



EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

EEG NEWSLETTER

Together for a Better Environment®

Drop Aluminium Cans on Saturday morning,
May 7th, 2011 at designated locations
all over the UAE

Arabia CSR Network is inviting entries to



4th Cycle

2011

www.arabiacsrawards.com



to read about EEG's recently concluded Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition please go to page 3

Join Can Collection Drive on
7th May 2011 and make a difference.

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Join EEG's recycling campaign

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 eeg@emirates.net.ae.

Editorial Team:
Priyanka Menon, Moayad Yacoub, Ruth Calder-Potts, Maria Reyes, Disha Dave, Jefferson Balisi



Habiba Al Mar'ashi

WELCOME TO THE MAY EDITION OF EEG'S NEWSLETTER!

Just as the summer months are approaching and heating up the nation, EEG, too, is heated up with ongoing campaigns as those coming up in the next few months! Of particular importance here is the Can Collection Drive, which will be held on the 7th of May, simultaneously in all the Emirates of the UAE. With a target of a whopping 25,000 kilograms of Aluminum Cans, EEG calls upon each and every one of you to participate with your family and friends and do your bit for the environment!

EEG's was honored to be a part of the prestigious Dubai Global Energy Forum, which was held in Dubai from the 17th to 19th of April, 2011. I was asked to give a presentation on the topic, "Working Together for Better Waste Management - Energy Challenges and Opportunities - A Sustainable Future" to an audience consisting of high-level delegates and industry professionals.

As is the case every year, EEG's Annual Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition blew us away once again! Every single team was wrought with fervour and each presentation was carefully executed with facts, knowledge and opinions. I truly believe that this generation has understood and accepted the urgency of the situation and is working towards finding solutions and concepts. Thus, I am very confident that some great environmental leaders and role models will soon emerge.

In the fourth month of the year, we organized our fourth Community Lecture on the topic, 'Waste Management in the UAE - Case Study of Bee'ah'. Presented by Mr. Jeremy Byatt, who leads the development of Bee'ah's Advisory Services and oversees the development of Bee'ah's research activities, the Lecture focused on the extent and issues of waste management in the UAE and in particular, in Sharjah.

This month has been exception for us in terms of our outreach programs - we participated in the activities of New Arab Unity School, Al Ain Men's College and Sharjah Women's College. We were approached by a group of housewives to present a lecture on the importance of recycling and we conducted tree planting events with the Accor Group of Hotels. Thus, it has given the EEG team great pleasure to meet all these wonderful students and adults who are so committed to make a change! We thank them for this and hope they continue their determined endeavor against climate change and global warming!

Also featuring heavily this month within the local news and other events in the UAE is the topic of 'sustainability'. With exhibitions, summits, networking events and award ceremonies all focusing on sustainable practices, it is becoming more and more exemplary to incorporate sustainability into the core of business objectives. With profound economic, social, and environmental benefits, sustainability and CSR practices are definitely on the increase and appear to be providing businesses a jump start out of the economic depression. I was honored to be a part of a number of Awards programs, conferences and seminar that focused on the issue of sustainability, good governance and other aspects of CSR.

A very important development in the Arabia CSR Network, our sister organization, is the launch of the Arabia CSR Awards on the 24th of April in the form of a Press Conference. A member of the Jury, Mr. Ralph Thurm, was on hand to explain the evolution of the questionnaire into a set of self-assessment statements, as well as winners from the 3rd Cycle, each of whom provided their own personal stories about how the Award helped them and more importantly, how they won! I call upon each of our Corporate Members as well as other organizations to participate and be among the leaders in the region to have their CSR initiatives recognised. We are not calling you on for mere participation but are cordially inviting you for a journey - a journey towards sustainability and success!

Thus, as always, I ask for your support and love. EEG would not have grown into this big, beautiful organization had it not been for your constant support. In summary, the past events EEG has been involved in this month, and the upcoming events, all involve people. One way or another, these people whether they are leaders, followers, participants or students will provide an action that will better the environment. From community lectures, to award ceremonies, to planting trees, these activities all require a commitment, action or decision from people; therefore it is no understatement to say that people really do hold the power to create the change needed for a better future.

Thank you!



STUDENTS OPINE ON BURNING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

EEG’s organized its eleventh cycle of the Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition at Knowledge Village on the 20th and 21st of April 2011. The event was the amalgamation of the best schools of the country coming together to debate and discuss environmental issues affecting them and their communities.

