

# EEG EDU NEWS

Together for a Better Environment®



مجموعة عمل الإمارات للبيئة  
EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



June 2025  
Issue 06

Emirates  
Recycling  
Awards 2025



جائزة الإمارات  
لإعادة التدوير  
2025



## Upcoming Events

Recycling begins at  
**HCME**

Join The  
Neighbourhood  
Recycling  
Project 2025  
1<sup>st</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> September

Collect one or all of the below recyclable materials as per the respective amounts.

EEG Student Members		Non Members	
Paper	kg 300	Paper	kg 500
E-waste	kg 500	E-waste	kg 500
Glass	kg 75	Glass	kg 100
Plastic	kg 30	Plastic	kg 50
Aluminium Cans	kg 25	Aluminium Cans	kg 45
Mobile Phones (any brand)	pieces 35	Mobile Phones (any brand)	pieces 60
Toner	pieces 30	Toner	pieces 60

For details email us on [wastemanagement@eeg.ae](mailto:wastemanagement@eeg.ae)

**Register Now!**

+971 4 344 8622 | +971 4 344 8677  
[eeg@emirates.net.ae](mailto:eeg@emirates.net.ae) | [www.eeg-uae.org](http://www.eeg-uae.org)  
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EEG  
Emirates Environmental Group

**PURGING PESTERING PLASTICS**

Plastic Recycling Campaign

Together for a  
Better Environment®

1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2025 TO 31<sup>st</sup> JULY 2025

Category Qty.  
 Fast-food & restaurants 70 kg  
 Academics 170 kg  
 Companies 100 kg

REGISTER NOW!

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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](mailto:eeg@emirates.net.ae) - [www.eeg-uae.org](http://www.eeg-uae.org)



eegemirates



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Miguel Montes



## Habiba Al Mar'ashi

Dear members, partners, valued readers and well wishers

As we navigate an era marked by unprecedented sustainability challenges, it is clear that the future of our planet depends on bold actions, innovative thinking and collective responsibility. The global sustainability landscape is evolving rapidly—shaped by ambitious climate commitments, accelerating technological innovation and growing public awareness. Yet, amid this transformative period, one element stands out as both a powerful catalyst and an indispensable force: The Youth.

Young people today are inheriting the consequences of decades of environmental degradation but at the same time they are also leading the charge towards regenerative and inclusive growth. Across the globe, youth movements are amplifying the demand for climate justice, sustainable consumption and social equity. This energy and commitment has inspired us at Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) to continue placing youth and engaging them at the heart of our mission, because empowering young minds and fostering environmental education are pivotal to realising the UAE's vision for a green and resilient future.

In May, EEG's activities underscored this focus on youth and education as drivers of sustainability. One of our more popular National Educational Programme took center stage with the Inter-School Environmental Public Speaking Competition, held from 5th to 8th May, showcasing the passion and insights of future leaders. These students demonstrated not only their awareness but also their readiness to champion change — a clear reminder that education is a cornerstone for cultivating environmental stewardship from a young age.

Furthering our commitment, the month of May has been an exceptionally dynamic and impactful month for EEG, marked by a series of important engagements that underscore our commitment to sustainability, youth empowerment, and collaborative progress.

The month began with one of EEG's esteemed Corporate Member, Al Shirawi Equipment LLC's, tree planting on **1<sup>st</sup> May**, where 25 Sidr saplings were planted as a concrete step towards enhancing urban green spaces and community involvement. On 5th May, I participated in a briefing on the 4<sup>th</sup> Financing for Development International Business Forum (FFD4), organised by UNDESA, highlighting the critical role of sustainable finance in achieving global development and climate goals.

EEG's dedication to staff development was evident on **7<sup>th</sup> May**, when our external team undertook virtual First Aid Training provided by one of our Corporate members, Mideast Data Systems L.L.C., ensuring preparedness and resilience within our organisation. On **13<sup>th</sup> May**, I joined the Sharjah Excellence Award as a jury member, recognising outstanding achievements in sustainability across the emirate. Later that day, I participated in Emirates Green Building Council's Executive Committee Meeting, focusing on advancing green building standards.

