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Climate Goals On Road To COP28



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Tesla's Model Y: Designed for Safety



Emirates Appreciation Award for the Environment

Together for a green home

Chairman's Message

In just six months from now, the UAE has the opportunity to get the world aligned and on track towards an inclusive and equitable energy transition when it hosts the Conference of Parties (COP28) later this year.

By bringing all necessary stakeholders to the table to move faster and at scale, the UAE and the wider international community stand poised and more determined than ever to turn the tide on climate change. As the host of COP 28, the UAE is working to ensure that the landmark climate summit marks an important moment in climate diplomacy through a transparent and inclusive process that will make COP28 a 'COP for All, and a COP of Action'.

The UAE is mobilizing action to accelerate emissions reductions and ensure energy security. Building on its track record of action to meet the global climate challenge, the UAE is further advancing international efforts and fostering consensus to accelerate inclusive climate progress and support countries that are most vulnerable.



**Prof. Mohammed
bin Fahad**
Executive Editor

The UAE was the first country in the region to ratify the Paris Agreement, the first to commit to an economy-wide reduction in emissions, and the first to announce a Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative, proving its commitment to raising ambition for climate action.

Having evolved from a resource-based economy to a knowledge-based one, the UAE has invested USD 40 billion in renewable energy and clean tech globally over the past 15 years and has spearheaded transformational progress through game-changing partnerships to deliver practical solutions and outcomes. It is therefore uniquely positioned to lead the world into a future fuelled by clean and renewable energies, advanced technologies and innovative climate-smart solutions.

The upcoming climate summit is also an unprecedented opportunity to shine the spotlight on the critical role the Middle East's economic transformation will play in shaping the global response to climate change.

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REPORT: WMO's annual State of the Global Climate 2022 report highlights continuous advance of climate change



Upcoming events

Sustainable Investment Forum Europe 2023

Date: May 9

Location: Paris, France

Bringing together industry leaders in sustainable finance and investment, this must attend Forum provides a platform to share best practice on ESG due diligence, highlight solutions for climate risk and adaptation and explore blended finance techniques to attract commercial capital whilst providing financial returns for investors that align with UN SDG and Net Zero goals.

Participants can connect with, learn from and share insights with a community of Investment Managers, Insurers, Banks, Pension Funds, Multi- Laterals, Policymakers, Think Tanks and NGOs from Europe and the rest of the world.

World Migratory Bird Day 2023

Date: May 13- 14

World Migratory Bird Day 2023 will focus on the topic of water and its importance for migratory birds.

Water is fundamental to life on our planet. The vast majority of migratory birds rely on aquatic ecosystems during their life cycles. Inland and coastal wetlands, rivers, lakes, streams, marshes, and ponds are all vital for feeding, drinking, or nesting, and also as places to rest and refuel during their long journeys.

Unfortunately, aquatic ecosystems are becoming increasingly threatened around the world and so are the migratory birds that depend on them. The increasing human demand for water, as well as pollution and climate change, are having a direct impact on the availability of clean water and the conservation status of many migratory birds.

World Migratory Bird Day is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. It has a global outreach and is an effective tool to help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

UAE Hosts Green Retreat To Set Out Climate Goals On Road To COP28



The UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, a leading force in global climate initiatives, recently hosted ministers and over 150 high-ranking officials from 50 government and private entities at the 'Green Retreat'. This collaborative event showcased the UAE's dedication to addressing climate change and served as a strategic precursor to the nation's much-anticipated hosting of the Conference of Parties (COP28) later this year.

Held in Expo City Dubai, the Green Retreat unfolded under the inspiring theme 'United for Climate'. The event harnessed the collective power of various stakeholders, building on their accomplishments in climate change action, environmental preservation, and sustainability promotion across the nation. By fostering innovative ideas and projects, the retreat facilitated a collaborative approach to showcase

the UAE's most impactful initiatives in the lead-up to hosting COP28 in Dubai, set to take place from November 30 to December 12, 2023.

The Green Retreat was attended by H.H. Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, President and Chief Executive Officer of the UAE Independent Climate Change Accelerators (UICCA); Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed Hareb Almheiri, UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment; Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy; Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure; Dr. Ahmad Abdulla Humaid Abdulla Belhoul Al Falasi, Minister of Education; and Salem bin Khalid Al Qassimi, Minister of Culture and Youth.

The Green Retreat also attracted a diverse and influential group of attendees, including senior officials from relevant federal and local

More than 150 ministers and senior officials took part in a Green Retreat setting out the UAE's crucial climate change goals on the road to the COP28 summit in Dubai this year



government ministries and agencies, accelerator representatives, government media offices of the seven emirates, major private sector companies, and numerous prominent business leaders.

In her address, Mariam Almheiri underscored the ambitious mission of the Green Retreat, which brought together national experts and strategic partners from various sectors to advance climate action in the UAE. The goal is to present a model that reflects the country's status and climate efforts during COP28 UAE and to enhance the nation's role in offering innovative and inspiring solutions to global climate challenges while fostering a climate-resilient world.

She said: "The UAE's hosting of COP28 this year, along with naming 2023 as the Year of Sustainability, is tangible evidence of our wise

leadership's vision and commitment to playing a leading role in the fight against climate change, which impacts humanity as a whole. UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has demonstrated the UAE's commitment to uniting global efforts in line with the approach of our late founding leader, the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan."

She added: "The Green Retreat serves as an invaluable opportunity for participants to learn about the UAE's outstanding climate action record and contribute their ambitious ideas to drive tangible progress in national efforts towards sustainable economic growth. We aim to develop a comprehensive climate action plan through the participation of all government and private institutions, which will create significant opportunities for economic growth and diversification, generate employment for youth,



foster inclusive and cohesive communities, harness the potential of clean energy, and safeguard natural habitats and preserve the environment."

In her speech, Almheiri highlighted the severe climate challenges the world is facing, such as escalating food waste, carbon emissions, waste management issues, biodiversity loss, and the imminent threat to living organisms. She emphasized the urgent need for the world to take swift action and promote sustainability across various sectors to secure a better future for upcoming generations.

On his part, Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri said: "Coordinating all government efforts in the country in preparation for hosting COP28 is a national priority, given the importance of this vital issue and its direct impact on the

comprehensive development process at both state and global levels. This is especially true in light of the unprecedented challenges facing the world today due to climate change, which will continue to make this issue a top priority on the global dialogue agenda in the coming years."

He added, "As the world needs collective and rapid action to combat climate change, developing a new economic model that can respond to its challenges is an integral part of those efforts. Under the guidance of its wise leadership, the UAE has both the political will and the resources to invest in green transformation and sustainable development."

Bin Touq explained that the Ministry of Economy is working closely with its partners in the public and private sectors to enhance efforts toward a more diverse and sustainable economy aligned

Under the theme, 'United for Climate', ministers, government officials and business leaders come together to advance environmental agenda at Expo City Dubai



with the country's priorities in addressing the global climate crisis. This is achieved through four primary focus areas: promoting green growth opportunities, adopting the circular economy concept, developing new growth opportunities based on nature investment through blue economy initiatives, and supporting the energy transformation agenda through investment in renewable energy. Over the next three decades, the country will invest over AED 600 billion in clean and renewable energy. He emphasized that the country's economic vision for the next 50 years is based on transitioning to a low-carbon and more diverse economic model capable of meeting the requirements of sustainable development.

Suhail bin Mohammed Al Mazrouei said: "With COP28 approaching fast, all stakeholders should ensure their efforts are aligned to facilitate an adequate representation of the UAE and the

success of the highly anticipated event."

He added: "In this context, the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MoEI) has launched multiple projects and initiatives to sustain the energy, infrastructure, housing, and transport sectors. We work relentlessly with our partners to reduce the energy and water footprints and drive the shift to green economy that enables sustainable development across all sectors. To that end, we run demand side management (DSM) programs in the built environment, agriculture, industry, and transportation that can save up to 40 percent of energy consumption and 50 percent of water use by 2050. We also implement a unified building code that contributes to achieving the objectives of the UAE Energy Strategy 2050, the UAE Water Security Strategy 2036, and the National Energy and Water DSM Program. To cut down the carbon footprint of the transport sector - one of the highest carbon emitters, we seek to enhance green mobility."

Al Mazrouei pointed out that the Ministry is currently updating the UAE Energy Strategy 2050 to increase the share of clean energy in the country's energy mix.

Dr. Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi said: "The Green Retreat provides us an ideal platform to coordinate the climate efforts made by the public and private sector as the UAE is preparing to host COP28 this year. Entities gathered to preview their numerous cutting-edge initiatives and solutions to climate change and learn about the country's achievements in this field. The retreat inspired them to propose further ideas that help in further cementing the UAE's position as a global hub for confronting climate change, today and in the future.

"Education plays a pivotal role in spreading awareness and enhancing the ability of societies



to withstand, adapt and confront climate change, thus contributing to sustaining the planet. As such, the Ministry of Education is committed to achieving the objectives of the 'Green Education Partnership' that was established by the United Nations in cooperation with the UNESCO. Through this partnership, we are focusing on four main action areas, namely: greening schools, greening learning, greening communities, and greening capacity and readiness. We are also working with more than 30 local and international partners to adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach that addresses these areas and serves as an educational model that benefits the region and the world," he added.

Salem bin Khaled Al Qassimi said, "While culture is regarded as a key resource for mitigating and adapting to climate change, it is also a resource that is threatened by its negative impacts.

Climate change driven natural hazards can have a tremendous impact on our cultural and natural heritage resulting in the loss of crucial cultural elements of communities tied to the environment. Tapping into traditional cultural practices and knowledge can help build resilience in societies and guide us to make sustainable lifestyle choices."

"Despite our future-focused approach, the UAE as a nation, has often borrowed from the past and put its traditional sustainable practices to good use. Discussions on the role of culture in mitigating the risks of climate change have secured significant gains and we shall continue to build momentum to scale up culture-based climate action at the upcoming COP28. The UAE's youth will have a major role to play in these discussions as key changemakers and the world will witness how the next generation takes

The Green Retreat featured seven Thematic Councils addressing critical topics in the sustainability value chain



accountability for their future," he added.

A plan for government collaboration

The Green Retreat featured seven Thematic Councils addressing critical topics in the sustainability value chain. These included Water Resource Management and Conservation; Biodiversity and Blue Carbon Ecosystem Protection; Private Sector Engagement and Industry Transformation; Waste Management and Circular Economy; Sustainable Transportation; Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security.

The Councils consisted of experts from federal and local government entities as well as the private sector, who discussed various ideas and challenges related to each topic. They proposed solutions in the form of initiatives and projects to be implemented by individual entities or through

coordinated efforts.

Each Council presented 8 to 10 projects and initiative ideas supporting the respective topics. The most feasible and impactful ideas were chosen as part of the preliminary plan for national climate activities through January 2024. Representatives from the government media office also discussed ideas that could be added to the national climate action agenda.

Several media workgroups were set up to help government entities present a unified narrative for the COP28 conference and raise awareness in the UAE about the significant event hosted by the country this year. Periodic follow-up meetings were agreed upon to ensure progress in implementing this plan.

COP28 Will Move From Deliberation To Action: UAE President

UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has stressed that sustainable economic development and climate action are closely linked and essential to ensuring a better quality of life for all.

His Highness also emphasised that the UAE has placed climate action at the core of its strategy,



His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan sets out priorities as US President Joe Biden tells nations to 'show up in Dubai with 2030 targets'

with a focus on achieving sustainable economic and social growth while fulfilling its responsibility towards the environment and future generations.