The eleventh cycle of the Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition enjoyed the participation of 70 teams from all the Emirates. 7 government schools took up the challenge to compete with the private schools on this platform, making it 10% of the total participation as compared to 18% participation last year. The event had 60% female speakers as compared to the boys.

The Inter School Public Speaking Competition is a bilingual event, giving Arabic and English speaking schools the equal opportunity to compete and put forth their views. The competition was divided into two categories - Sub Senior category and Senior category where students could present their research and audio-visuals in both languages.

Like every year, EEG was able to open in a highly distinguished Jury consisting of Dr. Majeda Khraisheh PhD, CEng, MChemE, Associate Prof, Dept of Chemical Engineering, College of Engineering, Qatar University in Doha; Dr. Hussain Dhaif, Associate Professor, Dean of Arts, Science & Education , Ahlia University, Bahrain; Dr. Hassan Darwish, Civil and Environmental Dept, UAE University, Al Ain and Eng. Moayad Yacoub, Senior Environmental Officer at the Emirates Environmental Group.

The winners of the eleventh Cycle of EEG’s Inter School Environmental Public Speaking Competition are:

- Mobile Phones: A Curse Or Boon?
Winner: Jaira Grace Balungcas from the United International Private School, Dubai
- Recycling - Does it really Matter?
Winner: Fartashiya Ashif Irshad from Al Salam Private School, Dubai
- Development Without Destruction: Is it Possible?
Winner: Esra Salah Abdelkarim from Al Salam Private School, Dubai
- GCC Countries - 25 years from now
Winner: Abdullah Omer Ahmed Al Muharmi from Hamza Bin Abdul Motallib High School, Abu Dhabi
- Overall Winners:
Overall Winner: United International Private School represented by Jaira Grace Balungcas
Overall 1st R. U: Al Salam Private School represented by Esra Salah Abdelkarim
Overall 2nd R.U: Dubai National School represented by Nadia Saada ALSouqi



This year, EEG was partnered by Al Safi Club for Friends of the Environment for the organization of the Intern School Public Speaking Competition. The event was also supported by Dubai International Academic City and Tamani Hotel Marina.

EEG PARTICIPATES IN THE DUBAI GLOBAL ENERGY FORUM

EEG was honored to participate in the prestigious Dubai Global Energy Forum, which is a high level forum with the objective is to provide a platform for energy leaders and experts to exchange views on emerging regional and global issues related to energy policies, programs, technologies and investment opportunities. It was organized by The Supreme Council of Energy and held from the 17th to 19th of April at the Dubai World Trade Center. EEG Chairperson, Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, gave a presentation to government officials, industry professionals, delegates and the media on the topic “Working Together for Better Waste Management - Energy Challenges and Opportunities - A Sustainable Future”. She provided a brief overview of EEG, how EEG is involved with sustainability and recycling as well as the social, economic and environmental benefits and challenges of Waste Management.

WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE UAE - CASE STUDY OF BEE’AH

On the 26th April 2010, EEG hosted its 4th community lecture for 2011 at the Emarat Atrium. The keynote speaker for the occasion was the highly esteemed Vice President of Bee’ah, Mr. Jeremy Byatt, who leads the development of Bee’ah’s Advisory Services and overseas the development of Bee’ah’s research activities. He spoke on the topic ‘Waste Management in the UAE - Case Study of Bee’ah, which provided attendees an eye-opening insight into the extent and issues of waste management in the UAE and in particular, in Sharjah.

Mr. Byatt told the audience about how today’s economy follows the linear approach (or cradle to grave option) where materials are sourced from the planet, utilized and discarded. The need for change has never been so pressing, and it was mentioned how we need to shift away from the wasteful and out of date linear model. Mr. Byatt’s captivating presentation continued with a selection of shocking and thought provoking photos of the landfill at Sharjah many years ago. It was stressed how creating waste is not only inefficient but also causes significant health issues for humans and a suit of environmental issues for nature.

A deeper insight into Bee’ahs operations, aims and objectives was shared with the audience and challenges associated with managing such a company were discussed. Mr. Byatt proudly spoke about how Bee’ah owns and manages the world’s 3rd largest material recovery facility and how this is contributing to sustainable waste management in the UAE by breaking the old linear economic model. The recovery plant separates and repackages materials so that they can be fed back into the ‘resource loop’ and used again, a sustainable concept commonly termed ‘cradle to cradle’.

