

February 2011



EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

EEG NEWSLETTER

Together for a Better Environment®

Join EEG's 2011 Educational Programs

Environmental Drawing Competition

Registration closed on 20th February 2011

Teachers Workshop

Sustainable Cities

28th March (English), 29th March (Arabic)

To register: eeq@emirates.net.ae

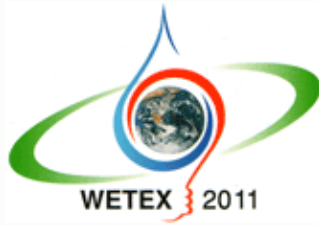
Are you ready for the challenge?

Bring your camera and capture the best images in the Can Collection Day on February 24th to be among the winners with EEG Photography Competition



Join EEG's Can Collection Campaign and be part of an environmental responsible community. For more info and registration, please contact us on eeq@emirates.net.ae

EEG Supports

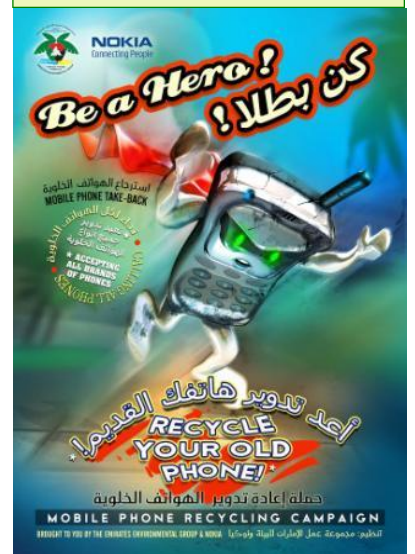


Save your Tetra Pak cartons and join EEG's campaign to recycle tetra pak containers in collaboration with Tetra Pak Arabia

أرجوك أعد تدويري
Please Recycle Me



Welcome to EEG's new cycle of mobile recycling campaign 2011, in partnership with Nokia Middle East and Africa.



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BRING YOUR RECYCLABLES: Every SATURDAY, 8:30AM to 3:00PM. Villa No. JMR. 68, Jumeirah 1, Between Dubai Zoo and Beach Centre. For more info, call EEG at 04 344 8622, or email eeq@emirates.net.ae.

Editorial Team:

Moayad Yacoub, Priyanka Menon, Ruth Bibby, Hazel Alfion, Maria Reyes, Disha Dave



As the month of February emerges, we must realize that we are now well into the New Year. It is time to remember those New Year resolutions and ensure they are made a reality. We, at EEG, have done just that!

We wanted our 20th Anniversary to begin with a bang and that is exactly what we witnessed during the first Community Lecture of the year with the gracious presence of HE Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Azad, Former President of India. He came, he mesmerized as he spoke on the topic "Advocating Sustainable Development as a Global Citizen".

It was truly an honor for everyone present in that room that morning to meet this man, listen to his rich experiences and even, speak to him personally. His lecture was filled with his personal initiatives, new concepts in the field of green energy and of course, his unconventional humor!

The month of January was a very busy one as we participated in an international and a national exhibition, attended a UNGC webinar, launched our Can Collection Campaign and lots more. EEG was also honored to be visited by HH Sayyida Tania Shabib Al Said, President of the Environmental Society of Oman (ESO), with whom we have signed an MOU.

EEG is delighted to sign this MOU with a sister organization, the ESO, as both organizations strongly believe in environmental protection and conservation of natural resources.

This seems like the month of collaborations for EEG as we signed another MOU with DEWA. Through this MOU, we will be working closely with the Authority specifically regarding the Wetex 2011 exhibition. We will also be participating in the

exhibition and urge all our corporate members to do the same.

EEG also organized a meeting for its Founding Members on the 31st of January where it outlined its activities for the year and urged the members to participate whole-heartedly in the Waste Management Programs.

The publications rolled out by EEG this month were the Table Calendar, WastePaper (Issue 30) and the Annual Report 2010.

The month of February is one to look forward to. As most of you know, the Can Collection Day will be organized on the 24th of February and I sincerely hope that you all have begun collecting your Aluminum Cans!

We have always focused on the support and involvement of the people as a whole and are confident that the Campaign in 2011 will be welcomed whole-heartedly by the citizens of the UAE. This year, our target is to collect 23,000 kilograms of Aluminum Cans and we need your help to achieve this!

To add an innovative touch to the Campaign, EEG, in collaboration with Canon Middle East, is organizing a Photography Contest, which will be open to all the participants of the Can Collection Day and Drive. So all you budding photographers, get ready and click away!

Those interested in the topic of E-Waste and Electronic Recycling will also be excited to know that EEG's 2nd Community Lecture of the year will be on this topic. We will send you all the details soon!

