

EEG EDU NEWS

Together for a Better Environment®



مجموعة عمل الإمارات للبيئة
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



March 2023
Issue 3

26th Annual Corporate Gala Dinner



حمل
شعلة الإستدامة
لحشد
مجتمع محايد للكربون

CARRYING THE
SUSTAINABLE BEACON
RALLYING TO A
CARBON NEUTRAL SOCIETY



Upcoming Events

23rd Inter School Public Speaking Competition
25th - 28th April 2023

SUB - SENIOR TOPICS

- The Development Microplastics: The Unclean Pandemic
- Quindling Lakes, Diminishing Rivers: Addressing Fresh Water Depletion

SENIOR TOPICS

- Revealing Intelligent Secrets: Unlocking Locally Driven Sustainable Change
- Reaching Earth's Threshold: our Response to the Tipping Point

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Your phones can restore Nature!

Join EEG's Green Call Project
23rd March - 23rd April 2023

Help our Environment by recycling your old mobile phones, Exchange old Mobile Phones, Ipad's or Tablets for an opportunity to plant a native tree sapling in December.

Students	Companies	Academia
20 pcs	100 pcs	125 pcs

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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



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Habiba Al Mar'ashi

Dear Readers,

It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land. Human-induced climate-change is already affecting many weather and climate extremes in every region across the globe. Many changes due to past and present greenhouse gas emissions are irreversible for centuries to millennia. Collaborations are one-of the best ways tackle these challenges. As our esteemed reader, you will see how exactly EEG is doing that as you read this month's newsletter.

The month began with attending a virtual webinar titled **"ESG: What Boards Need to Be Doing"** organised by Hawkamah and Independent Audit on 1st Feb 2023. Read more on page 3. As a guest speaker, I attended the **Rotary Club Fellowship Meeting** in Movenpick Hotel Bur Dubai on 2nd February. Read more on page 3.

EEG successfully conducted a **special edition of Clean UAE** - that marked the 1st community event in the 'Year of Sustainability' on 4th February. The campaign mobilized over 6,000 people of different ages and nationalities, registering approximately 24,000 voluntary hours and covering a stretch of 25 km². Read more on page 3.

EEG conducted its 1st **tree planting** in the 'Year of Sustainability' by painting the landscape of UAE's capital GREEN. EEG planted 220 Ghaf trees in association with Abu Dhabi City Municipality represented by the Municipality of Shahama. Read more on page 4.

On special invitation of H.E. Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark, Anders Bjørn Hansen; Grundfos; M. A. H. Y. Khoory & Co. EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson, I attended the **inauguration of their sub-factory** in Dubai on 8th Feb. Read more on page 4. On 11th Feb, I was awarded **Goodness Award for Volunteer Work** for my augmenting action in the field of environment and sustainability. Read more on page 6.

On the occasion of the **62nd anniversary of the National Day of the State of Kuwait and the 32nd anniversary of the Liberation Day**, I attended a reception on 22nd Feb at Hilton Al Habtoor Hotel, Dubai. Read more on page 4.

EEG hosted the **Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance's first GISD Forum** titled **"Bridging the Climate Finance Gap"** on Friday, 24th February 2023, UAE. Read more on page 4. EEG also organised on 24th February the 26th cycle of the **Annual Corporate Gala Dinner** to cherish and appreciate the wonderful support displayed by numerous public and private entities towards EEG's programmes

and projects in the year 2022. Read more on page 5. On 26th Feb, EEG conducted its first major recycling campaign for the year **Can Collection Day** under the theme **"Say: Yes to Can Recycling, No to Carbon Emissions"**. Read more on page 6.

The month ended by attending a panel discussion titled **'Towards a Sustainable and Climate-Positive Future'** as a key note speaker on 28th Feb. Read more on page 6. We are excited and enthusiastic as we enter the 3rd month of the year with several programmes and events lined up.