His Highness made these remarks during a virtual meeting of the Major Economies Forum (MEF) on Energy and Climate Change, which was hosted by US President Joe Biden and brought together leaders and heads of government from major global economies.

The UAE was invited to participate in light of its upcoming role as host of COP28, the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate.

In his remarks during the forum, His Highness the President affirmed that the COP28 UAE Presidency will be committed to achieving transformative climate action, moving from

UAE President emphasises link between sustainable economic development and climate action for enhanced quality of life



deliberation to action, and delivering a comprehensive action plan for the benefit of all people and the planet.

“Energy and climate change are closely intertwined,” said His Highness. “And thus, it is essential that the world accelerates its logical, realistic, and balanced transition in the energy sector by increasing renewable energy production capacity by at least three times and doubling hydrogen production. It is crucial to enhance international cooperation in technology transfer and provide the necessary financing to support the energy transition and address the losses and damages, especially in the Global South and communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.”

Stressing the importance of developed countries fulfilling their pledge to provide USD100 billion

to developing countries, His Highness highlighted the need to reform international financial institutions and secure the necessary financing to stimulate investments that support climate action. The UAE President stated that although the risk of climate change has intensified, there is still a chance to prevent its dire consequences, given that there is a genuine determination for immediate and collective global action. He emphasised that the UAE is committed to making COP28 a significant milestone towards achieving this goal.

Concluding his remarks, His Highness extended an open invitation to the world to join the UAE's efforts and initiatives aimed at achieving a significant advancement in climate action. He expressed his confidence and optimism that the world will respond positively to this invitation.

UAE Launches Marine Plastic Waste Monitoring Programme

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment has launched an integrated programme to monitor plastic waste in the marine and coastal environment of the country, in line with its efforts to preserve marine resources, seawater quality, and beach cleanliness within the general framework of Year of Sustainability. A series of scientific studies will be conducted as part of the programme to



Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is tracking pollution in seas and coastal areas and monitoring levels of plastic waste

enhance efforts to reduce plastic waste.

The studies will use a wide range of methods to measure the quantities and sizes of plastic waste in the country's seawater and beaches.

The study aims to identify the types of plastic pollution in the country's waters and then implement the necessary precautionary measures to ensure the safety and health of humans and marine life. Additionally, it highlights the importance of adopting responsible consumption within society to minimise plastic waste and avoid disposing of it in seawaters and the environment in general.

Dr. Mohamed Al Hammadi, Assistant Under-Secretary for Biodiversity and Marine Life Sector at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, said, "We continue to implement

Plastic waste makes up 80% of all marine pollution and around 8 to 10 million metric tons of plastic end up in the ocean each year



the latest global practices in environmental conservation to contribute to preserving natural resources and reduce the negative impacts of environmental pollutants on human health and living organisms. The plastic waste monitoring programme in the UAE's marine environment represents one of our most prominent initiatives aimed at monitoring this type of waste and taking a number of measures to limit these pollutants in all the country's waters and beaches."

Al Hammadi added, "The programme contributes to achieving the UN SDG14, which aims to conserve the oceans, seas, and marine resources. We also aim to raise community awareness about the impact of plastic waste on the marine environment, which impacts the life of marine organisms and threatens fishery resources and human health.towards responsible consumption of plastic products and their safe disposal rather

than in the environment."

As part of the programme to monitor plastic pollution in the country's water and beaches, a team from the Marine Environment Research Centre affiliated with the Ministry carried out a study to monitor plastic waste in the marine and coastal environments of the UAE. A scientific methodology was adopted in line with the best practices followed globally in the field of measuring marine waste.

Accordingly, samples were collected from nine beaches along the country's coastal area to measure the amount of plastic waste. These samples included beach waste, macroplastics, and microplastics. The collection method involved selecting two random areas of 100 metres, with 10 metres between each location.

The seawater samples were collected from 14



stations along the country's coastlines to measure the quantity of microplastics based on the topography and terrain of coastal areas and the dynamics of marine currents.

The collected beach waste was classified according to its type and weight following the United Nations Environment Program and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNEP-GESAMP) classification system. The necessary tests were conducted at the Marine Environment Research Centre laboratories.

Plastic waste is currently one of the largest primary sources of pollution in rivers and oceans. Plastic materials are present in different sizes and shapes and are classified into microplastics - plastic pieces smaller than 5 millimetres, and macroplastics, which are larger than 5 millimetres.

Plastic waste is regarded as one of the most

challenging environmental problems as it impacts water quality and soil and threatens the survival of terrestrial and marine organisms and human life. Many countries worldwide are working to reduce plastic production to alleviate pressure on the ecosystem.



Emirates Food Security Council Discusses 2023 Sustainable Action Plan

During its first meeting for 2023, the Emirates Food Security Council (EFSC) discussed the action plan for 2023 and latest developments in the agricultural sector globally. It also harmonized local efforts to enhance national food security according to sustainable foundations.

Mariam bint Mohammed Almhiri, Minister of

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Climate Change and Environment and Chair of EFSC, said: "Food security is one of the most important strategic directions for the United Arab Emirates, given the challenges the country faces regarding the scarcity of arable land and water scarcity. Additionally, economic and political changes taking place across the world increase pressures on the food systems in the country and make it necessary to continue working more quickly and more efficiently to enhance national food security."

"As count down for the hosting of COP28 has begun, we need to highlight the UAE's model in enhancing its food security with the most sustainable technologies and methods that contribute to reducing climate changes and preserving the environment at the national and global levels," she added, stressing that the UAE has a global innovation-enabled model of food

security and operated innovative and unique agricultural projects.

Considering the latest global developments in the agricultural sector, the meeting discussed the necessary measures to strengthen the food system in the country by securing the country's need for various strategic agricultural and food commodities and to facilitate the movement of food trade.

The Emirates Food Security Council operates through a mechanism that takes into account the common trends in managing the food security ecosystem in the country, which includes the elements of water security, energy security, emergencies and crises, strategic stocks, local agricultural production, food safety, foreign investment, diversification of import sources, and nutrition.

COP28 President-Designate Meets With Chinese Leaders To Discuss Climate Priorities

Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President-Designate, has concluded a two-day trip to China, where he held a series of bilateral meetings, including with Ding Xuexiang, First Vice Premier of China; Zhao Chenxin, Vice Chairman of the NDRC; Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment; Xie Zhenhua, Special Envoy for Climate Change;



Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber concludes visit to China with common understanding to help achieve transformational climate progress at COP28



and Dr. Zhang Jianhua, Director of the National Energy Administration.

Dr. Al Jaber also met and addressed students at the prestigious Tsinghua University Institute for Carbon Neutrality, where he highlighted China's leadership in renewable energy development and highlighted its unique capacity to enhance South-South cooperation on climate action.

Building on the strength of the UAE-China strategic partnership, discussions focused on the role of partnerships in helping achieve transformational climate progress. Dr. Al Jaber also hailed the strength of the partnership between the UAE and China as a model of cooperation toward sustainable, low carbon growth and prosperity.

Dr. Al Jaber said: "Given the size of China's economy and the scale of its development of renewable energy and decarbonization

The UAE and China remain committed to diversifying their energy mix and pursuing pragmatic solutions to the climate crisis



technology, China provides a good model for sustainable economic growth and the global energy transition. Over the past five years alone, China has been responsible for adding more than 40% of the world's new solar and wind power capacity and has set a very ambitious target of deploying 1,200 gigawatts of renewable capacity by the end of this decade."

Dr. Al Jaber highlighted that both the UAE and China were committed to diversifying their energy mix and pursuing pragmatic solutions to the climate crisis.

Dr. Al Jaber met with clean tech entrepreneurs in a private sector roundtable and also addressed an audience at the Tsinghua University Institute for Carbon Neutrality, which covers energy, sustainability and climate-related disciplines.

With the world needing to reduce global emissions by 43 percent by 2030 to meet the Paris

Agreement target of limiting the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels, countries will need a range of technology solutions to meet their decarbonization goals, the COP28 President-Designate stated.

"We cannot accomplish our climate objectives without significant adoption and development of technology for decarbonization. We need to explore every available option," he stated.

In his meeting with Chinese business and industrial leaders, Dr. Al Jaber continued to advocate for investment in industrial decarbonization. He said, "Steel, cement, and aluminium, like energy or manufacturing, are the industries that run the world. We simply cannot stop using them. But we do have to find a way to make them more sustainable. We must reduce emissions, not progress."

Make Climate Finance More Accessible And Affordable, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber Urges G7 Countries

Dr. Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President-Designate, while attending a joint meeting of G7 Ministers of Climate, Energy and the Environment, called on G7 nations to lead by example in making climate finance more accessible, more available, and more affordable, and to support efforts to accelerate a pragmatic energy transition.



COP28 President-Designate calls on G7 countries to deliver on practical and inclusive energy transition, backed by new deal on climate finance

Speaking at the event, Dr. Al Jaber noted that world was falling behind on climate commitments, necessitating a massive course correction across mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage, and finance. He reiterated that the COP28 Presidency was keen to work with the G7 to deliver transformational change across each workstream.

“To get where we need to go, everyone must pull in the same direction. We must replace polarisation with partnership, division with determination. That is why I am calling for a COP of Action, a COP of Unity, a COP of Solidarity, and a COP for All. We must act together to ignite a transformational agenda that is pro-growth, pro-climate and leaves no-one behind.”

The Ministers’ Meeting on Climate, Energy and Environment is part of a series of G7 Ministers’

'Nations must deliver on the USD100 billion promised to developing countries'



meetings held in Japan in April, under the country's Presidency of the G7, and ahead of the Summit in Hiroshima in May. Dr. Al Jaber held bilateral meetings with ministers from India, Indonesia, Japan, Canada, France, Germany, the UK, and the US, emphasising the need for more climate finance to enable a just energy transition in emerging economies.

Dr. Al Jaber called on G7 nations to deliver a new deal on climate finance to help accelerate climate action, from mitigation and adaptation to loss and damage. "We must make a fairer deal for the Global South. Not enough is getting to the people and places that need it most. Developed countries first need to follow through on the USD100 billion pledge they made to developing countries over a decade ago.

"On top of that, the world needs to triple the

amount of money by 2030 that is available for clean tech investment, adaptation finance and a just energy transition in emerging and developing countries. We need fundamental reform of international financial institutions to achieve both climate and development goals," he said.

The COP28 President-Designate emphasised that the world was at risk of missing the mark on the Paris Agreement and overshooting climate targets. He stressed the need for an accelerated, just, and pragmatic energy transition.

"We need to triple renewable capacity by 2030 and increase it sixfold by 2040. We need smart government regulation to incentivise and commercialise viable alternatives for high-emitting sectors, like hydrogen and carbon capture technologies. And we need to continue to make the energies the world relies on today as



low carbon intensive as possible, ensuring energy security is maintained during a well-managed transition. Let's remember that emissions are the enemy, not energy. We need maximum energy, minimum emissions to ensure sustainable economic and social development."

Dr. Al Jaber also met with Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Yoshimasa Hayashi, for discussions on climate action, and highlighted the importance of building on the strategic partnership between the UAE and Japan, and the two nations' bilateral commitment to accelerating the energy transition, ahead of COP28.

Recognising Japan's key role in advancing climate action, through the establishment of the Kyoto Protocol, the first international treaty to set legally binding targets to cut greenhouse gas

emissions, in 1997, he said: "The Kyoto Protocol represents a historic landmark in the international fight against climate change – the awakening of the need for global climate action. Now, COP28 in the UAE must deliver that action. The Global Stocktake will show just how far off course we are on global progress, and we will need to respond with a plan of action that is inclusive, ambitious and bold."



