 Million BTU of Energy
- » Saving of 731 m<sup>3</sup> of Landfill Space
- » Saving of 2,085 trees from being felled
- » Saving of 1,025 Gallons of Gasoline



PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected <b>110,067</b> kg of Paper from <b>225</b> participants during the month of June 2022, an increase of <b>37%</b> compared to May 2022. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2022 to enable us to work towards our set target. The Top Collectors were:	The Millennium School	4,275	Jamila Ali Al Zaabi	4,920
	Our Own High School, Dubai	3,235	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Al Zaabi	1,655
	BITS Pilani Dubai Campus	2,901	Reem Mujahed Haj	1,140
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected <b>8,334</b> kg of Plastic from <b>111</b> participants during the month of June 2022, a decrease of <b>22%</b> compared to May 2022. We encourage our participants to reduce the amount of plastic ending in landfills by increasing their collections. The top collectors for the month were:	Our Own High School, Dubai	363	Amal Saeed Al Shamsi	829
	Ajman School for Secondary Education	145	Abdulrahman Ali Al Zaabi	792
	Sheikhah Bint Saeed School	90	Mezna Ali Al Zaabi	392
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Pcs)
EEG collected <b>337</b> pieces of Toners from <b>15</b> participants during the month of June 2022, a decrease of <b>51%</b> compared to May 2022. Dear participants please be active in the year 2022. The Top collectors were:	Oasis International School Al Ain	160	Dhyan Jithin Rajan	52
			Anor Teran Mendonia	50
MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected <b>261</b> pieces of Mobile Phones from <b>7</b> participants during the month of June 2022, a decrease of <b>64%</b> compared to May 2022. We look forward to register growth in July. The Top collectors were:	Oasis International School Al Ain	32	Shivani Adduri	60
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected <b>7,449</b> kg of Glass Bottles from <b>40</b> participants during the month of June 2022, an increase of <b>8%</b> compared to May 2022. We thank our participants for their support and encourage them to continue collecting to help us achieve our targets this year. The Top collectors were:	-	-	Jamila Ali Al Zaabi	1016
			Afra Ali Al Zaabi	735
			Sultan Ali Al Zaabi	455
E-WASTE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected <b>582</b> kg of E-waste from <b>19</b> participants during the month of June 2022, a decrease of <b>77%</b> compared to May 2022. We encourage our participants to continue collecting and prevent these materials from ending in landfills. The Top collectors were:	Oasis International School Al Ain	51	Abdulrahman Ali Al Zaabi	149
			Amal Saeed Al Shamsi	116
			Shivani Adduri	115
SCRAP METAL COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected <b>252</b> kg of Scrap metal from <b>9</b> participants during the month of June 2022, an increase of <b>165%</b> compared to May 2022. We invite and encourage our participants to put more efforts and to join this new programme. The Top collector was:	-	-	Abdulrahman Ali Al Zaabi	151
			Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Al Zaabi	12
			Maitha Al Mar'ashi	10

### CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

EEG collected **448** kg of Aluminum Cans from **21** participants during the month of June 2022, a decrease of **33%** compared to May 2022. We urge our participants to be actively involved in the CC Campaign this year to enable us to achieve the 20,000 thousand kg target.

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.