Our flagship recycling programme **"OROC"** is receiving registrations in full swing for its 1st Phase that ends on 23rd May. Register & deposit your recyclables before it is late and join the movement to Green the UAE. More details on page 7. EEG launches the 8th cycle of the **Project Green Call** on 23rd March and calls on all students, individuals, academics and corporates to join together as a community and be part of our green army. Read more on page 8.

With regards to our educational programmes, the **Environmental Drawing Competition** is receiving extraordinary registrations from UAE government, private and special needs schools. Read More on page 7. The 22nd cycle of the **Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition** is gaining momentum. The competition is set to take place on 25th April to 28th April and I am excited to hear the critical thoughts of our future environmental stewards. Read More on page 8. The 2023 edition of the **RE-NEW Our WORLD Student Water Innovation Challenge** is receiving fantastic response from the schools and students alike. Register your interest before the 22nd March. Read More on page 7.

The month of March brings with it the holy month of fasting - Ramadan. It celebrates God's Mercy by which he sent a guiding light in the Qur'an that leads human life towards the path of good and virtue and protects the human soul from evil and vice. Even though the real purpose of the dynamic institution of Fasting is to discipline our soul and moral behaviour, and to develop sympathy for the less fortunate, it is a multi-functional and a comprehensive tool of change in various spheres of our lives, including: social and economic, intellectual and humanitarian, spiritual and physical, private and public, personal and common, inner and outer -all in one!

Thank you dear readers and members for your continued support to EEG and its different programmes. Please do take the time to read through the e-newsletter, catch up with everything that has been going on and give us your feedback and suggestions.



1st February “ESG: What Boards Need to Be Doing”

February

EEG virtually attended a webinar titled “ESG: What Boards Need to Be Doing” organised by Hawkamah and Independent Audit on 1st Feb 2023. The webinar was presented by:

1. Dr. Ashraf Gamal El Din, CEO, Hawkamah Institute of Governance
2. Mr. Richard Sheath, Founding Director, Independent Audit Limited

The webinar discussed why the management must focus on the implications of ESG strategies and suggested 10 steps the Board should be taking to ensure their ESG agenda is parallel to the developments in the dynamic world. To know more about the Hawkamah Institute of Governance and its services click here: <https://www.hawkamah.org/about-us/what-we-do>

2nd February Rotary Club Fellowship Meeting

February

On 2nd February, Rotary Club of Bur Dubai conducted the Rotary Club Fellowship Meeting in Movenpick Hotel Bur Dubai that EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi attended as a guest speaker. Mrs. Al Mar’ashi shared with the attendees, issues related to environmental wellbeing, the strides EEG has been taking to make sure the environment is always protected and promote sustainable practices amongst the different sectors in the country over the course of more than 3 decades. She urged members of the Club to take active step towards the protection of the natural environment and the preservations of its resources.

4th February Clean UAE Special Edition

February

To commemorate the “UAE National Environment Day” Emirates Environmental Group organised the 1st Mass campaign of the Year of Sustainability - a special edition of the Clean UAE campaign on 4th February. It was conducted under the kind patronage of both the Ministries of Climate Change & Environment and the Ministry of Community Development.

EEG led this nationwide campaign in response to the UAE President’s call for institutions to engage in efforts towards a sustainable future. The Clean UAE Campaign was held simultaneously in all of the Emirates and saw the participation of over 6,000 people of different ages and nationalities, registering approximately 24,000 voluntary hours and covering a stretch of 25 km². The drive reinforced the sustainability message among the UAE population as the nation prepares to host the 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) from 30th November to 12th December 2023 at Expo City, Dubai. The event witnessed the presence and participation of H.E. Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Almheiri - Minister of Climate Change and Environment, H.E. Hessa Buhmaid - the then Minister of Community Development and other distinguished undersecretaries from several Ministries, and the top Management from local Government entities.

Volunteers in the Clean UAE campaign collected a total amount of 10,650 kg of mixed waste including vehicle tyres, rugs, disposables, broken glass and a lot of plastic waste. The waste was then segregated and sent for proper disposal, while recyclables were sent to local recycling facilities. Multiple government institutions collaborated with to make the one-day event EEG to help make it a huge success, namely the Ministry of Interior - UAE, Abu Dhabi City Municipality, Dubai Municipality, Environment & Protected Areas Authority - Sharjah, Municipality & Planning Department - Ajman, Public Services Department - Ras Al Khaimah and Fujairah Natural Resources Corporation.

