EEG EDU NEWS

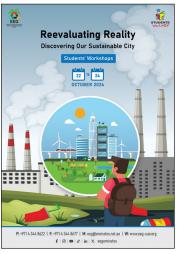
Together for a Better Environment®



October 2024 Issue 10



Upcoming Events





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Reach Out to EEG for More Details



BRING YOUR RECYCLABLES:

From Monday to Friday & Sunday 9:00AM to 5:00PM 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 Members and Supporters,

As we transition into October, it is a timely opportunity to reflect on the dynamic activities of September and to explore the latest trends that are shaping the landscape of sustainability.

One of the most compelling trends we have witnessed recently is the accelerating shift towards circular economies. This transformative approach fundamentally redefines the traditional linear model of "take, make, dispose" into a more regenerative system that prioritises reuse, recycling, and sustainable production. By minimising waste and maximising resource efficiency, organisations are not only addressing pressing environmental challenges but also unlocking new economic opportunities. This paradigm shift encourages us all to rethink how we design products and services, ultimately guiding us towards a more sustainable future.

Another significant trend gaining traction is the increasing integration of sustainability into corporate strategies. Businesses are coming to understand that sustainable practices extend beyond mere compliance with regulations; they represent a pathway to innovation and competitive advantage. By embedding sustainability into their core operations, companies can enhance their resilience and appeal to an ever-growing base of environmentally conscious consumers. This development is crucial as we strive to foster a more sustainable marketplace that meets the demands of our time.

In September, considerable attention was directed towards the upcoming 7th United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA 7), which is set to convene in Nairobi. As stakeholders within the sustainability sphere, it is imperative that we engage actively with the outcomes of UNEA 7, leveraging its findings to inform our local initiatives and policies. This global dialogue presents an invaluable opportunity for us to align our efforts with international standards and contribute to a unified response to the myriad environmental crises we face.

Moreover, I would like to highlight our collaborative efforts with Arabia CSR Network, which have been instrumental in promoting sustainable practices across various sectors. The Arabia CSR Forum and Awards, scheduled for 9th & 10th October, stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to recognising and celebrating outstanding sustainability initiatives. As the Environmental Partner for this event, EEG is excited to showcase innovative solutions that embody the principles of circularity and corporate responsibility. I strongly encourage each of you to register and participate, as your involvement is vital in amplifying our collective voice for sustainability.

In addition to the ACSRN Forum and Awards, we are diligently preparing for our 5th panel discussion, which will take place on **24th October** centered on the theme "Packaging Innovation: Influence on Environment & Health." This discussion aims to explore how innovative packaging solutions can significantly reduce environmental impact while enhancing health outcomes. Esteemed experts from various fields will gather to share insights on sustainable packaging practices, recent regulatory developments, and the crucial role of consumer behaviour in driving meaningful change. We invite all stakeholders to engage in this critical conversation, as it is essential for advancing sustainable practices within our industries.

As we reflect on our activities throughout September, it is clear that we have engaged in a series of impactful initiatives. On **4**th **September**, we participated in the Fourteenth National Dialogue for Climate Ambition, a significant platform that brought together thought leaders to discuss innovative strategies for addressing climate change. On the same day, we also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Imtiaz Developments, further enhancing our collaborative efforts in sustainability. The following day, on 5th September, I had the honour of serving as a panellist at the Saint-Gobain Event on Circular Economy, where we explored the importance of circularity in resource management and its implications for sustainable development.

Continuing our momentum, on **9th September**, we attended the National Adaptation Plan - Stakeholder Consultations for Gender and Social Safeguards Report. This consultation was vital for integrating gender considerations into climate adaptation strategies, reinforcing our commitment to inclusivity in our sustainability efforts. On **11th September**, I contributed as a panellist at the Cundall Event on Transformative Climate Actions for a Resilient UAE, where we discussed actionable strategies to enhance the nation's resilience to climate impacts. The day following that, I had the opportunity to speak at the Expeditors Logistics Conference, further advocating for sustainable logistics practices that can drive positive environmental change.

On 12th September, I delivered a keynote address at "The Net Zero Dream – Making It a Reality," organised by Mace Group, where we explored various pathways to achieving net-zero emissions. Additionally, on 16th September, EEG hosted a pivotal meeting with Fujairah Hospital to discuss potential collaborative sustainability initiatives that can have a meaningful impact on our community.