The 4th of February is also the National Environment Day—let us all come together and think of how we can make a difference!

Thus, it is now time to roll up our sleeves and delve ourselves into the tasks at hand. I can assure you that EEG will keep coming up with innovative and interesting events and campaigns for you to participate in. We look forward to your whole-hearted support the whole around and hope that you are satisfied with our services.

Here's to a lovely January and looking forward to an exciting February!

Thank you!

Habiba Al Marashi

EEG Participates in World Future Energy Summit

The World Future Energy Summit and Exhibition (WFES) was organized from the 17th – 20th of January 2011 at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Center (ADNEC), EEG was honored to be a part of the exhibition which consisted of national, regional and international companies that focused on the themes of energy and environment.

The opening ceremony of the WFES consisted of distinguished speakers such as HE Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations, and HE Dr. Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, CEO of Masdar .

Other members of the summit included high profile guests such as HE Patxi Lopez, President of the Basque Country, Spain; HE Aset O. Issekeshov, Deputy Prime Minister, HRH Crown Princess Victoria, Princess of Sweden and Minister of Industry and New Technologies, Kazakhstan and many other dignitaries and State Heads.

On the opening day of the event, HE Ban Ki-Moon addressed the Young Future Energy Leaders (YFEL), which is an initiative established by Masdar.

Another highlight of the WFES was the announcement of the winners of the Zayed Future Energy Prize, which went to the international wind turbine maker, Vestas, who, in turn, gave half of their prize money to three of the six finalists of the Prize including India's Barefoot College, Seventh Generation Advisors and First Solar.

A popular part of the exhibition for delegates was the Masdar stand, which consisted of a tour of development at Masdar City, which is the world's first zero-carbon city.

The EEG stand at the exhibition was decorated with posters, flyers and roll ups. A number of delegates as well as students visited the stand to receive more information about EEG's latest campaigns. The Can Collection Day, which will be held on the 24th of February, was one of the most asked-about EEG campaigns during the four days.

14th Cycle of the Can Collection Campaign

EEG launched the 14th cycle of its Can Collection Campaign during a press conference held at the Shangri-la Hotel on the 25th of January. The event saw a full house with the media, sponsors and supporters of EEG. Sharing the dias with Mrs. Al Marashi, EEG Chairperson, were Mr. Emile Lattouf, Country Sales Manager, Al Safi Club for Friends of the Environment and Mr. Antoine Tassar, Public Affairs & Communications Manager, The Coca Cola Export Corporation.

EEG's Can Collection Campaign, as was in 2010, will be marked by two major events – the Can Collection Day (24th February 2011) and the Can Collection Drive (7th May 2011). Mrs. Al Marashi kick started the Press Conference explaining why it was so important to recycle Aluminum Cans. Recycling Aluminum only requires 5% of the energy needed for primary Aluminum production. Thus, the UAE must tap into this part of waste management and EEG is ensuring that it is on the agenda of every academic institution, company and family in the country.

It is estimated that 500 million canned beverages are sold every year in the UAE. It is said that only 5% of these Cans are sent for recycling



as opposed to a whopping 63% recycled world-wide. Thus, in order to bring the UAE on par with the world, EEG has taken it upon itself to inculcate the habit of proper waste management and recycling among the UAE community.

Initiated in September 1997, the Can Collection Campaign runs from September to May every year. Last year, the Campaign resulted in a collection of 23,000 kgs with a target of 20,000. This year, the target set is 23,000 kgs!

To add an innovative touch to the Campaign, EEG, in collaboration with Canon Middle East, is organizing a Photography Contest, which will be open to all the participants of the Can Collection Day and Drive. The Competition will be open from February to May 2011. The winning photographs will be used in promotional material, calendars and awards will be given during EEG's Annual Prize Giving Ceremony in June 2011.

ASU Students Visit EEG

On 8th of January, a group from Arizona State University (ASU) visits EEG, as a part of a course on studies abroad.

EEG presented the various programs and environmental initiatives being implemented in the UAE, were it highlighted the waste management, educational, recycling and other pioneering programs like the Million tree campaign as steps towards sustainability in the UAE.

The milestones of EEG over the years were also discussed with the guests. The presentation also tackled EEG's contribution to the global networks through its association to the UNGC. At the end of the presentation, a number of questions were raised by the students regarding the EEG's programs and the environmental conditions of the UAE in general.



Global Citizen and Sustainability; EEG 1st Community Lecture on 2011

EEG completing its 20th Anniversary is definitely an opportunity for celebration and this was evident on the 26th of January when the first Community Lecture of 2011 was graced by the presence of one of the most influential men of our times - Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Azad.