The strong community participation in sustainability and volunteering work uplifts the UAE’s position in global competitiveness indicators and commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030. As the UAE prepares to host the 28th Conference of Parties, this year is significant for entities working towards a sustainable future. Mobilising the masses through initiatives such as Clean UAE sets a positive tone for the year and helps the UAE emerge as a role model for other countries. The initiative successfully gathered and united participants from various sectors, including academia, government, corporates, and individuals. EEG expresses gratitude towards supporting entities like Al Ain Water, Almarai, Abela & Co, Del Monte, Aster Volunteers, and Fujairah Plastic Factory for their crucial support. The event was given excellent exposure in media in English and Arabic. Television channels included Fujairah TV and Al Dhafra TV, WAM and print media included Al Ittihad newspaper, AlKhaleej, AL Bayan, Al Watan, Nbdemirates, and many others



6th February *For Our Emirates We Plant*

6th
February

In the continuous effort to promote environmental conservation, EEG made a positive contribution by organising a large-scale tree-planting initiative on **6th February** in collaboration with the Abu Dhabi City Municipality - represented by Shahama Municipality Centre. This event was held under the banner “For Our Emirates We Plant”, which aims to promote ecological sustainability in the region. The initiative saw a massive turnout of volunteers from the Abu Dhabi Home Schoolers Association, Lifestyle - Landmark Group and Couture Labs who joined forces with EEG to plant 220 saplings. These trees will play an extraordinary role in absorbing tonnes of CO₂ emissions once they mature in a couple of years.

Since the inception of the “For Our Emirates We Plant” programme in 2007, EEG has successfully planted 2,114,414 indigenous trees in the region, making a significant impact on reducing carbon emissions. These trees mitigate approximately 12,468 MT of carbon emissions from the atmosphere each year. This commendable initiative was a direct message of the organisation’s alignment with the “Year of Sustainability” and COP28.



8th February *Inauguration Ceremony of the Sub-factory*

8th
February

On special invitation of H.E. Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark, Anders Bjørn Hansen; Grundfos; M. A. H. Y. Khoory & Co. EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi attended the inauguration of their sub-factory in Dubai.

The ceremony took place on **8th Feb 2023** at Al Khoory Engineering in Ras Al Khor. The Grundfos sub-factory will be equipped to assemble Grundfos SP submersible borehole pumps. This will mean more product flexibility and quicker turnaround times for customers, while aligning with the United Arab Emirates local manufacturing policy. From environmental perspective this is a strong step in reducing CO₂ emissions as a result of transportation of the equipment.

22nd February *62nd Anniversary of the State of Kuwait and the 32nd Anniversary of the Liberation Day*

On the occasion of the **62nd** anniversary of the National Day of the State of Kuwait and the **32nd** anniversary of the Liberation Day, H.E. Mr. Ali Salem AlThayedi; the Consul General of the State of Kuwait invited EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson at a reception on **22nd Feb 2023** at Hilton Al Habtoor Hotel, Dubai.

The event witnessed the attendance of H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi - UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade and many Consul Generals from different countries as well as members of the Kuwaiti Community in the UAE.

24th February *GISD Middle East Forum - “Bridging the Climate Finance Gap”*

24th
February

Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance was officially launched by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres in 2019. It is a group of 30 business leaders of major financial institutions and corporations from all over the world. Its central objective is to identify and address obstacles against scaling long-term investment for sustainable development. The Chairperson of EEG is also a Board Member of the Alliance.

It feels immensely good to proclaim that the very first conference of the GISD Alliance in the Middle East was convened in a hybrid format by EEG in collaboration with GISD under the theme “Bridging the Climate Finance Gap” on **24th February**. The objective of conducting this important gathering was to scale up long-term investment for climate action in the MENA region and address hurdles that arise in front of banks, investment firms, exchange houses and other financial institutions.