I also served as a keynote speaker at the Conference on Sustainability – Insights and Innovations on **15th September**, hosted by Edufam International Academy, where we shared insights into innovative approaches to sustainability that can inspire action.

Moreover, EEG participated in the "Solutions of the Future: Commercial Sustainability" event on 18th September, organised by Dubai Airports' Commercial Sustainability Department, highlighting the importance of sustainable practices within the commercial sector. On 24th September, I had the privilege of being a guest speaker at the University of Sharjah's Symposium on Circular Plastic II, addressing the challenges and opportunities that arise in the management of plastics. Lastly, on 19th September, we formalised our commitment to academic collaboration in sustainability by signing an MOU with Herriot-Watt University. These are just an overview of our engagements in the month of September, you can read more inside this Newsletter issue.

As we navigate these evolving landscapes, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to pushing the boundaries of what is possible in sustainability. Together, we can lead by example and inspire others to join us on this vital journey. Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication. I look forward to seeing you at the Arabia CSR Forum & Awards and at our upcoming events.



MOU Signing Between Herriot-Watt University and EEG

On 19th September, a significant milestone was achieved as Herriot-Watt University and the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) formalised their partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The ceremony took place at Herriot-Watt University in Knowledge Park, Dubai.

The MOU marks the beginning of an exciting collaboration between the university and EEG, aimed at advancing environmental sustainability through shared expertise and resources. This partnership brings together Herriot-Watt University's cutting-edge research and educational prowess with EEG's extensive experience in environmental advocacy and community initiatives.



At the ceremony, representatives from both organisations highlighted their mutual commitment to tackling environmental challenges and promoting sustainable practices. The MOU outlines several key areas of collaboration, including joint research projects, development of sustainability programmes, and opportunities for student internships. These efforts are designed to bridge the gap between academic research and practical environmental solutions, fostering innovation and enhancing community engagement.

This new partnership represents a significant step forward in integrating academic research with practical environmental action. EEG is excited about the opportunities this collaboration will bring and looks forward to working closely with Herriot-Watt University to drive impactful initiatives that benefit both the environment and the community.

Celebrating Youth Involvement in Environmental Initiatives

At the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), we take immense pride in witnessing the active involvement of our youth in the fight against climate change. Recently, Aashay Jain, a passionate EEG student member, participated in the Neighbourhood Recycling Project and shared his inspiring experience:

"The Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) kindly supported my efforts by sending a team to our home to collect the books and papers, which made the process much easier and more efficient for us. This initiative not only promoted environmental awareness but also fostered a strong sense of community in our area. I hope that by sharing this story, I can inspire others to take part in similar efforts to protect the environment and encourage recycling in their communities."



Aashay's commitment exemplifies the power of youth in driving positive change. We encourage all students and parents to join us in these impactful initiatives. Together, we can create a sustainable future and make a lasting difference in our communities. Let's unite in our efforts to protect the planet for generations to come!

Conclusion of the Neighborhood Recycling Project (NRP)

EEG successful concluded the 14th cycle of the "Neighborhood Recycling Project" (NRP), a community-focused initiative designed to enhance local recycling efforts and promote sustainable waste management practices. The project, which aims to improve recycling rates and foster a culture of environmental responsibility, has achieved remarkable results. Over the course of this year's cycle which started on 1st June and concluded on 30th September, EEG saw an impressive engagement from the community.

The number of participating students were substantial and the total amount of recyclable materials collected reflects the students' commitment to reducing landfill waste and increasing recycling rates in the country as well as support sustainable practices.

The demographics of the project participants highlight its broad appeal. This underscores the effectiveness of educating younger generations about recycling.



27,931 Kg



2,332 Kg





























In conclusion, the Neighborhood Recycling Project has been a significant achievement in advancing recycling practices and promoting sustainability within our community.

The outcomes of the project reflect the collective dedication of all participants and contributors, initiatives, EEG is more inspired by the success of the NRP and remain committed to fostering a more sustainable environment.

Students' Workshops

In today's rapidly urbanising world, sustainability is no longer just a choice but a necessity. To foster a generation of environmentally conscious individuals, the upcoming series of virtual Students' Workshops themed "Reevaluating Reality: Discovering Our Sustainable City" will provide a platform for young minds to explore sustainable solutions in the context of urban development. Scheduled for **October 21-23, 2024**, these workshops aim to engage students in meaningful discussions, practical exercises, and collaborative brainstorming on the future of sustainable cities.