Mrs. Al Marashi, EEG Chairperson, gave in her opening address a brief of the credentials of Dr. Kalam. She was also happy to inform him that EEG had just completed a decade of Education for Sustainable Development programs this year, which he later acknowledged in his speech.

Dr. Kalam began his speech by congratulating EEG on its 20th Anniversary. He spoke about the founder of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, who has transformed the economy of the country and brought people and ideas together. He also commended the vision of the late leader who realized in time that fossil fuels would not last forever.

A keen lover of the environment, Dr. Kalam told the audience that his journey from New Delhi to Dubai has resulted in the consumption of 8 tons of CO₂ and that, in order to offset this, a total of 120 trees must be planted. In the latter part of his address, he mentioned his 10 Billion Trees Campaign, which was initiated keeping in mind the deteriorating condition of the forest covers of the world. He, thus, wanted humanity to be "Weather makers rather than weather destroyers".

Dr. Kalam explained his Energy Vision 2030, which included three main focus areas. They were *Affordability of quality energy, Fossil fuel minimization, and Adequate environmental initiative (to support the previous points)*.

Dr. Kalam's talk was filled with rich information, such as intelligent buildings, municipal waste as a source of energy, the Ener-

gy Independence policy, benefits of energy derived from algae oil and much more. However, a new concept introduced by him to the audience was his pet area, trapping solar energy from space. This possibility of harvesting solar energy from space has led to the establishment of the Kalam NSS Energy Initiative, which focuses on ways and means to derive green energy from space.

He ended his address with a beautiful quote by Patanjali, a sage who lived more than 2,500 years ago. "When you are inspired by some great purpose, some extraordinary project, all your thoughts break their bonds: Your mind transcends limitations, your consciousness expands in every direction, and you find yourself in a new, great, and wonderful world. Dormant forces, faculties and talents become alive, and you discover yourself to be a greater person by far than you ever dreamed yourself to be." The morning ended with a Q&A session, which was tactfully handled by Dr. Kalam.



DPS Sharjah 10th Anniversary

EEG was invited to be a part of Delhi Private School celebrations of its 10th anniversary on the 24th of January, which was thronged by more than 7,000 students, parents, teachers and dignitaries!

The highlight of the show was Dr. Kalam's speech as he motivated the students by making them pledge to protect the environment. Everyone present was enthralled by India's "Missile Man" as he took them on a journey with his talk.

EEG and ESO sign MOU for Environmental Conservation in the Region

EEG is proud to sign an **MOU** with the Environment Society of Oman (**ESO**), a non-government organization, which aims to help conserve Oman's natural and human heritage and raise awareness about environmental issues. The purpose of the MOU is to provide a framework of co-operation for the benefit of the environment and to bring forth the idea of sustainability in the region. Thus, the main aim of this partnership would be to promote long-term conditions for environmental conservation and sustainable development especially in the Arabian Gulf region and the Arab World in general. The MOU also initiates the capacity building of organizations in the Arab Gulf region to assist in the planning and implementation of national, regional and international initiatives aimed at tackling environment and sustainable development issues and promoting regional and trans-regional cooperation for creating a 'greener' and more environmentally conscious Gulf. The MOU was signed between EEG Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi and HH Sayyida Tania Shabib Al Said, President, ESO at the EEG office in Dubai.



Health & Safety Training at EEG

On the 15th of January, members of ArabTech conducted a Safety Training Programme for EEG members with an objective to equip the employees to adopt safety measures while at work. With an emphasis on safety awareness, members were trained on manual handling of objects of various kinds. All the measures were accompanied by videos for the better understanding of those present.

Ajman International Environmental Conference

During the opening ceremony of Ajman's First International Environment Exhibition, His Highness Sheikh Humaid bin Rashid Al Nuaimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ajman, stressed the importance of the role of scientific research, education, training and conferences to promote scientific dialogue, discussion and proposals for challenges affecting the environment as a result of climate change and external influences. His Highness offered his support to those who work in the field of science and work hard in the field of the environment. The Emirate of Ajman has organized this International Exhibition due to the strong belief that the environment is the foundation of development.

EEG participated in this Conference, which held under the Patronage of HH The Ruler of Ajman, co-organized by Ajman Municipality and Planning Department and Ajman University of Science and Technology on 30-31 January. The conference represents a scientific gathering of Arab and Western experts to discuss modern ways and means of achieving sustainable development through green environment in the Emirate of Ajman as a model in the United Arab Emirates and the Gulf region.