This first-ever activity of GISD in the Middle East witnessed the presence of Mr. Navid Hanif - the UN Assistant Secretary-General who emphasised while addressing the audience that SDGs must be looked upon as a business plan to save the future of our planet.

The keynote speaker of the forum was Dr. Nasser Saidi, Founder & President of Nasser Saidi & Associates and Chairman of the Clean Energy Business Council who has served in eminent roles at multiple government institutions in the past. His data-driven and in-depth analysis of various aspects of sustainability provided wonderful insights to the attendees.

The latter part of the forum was divided into 2 panel discussions; the 1st was “Scaling up green finance - what COP28 can achieve” and the 2nd “Shifting the investment ecosystem: integrating a long-term sustainability perspective” respectively. Both of them were beautifully covered



by expert panelists from the top financial entities of the world, namely Johannesburg Stock Exchange, CDPQ Global, Citi, Macquarie Asset Management, Banco Santander, Standard Bank Group, Pimco, Amundi, FSDO/DESA, SEB Asset Management, Infosys and Sida. The sessions were levelled up by the rich questions and opinions of the participants.

EEG expressed its gratitude to have on board the support of: McDonald's UAE (Co-Sponsor), Tristar and KEO (Support Sponsors) and Arabia CSR Network (CSR Partner) for the Forum.



24th February 26th Annual Corporate Gala Dinner

EEG's 26th Annual Corporate Gala Dinner was organised on 24th February to cherish and appreciate the wonderful support displayed by numerous public and private entities towards its programmes and projects in the year 2022.

This esteemed event was held under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency 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.

The annual event was held under the theme of 'Carrying the Sustainable Beacon, Rallying to a Carbon Neutral Society' to exhibit perfect alignment of the organisation's activities with the remarkable 'COP28' and astounding 'Year of Sustainability'.

The aura of the wonderful evening organised in a beautiful garden setting was enhanced further by the presence of Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General - United Nations. An impactful speech delivered by him escalated the morale of the distinguished guests to contribute with all their might to the ambitious Agenda 2030 of Sustainable Development. The Co-Founder & Chairperson also shared outstanding figures related to EEG's myriad of programmes and projects that it has been convening each year for over three decades now.

The Gala Dinner witnessed its customary ceremony of felicitating the organisations by calling them on stage while arranging a sumptuous feast for everyone, to celebrate our togetherness for a better environment. A total of 55 entities were formally recognised during the evening and few permanent memberships were conferred on outstanding individuals. The Gala Dinner was sponsored and supported by McDonald's UAE - Platinum Sponsor, Wasl Properties - Special Sponsor, Farnek - Carbon Neutral Partner and Arabia CSR Network - Sustainability Partner.



26th February *Can Collection Day*

February

The Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), conducted its first major recycling campaign for the year; the “Can Collection Day” on **26th of February** under the theme “Say: Yes to Can Recycling, No to Carbon Emissions”. Due to the popular demand, EEG opened a site at Abu Dhabi this cycle, this resulted in EEG team being placed at 5 designated locations namely Zabeel Park, Al Barsha Pond Park, Al Mamzar Park, RAK Ceramics Factory in RAK and American International School in Abu Dhabi!

The collective contributions of several private organisations’, academic institutions, government entities and individuals resulted in collection of 7,357 kg of Aluminium Cans for recycling. Since its inception, EEG has managed to collect 386,366kg of Aluminium Cans for recycling, which resulted in the mitigation of 5,799 MTCO_{2e}, saving of 9,379 m³ of landfill space and the conservation of 87,931 million BTU of energy.

A successful development agenda requires inclusive partnerships – built upon principles and values, a shared vision and shared goals placing people and the planet at the centre. With this thought in mind, EEG was delighted to have several partners and supporters for this campaign. EEG was very pleased to have Sharlu Lubricants who came on board as Support Sponsor of the project.