It represents an exciting opportunity for students to collaborate with peers across the country, deepen their understanding of sustainability, and become active participants in shaping a greener future. As the world faces unprecedented environmental challenges, initiatives like this are critical in ensuring that the leaders of tomorrow are well-equipped to create sustainable cities that benefit both people and the planet.



To register, please visit this link: CLICK HERE

The 24th cycle of the ICEPSC

The 24th Cycle of Inter College Environmental Public Speaking Competition which will take place from 25th to 28th November is an influential platform designed to engage undergraduate students from various colleges and universities in meaningful dialogue on pressing environmental issues. Organised by Emirates Environmental Group, this competition encourages participants to research, discuss and present innovative solutions to sustainability challenges. Through a series of carefully curated topics, students hone their public speaking and critical thinking skills while raising awareness about key environmental concerns such as climate change, waste management, biodiversity conservation, and renewable energy.

This year EEG is focusing on the following topics: Greennovation: Envisioning Cities of Tomorrow, Pending Eco-Excursions: Conservation & Sustainable Tourism, Harmonised Communities: Leading Climate Conscious Society?, Benevolence of Oceans: Comprehending Planetary Security



This competition fosters academic growth and the spirit of collaboration and leadership among the youth. Participants work in teams, delivering 7-minute presentations, which are then assessed by expert judges based on their content, clarity, and persuasive impact. Held annually, the competition serves as a dynamic educational platform that empowers the next generation of environmental advocates, providing them with the skills and knowledge to contribute meaningfully to global sustainability efforts. For registration, please register through this link: CLICK HERE (S)

For further details regarding registration, guidelines, Rules and regulations, and Concept Notes, please contact us at edu@eeg.ae, or eeg@emirates.net.ae. Should you have any inquiries or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our team on 0097143448130, 0097143448622, WhatsApp 00971501958138

Ongoing Events

OROC Phase 2 is still ongoing!

EEG invites you to register for Phase 2 of the "One Root, One Communi-Tree" (OROC) initiative. This impactful project aims to unite all sectors of society-corporates, educational institutions, families, and individuals-to support EEG's recycling efforts and promote environmental sustainability.

By participating in OROC Phase 2, you'll have the opportunity to contribute to vital conservations while working towards achievable recycling targets tailoured to your sector. Participants can collect and deposit recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, aluminium cans, electronic waste, mobile phones and scrap metal; earning the chance to plant a native tree sapling in their name. Don't miss your chance to make a meaningful difference for our environment and help create a greener future. To register for OROC Phase 2 and learn more about the project, please click here:

Your involvement is crucial, and together, we can foster a culture of conserving resources and recycling within our communities. Join us in this exciting initiative-let's make an impact together!



E-Waste Day

Join EEG on **14**th **October** as we celebrate E-Waste Day! This important day highlights the growing issue of electronic waste and the need for sustainable disposal practices. With millions of tons of e-waste generated each year, much of it ending up in landfills, posing significant risks to our environment and health.

On E-Waste Day, we invite all EEG members (individuals, businesses, and educational institutions) to participate in EEG's e-waste collection drive. Gather your old electronic items-such as smartphones, laptops, and chargers-and bring them to EEG office. By participating, you will help reduce the harmful impact of e-waste and contribute to a cleaner and greener future. Together, let's promote responsible e-waste management and work towards a sustainable future for generations to come! For more information about E-Waste Day, please click here:





EEG's 5th Panel Discussion: Packaging Innovation - Influence on Environment & Health

Join EEG on **24th October** for its 5th Panel Discussion, focusing on Packaging Innovation: Influence on Environment & Health. This engaging event will bring together industry experts, policymakers, and thought leaders to explore the critical relationship between packaging practices and their impacts on our environment and public health.

As the global demand for packaging continues to rise, addressing the sustainability of materials and the implications of packaging waste is essential. The panel will delve into innovative solutions and strategies that promote more sustainable packaging options, reduce environmental footprints and safeguard health. Participants can look forward to insightful discussions on the role of innovative packaging in enhancing recyclability, the health implications of various materials and future trends in packaging technology and design.