HH Sheikh Humaid bin Rashid al-Nuaimi, Member of Supreme Council and Ruler of Ajman listens to a brief from the Chair-



Visit of HRH CP Victoria to the UAE

EEG was honored to be a part of the High Level Panel on Corporate Social Responsibility in the presence of Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden at the ESAB Facility on the 19th of January 2011. The day began with a short tour by HRH followed by the High Level Panel. EEG Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, was honored to give a presentation to HRH CP Victoria outlining its major activities including Education, Waste Management, Special Programs and Corporate Outreach. She also provided a brief about the activities and future aspirations of EEG and its sister organization, the Arabia CSR Network. Other organizations that were a part of the

DEWA WETEX

EEG is proud to sign an MOU with DEWA to support environmental initiatives during Wetex 2011. This cooperation promotes the conservation of energy, water and promotes waste recycling, which are initiatives adopted by DEWA. The Wetex 2011 exhibition, which will be organized from the 8th to 10th of March 2011, is the premier regional resourcing platform for organizations to get a taste of the latest technology and solutions in the field of Water, Energy and Environment. The MOU was signed by EEG Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi and Mr. Abdullah Al Hajri, EVP - Customer Services, DEWA.

MOU will promote, through a number of platforms, the rationalization of electricity, water and resource consumption among the various consumers who attend Wetex 2011. The cooperation between DEWA and EEG is growing day by day, since both organizations share the same vision in the need to protect and preserve the environment from all forms of pollution, and eliminate the wastage of resources, which constitute a key element in Sustainable development that DEWA are covering at a steady pace. EEG calls on all its members to participate in this important platform, which provides the latest scientific findings in the field of environment, water and energy.

CORPORATE NEWS

Dulscos introduces RFID Technology for Waste Management

As a pilot project, Dulscos has introduced RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology for waste management at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ANEC). All trucks, bins and waste skips in the facility are embedded with RFID tags which can provide complete data and statistics on the waste management activity taking place. This new technology takes waste management to a new level and enhances better control and efficiency in coordinating and managing waste in the country.

The First Social Return on Investment (SROI) Workshop

In line with the goal of strengthening CSR in the Arab Region, the Arabia CSR Network will hold the first Social Return on Investment Workshop on 15-16 March 2011. The method of Social Return on Investment (SROI) is designed to capture these values and assist decision-makers in effectively selecting investments that are aligned with the Organization's core values and objectives. The environmental and social returns will be measured in the perspective of the stakeholders - e.g., the beneficiaries of the project such as the community engaged in the conservation programme - which may be done hassle-free using the Value Game Webtool. Financial returns can be measured by the company in terms of increased sales resulting from better relationship with the customers as a result of the conservation programme. **Registration is now on-going and special rates are available for early bird registrants. To Register, admin@arabiacsrnetwork.com**



Cooperation between Supreme Council of Energy and UN

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the UN, attended the ceremony for the signing of the agreement of cooperation between the Supreme Council of Energy in Dubai and the United Nations, which was signed by HH Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Energy in Dubai and Elissar Sarouh, the resident representative of the United Nations in UAE. The agreement comes as a translation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2009 between the United Nations and the Supreme Council of Energy in Dubai.

HE Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Vice-President of the Supreme Council of Energy in Dubai, and the CEO of DEWA, mentioned that the Center is based on the economy of knowledge and the global initiatives to guide the business culture in Dubai to care about climate change and to reduce the carbon emissions. The center will base on the partnership between the public and private sectors and link it with international organizations such as the United Nations and the United Nations Development Program, in addition to strengthening it by necessary international expertise. And as an add-on the agreement, the both organizations will cooperate in the field of mechanisms to face the climate change and clean development and play a vital role in providing a clean environment for the community in Dubai.

The agreement will also contribute in supporting and achieving the sustainable growth through environmental initiatives, setting measurable standards and concepts of reducing emissions accredited by the UN, the development of economic activities and business activities in the areas of reduction of carbon emissions and contribute to the development of a global model of government institutions in the world, support for trade future in the field of carbon credits, the development of programs for the deployment of energy-related environmental education.



Heritage and Environment

EPAA held a joint meeting with the Heritage Department in Sharjah to discuss the most important aspects of cooperation between the two institutions in the 4th environmental awareness campaign for wilderness areas, which will continue until end of March 2011. The meeting discussed how to activate the participation of the heritage department in the campaign by organizing heritage events such as (Taahl Heritage Forum) which will present to the participants extensive information about the UAE heritage. The meeting also discussed organizing a specialized symposium (the environment from the perspective of environmental literacy) show the importance of wilderness in the biodiversity systems and highlights the strategic importance of the wilderness areas, and discusses the environmental degradation factors in wilderness areas.

Dubai Municipality Announce the Green Building Standards

The Director General of the Dubai Municipality, said that the Executive Council in Dubai has reviewed the Green Building guidelines and approved it with certain observations for the Municipality to implement them. Most notably, the requirements of these guidelines will be optional for a period of three years after which the results will be evaluated.