Abu Dhabi To Manufacture MENA's First Sustainable Electric Aircraft

Abu Dhabi-based manufacturer Monarch Holding and Chinese company EHang Holdings, a leading autonomous aerial vehicle (AAV) technology platform company, have signed a partnership agreement to establish the first facility in the MENA region to manufacture and operate sustainable, electric-powered aircraft and drones for passengers and cargo transportation in Abu Dhabi.

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The cooperation aims to manufacture sustainable electric aircraft and drones, establish a command-and-control centre to manage urban air mobility autonomously and build infrastructure, vertiports (take-off and landing platforms), and facilities for operating electric aircraft and drones, as well as provide opportunities to qualify and train Emirati talent.

The project contributes to revitalising markets and supporting local products by facilitating the flow of goods and merchandise to sales outlets, ports, and airports, enhancing trade.

The partnership will help establish an advanced infrastructure for vertiports and an autonomous flight management system operated by artificial intelligence, supporting sustainable and electric-powered commercial aircraft and drones.

The project, which focuses on improving smart

and sustainable mobility, will enhance Abu Dhabi's position as the smartest city in the MENA region.

Rashed Abdulkarim Al Blooshi, Undersecretary of Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development, said, "This partnership reflects the high level of our infrastructure for advanced and smart industries and developed legislative and regulatory frameworks in the emirate, which provides an attractive environment for innovations and investments in advanced industries and technological transformation."

Hussain Ali Alomaeirah, Founder and Chairman of Monarch Holding, said, "This venture will provide the city with a new cargo and passenger transportation concept, utilising advanced technologies, artificial intelligence, and sustainable energy with zero carbon emissions."

UAE Launches Green Education Partnership Roadmap In Preparation For COP28

The Ministry of Education (MoE) has announced the UAE's Green Education Partnership Roadmap in preparation for COP28.

The announcement was made during a press conference held by MoE at its headquarters in Abu Dhabi, in the presence of Dr. Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi, Minister of Education; Dr. Amna Al



The UAE Ministry of Education signed agreements with two UN agencies to advance climate education and action among children

Dahak Al Shamsi, Assistant Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Education for the Care and Building Capacity Sector; Salah Khaled, Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for the Gulf States and Yemen; and Jumana Haj-Ahmad, UNICEF Gulf Deputy Representative. Senior officials from MoE and representatives from its local and international partners also attended the press conference.

Dr. Al Falasi said that COP28 is important as it provides a roadmap for using education to achieve sustainable development goals and combat climate change, adding that it also increases awareness about climate change and discusses projects to address its effects. He emphasised the importance of global cooperation to integrate the climate agenda into education and coordinate efforts to combat climate change. He also noted that the UAE was

*1,400 principals and 2,800
teachers to be trained in
climate education*



keen to draw a practical and agile roadmap that countries across the globe can tailor, adapt to, and benefit from in educating students and educators about climate change.

Dr. Al Falasi stated, "Individual behaviours toward climate change are still the key to making a real impact, and with that comes the significant role of education in shifting minds, actions, and attitudes about the environment today, and in the future. At the Ministry of Education, we have a critical role to play to advance the role of education in addressing climate change, by building environment-friendly curricula and schools and training educators to build sustainable green communities. The UAE's hosting of COP28 presents another opportunity to highlight the country's efforts in this field and mobilise international efforts to include green education within educational systems in the

region and the world."

Commenting on the launch of the Green Education Partnership Roadmap, Shamma bint Suhail Faris Al Mazrui, Minister of Community Development, Vice Chairman of the Arab Youth Centre, and COP28 Youth Climate Champion, said, "Today, we equip our children and young people with the foundations of environmental education for them to build a safer future and make our world a better place. As such, our wise leadership pays great attention to educating young people and establishing a love of the land in their hearts so they can be tomorrow's forerunners of environmental action."

The roadmap includes the UAE Green Education Partnership, a key initiative aimed at enhancing the role of education in achieving sustainable development goals and including the climate



agenda in the UAE's educational system.

During the press conference, the MoE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and an MoU with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) to advance climate education and action among children and youth in the lead-up, at and after COP28. The MoE also announced that it is designing the first Education Pavilion in the history of COP.

Salah Khaled, Director of the UNESCO Regional Office for the Gulf States and Yemen, said: "UNESCO will work closely with the Ministry in co-designing the first Education Pavilion in the history of COP together with the Green Education Partnership (GEP). UNESCO will also collaborate with the Ministry on raising awareness of

educators and learners about the importance of safeguarding oases, an exceptional eco-system and observatory of climate change."

Jumana Haj-Ahmad, UNICEF Gulf Deputy Representative, said. "Through this partnership, UNICEF will support training of school principals and teachers in the UAE on climate education. Open-source learning materials will also be made available for educators."

"At UNICEF we see the climate crisis as a crisis of children's rights. Children and young people will face the full devastating consequences of the climate crisis, water insecurity, and other disasters which they had little to no hand in causing. Therefore, our duty towards all young people and future generations is to involve them in all negotiations and decision-making processes related to climate change at the national, regional

Partnership to enhance role of education in achieving SDGs and include the climate agenda in the UAE's educational system



and international levels," she added.

The roadmap identified environment-and-climate-friendly initiatives that the MoE aims to achieve by the start of COP28 and afterwards. For instance, the MoE will transform 50 percent of all the UAE's schools and campuses to be green accredited; and provide training to more than 2,400 educators and 1,400 principals.

The ministry will also launch the "Children's Voice" initiative, under which Children Champions in the country will be offered training opportunities to exercise their right to participate in decision-making related to their environmental future. Under the "Educator's Voice" initiative, the MoE will highlight the key role of educators in raising awareness about climate change and combatting its repercussions. Both initiatives will contribute to magnifying the voices of more than 70 students

and educators.

Additionally, the MoE will collaborate with UNESCO to establish a United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) for Greening Education, to which the UAE will act as a champion country, including developing the Terms of Reference for the Fund among the MPTF partners and working towards its capitalisation. Both parties will also raise awareness among learners about the importance of safeguarding oasis systems in the Arab world as cultural and natural eco-systems.

Through the MoE's commitment to achieving the Green Education Partnership goals, the ministry will work across four pillars, namely Greening Schools, Greening Learning, Greening Capacity, and Greening Communities.

UAE's Sultan Al-Neyadi Becomes First Arab Astronaut To Complete Spacewalk

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) achieved a new milestone recently when astronaut Sultan AlNeyadi ventured out of the International Space Station (ISS) and completed his spacewalk. With the conclusion of the mission task, the UAE commemorates AlNeyadi as the first Arab to undertake a spacewalk during Expedition 69, currently underway on the ISS. This accomplishment



Astronaut conducted six-and-a-half hour maintenance mission outside International Space Station

marks an important step forward for the Arab world's participation in space exploration.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, said: "After three years of intensive training, we see Sultan AlNeyadi on his first spacewalk, carrying out several tasks outside the International Space Station. AlNeyadi is the first ever Emirati, first Arab and first Muslim astronaut to perform a spacewalk."

The historic first Arab spacewalk lasted 7.01 hours in the vacuum of space on the starboard side of the International Space Station's truss structure, accomplishing two key objectives.

One of the objectives of the Extravehicular Activity (EVA), undertaken by AlNeyadi along

Al Neyadi arrived at the ISS on March 3 for a six-month mission – the Arab world's first long duration space mission



with NASA Flight Engineer Stephen Bowen, was to work on a series of preparatory tasks which involved routing power cables, which was successfully concluded.

These cable works were completed as a precursor to the installation of the Space Station's fourth roll-out solar array, known as the International Space Station Roll-Out Solar Array (iROSA), which is scheduled to be delivered on the upcoming SpaceX Dragon cargo mission.

The next objective was to retrieve a crucial Radio Frequency Group (RFG) unit. This communications antenna, or RFG will stay bolted on the station for now due to the difficulty of removing it.

Prior to embarking on their spacewalk, AlNeyadi and Bowen underwent a two-hour oxygen purge to eliminate nitrogen from their bodies. Following

this, Warren Hoburg and Frank Rubio assisted the astronauts in donning their spacesuits - a major operation in itself. It took both AlNeyadi and Bowen an additional hour to put on their spacesuits and safety gear before entering the airlock to gradually reduce the pressure to a safe level for opening the exterior hatch.

Bowen was out of the hatch connecting his cable to the outside of the hull before anchoring AlNeyadi's line outside as well. AlNeyadi then disconnected from the inside of the airlock and commenced the tasked activities.

AlNeyadi's progress during the spacewalk was observed by Hazzaa AlMansoori, the Expedition 69 increment lead, from the NASA ground station in Houston. The UAE Astronaut Programme is one of the projects managed by MBRSC under the UAE's National Space Programme.

COP28 UAE Higher Committee Outlines Path Ahead

H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Chairman of the Higher Committee responsible for preparations of the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, convened members to discuss COP28's vision, strategic priorities, preparations and crucial milestones in the lead-up to the summit.



COP28 UAE Higher Committee reviews strategic priorities, preparations and crucial milestones in the lead-up to the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties

In the meeting, H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed said that as the host country of COP28, the UAE has taken an inclusive approach to planning and organizing the conference.

H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed said, "The UAE is mandated to foster global consensus and guide an urgent, comprehensive and coordinated response to climate change in this decade of action. COP28 will be a significant meeting point for heads of state, business leaders, civil society, the scientific community, youth and all segments of society, as we deliberate where the world stands today on climate action, and what must be done to shift from promises to progress by 2030 in line with the Paris Agreement."

During the committee meeting, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, COP28 President-Designate and Vice Chairman of the Higher Committee, offered key

Organising committee stresses need for pragmatic approach to tackling climate crisis



insights and outcomes from COP28 Presidency's global listening and engagement tour, which included visits to India, China, Japan, Germany, France, the UK and the US. Recent key high-level meetings include the G7 Climate, Energy and Environment Ministerial in Sapporo, Japan, and the Spring Meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C.

Dr. Sultan Al Jaber said, "Climate change is more than just an environmental challenge, it is also an economic issue. We need an approach that ensures economic prosperity and energy access in parallel with emissions reductions.

"COP28 will be working with all stakeholders to accelerate a business-oriented approach that balances climate action with sustainable economic and social development. We must act together to ignite a transformational COP28

agenda that is pro-growth, pro-climate and leaves no one behind.

"We have also been affirming the need for a just and pragmatic energy transition, and supporting reforms of International Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development banks to enable more affordable, accessible and available climate finance, especially for the Global South."

The meeting also included an overview on logistics and protocol, security and operations, the COP28 venue transportation plan, and the overwhelmingly positive response to the recently launched International Youth Climate Delegate Program. The 'Road to COP28' event at Expo City Dubai brought together more than 3,000 participants to raise climate awareness and inspire action in the Year of Sustainability.

Mashreq Bolsters Sustainability Goals, Joins WorldGBC's Net Zero Readiness Framework

Mashreq has joined the World Green Building Council's (WorldGBC) Advancing Net Zero Readiness Framework as a Collaborator in the MENA region to promote a Net Zero built environment in the region.

The initiative aims to create a community of Net Zero Collaborators to speed up investment and build confidence in Net Zero.



As a collaborator, Mashreq will showcase best practices and advance its own commitment to Net Zero, contributing to various initiatives to support the uptake of Net Zero in the MENA region. The collaboration will also aid the MENA Regional Network in its Net Zero positioning in the lead up to the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference in November this year.