PACKASING INNOVATION Influence on Environment & Realth
24° OCTOBER 2024

This event offers a unique opportunity to engage with experts and contribute to a meaningful dialogue about how we can collectively work towards more sustainable packaging solutions. Don't miss this chance to be part of an important conversation! For more information and to register, please click here: CLICK HERE (S)

The Can Collection Drive

EEG invites all sectors of the society to participate on **9**th **November** for the 28th cycle of the 'Can Collection Drive'! This initiative aims to promote recycling and conserve resources by encouraging individuals, businesses and communities to collect and recycle aluminium cans.

As part of EEG's commitment to sustainability, this drive will help divert waste from landfills and raise awareness about the importance of recycling in conserving resources and protecting our environment. EEG invites everyone to gather their empty aluminium cans and bring them to designated drop-off locations across the UAE on the day of the drive.





Member News

EEG MEMBERS' UPDATE

EEG welcomed new and a renewed academic member, 08 new students, 14 renewed students in the month of September 2024

Academic Membership						
Al Maireed School for Girls cycle 2 and 3	New	Ajman Academy	Renewal			
Student Membership						
Abhiraaj Sigh	New	Ziana Singh	Renewal			
Mehal Jain	New	Shyam Manikandan	Renewal			
Pranshu Brijeshbhai	New	Vidyuth Balaji	Renewal			
Juveira Nizam	New	Dhyan Jithin Rajan	Renewal			
Aarush Anand	New	Advika Choudhary	Renewal			
Shaurya Menghani	New	Vedant Choudhary	Renewal			
Samantha Priscilla Santosh	New	Riya Karandikar	Renewal			
Abhirami Santhosh	New	Gargi Namjoshi	Renewal			
Khushi Jagdishbhai Solanki	Renewal	Tanay Jagannathan	Renewal			
Anish Jena	Renewal	Niyamat Nanda	Renewal			
Prasanna Adithya Balagopal	Renewal	Manav Pakaj Bhatia	Renewal			



Clean Air Day highlights need to invest in air pollution solutions

The 7th September, marked the 5th annual International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, with urgent calls for investment in clean air solutions as air pollution increasingly harms public health, the environment and economies. Over 99% of the global population breathes polluted air, resulting in more than 8 million deaths annually, including over 700,000 children under five. Vulnerable groups, such as women and the elderly, are disproportionately affected. Despite air pollution being the second leading risk factor for early death worldwide, less than 1% of international development funding addresses this crisis, which costs an estimated \$8.1 trillion in health damages each year.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres emphasised that pollution threatens health and hampers economic growth and exacerbates climate change. This year's theme, led by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), is "Invest in #CleanAirNow" to ensure a healthier future. Guterres outlined necessary actions, including phasing out fossil fuels, strengthening air quality standards, and enhancing renewable energy.

In conjunction with Clean Air Day, UNEP launched AQMx, a global air quality management platform, aimed at improving regional air quality through knowledge sharing. UNEP Executive Director called for stronger air quality standards and investments in pollution solutions, urging nations to redirect fossil fuel subsidies and support cleaner technologies.

Global events celebrated the day, including conferences in South Africa, high-level discussions in Asia, and workshops in Latin America, demonstrating a growing commitment to tackling air pollution. Notably, cities have successfully reduced pollution levels, and initiatives like the Global Methane Pledge aim to lower emissions.

Governments and businesses are encouraged to implement stricter air quality standards, invest in clean technologies, and integrate clean air measures into policies. By collaborating across sectors and regions, we can ensure cleaner air for future generations.



UNCCD NEWS

Africa's Environment Ministers Call for Drought Management Protocol

At the 10th Special Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) in Abidjan, African environment ministers have urged the establishment of a legally binding protocol on drought management under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). This call comes amid growing concerns about the impacts of land degradation, drought and desertification on the continent's socio-economic stability and food security.

The Abidjan Declaration, adopted on 6th September, highlighted the urgent need for action to combat rising temperatures and land degradation. Ethiopian State Minister emphasised that prolonged droughts lead to food and water insecurity, undermining efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ministers also recognised the critical work of the Africa Groups of Negotiators as they prepare for upcoming international conferences. UNEP Executive Director called for unity among African nations at international meetings, linking land management to climate pledges. The Executive Secretary of UNCCD, highlighted the need for a managerial approach to land use.

The session also featured the upcoming Africa Natural Capital Atlas, showcasing the continent's rich resources and the need for sustainable management. Ministers endorsed a decision to advance Africa's common positions at future meetings, reinforcing the urgency of addressing the continent's environmental challenges.