The evening ended with Mrs. Al Marashi thanking Mr. Byatt for coming to participate in EEG’s Community Lecture programme and awarded him a crystal of appreciation. She also thanked the Emarat Atrium for providing the venue.



“RECYCLING INITIATIVE, START FOR A GROUP HOUSEWIVES IN SHARJAH”

EEG was approached by a group of housewives in Sharjah to present its recycling campaigns on the 14th of April 2011 in Sharjah University. Organized by the housewives, EEG presented practical ways of recycling at home and current recycling programs with an emphasis on Battery, Cans and Mobile Recycling. Ladies present also spoke about the 3Rs to the group and showed artwork made from recycled paper. Ajman Municipality discussed the issue of plastic wastes in the UAE and how it can be prevented.

TREE PLANTING WITH ACCOR GROUP OF HOTELS

A tree planting event was organized by the EEG in coordination with Accor Group of Hotels on the 20th of April as part of Accor's celebration of Earth Guest Day. A total of 130 trees were pledged by the hotel and were planted in National Charity School in Sharjah and New Arab Unity School in Dubai. Mr. Farid Ahmed, an honorary member, represented EEG in the event for Dubai while Ms. Maryam Yamani, an EEG member, participated in the event at the National Charity School in Sharjah. Involvement of students, teachers and staff of the Accor Group of Hotels has definitely taken another step in making the UAE a greener nation.



EEG PARTICIPATES IN CULTURAL CONVOY ORGANIZED BY MINISTRY OF YOUTH

EEG participated in the second cultural convoy of 2011 organized by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Community Development in the 'Al Taiba' and 'Al Khalibeyah' areas in the Emirate of Al Fujairah. Organized under the slogan "Our Society is a Trust", the convoy, held on 14th and 15th April, included 85 activities, in collaboration with more than 90 of the ministries and federal agencies and local and private organizations. Through its participation, EEG provided visitors with information about its objectives, activities and programs that focus on various environmental issues. The EEG stand was decorated with its publications such as the WastePaper magazine and posters of recycling, which were distributed to the visitors. In addition, EEG presented a lecture on waste recycling and its importance as an effective solution to the growing problem of waste in the country. EEG's participation is part of its endeavor to disseminate components of environmental education between the community and in particular young people.

EEG PARTICIPATES IN ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

EEG participated in the Raising Environmental Awareness held at the Al Baraha Hospital under the new initiative of the Ministry of Health. This initiative was implemented as part of the Federal Government's interest in preserving the environment as one of its main objectives, and its commitment to adopt it as a lifestyle. EEG presented a lecture to create awareness among participants of the seminar about the dangers of waste, which has become one of the most important environmental challenges in the UAE. The lecture also focused on demonstrating the environmental benefits of the enormous implications of the recycling process as well as providing examples of environmental and economic benefits. The seminar offered other environmental themes and topics that dealt with water and energy conservation and climate change.

CAMPUS NEWS

“CHANGING THE MINDSETS OF YOUNG STUDENTS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT “

EEG Chairperson, Ms. Habiba Al Marashi, gave a presentation to 60 students of the Sharjah Women's College as part of their Sustainability Awareness Campaign on the 13th of April 2011. Her presentation focused on the need to bring about change and the important of inculcating a positive mindset and fusing this with the important issue of sustainability. Mrs. Al Marashi also provided an overview of the various Waste Management Programmes of EEG while providing facts on wastes in the UAE.

EEG CONGRATULATES STUDENT MEMBER RAJ ARYAN

EEG would like to congratulate Raj Aryan from the Indian High School Dubai (Grade 4) for winning the prestigious Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Distinguished Academic Performance and also the Sharjah Award for Excellence in Education 2010-2011. We are proud of you, Raj!

EEG CONDUCTS WORKSHOP AT NEW ARAB UNITY SCHOOL

On the 17th of April, 2011, EEG conducted a Workshop for 10-15 year old students at the New Arab Unity School on the topic "Helping Mother Earth: Recycle to Help Lessen Wastes". As an introduction, children were shown videos on saving energy and recycling from Animal Planet, which gave them the basic knowledge as to why we need to recycle. EEG then gave students tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle at home and at school with activities that students can work on. Basic concepts were introduced regarding wastes, segregation and recycling.