With over 480 million people, the MENA region has experienced rapid urbanisation, projected to double its urban population between 2010 and 2050, leading to a growing demand for buildings. Collaborations between public and private entities are crucial for MENA nations to achieve the Net Zero global and regional goals.

Mashreq's partnership with WorldGBC reflects its commitment to sustainable finance and tackling climate change, including its membership

in the United Nations Global Compact initiative and the development of an ESG strategy and Sustainability framework deployed across the Mashreq network, including in Egypt.

New baby Rhino at Al Ain Zoo

Al Ain Zoo has welcomed a white baby rhinoceros, classified as nearly threatened on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.

The newborn is thriving in an environment that meets international standards. Al Ain Zoo is home to 11 rhinos, five males and six females. It provides them with comprehensive care by competent experts, veterinarians, and carers, contributing to their well-being and increasing their natural reproduction, which led to doubling their numbers in the Zoo over the years.

Zayed University Launches Master Of Science In Environment And Sustainability Sciences

Zayed University has launched its new Master of Science in Environment and Sustainability Sciences, designed to equip graduates with the knowledge and skills to tackle some of the world's most pressing environmental challenges.

The announcement comes at an opportune time, as 2023 has been assigned the Year of

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Sustainability in the UAE, where it will also host the COP28 Conference in Dubai.

The programme will be available to students from Fall 2023 and will be taught in English over four semesters at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi. The course has been designed with flexibility, and classes will generally be in the evenings work and other commitments to participate.

Delivered by expert professors in the environmental and sustainability field, students will be exposed to a wide array of research areas ranging from water sustainability and green technologies to climate change, sustainability planning and management, remote sensing and GIS, biodiversity and conservation, ecosystem functions, and circular economy.

Applications for the new programme are now open for Fall 2023.

MoCCE signs MoU

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Essa Al Ghurair Investment LLC, as part of a collaboration on the ministry's National Carbon Sequestration Project.

The MoU aims to help realise the UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative and aligns with the efforts of the two sides to contribute to achieving the National Carbon Sequestration Project's objective of planting 100 million mangroves by 2030. As per the MoU, the ministry will provide technical consultations related to mangrove cultivation, such as conducting soil and water studies and drafting related capacity-building programmes while the company will plant 500,000 to 1 million mangrove seedlings over the next 10 years.

Key Investment Needed In Global Airport Infrastructure

Hydrogen and electric aircraft could require 600-1,700 terawatt-hours (TWh) of clean energy by 2050, according to a new white paper from the World Economic Forum (WEF). For context, the total amount of renewable energy produced in 2021 was just over 8,000 TWh globally.

To meet the estimated energy demand from



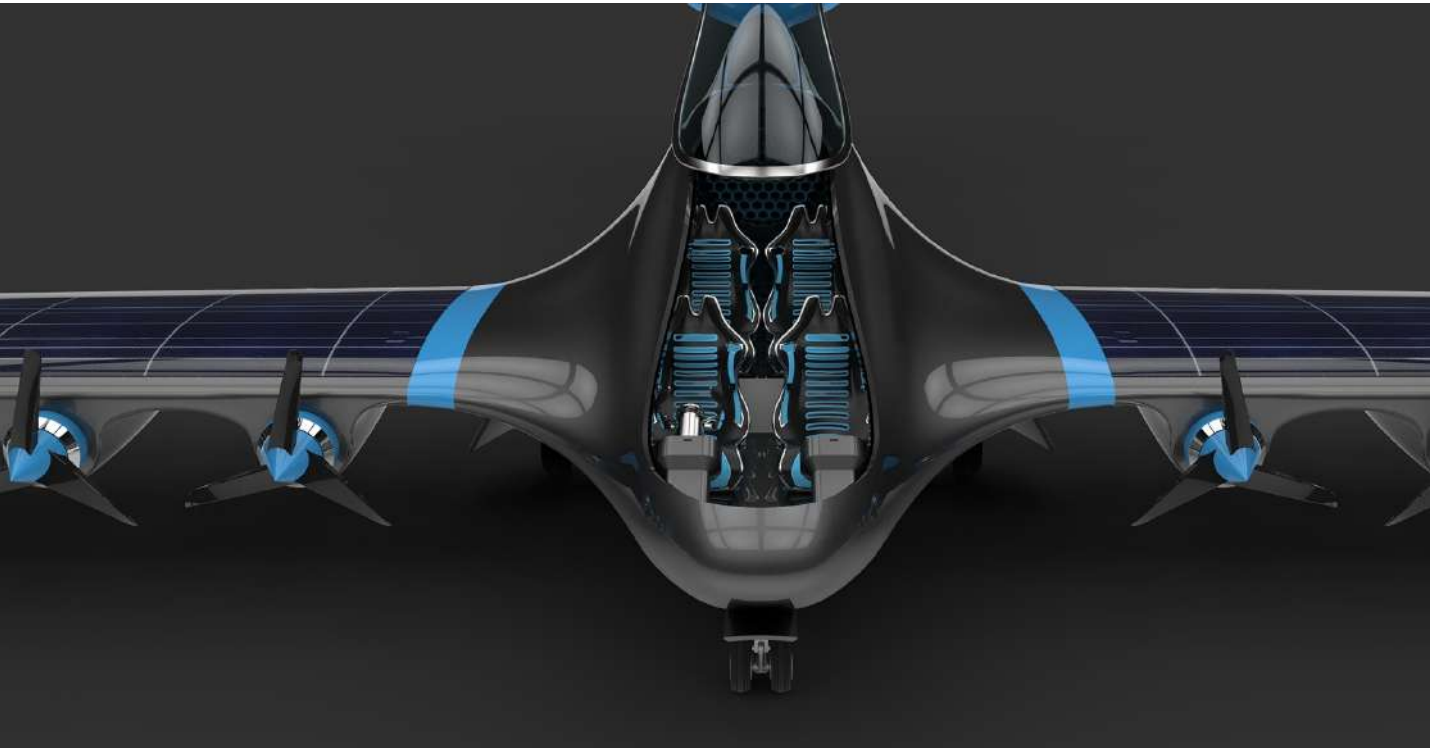
WEF whitepaper reveals need for key investment in airport infrastructure to meet the demand for hydrogen and electric aircraft by 2050

hydrogen and electric aircraft in 2050 would require the amount of energy produced from 10-25 of the world's largest wind farms, or a solar farm half the size of Belgium, the paper suggests.

Alternative, carbon-free propulsion options, such as battery and hydrogen-powered aircraft, are some of the options the aviation industry is pursuing to reach its net-zero carbon goals. By some estimates, hydrogen and electric planes could account for 21%-38% of flights by 2050.

"The aviation sector must make key investments in its infrastructure now if it wants to reach its net-zero target by 2050," said David Hyde, Aerospace Projects Lead, World Economic Forum. "Given that the share of aviation's global warming impact is set to rise significantly if action is not taken, the sector must consider all the options available for decarbonization. This

'Target True Zero' explores infrastructure changes required for implementing battery- and hydrogen-powered flights and how airports can begin to prepare for them



includes preparing to use aircraft that are powered by carbon-free fuels at scale.”

While the timeline may feel distant, the first commercial flights by such aircraft are expected to take place this decade. Airports, airlines and others will need to make heavy infrastructure investment to deliver the green hydrogen and electricity the aircraft will need.

The white paper, ‘Target True Zero: Delivering the infrastructure for battery and hydrogen-powered flight,’ explores what these infrastructure changes entail and how airports and other stakeholders can begin to prepare for them. This research also finds that shifting to alternative propulsion will require a capital investment of between USD 700 billion and USD 1.7 trillion across the value chain by 2050.

“Ground infrastructure will be an important

unlock for battery-electric and hydrogen aircraft as they become available in the next decade as an additional option to make aviation sustainable,” said Robin Riedel, Partner and Co-Leader, McKinsey Center for Future Mobility. “It is important that stakeholders across the value chain, from governments to airports to electricity and hydrogen players to airlines begin planning and investing in it.”

10 key findings

The report explores multiple areas where expanded infrastructure is needed to prepare for these new aircraft. It identifies 10 key findings for the aviation sector.

1. Global demand for alternative propulsion could require 600-1,700 TWh of clean energy by 2050.
2. Large airports could consume 5-10 times more



electricity by 2050 than they do today, to support alternative propulsion.

3. Alternative propulsion will require two new infrastructure value chains – one for battery electric aviation and one for hydrogen – which may include a whole variety of new partners that are not currently part of the aviation ecosystem.
4. Most airports have space for hydrogen liquefaction and storage infrastructure but not enough land to generate all of the clean energy needed to power battery-electric and hydrogen aircraft.
5. Shifting to alternative propulsion will require capital investment of between USD 700 billion and USD 1.7 trillion across the value chain by 2050. Approximately 90 percent of this investment will be for off-airport infrastructure, primarily power generation and hydrogen electrolysis and liquefaction.
6. Investment needed for airport infrastructure will be significantly higher for large airports than for smaller airports but of similar magnitude to other major investments, such as building a new terminal.
7. Costs to operators of alternative propulsion are expected to be around 76-86% over the market price for green electricity – reflecting additional aviation infrastructure operating costs.
8. The investment needed to meet 2050 goals must start now. The first elements of on-airport infrastructure must be in place by 2025 to meet expected energy demand.
9. To harness the power of network effects and regional connectivity, coordination of

Shifting to alternative propulsion will require a capital investment globally of between USD 700 billion and USD 1.7 trillion across the value chain by 2050



infrastructure investment will be required to make alternative propulsion operations feasible.

10. The aviation industry will need to partner with other industries to secure enough green electricity and hydrogen in a supply-constrained environment and have a voice in shaping the future of the hydrogen ecosystem.

Investment requirements and pathways

Despite high price tags, the infrastructure investment needed is similar to what airports may spend on similar expansions or upgrades. Investment needed for airport infrastructure will be significantly higher for large airports than for smaller airports but of similar magnitude to other major investments, such as building a new terminal.

Given that about 90% of this investment will be

for off-airport infrastructure, primarily power generation and hydrogen electrolysis and liquefaction, the aviation sector will need to partner with other industries to support their infrastructure needs. This could include partnering with energy suppliers for green hydrogen and electricity production or partnering with equipment manufacturers for energy storage needs.