In his statement to Al Bayan, Eng. Lootah said that the Executive Council also recommended the provision of incentives for the implementers of the regulations such as owners of real estate or engineering firms, contractors or individuals that would encourage others to follow suit. He also mentioned that over the next three years, a number of seminars and training programs will be organized for a proper understanding of the specifications and requirements for all parties, developers and stakeholders. The application of these guidelines will result in a two fold benefit – firstly, on the city and the safety of the environment, and secondly, on the level of investment and good returns by the investor.

Eng. Lootah said that the guidelines have been prepared according to international standards and this will lead the way for developers and contractors to build world-class green buildings in the city. He also mentioned that this trial period is a preparation for the transition to inculcate green building guidelines in every building as mandatory.

New 70-point e-services system to check building safety

Dubai Municipality's Public Health and Safety Department has launched a new 70-point e-services system to check building safety in a single inspection. This system is suitable for building permits and controls to be implemented by its Building Inspection section. The system consists of all aspects - safety of the building's facilities and air and water quality. For eg, the water quality tests include testing of swimming pools, cooling towers, hot and cold shower water as well as the water used for decoration purposes. An important factor here is that as per the 70-point system, each violation will incur certain fines according to prescribed notions.

Launch of Clean Energy Industries Council

The World Summit for the Future Energy held in Abu Dhabi witnessed the launch of the Clean Energy Industries Council in the MENA, to be a non-profit organization representing the clean energy sector in the region. The council based in Masdar will include in its membership some of the most prominent key players in this sector in the region. The Council will enable the sector to address some of the current challenges, and will also help to increase transparency within the sector development.

Preparations for the Future!

In preparation for the 26th Session on the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Nairobi on the 21st – 24th February 2011, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have prepared a document that will aid discussions related to the distribution of managerial and administrative authorities. It describes the recent findings of the Board of Auditors and the Office of Legal Affairs relating to the expanded authority of multilateral environmental agreements and their effects on UNEP. It will also contribute to the overall reform process that is underway to reshape UNEP into a modern and 'future proof' organization. Under the United Nations System, the principal responsibility for the environment is held within UNEP. In order to complete it's work and mandate, UNEP engages with many multilateral organizations and receives funding from various sources. The document recently released is titled 'Evolution of the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environment agreements that it administers' and summarizes recommendations between UNEP and the agreements that it administers. The formulation of such documents will help the Executive Director and executive heads of the associated groups to work closely together and ease the review process of each decision taken.

GRI Sustainability Reporting Guidelines Now in Arabic

On the 19th of January, the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) announced the launch of the GRI Sustainability Reporting Guidelines in Arabic. The Guidelines have been developed through a collaboration between GRI and The Egyptian Corporate Responsibility Center (ECRC).

The move to translate the Reporting Guidelines in Arabic is a result of the increasing quantity of sustainability reports coming from the Middle East in the recent past. As more and more organizations in the region have embedded sustainability and environmental initiatives in their policies, the need for reporting these is more prevalent. In this regard, the GRI approached the ECRC to translate the text of the Guidelines in Arabic. EEG is also proud to have signed an agreement with GRI in the year 2010.

Education Kit on Combating Desertification

UNESCO have created an education kit on Combating Desertification, which principally targets primary school teachers and their pupils, aged 10-12 years old, in desertification-affected countries. It demonstrates that desertification is not inevitable and that everyone has a role to play in sustainably managing the world's drylands. The kit contains a teacher's guide, case studies on successful dryland projects, a cartoon and poster. Hard copies of the kit can be ordered and are available in several languages including Arabic, or free web based versions can be found online.

EEG holds a strong passion for environmental education and urge teachers and parents to utilize the educational tools available from organizations such as UNESCO. Visit the following link for more information: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/specific-ecosystems/drylands-desertification/publications-drylands-desertification/learning-to-combat-desertification/>

A Call for CITES to Strengthen.

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna, known as CITES, regulates the trade of nearly 34,000 species worldwide. However, despite this convention being in place illegal trade in wildlife is still occurring and is endangering species, passing disease across borders and spreading destructive, invasive organisms to ecosystems that cannot handle them. An urgent call for change has been voiced by leading researchers, in order to preserve the Earth's biodiversity for the future.

The apparent quick economic gain from illegal trading is actually economically harmful in the long-term due to the loss in biodiversity of key species, which can cause fractures, and further loss of species in the related ecosystems. If species are driven to extinction the rest of humanity will have fewer resources and a less robust ecosystem from which we ultimately derive almost our entire livelihood needs.