EEG PARTICIPATES IN AL AIN MEN'S COLLEGE'S ANNUAL GREEN DAY

On the occasion of its Annual Green Day, the Al Ain Men's College invited EEG to be part of the celebration on the 19th of April 2011. Approximately 800 students participated in the event. A stand was set up to accommodate students with their queries about the various environment awareness campaigns and recycling initiatives of EEG. The EEG video, on the Importance of Aluminum Recycling, was also showcased to students to give them a clearer idea on the Can Collection Campaign of EEG.



LAUNCH OF THE 4TH CYCLE OF THE ARABIA CSR AWARDS

The fourth cycle of the Arabia CSR Awards was launched with a press conference on the 24th of April 2011 held at the prestigious Capital Club. Media members, delegates and potential participants gathered to listen to a panel of speakers consisting of Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, President Arabia CSR Network, Mr. Ralph Thurm, Member of Jury and representatives of last years' Award winners.

Since the inception, the Arabia CSR Awards have been and continue to be supported by the UN Global Compact, giving winners international recognition for their CSR best practices.

Mrs. Al Marashi kick started the Press Conference with the history and evolution of the Awards since 2008. She explained how the questionnaire of the Awards has undergone immense streamlining since the beginning and last year was fantastic with participation from 12 Arab countries! The 2010 Awards cycle had the highest registration of 80 applications, 62 of



which made it to the Judging panel.

"This year," Mrs. Al Marashi explained, "we have streamlined the entire process even more and you will find that the questionnaire is one that calls for self-assessment and not just a host of multiple choice questions. It is definitely a journey which we will be taking together - which is aptly captured in our theme for the year - "Together 4 an Arabian CSR Journey."

Mr. Ralph Thurm, member of the Jury and Director Sustainability Strategies and Innovation, Deloitte, Netherlands, provided a brief on how the Awards Program this year is different from any other Award of its kind.

"This is a completely new method of doing this as it gives companies the opportunity to benchmark as well as set internal targets for their organizations. As participants will now be able to directly work with the self assessment, they will see that they are also asked to score their level of maturity regarding each of the roundabout 80 statements."

Representatives of the winners of the Arabia CSR Awards 2010 were also present at the panel and gave an overview of what went into their award-winning entries and how the process had helped their organizations.

It is also worth mentioning that the submission process for the 4th Cycle of the Awards is completely paperless as every aspect of the process - questionnaire, judging and interaction during the interim period will be conducted online.

As mentioned before, participants will have to self-assess their applications and score themselves as well as provide appropriate evidence in the form of a sustainability report or a UNGC Communication on Progress. The Jury will then review the application and take into consideration the scores given by the participant and provide their own scores after careful review. This will then be once again sent back to the participant who will see the judges' scores and comments and try to convince the Jury through their written statements and examples from their sustainability reports. The last step would be the judges taking into account the comments of the participants and giving the final score.

Organizations interested in participation, may visit www.arabiacsrawards.com for further information and fill in the registration form. Arabia CSR Network staff will be on hand to answer questions and guide participants throughout the application process.



GRI UPDATES

In addition to exclusive OS online meetings that the GRI facilitates every month, they also conduct a number of live meetings.

1) OS Meeting: Germany 17 June

Plans are already in motion of the next iteration of GRI's Guidelines - G5. What will G4 look like? How will G4 address the much talked about concept of integrated reporting? This meeting will talk about the latest on GRI's plans for G4 directly from GRI's Technical Development Director, Lisa French, who will also facilitate an interactive session to gather feedback.

2) Defining Materiality Featuring Shell: The Netherlands, 23 June

When starting the reporting process, organizations are advised to consider the 4 report content principles of: materiality, stakeholder inclusiveness, sustainability context and completeness, to inform their reporting. With the launch of the G3.1 Guidelines on 23 March, a revised Technical Protocol, aimed at helping reporters apply these 4 report content principles, was also launched. This meeting will, thus, include a presentation by Shell on their process for defining materiality.

For more information, please email Letshani Ndlovu (OS Program Officer at ndlovu@globalreporting.org).



continued...

ALEXANDER KOSHI WINS AWARD

EEG is proud to announce that its member, Mr. Alexander Koshi, has been awarded the Global Alternate Fuel Personality Award for the year 2011. He presented a paper at the 5th Global Fuels Conference at Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia in April 2011. We congratulate him for his accolades and wish him all the success in the future too!