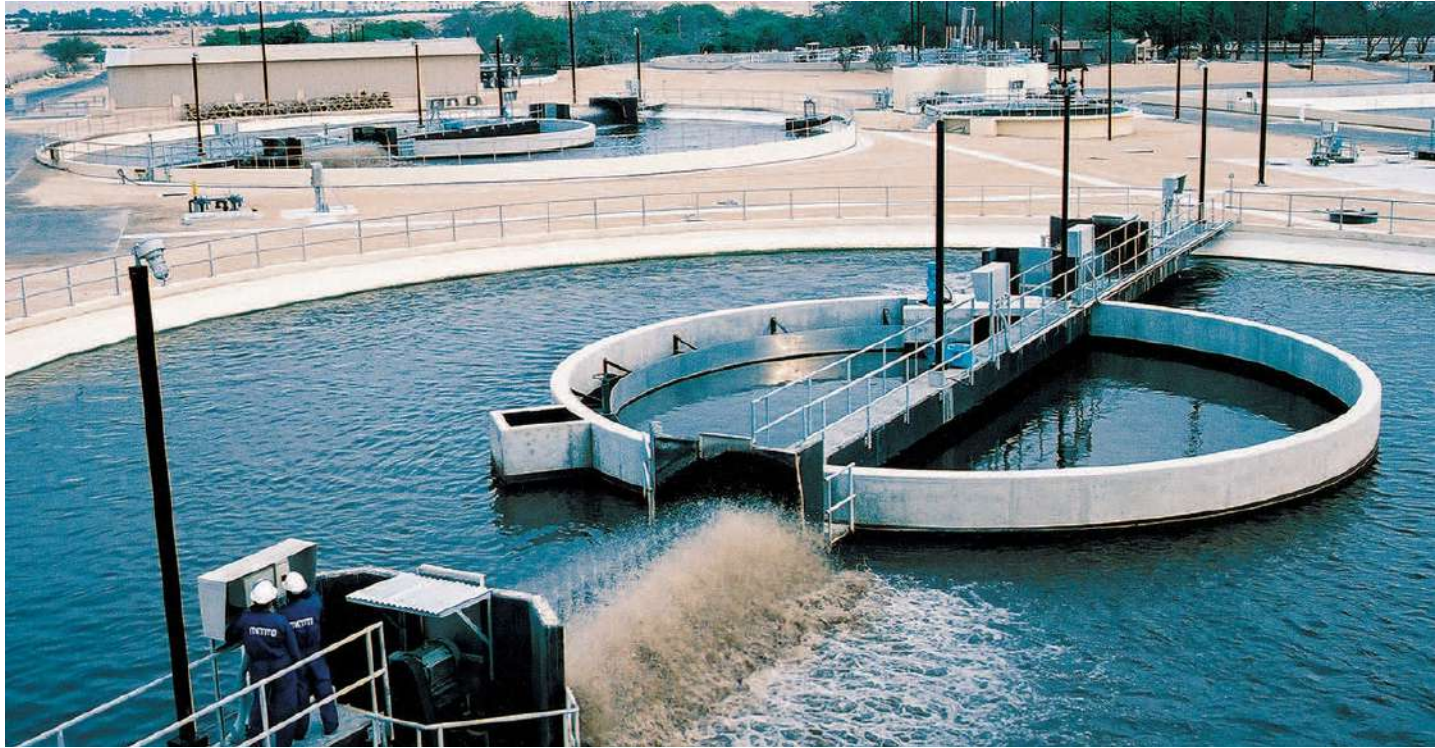
Airports can already begin to map the local ecosystem of hydrogen and energy projects to identify specific stakeholders to partner with.

To this end, the World Economic Forum is launching the Airports of Tomorrow initiative, convening executives from the airport ecosystem to proactively address their energy, infrastructure and financing needs in the coming decades.

Revolutionary Water Treatment Technology Launched In The UAE

Arada, a Sharjah-based property developer, is investing in a major new research and development (R&D) facility in Sharjah, bringing a new form of sustainable water treatment to the UAE, and the wider Middle East, for the first time.

The joint venture agreement with Hungarian water tech firm Biopolus, Sharjah Research



Arada partners with Biopolus, SRTIP, and Metito for sustainable water treatment technology in UAE

Technology and Innovation Park (SRTIP), and a leading global provider of water management solutions Metito, is designed to develop and implement upgraded versions of the existing Biopolus technology, allowing them to be patented, tested and integrated within projects in Sharjah.

The R&D facility is designed to be a living, learning laboratory that can serve as an inspiring and innovative space for students and researchers to study ecological engineering and circular economy principles in a practical and hands-on manner. The long-term goal for the facility will be to create an improved 'Biopolus 2.0' version of the technology, while also turning Sharjah into a global hub for the process.

As well as the R&D facility, the agreement will also result in the construction and operation of a

The R&D facility is designed to be a living, learning laboratory where students and researchers can study ecological engineering and circular economy principles in a practical and hands-on manner



water treatment plant that will treat, recycle and produce treated water to use for the irrigation of landscapes in both Aljada and SRTIP.

The plant will use the Biopolus Metabolic Network Reactor (MNR) technology, a biological engineering process that mimics natural processes by using artificial root structures containing microbial biofilms to clean water rapidly, efficiently, sustainably, and without the use of chemicals.

Ahmed Alkhoshaibi, Group CEO of Arada, said, "This partnership is in line with one of Arada's key goals: to be a leader in the field of sustainable development. Trees and green landscaping play a central role across Arada's communities, and it's vital that these areas are nourished in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner."

Hussein Al Mahmoudi, CEO of Sharjah Research,

Technology, and Innovation Park, said, "Effective water reuse is of primary importance, especially in a part of the world where water scarcity is such a critical issue. We are delighted that Sharjah will now become a global hub for a technology that has huge potential to conserve this precious resource."

Fady Juez, Managing Director of Metito, said, "Our founding principles are Impact, Sustainability, and Innovation and with this partnership, we look forward to bringing our high-value engineering capabilities, our global experience, and local presence and know-how to the region."

Istvan Kenyeres, Founder and CTO of Biopolus said, "The new facilities that we are building in Sharjah will not just demonstrate the full potential of our innovative technology in a



challenging climate but will also create the infrastructure and the partnership ecosystem for a significant impact on a global scale.

"We are also excited to work with our partners in the UAE to test new and exemplary ways of water-based urban circularity technologies and solutions."

The modular, flexible, and odor-free nature of the Biopolus technology means that each plant can be placed directly in any urban environment and can be designed in an attractive manner that blends in with its surroundings.

As a result, the first plant in the Middle East is based on a 9,900 square metre plot on the boundary between SRTIP and the Aljada megaproject in Sharjah. Known as a BioMakery, the state-of-the-art Sharjah plant is characterised

by its unique architecture and green and leafy exterior.

Construction on the first phase of the Sharjah plant is currently underway and is scheduled to be completed in April 2024, with US engineering giant Jacobs serving as lead consultant on the project. The first phase will have the capacity to recycle 5,500 cubic metres of water a day, with two further phases providing the capacity to recycle 16,500 cubic metres a day. Further plants are also planned to serve Arada's other projects.

Over the long term, Arada and its partners hope to integrate a number of other processes into the Sharjah plant, including recycling, community functions, and energy recovery technologies, helping it to become a local hub for the urban circular economy.

New Initiative To Boost Aluminium Recycling In UAE Schools And Universities

Emirates Global Aluminium (EGA) and RECAPP by Veolia have partnered to promote aluminium recycling across the UAE's schools and universities.

The initiative will start with 12 schools near the EGA's operations in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. In addition, RECAPP will manage the deployment of recycling drop-off locations that are easily

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accessible to students to help generate more interest and awareness among young people about recycling.

RECAPP by Veolia is a member of the Aluminium Recycling Coalition, founded by the EGA earlier this year to bring the company together with can-makers, beverage producers and waste management companies to promote aluminium recycling in the UAE.

Abdulnasser bin Kalban, CEO of EGA, said, "Aluminium is an infinitely recyclable material, yet too much is discarded in the UAE, impacting our economy and environment. Our partnership with RECAPP by Veolia aims to transform this behaviour and pave the way for a more sustainable and circular economy."

Jérôme Viricel, General Manager of RECAPP at Veolia Near & Middle East, said, "Closing the

aluminium recycling loop in the UAE requires multiple solutions that encourage consumers to the right behaviour and make it simple and rewarding."

RECAPP is a digital recycling solution for individuals and businesses and is centred on an app that enables its members to order a collection of their recyclables from their location and, in return, receive discounts in a dedicated marketplace.

Last November, RECAPP by Veolia launched GoRECAPP.com, the first B2B digital recycling platform in the UAE, which enables businesses to deploy recycling boxes on their premises. Recycling aluminium takes 95 per cent less energy than making new metal. Last year, the EGA announced plans to build the largest aluminium recycling facility in the UAE.

Tesla's Model Y: Designed for Safety

Tesla vehicles are engineered to be the safest in the world. Each one combines powerful onboard technology with an all-electric design to help protect every driver, passenger and pedestrian on the road.

Model Y, the fourth model in Tesla's lineup, is a fully electric, mid-size SUV with unparalleled protection and versatile cargo space. It is a



The Tesla Model Y has a stronghold on the electric SUV segment, offers great range and is a tech-lover's dream

stylish and roomy electric SUV with strong appeal. It is one of the most popular electric cars on the road thanks to excellent electric range, loads of in-car tech and swift acceleration, especially in the Performance trim.

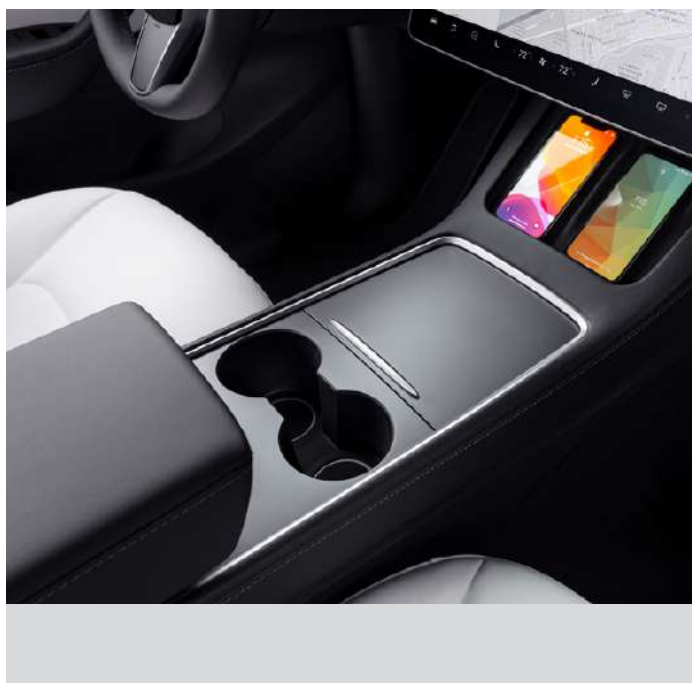
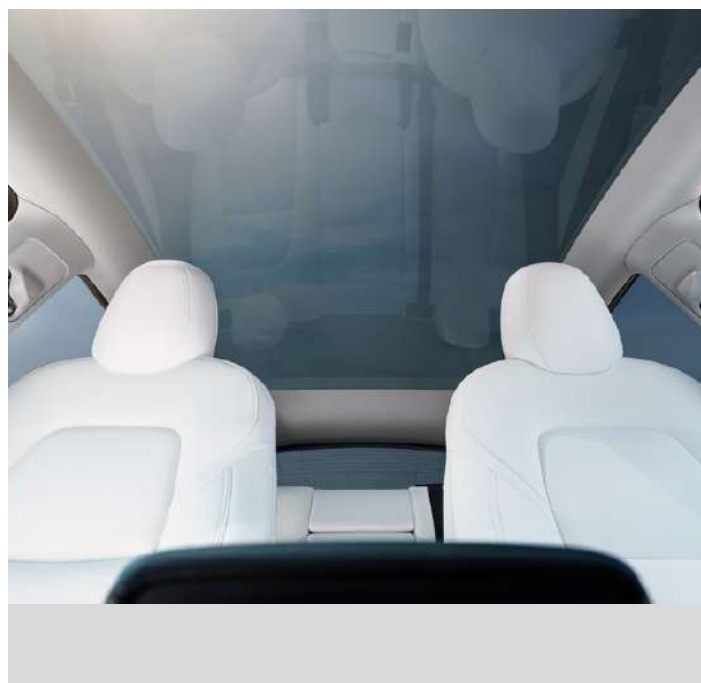
Named the third best-selling car in the UK in 2022, Model Y has fast charging capabilities, plenty of space and user-friendly on-board technology, and appeals to buyers looking for the extra practicality of an SUV, with all the technology and efficiency you'd expect of a Tesla.