Mid-May saw continued international engagement with our attendance at the CPR Subcommittee meeting and a critical session on **15<sup>th</sup> May** titled "Health on the Negotiating Table: Stakeholder Reflections on the Plastics Treaty Draft," addressing the

global challenge of plastic pollution and the importance of multi-stakeholder dialogue. Later that day, our involvement extended to attending the 1st meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group for the Global Framework on Chemicals, where we supported efforts to strengthen chemical safety regulations worldwide.

Youth and education remained central to our work and on **20<sup>th</sup> May**, I was delighted to be Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker at the Inter-School Sustainability and Environment Session hosted by one of our Academic Members, GEMS New Millennium School, Al Khail, inspiring the next generation of environmental stewards. Concurrently, in the afternoon I joined my team to go to Al Ain for a meeting organised by our Associate Member, Berkeley, with UAE University's Al Ain campus, deepening academic collaborations. That same day, another EEG team engaged in a briefing on the global chemicals framework, emphasising our role in environmental diplomacy.

As a Co-Founder, Vice Chair and Treasurer of the EmiratesGBC, I participated on **21<sup>st</sup> May**, in the Council's Annual Congress whereby, I moderated a panel, titled "The Financial Risk of Inaction in the Built Environment". We also participated on the same day in the Digital Product Information Systems (DPIS) Global Framework discussions, focusing on enhancing product transparency and sustainability. The day concluded with me joining the celebrations of the Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Excellence Awards 2025, recognising the tourism sector's sustainability leaders.

The following day, **22<sup>nd</sup> May**, EEG proudly hosted the Environmental Drawing Competition and Art from Waste Awarding Ceremony at Ismaili Center, where we celebrated and gave special recognition to the talented winners for both the competitions for their creativity and commitment to environmental awareness.

On **26<sup>th</sup> May**, we joined a webinar on the UAE Climate Law and Carbon Credit Regulation, organised by PwC Middle East, the UN Global Compact Network UAE, and Chapter Zero UAE, providing vital insights to organisations navigating emerging climate policies. The month's environmental leadership continued with our participation on **27<sup>th</sup> May** at the 5th Global Conference of the One Planet Network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme, contributing to transformative discussions on food security, biodiversity, and climate resilience.

We organised a workshop for Taqa for the World Utilities Congress on **27<sup>th</sup> May**, and my active involvement in the World Packaging Organisation meetings and WorldStar Ceremony held in Milan from 27th to 30th May. The experience offered invaluable insights, rich networking opportunities, and a chance to celebrate innovation in packaging on a global stage.

This impressive range of activities across May demonstrates the breadth and depth of EEG's commitment to advancing sustainability, climate action and youth engagement. All of our activities are covered in this newsletter, and I hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed executing them. As we progress, the energy and innovation of young people, supported by strategic partnerships across public, private, academia and civil society sectors, will remain at the heart of driving the UAE's vision for a sustainable and prosperous future.



**Special Tree Planting Event**

**1st  
MAY**

EEG was delighted to collaborate with its valued corporate member, Al Shirawi Equipment Co., for a special tree planting activity held on the premises of the company’s office. As part of EEG’s national long-standing “For Our Emirates We Plant” programme, 25 Sidr saplings—a native species known for its resilience and ecological value—were planted along the vicinity of the Al Shirawi facility on this meaningful occasion.

This partnership reflects Al Shirawi Equipment Co.’s strong environmental commitment and dedication to supporting national sustainability goals through community-based action. Planting trees not only enhances green spaces but also helps combat climate change, improve air quality, and promote biodiversity in urban areas.

Since the inception of the programme in 2007, EEG has successfully planted 2,147,392 trees across the UAE, resulting in the mitigation of over 186,213 metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions—a significant contribution towards a cleaner, greener nation.

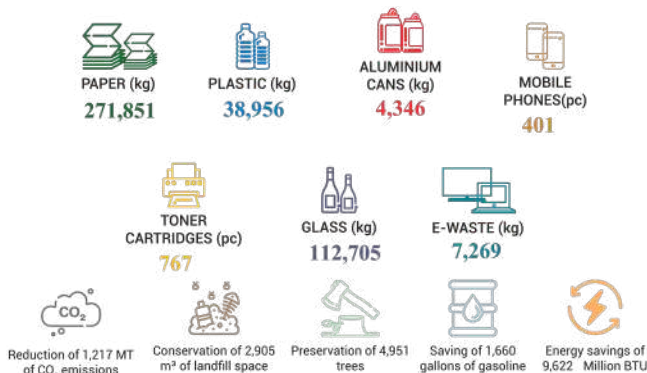
We extend our heartfelt thanks to Al Shirawi Equipment Co. for their support and active participation. Together, we continue to advance our shared vision for a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.