ABU DHABI DISTRIBUTION COMPANY COME ON BOARD AS EEG CORPORATE MEMBERS

EEG is delighted to come the Abu Dhabi Distribution Company (ADDC) on board as its newest Corporate members. EEG Chairperson, Mrs. Al Marashi, visited their office on the 27th of April to present to Engr. Abdulaziz Alhmaidi, ADDC Managing Director with the Certificate of Membership.

In turn, ADDC members gave her a presentation, which provided a brief their company's objectives, goals and history. The ADDC staff also expressed their enthusiasm in getting involved with EEG so much so that they asked for our planner to participate in all events and campaigns! Here's to wish a long a fruitful relationship between EEG and ADDC!

LOCAL NEWS

THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE MIDDLE EAST: PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABILITY

The first volume of the Middle East Institute (MEI) series on The Environment and the Middle East: Pathways o Sustainability is now available. These essays can be read online or downloaded in PDF format via the Middle East Institute home page: <http://www.mei.edu> or <http://www.mei.edu/Publications/WebPublications/Viewpoints/ViewpointsArchive/tabid/541/ctl/Detail/mid/1623/xmid/1783/xmfid/11/Default.aspx>

“RENEWABLE ENERGY MUST BE DOUBLED”

According to an article in the Gulf News, Richard Jones, Deputy Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, has said that though clean energy technology is making clear progress globally, achieving sustainable energy goals will require a doubling of all renewable energy use by 2020. He was speaking at the second Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM2) that opened in Abu Dhabi on the 6th of April 2011. He also remarked that as fossil fuels continue to outpace clean energy, there is a greater need for more aggressive clean energy policies, including removal of all fossil fuel subsidies and implementation of transparent and predictable incentives for more efficient and cleaner energy options.

DEWA SUCCESSFUL IN REDUCING CONSUMPTION RATES IN DUBAI!

As part of its efforts to reduce the consumption rate of electricity and water for individuals and institutions by the year 2020, DEWA was successful in saving 201646010 kW electricity and 1,038,430,405 gallons of water in different sectors, whether governmental, educational, residential or hotels in the year 2010.

Eng. Amal Koshak, Senior Manager - Demand and Tariff Management Department, said in an interview with Al-Khaleej newspaper that the rate of loss of electricity in the power distribution networks reached 3.34%.

DEWA was able to reduce water loss in distribution networks from 40% to 10%, which is less than a number of developed countries, such as Hong Kong, Sweden and the United States, Singapore, and European countries, as a result of strategic planning and proper control in networks. Eng. Koshak explained that Dubai has already seen a marked decline in the rate of consumption of individuals and enterprises in a number of sectors last year.

DEWA has also actively participated in and organized a number of local and international events such as Earth Hour and Water Day conference in Dubai. It has also come up with innovative programs aimed to reduce consumption, such as Saving Award for a Better Tomorrow 2010-2011, Ideal Consumer Prize 2011, 365 Campaign and other pilot initiatives.

INCREASED NUMBER OF VISITORS AT THE DESERT PARK IN 2010

Environment & Protected Areas Authority (EPAA) in Sharjah declared that it received a total of 332056 visitors at the Desert Park in the year 2010. The Desert Park consists of its centers including the animal center of the Arabian Peninsula, the Childrens' Farm, the Museum of Natural History and the Museum of Plants.

These statistics issued by the EPAA shows a remarkable increase as compared to previous years, which can be attributed to the increasing number of awareness events, workshops and activities undertaken at the Desert Park.

The EPAA is keen to organize more environmental activities such as workshops for schools and look forward to welcoming more visitors during events such as Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Fitr. They also expect a high participation on national events such as Union Day as well as local and global environmental events.



SMOKE AND MIRRORS:

A Critical Assessment of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility This report from FERN and Forest Peoples Programme analyses eight of the Readiness Preparedness Plans (RPPs) submitted to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and reviews current FCPF documents and policy debates. The review finds that rather than strengthening and implementing the Bank's safeguards, the FCPF has created a dense set of guidelines that appear to water down existing policies and obfuscate minimum standards.

<http://www.fern.org/sites/fern.org/files/Smokeandmirrors.pdf>

NEW FUNDING FOR THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

The long-term sustainability of nature's bounty in the Colombian Amazon has received a significant boost thanks to 3.1 million euros in new funding from the European Union. The project will improve livelihoods in the Colombian Amazon through the prevention of deforestation, forest conservation and sustainable use activities in protected areas, indigenous reserves and their buffer zones.