A Place For Everything

Model Y provides maximum versatility—able to carry five passengers and their cargo. Each second-row seat folds flat independently, creating flexible storage for skis, furniture, luggage and more. The liftgate opens to a low

*The Model Y SUV's quickness,
minimalist cabin, and convenient
charging network set it apart
from competitors*





Model Y's minimalist look is made possible by a large touchscreen that controls practically all the important vehicle functions



trunk floor that makes loading and unloading easy and quick.

All-Wheel Drive: Dual Motor

Tesla All-Wheel Drive has two ultra-responsive, independent electric motors that digitally control torque to the front and rear wheels—for far better handling, traction and stability control. Model Y is capable in rain, snow, mud and off-road.

Range: Go Anywhere

Model Y is fully electric, so you never need to visit a gas station again. If you charge overnight at home, you can wake up to a full battery every morning. And when you're on the road, it's easy to plug in along the way—at any public station or with the Tesla charging network. There are currently over 45,000 Superchargers worldwide, with six new locations opening every week.

Autopilot: Future of Driving

Autopilot's advanced safety and convenience features are designed to assist you with the most burdensome parts of driving.

Interior: Built Around the Driver

With an elevated seating position and low dash, the driver has a commanding view of the road ahead. The interior of Model Y is simple and clean, with a 15-inch touch screen, immersive sound system and an expansive all-glass roof that creates extra headroom and provides a seamless view of the sky.

5-Star Rating and Best-in-Class Safety

Model Y achieved a 2022 5-star Euro NCAP safety rating and won the Best-in-Class award in the Small Off-Road category.

G7 Nations Must Work Together To Reach Global Food Security: FAO

With hunger levels rising and domestic food prices inflation soaring in much of the world, collective actions are necessary to meet immediate and longer-term global food security objectives, QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), said on April 23 at the G7 Ministers of Agriculture Meeting, which concluded in Japan.



To meet immediate and longer-term global food security objectives, FAO identifies five key actions that must be implemented urgently

Qu pointed to five key actions in need of implementation regarding the roles of markets, assistance, agrifood systems, the private sector and science and innovation.

Firstly, trade continues to be key for global food security, and all nations must commit to well-functioning markets and market transparency, he said. Qu pointed to the value offered by the G20 Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), hosted by FAO, and thanked Japan for its recent contribution of additional resources to AMIS to help it expand its work on fertilizers, vegetable oils and food trade logistics.

Secondly, the Director-General emphasised that vulnerable countries need support to meet their food and fertilizer needs. This is why FAO designed the Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF). He welcomed the FAO-FIFF inspired Food

Roles of markets, assistance, agrifood systems, the private sector and science and innovation are key to ending rising hunger levels



Shock Window introduced by the International Monetary Fund but said too few countries have so far benefited from this mechanism.

Thirdly, Qu stressed that “the right investments are needed now, urgently,” to transform global agrifood systems and make them more efficient, more inclusive, more resilient and more sustainable. G7 countries need to double their efforts in order to achieve the Elmau commitment, he said. This will require prioritizing a mix of least-cost measures with large hunger and malnutrition reduction and a lower trade-off to our environment.

He pointed to FAO’s efforts to provide public goods by improving the availability of soil maps, extension and advisory services and advocating for more research and improved infrastructure in rural areas.

In addition, the private sector must be engaged in this transformation, and so far remains under-engaged and under-utilized, he said.

He praised Japan’s efforts to support increased private sector initiatives to facilitate the participation of smallholder farmers in sustainable value chains, and invited all countries to support FAO’s Hand-in-Hand Initiative, which seeks to engage the private sector to scale up interventions and investments in the most vulnerable countries and regions to eradicate poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and to reduce inequalities.

Lastly, advancing science and innovation, along with an understanding of the challenges ahead, are essential to ending hunger. QU called for filling our knowledge gaps.

OPEC Fund's USD40 Million Finances Two Wind Farms In Uzbekistan

The OPEC Fund for International Development (OPEC Fund) has entered into two separate loan agreements worth USD 20 million each with ACWA Power. The funds will be used to support the construction and operation of two wind power plants - the 500 MW Dzhankeldy wind farm and the 500 MW Bash wind power plant, located in the Bukhara region of Uzbekistan. These new facilities will

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The funds will be used to support the construction and operation of two wind power plants - the 500 MW Dzhankeldy wind farm and the 500 MW Bash wind power plant

contribute to the country's renewable energy generation capacity, while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions and diversifying its energy mix.

The loan agreement for the Dzhankeldy wind farm will support the development of the plant's infrastructure, including its construction, operation, and maintenance, as well as the development of 128 km transmission infrastructure. The plant is expected to generate 1,550 GWh of electricity annually. The Bash wind power plant, on the other hand, will generate more than 1,650 GWh of electricity annually and will include the construction and installation of 160 km transmission infrastructure. Together, the two plants are expected to reduce CO2 emissions by 1.8 billion tonnes.

The financing for both projects was provided

To date, the OPEC Fund has provided close to USD 600 million public and private sector financing in support of Uzbekistan's sustainable growth agenda



through a consortium of international lenders, with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) serving as the technical bank, and Standard Chartered Bank acting as the documentation bank.

OPEC Fund Director-General Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa said, "Increasing private sector participation is key to support Uzbekistan's ambitious energy transition. We are happy to cooperate with the authorities as well as with our development and private sector partners on energy sector projects that will boost the share of renewables in energy generation and provide reliable and affordable clean energy."

Uzbekistan is one of the most energy-intensive countries in the world. The government forecasts the electricity demand to double by 2030. To meet this increasing energy demand and to

mitigate climate and energy security risks, the country plans to add 3GW wind and 5GW solar power capacities to its energy mix. In the last decade Uzbekistan has introduced a series of reforms to decarbonize and liberalize the energy sector and to create an environment conducive to private sector investment. Headquartered in Saudi Arabia, ACWA Power is a leading developer and operator of power generation and water desalination facilities.

To date, the OPEC Fund has provided close to USD 600 million public and private sector financing in support of Uzbekistan's sustainable growth agenda. Supported by grants, this funding has helped the sustainable development of the energy, water & sanitation, agriculture, transport, education and financial sectors with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.

The Benchmark of Sustainability: Montréal, Canada

Montréal, the largest city in Canada's Québec province is making sustainability a reality. From electrifying transport to promoting urban agriculture, Montréal is enacting policies and initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help create a safe, resilient, inclusive and sustainable city.

The city has been ranked first in North America



Montréal's well-known cultural scene includes several sustainable hotels, restaurants, and attractions

for its performance in rendering tourism more sustainable by the Global Destinations Sustainability Index 2022. Among large cities, Montréal ranks third, ahead of such popular destinations as Paris, Berlin, Sydney, and more.

Montréal is actively involved in global sustainability networks and considered a strategic hub for international organisations focused on sustainable development. Organisations include self-explanatory bodies such as the Secretariat of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law, the International Secretariat for Water and the Global Sustainable Electricity Partnership.

Other important international organisations based in the city include GODAN, which is focused on promoting the sharing of open data

*When it comes to sustainable transport,
Montréal is ranked fourth best in the world
Montréal has been recognized for its
commitment to sustainability on a global scale*



in areas such as agriculture and nutrition, and Future Earth, which works to accelerate innovative changes to contribute to global sustainability, harnessing digital technologies and conducting research in this area.

In fact, Montréal is where nearly 70 international organisations have operations – including four UN agencies headquartered there – one of only nine cities in the world that hosts a permanent delegation from the UN.

Green Transport

Prioritizing climate action, Montréal has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2050. In order to achieve this, the city tracks and reports its emissions as part of Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy. This reporting allows the city to identify sectors that are the largest

emitters and prioritize mitigation strategies accordingly.

One of Montréal's main emissions sources is the transport sector. Montréal has invested in improving public transport, specifically by replacing the city bus fleet with hybrid buses. The public bicycle sharing scheme, BIXI, is also reshaping the transportation culture in the city, offering an active mode of transport that contributes to the health and well-being of the city while lowering greenhouse gas emissions. BIXI offers more than 6250 bicycles available at 540 stations that can be used to travel the approximately 800 kilometers of bike lanes, more than half of which remain accessible throughout the winter months.

When it comes to sustainable transport, Montréal is ranked fourth best in the world. Green mobility is one key area for decarbonisation with Quebec and Montréal attracting international investors in projects that focus on clean technologies for vehicles, railways and aviation.

Greening the City

Montréal is also creating and improving active, accessible green spaces to improve quality of life for residents and relying on natural measures to





reduce vulnerability to heat waves and heavy rainfall.

A biodiversity champion and host of the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat since 1996, Montréal is driving an ambitious city greening agenda. The city is involving the community in initiatives to protect land-based habitat areas and increase the canopy cover from 20 to 25 percent by 2025.

The city plans to restore natural areas and promote sustainable forestry and agro-environmental practices across the island. Montréal is one of 53 cities with a park system master plan updated within the last 10 years.

The city is also above average for the number of community gardens relative to population for cities over 500,000 residents, at nearly 6

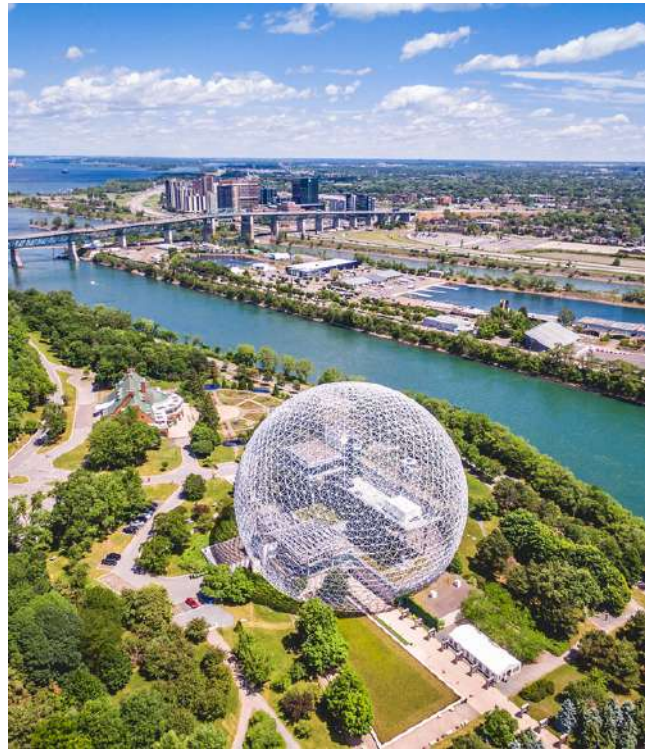
community gardens per 100,000 people.

Additionally, the new parc Frédéric-Back is located at the heart of the Complexe environnemental de Saint-Michel. This new public space where a landfill was once located will be one of the largest green spaces in the city. By incorporating nature-based solutions into sustainable urban development, cities can increase resource efficiency, resilience and quality of life for residents.

Montréal has also initiated the Nature and Sports Plan in 2021 which aims to improve the city's network of large parks and sports facilities. It proposes concrete actions to protect biodiversity and natural heritage, and encourage the population to adopt a healthy and active lifestyle.

Montréal puts biodiversity and green spaces at

Montréal has been recognized for its commitment to sustainability on a global scale



the center of its concerns. By adopting this plan, it is implementing possible solutions to fight against climate change and collectively rethink nature in the city. The Plan proposes several actions to protect the natural heritage, create new points of contact with nature and ensure the growth of the urban forest. Among the projects:

- plant 500,000 trees by 2030
- develop new parks, eg: the Great West Park, the cliff eco-territory nature park and a nature center in the east.
- finalise the development of Frédéric-Back park
- connect large parks and living environments through a network of green corridors
- offer quality experiences and share the collective space

The Nature and Sports Plan contributes to accelerating the ecological transition of the City. It is thus coherently integrated into the Montréal 2030 strategic plan, which aims to define a vision of the future synonymous with increased economic, social and cultural resilience for Montréal.