**EEG Celebrates the Achievements of OROC Phase 1**

**25th  
MAY**

We are proud to announce the successful completion of Phase 1 of the 16<sup>th</sup> Cycle of our flagship programme, One Root, One Communi-tree (OROC), on 25<sup>th</sup> May. This milestone achievement saw the dynamic engagement of **250 entities** from across the UAE’s diverse societal sectors, uniting individuals, students, families, corporations, academic institutions, hospitality groups, and government bodies in a powerful act of environmental stewardship.



In recognition of these outstanding achievements, EEG will plant **869 indigenous trees** in December in honour of the participants who met and exceeded their targets. **Since its inception in 2010, this Phase 1 recorded the highest number of trees earned by participants.** We extend our deepest appreciation to all contributors for championing sustainability and advancing the UAE’s circular economy vision. We eagerly look forward to launching Phase 2 of the programme on 25<sup>th</sup> July—stay tuned for more details and opportunities to make a lasting impact.

**A Youth-Led Grid Innovation Workshop**

**27th  
MAY**

On 27<sup>th</sup> May, EEG in collaboration with Taqa Transmission hosted the “Planning the Energy Transition: A Youth-Led Grid Innovation Workshop” at the World Utilities Congress held at ADNEC Centre, Abu Dhabi. The workshop aimed to empower young individuals to play an active role in the energy transition by exploring innovative solutions for integrating renewable energy into the grid, improving energy efficiency and fostering sustainability.

Participants, including students and young professionals, engaged in interactive sessions covering topics such as smart grids, energy storage and the role of innovation in reducing carbon emissions. The workshop provided a platform for youth to brainstorm and propose practical solutions to real-world energy challenges. The event highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration and youth leadership in shaping a sustainable energy future.

The workshop successfully underscored the vital role young people play in driving the energy transition, leaving participants inspired and equipped with knowledge and ideas to contribute to the UAE’s ambitious climate goals.



**Appreciating our Logistical Support Partners**

At Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), our community recycling initiatives thrive through the steadfast support of our dedicated partners. We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the companies that have generously supported our logistical requirements for the collection of recyclable material during the month of May.



A special thank you goes to **Amazon, ISS Relocations LLC, Tristar Transport LLC, and Lucky Recycling Limited** for their invaluable truck support. Their commitment has played a pivotal role in enabling the efficient collection and transportation of recyclables from across the UAE, ensuring the smooth execution of our environmental programmes.

By providing logistical assistance, these organisations have gone beyond their core business operations to contribute meaningfully to the cause of sustainability and environmental stewardship. Their support helps us reach wider communities, divert more waste from landfills, and take impactful strides towards a circular economy.

Edu News

5<sup>th</sup> -  
8<sup>th</sup>  
MAY

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Cycle of Inter-School Environmental Public Speaking Competition**

The Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) held the 25<sup>th</sup> cycle of one of its most popular annual Educational Programme known as the “Inter-School Environmental Public Speaking Competition” (ISEPSC) at Zayed Education Complex - Al Barsha. This special Silver Jubilee edition brought together students from across all the 7 Emirates to share ideas, raise awareness and speak up for the planet. The **700 participants** during the course of the 4 days coming from **115 schools** were encouraged to present problems and put across corresponding effective solutions crucial for the preservation of natural resources and the continuity of life on our planet. EEG outlined 4 overarching themes for the competition, addressing pivotal global, regional and national sustainability issues.

The winning schools of the 25<sup>th</sup> cycle of the ISEPSC were:

	TOPIC	WINNERS
SUB SENIOR	Day 1: Two Crises, One Solution: Fighting Climate Change to Save Biodiversity	The Philippine School, Dubai
	Day 2: Cosmetics and Clothes: The Environmental and Socio-Economic Footprint	Our Own High School, Dubai
SENIOR	Day 3: Rethinking Green: How AI is Redefining Environmental Solutions?	GEMS Our Own Indian School, Dubai
	Day 4: Urbanisation vs. Wellbeing: The Role of Sustainable Cities in Public Health	Global Indian International School, Dubai



The sought-after overall rolling trophy was bagged by **Global Indian International School, Dubai**, which cumulatively achieved the highest score across the 4-day competition. The trophy will stay with the school for one year, and it will be competed on again in 2026.