IUCN Publications

IUCN has published, especially for its ROWA members, the following:

- The latest issue of the **Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) newsletter**: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/cec_newsletter_december_2010.html
- The latest issue of the **World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) newsletter**: http://www.iucn.org/about/union/commissions/wcpa/wcpa_focus/wcpa_newsletter
- The report from the **Commission on Environmental Law (CEL)**, which includes information on the major activities and initiatives carried out by the Commission during 2010: http://www.elquincho.com.py/Informes/2010_CEL_annual_report.pdf
- **World Conservation Magazine**: the latest issues of the World Conservation Magazine takes stock of the Convention on Biological Diversity conference that took place in Japan last October. Where government approved a "Big Plan" for saving biodiversity.



NEWS & UPDATES

1. UN Secretary-General Calls for New Level of Corporate Sustainability Performance at World Economic Forum, Launches Global Compact LEAD

Chief executives joined UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (28 January, Davos) to launch Global Compact LEAD - a platform created to set a new benchmark for corporate sustainability on environment, social and governance issues. The executives represent a group of 54 companies, all participants of the Global Compact, that have made an ambitious commitment to implement the Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership, a comprehensive roadmap outlining roughly 50 concrete actions businesses can take to achieve greater sustainability. For more information, visit <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/news/96-01-28-2011>

2. Number of Expelled Companies Exceeds 2,000 as Disclosure Framework Strengthened

2,048 companies from around the world have been expelled from the Global Compact since 2008 for repeated failure to communicate on progress in integrating the initiative's ten principles into their strategies and operations (20 January, New York). In conjunction with the stronger enforcement of its COP policy, the Global Compact will be introducing a differentiation framework to motivate companies at all levels to strive for greater integration of the principles. For more information, please visit <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/news/95-01-20-2011>

3. Global Compact Human Rights Working Group Issues Statement to the Special Representative on Business and Human Rights

The Global Compact Human Rights Working Group has submitted a statement to Professor John Ruggie, the Special Representative of the Secretary General on business and human rights (25 January, New York) recommending that follow-up to the UN Protect-Respect-Remedy framework at the international level remain inclusive and multi-stakeholder. The Global Compact remains committed to helping business better understand and implement the Framework which elaborates on the first two principles of the Global Compact. For more information, please visit <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/news/98-01-25-2011>

UNGC MEMBERSHIP

Total figures as of 31 December:

Business participants: 6,078

Non-business participants: 2,502

COPs received: 10,328

Delisted business participants: 2,055

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. CEO Statement of Support for the Women's Empowerment Principles – Call for Signatures ahead of 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day:

In the lead up to the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day (8 March 2011), the Global Compact encourages top executives to sign the CEO Statement of Support for the Women's Empowerment Principles. By signing the Statement, CEOs commit to advance gender equality and agree to use the Principles as guidance for business actions that empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community.

2. More Opportunities: Addressing Corruption, Partnership Opportunities to Support Sustainable Development and more:

Many of the engagement opportunities announced in past issues of the Bulletin are still active. View the full list of Engagement Opportunities *here*: http://www.unglobalcompact.org/HowToParticipate/Engagement_Opportunities/index.html

FEATURED RESOURCES

1. Business and Human Rights Learning Tool: Web-based modules integrate exercises and case studies on current trends and expectations towards business on implementation of human rights principles, as reflected in the UN Protect-Respect-Remedy Framework. Upon successful completion of a test of the learning tool content users have the opportunity to obtain a certificate.

2. Disability in the Workplace – Company Practices: Highlights company practices and operations in the areas of hiring, retention, products, services and corporate social responsibility in terms of persons with disabilities. Company profiles provide inspiration and guidance for advancing non-discrimination and diversity policies and initiatives, while illustrating the business case for hiring persons with disabilities and maintaining a diverse workforce. Published by the ILO.

3. Arc of Human Rights Priorities: Assists companies in focusing their resources on the most urgent human rights issues in their operations. The newly designed Arc identifies high-priority issues for each company, including a graphic representation of the company's human rights profile. This prioritization allows companies to monitor, prevent and mitigate the most urgent issues, as well as find opportunities for the greatest positive impact.

EVENTS

1. Responsibility to Respect Human Rights, the UN Protect-Respect-Remedy Framework and the Draft Guiding Principles (18 Feb, Webinar)

This 1 hour webinar will introduce the UN Protect-Respect-Remedy Framework for business and human rights and the Draft Guiding Principles, and will elaborate on their relevance for Global Compact, especially principles 1 and 2. There will be opportunities to ask questions and make comments.