EEG appreciates the support of Dubai Municipality, American International School (AUH) and RAK Ceramics for providing the venue support; Department of Economy & Tourism for mobilising and encouraging the hospitality sector to come on board and actively participate. Abela & Co., McDonald’s UAE, Bright Environment, ISS Relocations, Tristar for providing logistical support and the Dubai Malayali Association for providing volunteers, Gulf News and Al Circle who have come on board as media partners for the campaign. In addition, EEG is also delighted to have Lucky Recycling on board to support the campaign as recycling partner.



28th February *‘Towards a Sustainable and Climate-Positive Future’*

February

Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson participated as a Key note speaker in a panel discussion titled ‘Towards a Sustainable and Climate-Positive Future’ on **February 28, 2023** at the New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD).

She spoke about the power of partnerships for sustainable development. In her speech she mentioned “I believe I am one of the blessed ones to have found my true calling in life in the field of sustainability, and to have had such a big impact in that domain over the years. I attribute this to something that I learned very early in this unknown and un-trodden path. It’s just one word, but it can truly change the world - Partnerships.”

The session was organised by American Chamber (AmCham) Abu Dhabi in partnership with New York University Abu Dhabi. The session revolved around pertinent climate-related topics convening high-level delegation from UAE’s academia and private sector. Other session speakers were from COP28, PepsiCo, Boeing and NYUAD.

Recipient of Awards

The year 2023 has brought in recognition to Emirates Environmental Group in numerous ways. Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson was recognised on various platforms for her notable efforts in augmenting the action in the field of environment and sustainability.

Homegrown Hero Award

Holiday Inn & Suites Dubai Science Park inaugurated its official opening month with the launch of a campaign called “Homegrown Heroes.” This ceremony aimed to honour the UAE’s trailblazing leaders and achievers, as well as the community’s unsung heroes. In an elegant ceremony held on the 31st of January at the rooftop of the hotel, the Homegrown Heroes Awards were given out to eight outstanding individuals from various sectors for their significant and positive contributions to society. Mrs. Habiba, was recognised for her passion and contributions to environmental preservation.

Goodness Award for Volunteer Work

On **11th Feb 2023** Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, EEG Co-Founder & Chairperson, was one of the recipients of the Goodness Award for Volunteer Work in its 7th edition. She was presented with the award alongside other recipients at a ceremony held in the Honey Park in Hatta in the presence of H.E. Eng. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al Qasimi the President of the Awards and Mr. Firas Bin Darwish the Vice-Chair of the Awards.



Environmental Drawing Competition

The strong pillar of EEG's educational programme, the Environmental Drawing Competition has entered its 18th cycle. Since its inception it has been fostering creativity of the young generation and maximizing awareness on sustainability issues, guiding the students towards developing a sense of care and respect for the environment.

In the 18th cycle as well it continues to be a brilliant opportunity for young artists to compete nationally and showcase their talent. The goal remain the same - to encourage students to deepen their understanding of environmental issues including climate change and reflect on sustainability from a holistic perspective through the creation of artworks. The success of this project can be clearly seen with a steady increase in participation a rate which began with 300 participants from 52 schools in 2004; has grown to over 144,680 students from 480 schools in 2022.



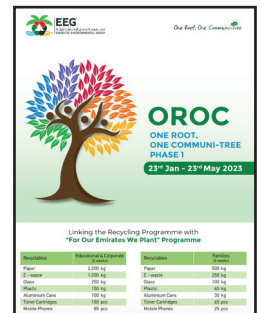
EEG is extremely pleased with the growth this year towards getting on board more and more schools from all across UAE and across different curriculum. This unique, one of a kind, nation-wide event strongly endorses visual learning through the medium of creative arts.

To enroll your students, send your registration here:

[Click Here](#)

One Root, One Communi-tree Phase 1 Update

The 1st Phase of the One Root, One Communi-tree (OROC) project is ongoing with great and enthusiastic participation. The 13th cycle of this all-inclusive project started on the 23rd of January and will conclude on 23rd of May. Within the first month of this project, a total of 224 participants have registered to be part of the sustainability movement. Till the end of February, a total of 45,062 kg of paper, 11,502 kg of Plastic, 16,135 kg of glass bottles, 421 kg of aluminium cans, 1,255 kg of E-waste, 232 pcs of Toners and 10 pcs of Mobile phones were deposited for recycling by 65 participants.