Winning this competition is a major achievement considering the national calibre of the schools that competed against each other.

**Inspiring Future Sustainability Leaders at GEMS New Millennium School**

20<sup>th</sup>  
MAY

On 20<sup>th</sup> May, EEG Co-Founder and Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, had the distinct honour of serving as the Chief Guest and delivering the keynote address at the Interschool Sustainability and Environment Session hosted by; the GEMS New Millennium School – Al Khail, one of EEG’s valued Academic Members.

The event, held in celebration of World Bee Day, brought together students, faculty and administrators to spotlight the environmental contributions of one of nature’s smallest but most vital creatures—the bee. Mrs. Al Mar’ashi used this timely occasion to inspire students to view themselves as powerful agents of change in the global movement towards sustainability.

Drawing from over three decades of EEG’s environmental leadership, she passionately encouraged the young audience to take action in their daily lives—from reducing waste and conserving energy to developing innovative, nature-friendly and doable solutions.



Mrs. Al Mar'ashi emphasised that the youth are not just leaders of tomorrow—they are already leading today. Her heartfelt message resonated deeply, reminding attendees that just as bees contribute tirelessly to pollination, every small action that we take can lead to a significant environmental impact. EEG thanks GEMS New Millennium School – Al Khail for hosting this meaningful event and commends the students for their enthusiasm and commitment to sustainability. Together, we move closer to building a greener and more resilient future for all.

### EEG’s 20<sup>th</sup> Environmental Drawing Competition

Emirates Environmental Group concluded the judging of its 20<sup>th</sup> cycle of the annual “Environmental Drawing Competition - EDC 2025” on 13<sup>th</sup> April. The office received hundreds of drawings from schools across the country throughout the months of January, Feb and March, where the deadline for the submission of the artwork was set for **28<sup>th</sup> March**. This year, the competition covered topics that address current sustainability issues and were worded carefully to stimulate critical thinking and curiosity amongst the student community, while effectively informing them of the latest world issues to explore. The primary aim of EDC is to inspire students to articulate their thoughts and ideas in distinctive and imaginative ways, while also fostering a sense of environmental consciousness, responsibility and reverence. This unparalleled national competition offers a platform for students within specific age brackets to channel their environmental enthusiasm and convey it through artistic expression.

The professional artists serving as jurors in the UAE arrived at the EEG office on the morning of 13<sup>th</sup> April, kicking off the judging process with enthusiasm. Inside the conference room, a vibrant display of artwork adorned the tables, showcasing pieces from both mainstream schools and centers catering to students with special needs. With a plethora of submissions across 3 categories, the committee faced the daunting task of selecting the winning entries. The awarding ceremony was again held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May at the Ismaili Centre with the support of Accenture, Almarai, Dabur and Cove Rotana of Ras Al Khaimah, who gave the winners gifts and hampers.

The winners of the 20<sup>th</sup> cycle of Environmental Drawing Competition:

CATEGORY	SCHOOL CATEGORY	POSITION	SCHOOLS	NAME OF STUDENT
THE POWER OF TREES: GUARDIANS OF THE EARTH (6-8 YEARS)	REGULAR SCHOOLS	WINNER	Abdulrahman Al Nasser School - Cycle 1	Mohammed Mohammed Al-Zaabi
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Bint Al-Shatea School	Shamma Marwan Al-Chafli
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Zayed Educational Complex, Dibba Al Fujairah	Mazen Rashid Mohammed
	PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION	WINNER	Al-Awael Private School	Joud Mohammed Omar Mahjoob
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Al Ain Center for Autism	Dhiyab Mahmoud Al Shamsi
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Al-Awael Private School	Fatima Mohammed Dhahrawi
SUNSHINE AND RAINBOWS CELEBRATING RENEWABLE ENERGY (9-11 YEARS)	REGULAR SCHOOLS	WINNER	Delhi Private School, Sharjah	Heer Sharma
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Al-Hirah Child Center	Mariam Al Raessi
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Ambassador School, Dubai	N. Navya
	PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION	WINNER	Zayed Foundation for People of Determination, Zayed City Center	Maha Zeyad Al Saadi
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Al Noor training centre with People of Determination	Amelia
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Um Ammar School Cycle 1	Aisha Muhammed Ali Al Shihi
E-WASTE: MODERN DAY CRISIS (12-14 YEARS)	REGULAR SCHOOLS	WINNER(TIE)	Pearl Wisdom School Bhavans Dubai	Devang Sajesh
		WINNER (TIE)	Al Ain Juniors School Indian System	Aaleyah Batool
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	New Indian Model School, Dubai	Muhammed Razi
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Delhi Private School, Sharjah	Anjali Priyaa