October 2024

The collection of the below mentioned materials for recycling in the month of September, resulted in the following benefits:

- » Reduction of 478 (MTCO,e) GHG
- Saving of 3,493 Million BTU of Energy
- Saving of 896 m³ of Landfill Space
- Saving of 2,079 Trees from being felled
- Saving of 937 Gallons of Gasoline















PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
In September 2024, EEG successfully collected 112,825 kg of paper from 244 participating entities, marking a 14% decrease compared to the previous month. We	The Millennium School, Dubai	5,441	Sultan Ali Alzaabi	1,003
sincerely thank the community for their active participation and encourage everyone to continue their environmental efforts as we progress through the year and help us achieve	ICS Al Falah School	3,460	Dhanvi Shah	1,000
our targets with ongoing initiatives and projects.	Emirates National School Al Ain	3,130	Samantha P Santosh	701
CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
In September 2024, EEG collected 1,227 kg of aluminium cans for recycling from 27 participating entities, reflecting a 24% increase compared to August. We encourage the	American School of Dubai, Barsha	87	Shaheer Wazir	32
community to continue supporting us by collecting and depositing their aluminium cans, helping us reach this year's target of $31,800~{\rm kg}$.	Dubai Womens College & Our Own High School, Dubai (Tie)	25	Divyansh Virla	13
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
In September 2024, EEG collected 11,098 kg of plastic from 152 participating entities, marking a 23% increase from the previous month. We urge the community to follow this positive trend and continue their efforts in diverting this waste from our lands and	Al Rayan Primary School Cycle 1	410	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	608
oceans, supporting a cleaner and more sustainable environment.	Our Own High School, Dubai	353	Hidha Fatima	200
	Abu Dhabi International School	330	Fatima Abdullah Mohammed Al Dhanhani	119
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Pcs)
In September 2024, EEG collected a total of 743 toner cartridges from 21 participating entities, reflecting a 115% increase compared to the previous month.	IBN Sina School Abu Dhabi	35	Nicole Rince	100
This demonstrates the significant impact a small number of entities can have in the	-	-	Mishka Punjabi	65
circular economy. We encourage more participants to join us, increasing the quantity of toner cartridges collected and diverted from landfills.	-	-	Afsheen Banu Shaik & Bhakti Venkatesh Hegde (Tie)	32
MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Pcs)	Families	Quantity (Pcs)
In September 2024, EEG collected 196 mobile phones from 9 participating entities, marking a 50% decrease compared to the previous month. We encourage our members and	The Millenium School, Dubai	17	Amal Saeed Al Shamsi	151
participants to continue collecting and depositing their old mobile phones, helping us address the growing waste generated by increasing digital connectivity. Let's work together	-	-	-	-
to conserve precious resources by channeling these materials into recycling streams.	-	-	-	-
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
In September 2024, EEG successfully collected 15,025 kg of glass bottles from 80 participating entities, marking a 100% increase from the previous month. This is	The Millennium School, Dubai	50	Mariah Mubarak	540
the second-highest collection of the year. Let's continue working together to boost these numbers and maintain this positive trend throughout the year.	-	-	Anila Murali	168
these numbers and maintain this positive trend throughout the year.	-	-	Sumaiya Ali	145
E-WASTE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
In September 2024, EEG collected 1,329 kg of e-waste for recycling from 18 participating entities, reflecting a 48% increase compared to August. As e-waste	The Millennium School, Dubai	48	Muneera Darwish Alzaabi	105
generation continues to rise both nationally and globally, it is imperative that we divert it from landfills. Join us in taking positive action in the coming months to	-	-	-	-
ensure the effectiveness of our e-waste collection efforts.	-	-	-	-
SCRAP METAL COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Kg)	Families	Quantity (Kg)
In September 2024, EEG collected 565 kg of scrap metal from 18 participating entities, reflecting a 64% decrease from the previous month. Improper disposal of metals can lead			Fateem Ali Alzaabi	378
to significant greenhouse gas emissions, making it essential to manage them correctly. Collecting scrap metal provides a valuable source of raw materials that can be utilized	-	-	Jenisha Kalia	14
across various sectors. Join us in this crucial campaign by depositing old iron, stainless steel, copper, and other common yet important metals.			Mishika Jain & Mohammed Zohan (Tie)	10

EEG urges all its members & participating entities to maximise their contributions to achieve the set targets of the above campaigns and excel in collections for societal welfare.