While this is a great start for the project, much more can be done and achieved by the end of May. All these entities who reached their target goal are now ready to plant indigenous trees under their name on the 23rd of December 2023. Their names will be part of the collective effort that we as a society and community must take to reach the goals of sustainability in the coming years and decades.

EEG invites all entities in the country to come on board and actively participate in this encompassing aspect of a circular economy. Let us ensure that this year is truly a sustainable one.

To register, please follow the link and fill in the details:

[Click Here](#)

3rd edition RE-NEW Our WORLD Student Water Innovation Challenge

With great excitement we are introducing the latest youth initiative our organisation has joined and launched in collaboration with Water Alliance Association: an inter-emirates water innovation challenge for students 8 to 18 years old. The 3rd edition of the RE-NEW Our WORLD Challenge is underway under the patronage of the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure and gathering traction in all the Emirates.



School students can register individually, or as a two-member team, based on their age to Junior (8-11), Middle (12-14) and Senior (15-18) categories. The RE-NEW Our WORLD Challenge has been conceived as a journey culminating at the awarding ceremony on June 5th - World Environment Day. **from February 27th till March 13th**, participants will be given the opportunity to gather insights on the greatest current initiatives to solve water around the world by attending a series of 13 online talks delivered by Knowledge Partners and Sponsors. Participants will enter their innovative water solutions using the challenge submission form by April 25th. Selected finalists will receive support from mentors, leaders from the water industry and higher academic bodies, to prepare their final pitch.

Get onboard! Register your students before March 22nd at

[Click Here](#)

The 2023 edition has received the patronage of the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure and the support of corporate partners Xylem, Axis Communications and Nestle Waters at platinum level, Droople and No More Bottles at silver level and KPS at bronze level.



“United Action for Biodiversity Conference of Our Own High School Al Warqa’a

Our Own High School Al Warqa’a, Dubai hosted their 1st ever Inter School Conference on **8th Feb 2023**. The conference was titled “United Action for Biodiversity”. There were 11 schools who actively took part in the conference. The aim of the conference was to give an opportunity to students to share their views, discuss and ponder solutions to nurture biodiversity. EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson, inaugurated the conference and addressed the students by highlighting the importance of youth’s action in sustainable development.

The conference began with a session in which a group of 3 students from each school shared best practices at their school to preserve biodiversity. The 2nd session was ‘Discussion Forum’ where student groups of different schools were formed to collaborate and share creative initiatives to protect and nurture biodiversity. Each school is required to implement any one of the initiatives within a 3-month time period. After 3 months, Our Own High School Al Warqa’a intends to hold part 2 of the “United Action for Biodiversity” in which schools can present how they implemented their chosen initiative.



Upcoming Events

Green Call

Mobile phones have become indispensable everyday tools all around the world due to improved technology and overreliance on them. However, phones don’t last forever, and tossing them away is the worst thing one can do. Mobile phones, like most electrical devices, contain toxic substances that can harm the environment, wildlife, and even humans if left to degrade in landfills. That’s why it’s crucial to recycle them. With this in mind, EEG launched “Project Green Call” in 2016 to encourage the community to take action and boost the mobile phone recycling. As we kick start the 8th edition of project “Green Call” on **March 23**, we extend an invitation to all academic institutions, companies, families, and individuals to put up a united front against environmental harm.

Link to register: [Click Here](#)

The targets for this year for students, companies, and academic institutions are 30, 100, and 125 mobile phones, respectively. Those who reach the target within the specified time will be entitled to plant a native tree in their honour and receive a certificate of participation. The programme’s success rests on all of our shoulders! We appreciate your support in advance.



The Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition

The Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition was inceptioned in 2001 as an annual educational programme and since then it has been transforming the youth into enthusiastic environmental advocates, by instilling values of environmentalism, arming them with the right tools to study environmental issues, enabling critical thinking and analytical skills and pushing them to come up with solutions. It is conducted to bring a positive change in the attitudes of the young people of our society and establish an environmentally conscious generation.

The 23rd cycle is rolled out and becomes even more significant, for two reasons; it will be held as in-person competition once again, a first since the onset of COVID-19 pandemic and it has been expanded from two days to four days. The Competition will be held from **25th April 2023 to 28th April 2023**.

- The Sub Senior Category has a choice of the following two topics:
1. The Omnipresent Microplastics: The Unseen Pandemic
 2. Dwindling Lakes, Diminishing Rivers: Addressing Fresh Water Depletion

- The Senior Category competition has a choice of the two topics are the following:
3. Reviving Indigenous Secrets: Unlocking Locally Driven Sustainable Change
 4. Reaching Earth’s Threshold: Our Response to the Tipping Point

Registrations are based on first cum basis, so register your team before the slots get reserved.

Follow the link to register: [Click Here](#)





New study links climate change, land degradation and migration in Central Asia

UNCCD
NEWS

The convention hosted an online discussion inviting authors and contributors from Central Asia, representatives of partner organizations and over 100 virtual attendees who could contribute to discuss the findings of The Study on land degradation, climate change and migration nexus in Central Asia. Remarking on the timeliness of the new study, the UNCCD Chief of Global Policy Advocacy and Regional Cooperation Unit Miriam Medel Garcia emphasized that the project has been requested by the countries of Central Asia - Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan - to aid in the implementation of the Convention and to demonstrate how measures addressing desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) can support more positive and organized migration flows.

In their detailed presentations, the authors of the study called attention to land degradation as a “quiet” planetary crisis, whose effects are devastating and wide-spread. Using latest land degradation assessment tools authored by the UNCCD, they identified the main hot spots of land and water crises in the region. As climate change manifests itself through more frequent and prolonged droughts, combined with anthropogenic pressures, the resulting decrease in land productivity and loss of income leads to migration in search of livelihood. Both representatives of the Central Asian countries and international organizations - IOM, FAO, UNDP and CAREC - provided extensive inputs into the study, also stressed the need for further scientific collaboration for knowledge sharing on sustainable land management.

[Click for more](#)



Committee of Permanent Representatives Bureau Meeting

UNEP
NEWS

The Bureau meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives was held on 14th February 2023, started by H.E. the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, Ambassador of Finland to Kenya, and Permanent Representative to UNEP. Throughout the meeting, several agendas were considered, including:

- Contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.
- Preparations for the 161st meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
- Organisation of work.
- Other matters.

After careful deliberation, Bureau members recommended adhering to the established procedure from prior years to submit UNEA contributions to HLPF, wherein the discussions in the subcommittee will not be a line-by-line negotiation and the Secretariat, to avoid contentious issues while using existing agreed-upon language as much as possible, member state's remarks made at the subcommittee meeting as well as written inputs reflecting the broad consensus should be taken into consideration. Members of the Bureau emphasised the significance of treating all delegations equally when it comes to meeting interpretation and noted with concern that, as of recent, all UN meetings, including upcoming quarterly meetings of the CPR as serviced by UNON interpreters, held for a duration of three hours, will provide a maximum of 30 minutes of interpretation per session for interventions made by online participants.

[Click for more](#)

EEG MEMBERS' UPDATE

EEG Welcomed 9 new student members, 5 renewed student members & 2 new academic members in the month of February 2023

Student Membership

Vedanth Aggarwal	New	Mustafa Rehan Razzak	New
Abdullah Rehan Razzak	New	Rida Zahid	New
Christa Thomas	New	Aashay Jain	Renewal
Grace Dennis	New	Govardhan Vimalkumar	Renewal
Jahanavi Dhavala	New	Kanishka Manikandan	Renewal
Keerthi Napoleon	New	Timidu Weerawardhana	Renewal
Muhammad Shaneer Khan	New	Tiya Santhosh	Renewal