CATEGORY	SCHOOL CATEGORY	POSITION	SCHOOLS	NAME OF STUDENT
<b>E-WASTE: MODERN DAY CRISIS (12-14 YEARS)</b>	<b>PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION</b>	WINNER	Ghayathi Center for Care and Rehabilitation	Essa Mohammed Al Mansoori
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Al Noor Training Centre for People of Determination	Hima Zahie
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Al Noor Training Centre for People of Determination	Sai

**Art From Waste 2025 Competition**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of Art from Waste Competition 2025 has concluded successfully, marking a memorable and inspiring journey for all participating schools. This year’s event showcased the incredible creativity and imagination of students while highlighting the importance of sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Throughout the competition, students transformed everyday recyclable waste materials into stunning objects to show their thoughts and ideas about the importance of saving the endangered animals, proving that beauty and creativity can emerge from the most unexpected sources. Each project reflected the unique vision and artistic expression of the young artists, along with their commitment to positively impacting the environment. The competition was concluded at the Ismaili Center on 22<sup>nd</sup> May to announce the top winners with the support of Al Marai and Dabur, who provided in-kind prizes for the winning teams.

The winners in this cycle were:

CATEGORY	SCHOOL CATEGORY	POSITION	SCHOOLS
<b>SEA TURTLE (9-11 YEARS)</b>	<b>REGULAR SCHOOLS</b>	WINNER	Al Andeles School - Cycle 1
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Moza Bint Buti school
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Bhavans pearl wisdom school, Sharjah
	<b>PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION</b>	WINNER	Al-Khalidiya School, second and third cycle, for boys-Eastern
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Al Sila’a Center Abu Dhabi
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	AL NOOR TRAINING CENTRE WITH PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION
<b>FLAMINGO (12-14 YEARS)</b>	<b>REGULAR SCHOOLS</b>	WINNER	Diyar Private Academy - Dibba
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	ALAIN JUNIORS SCOOOL, ALAIN
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	India International School, Sharjah
	<b>PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION</b>	WINNER	India International School, Sharjah
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	New Academy School
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services - Khorfakkan Branch
<b>ORYX LEUCORYX</b>	<b>REGULAR SCHOOLS</b>	WINNER	Dubai International School
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	New Indian Model School, Dubai
		2 <sup>ND</sup> RUNNER UP	Diyar Private Academy - Dibba
	<b>PEOPLE OF DETERMINATION</b>	WINNER	Fatima Al Zahra Secondary School for Girls
		1 <sup>ST</sup> RUNNER UP	Bahethat Albadeya School



**Neighbourhood Recycling Project 2025**

Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) proudly launches the 15<sup>th</sup> cycle of the Neighbourhood Recycling Project (NRP), taking place from 1<sup>st</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025. This unique summer initiative engages students across the UAE to lead recycling efforts within their communities, turning the school break into an opportunity for environmental action.

Since its launch in 2010, the NRP has inspired students to promote waste segregation and recycling among neighbours and families, instilling lifelong values of responsibility and sustainability. In 2024, the project helped mitigate **115 MT of CO<sub>2</sub>**, saved **798 million BTU of energy**, protected **513 trees**, and diverted **195 m<sup>3</sup> of waste from landfills**.

By empowering children to lead at the grassroots level, EEG continues to strengthen environmental awareness and community involvement. We invite schools and families to support this impactful programme and join us in creating a greener future.

Together, let's make NRP 2025 a resounding success.