EEG Joins Business and Human Rights Webinar

In line with the goal of enhancing the collective understanding about business and human rights, EEG participated in the Business and Human Rights Webinar on 24 January 2011. As EEG is actively engaged in building the capacity of companies by taking several pro-active initiatives to strengthen CSR in the Arab World, the participation in the webinar was also aimed at identifying opportunities to stimulate constructive discussion about the dilemmas that local and transnational companies may face in their efforts to respect and support human rights. The Webinar was hosted by the Geschäftsstelle Deutsches Global Compact Network (DGCN). The Global Compact Local Networks which presented their approaches include Bangladesh, Columbia, Germany, Spain and the Netherlands.

The Webinar was attended by more than 100 Organizations all over the world. The presentations about the initiatives of the aforementioned local networks in building case studies on the subject were followed by an open discussion. The EEG team made a query addressed to the UNGC about the types of support that the Global Compact provides to Organizations should they wish to engage in developing case studies on the subject. According to the UNGC, the Local Networks may express their interests in developing case studies for public dissemination and the UNGC will provide assistance in terms of Methodology and linkage with academic Institutions. The academic institutions will provide the human resources needed – such as experts and students - who will conduct the research and prepare the case studies.

The Business and Human Rights Forum has been developed in alignment with Principles 1 and 2 of the UNGC. Case studies are available about Business and Human Rights Dilemmas on child labor, corruption, ethnic minorities, forced labor, freedom of association, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and many other themes. Knowledge material is available for free and may be accessed through the UNGC website.

EEG EVENTS

- **Can Collection Day:** Don't throw your trash! Collect Aluminum Cans and be part of the Can Collection Day on 24 February 2011. Join the national campaign for a cleaner and greener environment.
- **Environmental Drawing Competition:** Good News!! EEG's Environmental Drawing Competition 2011 will open for participation to all the schools in the UAE.
- **Teachers Workshop:** In order to 'teach' the Teachers, EEG will be conducting its Annual Teachers Workshop in the month of March!

OTHER EVENTS

- **Gulf Research Center:** The second annual Gulf Research Meeting will take place from July 6 to 9, 2011 at the University of Cambridge in the UK. It is organized by the Gulf Research Center with the aim to provide an academic environment to foster Gulf studies and to encourage scholarly and academic exchange among those working on or interested in the developments that are defining the region. The Call for Papers for the 2011 meeting has been issued. For more information on the workshop, please visit <http://grcevent.net/cambridge2011/index.php>
- **Sustainable Urban Housing Online Competition:** Ashoka Changemakers is calling on entries for its online competition on the topic "**Sustainable Urban Housing: Collaborating For Liveable and Inclusive Cities**". This online competition has been launched to find the best solutions to integrate and develop affordable, inclusive and sustainable urban housing. The themes encouraged must be innovative and have a social impact and may be related to land rights and management, new technologies, transportation, financing, credit for the poor, standards of accessibility, work-life balance, health, public safety, environmental quality and citizen security. The three top entries submitted before February 11, 2011, will win a cash prize of \$10,000 each. Visit the competition at <http://www.changemakers.com/sustainableurbanhousing>
- **Call for Participation: The Sharjah Business Forum 2011**, organized by the Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will be held from the 27 to 28 February 2011, under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah. The first session of the Forum aims to attract businessmen from around the world to work and invest in Sharjah and find the most prominent and unique investment opportunities. For more information, contact yahya@sharjahbusinessforum.ae

MAIL BAG

- **HE Sheikha Jameela bent Mohammed Al Qasimi**, Director General of Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services sent to EEG: "We sincerely appreciate and commend your efforts, your noble interest in the environment and the adoption of environmental issues in our Country. We wish you luck and success in achieving all your environmental objectives"

EEG MEMBERS UPDATE

EEG warmly welcomed 12 new and 2 renewed Student & Individual members, 4 new and 1 renewed Academic institution's members, 1 new and 12 renewed Corporate members, and 1 renewed CSR and Associate member in the month of January 2011

School and Individual Members

Delia Mohammed El-Barrani	New	Abdul Rehman Bier Mohamed	New	Roudha Abdullah Mubarak	New
Christine Boissarie Keraval	New	Daivik Jawahar Malhotra	New	Haitham Ayman El Kadi	New
Islam Ayman El Kadi	New	Devika Burman	New	Fatma Jaffar Ali Karim	New
Salha Zayed Jamaan	New	Lohita Swaminathan	New	Ahmed Murad	New
Hanan Abdulla Abdulrahman al Ali	Renewal	Ehita Chhabra	Renewal		

Academic Members

JSS International School	New	New Arab Unity School	New	National Institute of Vocational Education	New
Al Farooq Pakistani Islamic School	New	Philadelphia Private School	Renewal		

Corporate Members

Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority	New	Towers Rotana Hotel Dubai	Renewal	Masafi Co. LLC	Renewal
Lucky Group	Renewal	Petrofac E & C International	Renewal	UAE Exchange Centre LLC	Renewal
Dutco Balfour Beatty LLC	Renewal	Tiger Profiles & Insulation LLC	Renewal	Al Safi Danone	Renewal
Beach Rotana Abu Dhabi	Renewal	ABB UAE	Renewal	Associated Construction & Investments Co. LLC	Renewal
Cooltech Energy Water Treatment LLC	Renewal				

Associate and CSR Members

Al Safi Danone	Renewal				
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NOT YET A MEMBER? SIGN UP TODAY!