Like most major cities, Montréal is recovering from the unprecedented crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is committed to a revival based on a vision of the future to enhance its economic, social and ecological resilience.

Montréal 2030 is a vision of the future to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. The plan gives the city the means to improve the quality of life and that of the services offered to the population of Montréal.

WMO annual report highlights continuous advance of climate change

From mountain peaks to ocean depths, climate change continued its advance in 2022, according to the annual report from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO). Droughts, floods and heatwaves affected communities on every continent and cost many billions of dollars. Antarctic sea ice fell to its lowest extent on record and the melting of some European glaciers was, literally, off the charts.

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REPORT



The State of the Global Climate 2022 shows the planetary scale changes on land, in the ocean and in the atmosphere caused by record levels of heat-trapping greenhouse gases

The State of the Global Climate 2022 shows the planetary scale changes on land, in the ocean and in the atmosphere caused by record levels of heat-trapping greenhouse gases.

For global temperature, the years 2015-2022 were the eight warmest on record despite the cooling impact of a La Niña event for the past three years. Melting of glaciers and sea level rise - which again reached record levels in 2022 - will continue to up to thousands of years.

“While greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise and the climate continues to change, populations worldwide continue to be gravely impacted by extreme weather and climate events. For example, in 2022, continuous drought in East Africa, record breaking rainfall in Pakistan and record-breaking heatwaves in China and Europe affected tens of millions,

Heat levels in the ocean continued to reach record high levels and are expected to continue to warm well into the future, contributing to sea level rise



drove food insecurity, boosted mass migration, and cost billions of dollars in loss and damage,” said WMO Secretary-General Prof. Petteri Taalas.

“However, collaboration amongst UN agencies has proven to be very effective in addressing humanitarian impacts induced by extreme weather and climate events, especially in reducing associated mortality and economic losses. The UN Early Warnings for All Initiative aims to fill the existing capacity gap to ensure that every person on earth is covered by early warning services.

At the moment about one hundred countries do not have adequate weather services in place. Achieving this ambitious task requires improvement of observation networks, investments in early warning, hydrological and climate service capacities,” he said.

The new WMO report is accompanied by a story map, which provides information for policy makers on how the climate change indicators are playing out, and which also shows how improved technology makes the transition to renewable energy cheaper and more accessible than ever.

In addition to climate indicators, the report focuses on impacts. Rising undernourishment has been exacerbated by the compounded effects of hydrometeorological hazards and COVID-19, as well as of protracted conflicts and violence.

Throughout the year, hazardous climate and weather-related events drove new population displacement and worsened conditions for many of the 95 million people already living in displacement at the beginning of the year, according to the report. The report also puts a spotlight on ecosystems and the environment



and shows how climate change is affecting recurring events in nature, such as when trees blossom, or birds migrate.

The WMO State of the Global Climate report was released ahead of Earth Day 2023. Its key findings echo the message of UN Secretary-General António Guterres for Earth Day.

“We have the tools, the knowledge, and the solutions. But we must pick up the pace. We need accelerated climate action with deeper, faster emissions cuts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degree Celsius. We also need massively scaled-up investments in adaptation and resilience, particularly for the most vulnerable countries and communities who have done the least to cause the crisis,” said Mr Guterres.

The WMO report follows the release of the State of the Climate in Europe report by the EU’s

Copernicus Climate Change Service. It complements the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment report, which includes data up to 2020.



Air Pollution Kills 1,200 Children A Year Across Europe

STUDY



Breathing dirty air causes the premature death of at least 1,200 children across Europe each year, and many thousands more are afflicted with physical and mental health problems that could have lifelong impacts, according to the latest assessment of air pollution by the European Environment Agency (EEA).

According to the study published on Monday by the EEA, children are particularly susceptible to dirty air, as pollutants can have an impact on their development that is permanent. The impacts begin before birth, with studies linking pollution to low birth weight and premature birth.

Exposure to high levels of pollutants in childhood have been shown to inhibit lung capacity, cause asthma, lead to higher levels of respiratory disease and ear infections, and increase the risk of allergies, even affecting brain development.

Children are more exposed to filthy air than adults because they have a faster breathing rate, are closer to the ground and are outdoors more. About 110,000 disability-adjusted life years are lost across Europe each year in people under the age of 18.

Across Europe, 97% of the population of all ages were exposed to levels of air pollution higher than those deemed safe by the World Health Organisation, according to the EEA.



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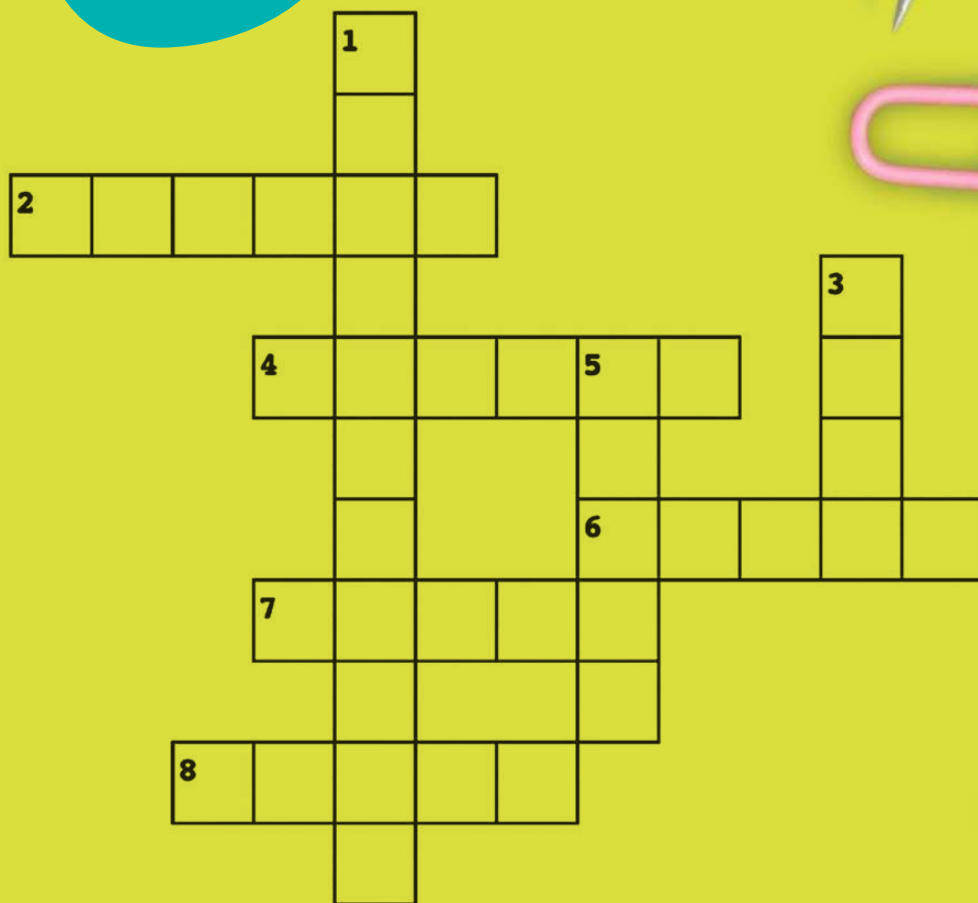
YOLPIC
RTOSTAPNR
IEDVUTSRCE

Answers: 1) recycle 2) destructive 3) policy 4) transport 5) sustainable 6) plastics 7) pollute 8) nature

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PURE
NOURISH
GOVERNMENT
WEATHER
WINDS
LIFESTYLE
CARBON
NATURE
MINERALS
CONTROL
DESERT
AUTHORITY

Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2. Green, turfed
- 4. World of plants, animals, landscapes etc
- 6. Become as one
- 7. Watering spot in the desert
- 8. Of Earth's pole

Down

- 1. Maintaining a balance by not depleting natural resources
- 3. Become liquid
- 5. Recycling goal

Answers: 1) Sustainable 2) Grass 3) Melt 4) Nature 5) Reuse
6) Unite 7) Oasis 8) Polar

WORD OF THE DAY:

FAIR TRADE

Fair trade is a worldwide movement that aims to help farmers and producers in less economically developed countries (LEDCs). The term fair trade means that they receive a fair price for the goods that they produce. Goods that are produced and sold in support of these aims usually carry a fair-trade label. Many products, including coffee, sugar, tea, cotton, wine, bananas, and handicrafts, are traded this way.

Farmers and workers in LEDCs are often paid less for their goods and crops than those in more economically developed countries (MEDCs). This can lead the people in LEDCs to being trapped in poverty. People involved in the fair-trade movement help the farmers deal with big companies that buy their produce to make sure that the farmers receive a fair income plus a little bit more, called a “premium,” from their produce. The premium is used to fund community projects, such as schools and healthcare facilities.

The people who promote fair trade help farmers and producers work in a sustainable way. This involves looking after the environment, using fewer chemicals, and planning for the future. They also help farmers and workers to form groups, called cooperatives. By working together, these cooperatives are able to demand better prices for their goods.

People around the world, especially those in MEDCs, participate in the movement by making an effort to buy goods that are traded fairly. Fair-trade products sometimes cost more to buy, but many people are prepared to pay the extra to support the movement and its principles.

Overall, there are 1.9 million farmers and workers that are involved in fairtrade worldwide.

These people live and work in 72 different countries and territories and produce more than



35,000 different products that we can find in our supermarkets.

47% of all fairtrade farmers produce coffee that is sold across the globe, while 41% of fairtrade farmers produce beautiful flowers and plants.

Fairtrade has a great impact on the lives of farmers and workers, as well as the environment. Fairtrade means that farmers can put food on their tables, afford healthcare and education, and take control of their lives and their futures.

International Day for Biological Diversity – May 22

Biodiversity remains the answer to several sustainable development challenges. From nature-based solutions to climate, health issues, food and water security, and sustainable livelihoods, biodiversity is the foundation upon which we can build back better.

From ecosystem-based approaches to climate and/or nature-based solutions to climate, health issues, food and water security and sustainable livelihoods, biodiversity is the foundation upon which we can build back better. That is the main message from the CBD, key international instrument for sustainable development.

The Global Report demonstrated the responsibility of human activities in the loss of biodiversity, which amounted to 75% for terrestrial ecosystems. This assessment also indicated that solutions existed and that it was

not too late to act.

Loss of biodiversity threatens all, including our health. It has been proven that biodiversity loss could expand zoonoses - diseases transmitted from animals to humans- while, on the other hand, if we keep biodiversity intact, it offers excellent tools to fight against pandemics like those caused by coronaviruses.

While there is a growing recognition that biological diversity is a global asset of tremendous value to future generations, the number of species is being significantly reduced by certain human activities. Given the importance of public education and awareness about this issue, the UN decided to celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity annually.

Although every Biodiversity Day carries its own special significance, this year's global celebrations bring with it a renewed sense of hope with the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework at the 15th Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 15).

To mark this incredible and historic achievement, the proposal for this year's theme is "From Agreement to Action: Build Back Biodiversity" which builds on the results of COP 15. Now that the world has the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (agreement), the focus must quickly shift to its implementation.

World Turtle Day – May 23

World Turtle Day is an annual observance held every May 23rd. It began in 2000 and is sponsored by American Tortoise Rescue. The day was created as a yearly observance to help people celebrate and protect turtles and tortoises and their disappearing habitats, as well as to encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.