[Register Here](#)



**2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle of 'Purging Pestering Plastics' Campaign**

Plastic pollution is one of the most urgent environmental threats of our time, infiltrating ecosystems from the deepest oceans to the highest peaks. Recognising this growing crisis, EEG launched the Purging Pestering Plastics (PPP) campaign in 2024 to promote sustainable plastic waste management. Following overwhelming support and impact, we are proud to announce the launch of its second cycle, running from 8<sup>th</sup> June to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025, in support of World Ocean Day.

This nationwide initiative calls on individuals, schools, businesses, and government entities to join hands in the fight against plastic pollution by collecting and recycling plastic waste responsibly. Participants who reach their targets will receive a Certificate of Appreciation and earn the opportunity to plant an indigenous tree sapling under EEG's "For Our Emirates We Plant" programme on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Together, let's turn the tide on plastic waste—one bottle, one action, one tree at a time.

[Register Here](#)



**10<sup>th</sup> Cycle of Recycle. Reforest. Repeat.**

EEG is proud to launch the 10<sup>th</sup> cycle of its flagship initiative – Recycle. Reforest. Repeat. (RRR), running from 17<sup>th</sup> June to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025. This milestone year aligns with the UAE's "Year of Community", reaffirming our belief that collective action is key to securing a greener, more sustainable future.

Since its inception, the RRR campaign has mobilised businesses, schools, government bodies, and individuals across the UAE to recycle paper waste and contribute to afforestation efforts. The campaign directly supports the transition to a circular economy by transforming recyclable waste into an opportunity for environmental restoration.

This year's goal is clear: collect a minimum of 1,000 kg of paper during the campaign period. In return, participants who achieve this target will be invited to plant an indigenous tree sapling under their name on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025 as part of EEG's "For Our Emirates We Plant" programme, and receive an official certificate of participation.

As we celebrate a decade of RRR's success, we invite everyone to be part of this impactful movement. Let's come together to recycle more, plant more, and inspire long-term environmental responsibility—one sheet of paper and one tree at a time

[Register Here](#)



## EEG MEMBERS' UPDATE

EEG welcomed 7 new & 8 renewed student members in the month of May 2025

### STUDENT MEMBERSHIP (RENEWALS)

Advika Shalini Vijay	Jewelyn Anna Joseph
Eesha Chhibber	Joshaiiah James Joseph
Ekagr Chhibber	Kevin Koshi Mathew
Hazel Shine George	Philip Serrao
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP (NEW)	
Ali Ismail	Harit Bhavesh Khetia
Ammar Simab	Saad Syed Ahmed
Ayesha Farrukh	Saiyette Aima
Siya Hithesh	

## UN News



### Africa Strengthens Wastewater Surveillance to Safeguard Health and the Environment

UNEP NEWS

A recent report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) reveals that in many developing countries, less than 5% of wastewater is treated before entering the environment. This has serious implications for public health, ecosystems, and sustainable development. In Africa, the situation is even more urgent, with over 90% of wastewater discharged untreated, contributing to the spread of waterborne diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and environmental harm. To help tackle this issue, UNEP launched the Wastewater Surveillance for Africa (WWS) Initiative in 2024. The initiative supports the development of cost-effective, scalable systems to monitor wastewater for pathogens and pollutants, providing early warning signs of potential health threats. As Heidi Savelli-Soderberg, Chief of UNEP's Source to Sea Pollution Unit, explained, the aim is to enable African countries to share knowledge, strengthen capacity, and turn vital data into concrete action.

[READ MORE](#)



### Desertification and Drought Day 2025: Restore the Land, Unlock the Opportunities

UNCCD NEWS

Marked annually on 17<sup>th</sup> June, Desertification and Drought Day 2025 calls for urgent global action to restore degraded land and unlock the full potential of a sustainable, land-based economy. This year's theme, "Restore the Land. Unlock the Opportunities," highlights the vital role of land restoration in tackling climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty, and food insecurity. Each year, over 1 million km<sup>2</sup> of productive land is lost—threatening economies and communities alike. To reverse this trend, 1.5 billion hectares must be restored by 2030. With over half the world's GDP dependent on nature, investing in land makes economic sense: every dollar spent on restoration generates between US\$ 7–30 in returns. Yet, funding falls far short. The UNCCD estimates US\$ 1 billion per day is needed to meet global goals. Current investments total just US\$ 66 billion annually, with minimal private sector contribution.