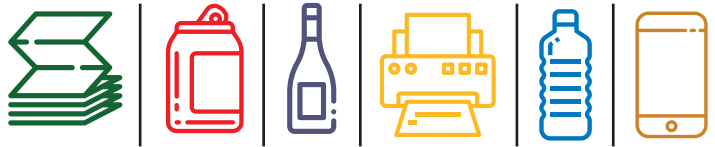
Academic Membership

Gems Cambridge International School Sharjah	New
Private International English School	New



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

- » **GHG Reductions 347 (MTCO₂)**
- » **Saving of 3,584 Million BTU of Energy**
- » **Saving of 819 m³ of Landfill Space**
- » **Saving of 943 trees from being felled**
- » **Saving of 156 Gallons of Gasoline**



PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 54,653 kg of Paper from 181 participants during the month of February 2023, an increase of 16% compared to January 2023. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2023 so as to enable us to work towards our target. The Top Collectors were:	American School of Dubai, Al Barsha	1,170	Maryam Humaidan	950
	Gems Modern Academy	940	Nia Treeza Tony	760
	The Millennium School	828	Siddh Garg	560
CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected 7,643 kg of Aluminium Cans from 158 participants during the month of February 2023, an increase of 972% compared to January 2023. We encourage our participants to be actively involved in our Campaigns in the year 2023 so as to enable us to work towards our target. The Top Collectors were:	Nad Al Hamar Kindergarten & Suhaila School for Basic Education (Tie)	65	Trisha Nikhilkumar Sayani	35
	Al Shifa Bont Abdullah Girls School	60		
	Our Own High School, Dubai	48		
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG collected 10,116 kg of Plastic from 114 participants during the month of February 2023, an increase of 11% compared to January 2023. We encourage our participants to reduce the amount of plastic ending in landfills by increasing their collections in the year 2023. The top collectors for the month were:	Our Own High School, Dubai	418	Maryam Humaidan	314
	The Arbor School	170	Raaya Jaber	97
	Kindergarten and Al Rawida School for Basic Education H1	110	Eesha Chhibber	95
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Pcs)
EEG collected 284 pieces of Toners from 15 participants during the month of February 2023 an increase of 226% compared to January 2023. Recycling is crucial for the future health of our planet. In the year 2023, join us in our recycling campaigns and help reduce landfills in the UAE. The Top collectors were:	-	-	Vaishika Sathesh	76
	-	-	Prachi Khurana	19
	-	-	Mark Monteiro	11
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 12,380 kg of Glass Bottles from 54 participants during the month of February 2023, an increase of 56% compared to January 2023. You have the power to turn the tide, reverse the effects of climate change by recycling. Take action now and contribute to mitigate carbon emissions. The Top collectors were:	The Arbor School	160	Maryam Humaidan	302
	The Millennium School	14	Saher Vidya Kumar	101
			Nicole Baptista	78
E-WASTE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 1,452 kg of E-waste from 10 participants during the month of February 2023, an increase of 923% compared to January 2023. We encourage our participants to continue collecting actively and prevent these materials from ending in landfills. The Top collectors were:	Delhi Private School Dubai	910	Eesha Chhibber	25
			Maryam Humaidan & Vidyuth Balaji (Tie)	15
SCRAP METAL COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	School	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
EEG has collected 220 kg of Scrap metal from 16 participants during the month of February 2023, an increase of 112% compared to January 2023. Take a pledge and upsurge your recyclable deposits to support the country in its NET ZERO strategy. The Top collector was:	Delhi Private School Dubai	120	Maryam Humaidan	27
			Eesha Chhibber	15
MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN				
EEG collected 17 pieces of Mobile Phones from 5 participants during the month of February 2023, a decrease of 43% compared to January 2023. Adopt Eco conscious living and deposit your mobile phones in the year 2023 and create a sustainable society for our future generations.				
EEG invites all its members & participants to maximise their contributions to achieve the set targets of the above campaigns and focus on excelling in their collections for this year to contribute to the welfare of the society and a healthier environment.				