EEG welcomes new members as part of our family. EEG is a professional working organization that provides volunteering opportunities for the community to engage in programs and activities to raise their environmental awareness and contribute to environmental protection.
 To know more about EEG: Call (+971) 4 344 8622 or Fax us at (+971) 4 344 8677/ Log on www.eeg-uae.org ; or e-mail us on eeg@emirates.net.ae

PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

The number of participants this **January 2011** has increased by 38.74% from January of 2010 with 302 participants to 419 **participants**. The collection of **January 2011** reached **105470 kg** which shows an **increase of 9%** in collection compared with December 2010 and a decrease of 14% compared to January 2010. Let's put more efforts to prevent trees from being cut and contribute in combating the effects of global warming. The Top collectors were:

Schools	Quantity (kg)	Companies	Qty (kg)	Individual	Quantity (kg)
Al Rashid Al Saleh School	1900	Menacom Group	6610	Haseena Badshah	415
Dubai Women's College	1690	Petrofac—Sharjah	4730	Anchal Chawla	399
Zayed University	1660	Al Ghurair Group	3820	Ursula Kennedy	346

CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

There were **43 participants** in the can collection campaign in January 2011 which shows an increase of 2% compared to January 2010. The collection of cans has **decreased by 15%** with total collections of **330 kg** compared to 387 kg during January 2010. The top three collectors were:

Schools	Quantity (kg)	Companies	Qty (kg)	Individual	Qty (kg)
Al Rabee Kindergarten	30	Dubai Supply Authority	45	Mohammed Ali Badshah	12
Dubai English Speaking school & American Academy for Girls	7	Al Naboodah Real Estate—Mirdiff	30	Zaheda Al Bastaki Khursheed Dumasia (Tie Up)	6
American School of Dubai	5	Microsoft Gulf FZ LLC	24	Satwik Das	4

GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

Recycling glass means conserving water and energy! EEG thanks the **52 participants** for collecting **24,560kg** for the month of **January 2011**, a **7% decrease** from January 2010 with 26,342kg collected from 42 participants. Compare to December 2010, the collection percentage has increased with 6%. Let's encourage more people to recycle this material. The top three collectors were:

Schools	Quantity (kg)	Companies	Qty (kg)	Individual	Qty (kg)
Al Rabee Kindergarten	60	Fairmont Hotel	11485	Mohammed Ali Badshah	210
American Academy for Girls	20	Park Hyatt	3810	Fatma Al Abedi	37
		Hyatt Regency	2795	Ahmed Mohammed Al Shamma	36

PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

We need to involve more people in our plastic recycling campaign. The collection of plastic for **January 2011** reached only **8552 Kgs** from **194 participants**, a **11% decrease** from **January 2010** involving 153 participants. January 2011 plastic collection has **decreased 17% compared to December 2010**. Let us put more efforts to recycle more plastic to keep them out of the landfills. Top collectors for the month were:

Schools	Quantity (kg)	Companies	Qty (kg)	Individual	Qty (kg)
Zayed University	170	British Petroleum—sharjah	480	Akbar Badshah	192
Al Rabee Kindergarten	122	Al Manzil & Qamaradeen Hotel	340	Abdullah Malallah	64
American Academy For Girls Latifa School for Girls (Tie Up)	80	The Club—AUH	320	Zaheda Al Bastaki	40

TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

A total of 802 pieces were collected from 27 participants in the month of January 2011, an increase of 43% from January 2010 with total collection on 563 pieces from 23 participants. Toner Collection for the month of January 2011 has also **increased** almost FOUR times compared to December 2010 with total collection of only 220 pieces during the month of December 2010. **Great Job!!!** Let's continue keeping those toxic chemicals and heavy metals out of our landfills to prevent possible pollution of our waste tables. The top Collectors for the month were:

Schools	(pieces)	Companies	(pieces)	Individual	(pieces)
Dubai Gem Private School	5	Mc Donald—Sharjah	246	Poorvangi Sikri	108
The Children's Garden	4	Hamriyah Free Zone—Sharjah	176	Dusha	20
		Al Maha Arjaan Rotana	44		

Thank you for your efforts!