Turtles and tortoises are associated with wisdom and perseverance. They are reptiles that are found in many environments all around the world. These creatures play an important role in their respective ecosystems. They dig holes that are inhabited by other creatures and keep our beaches clean by

feeding on dead fish that wash up on the shores. They maintain an ecological balance and, therefore, it's important to conserve these gentle animals.

The day was first celebrated by American Tortoise Rescue in 2002 and it highlights the suffering and the dwindling numbers of these animals due to human interference and environmental hazards. Schools, rescue centers, and nature lovers all come together on this day to learn more about these creatures and pledge their allegiance to help save them.

American Tortoise Rescue was created by Susan Tellem and Marshall Thompson. They organize charity drives and actively work to spread awareness for the critical conditions of these shelled reptiles.

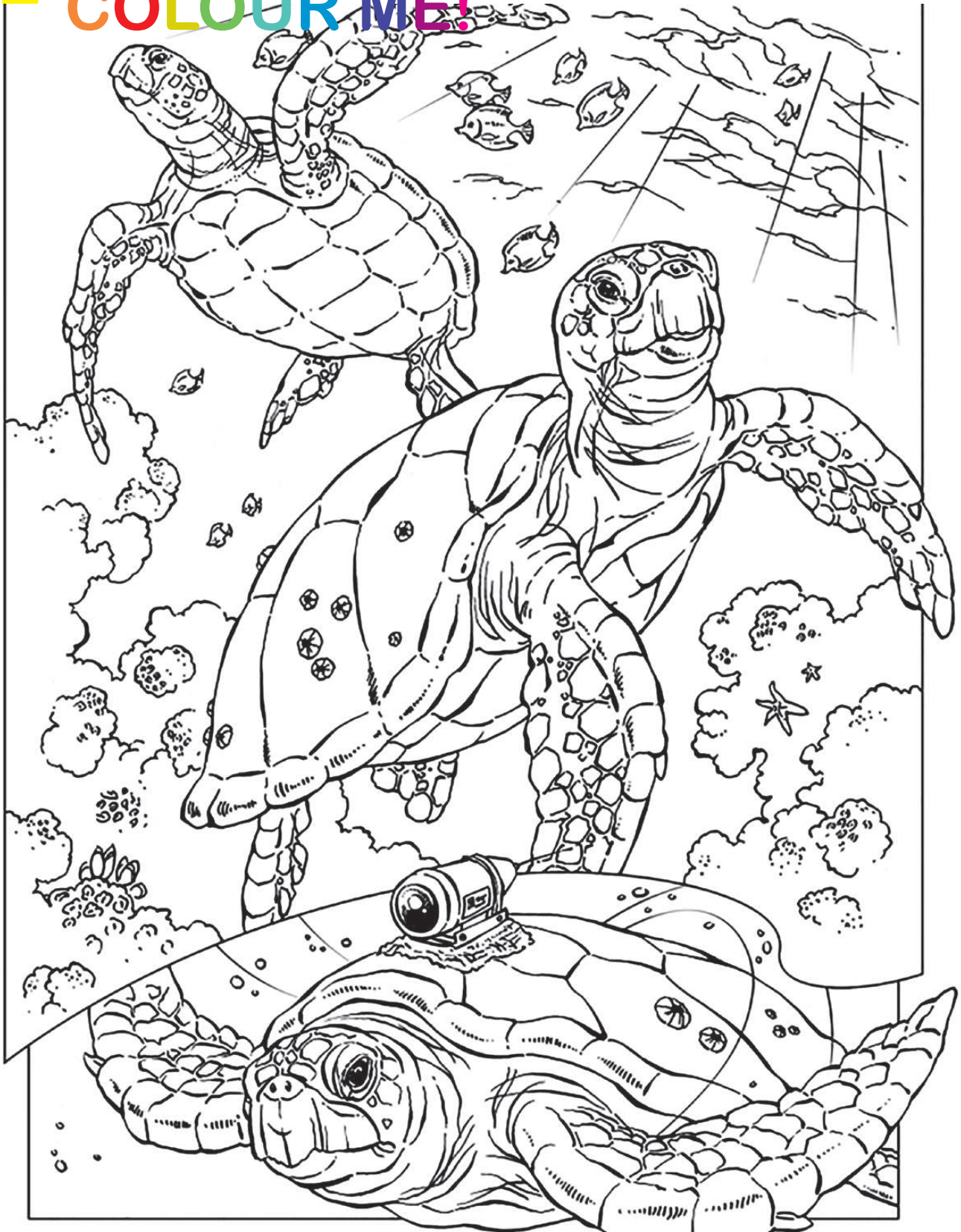


What can you do to help?

Things to Do...

- ☒ Volunteer for a Clean-up Drive
- ☒ Use both sides of a sheet of paper
- ☒ Recycle products
- ☒ Do not waste food!
- ☒ Cycle to places!

COLOUR ME!



UN Chief Urges Accelerated Climate Action And Protection Of Biodiversity

On the occasion of International Mother Earth Day, the UN Secretary-General António Guterres issued a statement calling for urgent action to protect the environment and combat climate change.

In his statement, Guterres highlighted the crucial relationship between humanity and the natural world, stating that our health and survival

BIODIVERSITY



depend on maintaining a healthy environment. However, he expressed concern over the ongoing destruction of forests, wetlands, oceans, coral reefs, rivers, seas, and lakes, which is putting one million species at risk of extinction.

To address these challenges, Guterres called for accelerated climate action, including faster emissions cuts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. He also emphasised the need for massive investments in adaptation and resilience, particularly in vulnerable communities who are least responsible for the crisis.

Guterres underscored the importance of healthy ecosystems in the fight against climate change and urged the protection of 30 percent of Earth's land and water by 2030, as outlined in the UN biodiversity agreement. The UN Secretary-General called on governments, corporations, institutions, civil society, and individuals to work

together to demand that leaders take decisive action to protect the environment. He also stressed the importance of drawing from the knowledge and leadership of Indigenous Peoples in environmental stewardship.

In conclusion, Guterres urged people worldwide to take action to protect our shared home and called on world leaders to make peace with nature for the benefit of current and future generations.

This is the second Mother Earth Day celebrated within the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. The United Nations celebrates this observance annually through an interactive dialogue on topics ranging from methods for promoting a holistic approach to harmony with nature to an exchange of national experiences regarding criteria and indicators to measure sustainable development in harmony with nature.

Universities Climate Network Launched To Support Youth-Focused Objectives Of COP28 UAE

The Universities Climate Network (UCN), a network of universities and higher education institutions in the UAE chaired by NYU Abu Dhabi, has been launched to encourage youth engagement in the country in the lead up to COP28, the UN Climate Conference to be held later this year in Dubai.

The UCN is comprised of 12 UAE-based



institutions, including the American University of Sharjah, Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy, Higher Colleges of Technology, Khalifa University, Masdar Institute, Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence, Mohamed bin Zayed University for Humanities, National Defence College, NYU Abu Dhabi, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, UAE University, and Zayed University.

Ambassador Majid Al Suwaidi, Director-General and Special Representative of COP28 UAE, commented, "The Universities Climate Network will support our goal of creating a more inclusive and participatory environment for young people to be leaders in climate action. Incubators of the next generation, universities play a key role in nurturing innovation and providing young voices platforms to express their views and to contribute to policy shaping discussions that are most important to their needs."

The UCN's inaugural activation, Ramadan Talks, welcomed key speakers from the industry to discuss climate change related topics, including climate diplomacy, the hydrogen economy, urban modernity in the contemporary Gulf, and why COP28 matters, among others.

Supporting young people, in March this year, the COP28 UAE Presidency launched the 'International Youth Climate Delegate Program'.

Elevating the voices, perspectives, and priorities of the global youth in the multilateral COP process, the International YCDP will select 100 youth delegates primarily from least developed countries (LDC) and small island developing states (SIDS), to participate in climate negotiations and related public-private partnership initiatives.

China's Space Station Achieves 100% Regeneration Of Oxygen Resources

China's space station, with the Shenzhou-15 crew now in orbit, can produce 100 percent of its oxygen supply through its onboard regeneration system, according to a space technology conference in Harbin, capital of China's northernmost Heilongjiang Province, the Chinese news agency (Xinhua) has reported.

The development reflects that fundamental

TECHNOLOGY



transformation of the environmental control and life-support system for China's manned spacecraft from "replenishment" to "regeneration," said Bian Qiang, director of the environmental control and life-support engineering office under the Astronaut Center of China.

As a key technology for China's manned space missions, the environmental control and life-support system creates basic living conditions and builds a liveable working environment for the astronauts, thus ensuring their health and safety.

The system comprises six regeneration subsystems for the following processes: oxygen production by water electrolysis; carbon dioxide removal; harmful gas removal; urine treatment; water treatment; and water production with carbon dioxide and hydrogen.

"At present, the six systems are in stable operation, with 100 percent of the oxygen resources regenerated and 95 percent of the water resources recycled. This reduces the amount of supplies from the ground by six tonnes every year," said Bian, addressing the third national manned spaceflight environmental control and life-support technology conference.

He noted that the technology applied in the environmental control and life-support system ranks among the best in the world.

Over the past 55 years, experts have successfully developed three generations of environmental control and life-support system for China's manned spacecraft, as well as relevant products for Shenzhou spacecraft, extra-vehicular spacesuits and the three-module space station complex, according to Bian.

War & The Environment!

On April 15th 2023, people in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, heard sudden explosions. They were in their offices, shops and houses going about their daily routines. It took us sometime to realize that an armed conflict had broken out between the Sudanese army and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). The latter is a special force established by the former President of Sudan to fight the rebel groups in Darfur and which has since been protecting him and his regime from military coups. After the People's Revolution, the RSF expanded so much in both arms and human resources but the army chief did not see that as a threat. Conflict of interest between the RSF Commander and the Army Commander arose when they disagreed upon the process of merging the RSF into the Army.

People were caught in the middle of this fighting in markets, on the streets and at work.



Dr. Eisa M. Abdellatif
Chief Technical Advisor
Zayed International
Foundation for the
Environment

Some people could not go home for three days and eventually ran out of food and water. Families in conflict areas were terrified by the shells and bullets falling on them from all directions. The fighting destroyed water stations and electricity network and crippled the food supply chain. Fuel stations and banks closed down creating further shortages in fuel supply and cash to buy basic needs.

The destruction of the natural environment became apparent as smoke and dust mixed in the air causing serious air pollution. The mass movement of war refugees causes further destruction as they exert pressure on natural resources such as water and forests, in addition to the waste produced - with no adequate system to manage it.

The war cannot be selective. It kills people, animals, trees, bees and microorganisms, destroying biodiversity and polluting the environment for a long time to come.

The war is the worst thing that can happen to the environment, especially when environmental destruction is used as a strategy to deprive the enemy of resources. Defoliant chemicals were used by the U.S. army to destroy the forests in Vietnam. During the 1991 Gulf War, 10 million barrels of Kuwaiti oil were released into the Arabian Gulf causing great damage to the marine ecosystem. The U.S. military also used depleted uranium to penetrate enemy armored vehicles, causing serious pollution in Iraq and surrounding countries. Wars also release large quantities of greenhouse gases from vehicles and explosions. This is in addition to the physical destruction of the environment in conflict areas.

In war, all parties stand to lose because of the short and long term environmental and health impacts. Let us all live in peace.



Zayed International Prize for the Environment

Together for a green century

THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD
IS IN OUR HANDS.

ACT NOW!



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