"Land degradation and drought are major disruptors," said Ibrahim Thiaw, UNCCD Executive Secretary. "But land restoration offers us a way forward—economically, socially and environmentally." Desertification and Drought Day is an opportunity to raise awareness, scale up solutions, and mobilise stakeholders around a shared goal: healthy land for a healthier future.

[READ MORE](#)



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

- >> Reduction of 490 (MTCO<sub>2e</sub>) GHG
- >> Saving of 3,801 Million BTU of Energy
- >> Saving of 1,061 m<sup>3</sup> of Landfill Space
- >> Saving of 2,043 Trees from being felled
- >> Saving of 851 Gallons of Gasoline



PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Family/Individual	Quantity (kg)
In the month of May, the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) collected a total of 110,300 kg of paper from 228 participating entities. This marks a slight 4% decrease compared to the month of April. While the reduction is minimal, it serves as a reminder of the importance of maintaining and enhancing our collective recycling efforts. We strongly encourage all members, partners, and supporters to remain consistent in their con-	Oasis International School Al Ain	3,400	Kavy Panchal	750
	Emirates National School Al Ain	2,660	Sahasra Magesh Kumar & Sanaa Agrawal )Tie)	730
	Wadi Al Hillo School	2,132	Zakariya Sharafi	685
CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Individual	Quantity (kg)
In May, EEG collected 1,997 kg of aluminium cans from 48 entities—a 66% increase from April. By month-end, we reached 47.2% of our annual target. Let's keep up the momentum—your continued efforts are vital to achieving our goal and advancing the circular economy.	Our Own High School, Dubai	84	-	-
	Rawdat Umm Amar School	21	-	-
	Delta English School Sharjah	15	-	-
PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Individual	Quantity (kg)
In May, EEG successfully collected 13,572 kg of plastic waste from 154 participating entities, marking a 29% increase from April. We are encouraged by this progress and urge all members of society to join us in driving momentum toward a cleaner, greener future.	Oasis International School Al Ain	345	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	919
	Our Own High School, Dubai	323	Ibrahim Pasha	110
	Baraem Al Ain Private School Banyas	175	Sharvi Gaurang Shah	100
TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (Pcs)	Individual	Quantity (pcs)
In May, EEG collected 400 toner cartridges from 12 participating entities, marking a remarkable 876% increase compared to April. We encourage all participants to stay engaged and actively support HP toner recycling initiatives in the coming months.	-	-	Jovita Bhaumik	71
	-	-	Nicole Rince	66
	-	-	-	-
GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Individual	Quantity (kg)
In May, EEG collected 34,320 kg of glass bottles from 78 participating entities, marking a 26% increase from April. We are encouraged by this renewed participation and urge everyone to maintain the momentum toward a greener, more sustainable year.	Higher College of Technology Bani Yas A	65	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	631
	Delta English School Sharjah	45	Twarita Verma	145
	Higher College of Technology Bani Yas B	20	Alex George	117
E-WASTE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Individual	Quantity (kg)
In May, EEG collected 1,024 kg of e-waste from 26 participating entities, reflecting a 43% increase from April. Let's sustain this momentum—every discarded electronic item contributes to a more sustainable future. Join us in advancing e-waste recovery efforts.	Delhi Private School Dubai	49	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim	18
	Delta English School Sharjah	27	Reyna	14
	-	-	-	-
SCRAP COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Schools	Quantity (kg)	Individual	Quantity (kg)
In May, EEG collected 2,127 kg of scrap metal from 30 participating entities, marking a 51% increase from April. Let's build on this progress in June—recycle scrap metal responsibly and support the circular economy. Every contribution gives waste a new purpose.	Delta English School Sharjah	79	Ali Darwish Mubarak Salim Alzaabi	287
	Higher College of Technology Bani Yas A	22	Zakariya Sharafi	131
	-	-	Kriti Sahni	62
MOBILE COLLECTION CAMPAIGN	Individual	Quantity (Pcs)		
In May, EEG collected 205 mobile phones from 11 participating entities, reflecting a 74% decrease from April. We urge the wider community to reinvigorate efforts—every contribution counts toward achieving our annual target and advancing our environmental goals.	Kabir Husain Chaudhry	75		
	Ayesha Farrukh	37		
	Siya Hithesh	35		

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. Together we are spearheading a transformative effort to make tangible impact for a sustainable future.