Over the course of the project, a number of achievements will be made including the conservation of important areas of natural forest, and strengthening indigenous governance among communities. The funding will also strengthen the provision of key ecosystem services, including food, freshwater, income generation and cultural and spiritual access. However, whilst the funding addresses some of the most critical actions, the total financial need to strengthen Colombia's National Protected Areas remains substantial. Financing protected areas is one of the brightest hopes we have for the future of the planet and humankind. They are cornerstones for biodiversity conservation and powerful tools for achieving multiple benefits to both the planet and human civilizations.

AFRICA'S RHINOS FACE WORST POACHING CRISIS IN DECADES

A recent article released from the IUCN has highlighted how organised crime syndicates have killed more than 800

African Rhinos in the past 3 years, just for their horns. The most serious poaching occurs

in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya. Africa's top rhino experts recently met to assess the status of rhinos across the continent and to identify strategies to combat the poaching crisis.

Although the population numbers of the white and black rhino are increasing the rise in poaching is causing great concern.

At the recent meeting, rhino experts urged greater cooperation between

wildlife investigators, police and prosecutors, and asked for magistrates and judges to be more sensitive to rhino issues. While the number of arrests has increased there is an urgent need for improved conviction rates and increased penalties for rhino-related crimes.



PROTECTING THE NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS.

The International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is becoming more and more widespread as a form of intellectual property protection for new plant varieties. However, it appears that few people know what this Convention is, and whether it is the most appropriate tool for today's global challenges. The Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) has released a new publication called 'Food, Biological Diversity and Intellectual Property: The role of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)', which includes an informed debate about the role of UPOV in the world and how it helps to ensure appropriate research into food and plant varieties.

Many Asian countries and other developing countries have not joined UPOV but there are pressures on them to do so - the study also aims to promote public debate in non-UPOV member countries, to ensure that ratification, if it occurs, serves a clear public policy purpose and is based on open, informed debate with a range of stakeholders.

The publication focuses on the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) due to the persistent concerns members have voiced about the lack of information and informed discussion about the UPOV system. This paper may be downloaded from: www.quno.org/economicissues/food-sustainability/foodLinks.htm#QUNOPUB

IUCN NEWS

CONSERVATION MADE CLEAR

The latest version of the popular IUCN Conservation Made Clear Newsletter has been published! It is a concise update from the world's largest community of environmental experts and this edition includes articles that highlight people's passion towards conservation. By reading the update you can take part in an online debate, access photo galleries, take a quiz to find out if you are an 'eco-warrior' or an 'eco-calamity' and browse an interesting 'fact-finder' section. The online version can be viewed by following the following link: http://www.iucn.org/knowledge/news/newsletters/cmc/april_11.cfm?utm_campaign=1107522740&utm_content=1007533157399&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Emailvision

REGIONAL CONSERVATION FORA

The Regional Conservation Fora, taking Place between May-October 2011, will provide Members, Commissions and the Secretariat with an opportunity to meet and prepare for the next World Conservation Congress (Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6-15 September 2012).

The agendas of the Regional Fora will include consultation on the IUCN Programme 2013-2016 and on the changes proposed to the governance of the Union from the IUNC Council, as well as training sessions on all aspects of the Congress to ensure members are well prepared to exercise their rights and to get the most out of the experience.

2012 WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS

Stay up to date with developments on the [Congress web pages](#)

> [More information: Congress logo and theme](#)

IUCN expert Commissions

Latest Commission newsletters/reports:

> [Commission on Ecosystem Management \(CEM\)](#)

> [World Commission on Protected Areas \(WCPA\)](#)

> [Join a Commission](#)

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WORLD CONSERVATION DEBATE APRIL 2011-NATURE TO DIE FOR?

HABIBA AL MARASHI EMIRATES ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP UNITED EFFORTS ARE NEEDED!

International efforts to stop environmental crime must step up a gear. United approaches and collaborative efforts will help to combat some of these issues, but we need strong political and social leaders to uphold the policies and guidelines set by international bodies like the IUCN. There are so many passionate people out there risking everything for conservation, it's time that everybody and every nation supported their efforts wholeheartedly.

NEWS & UPDATES

1. More than 160 CEOs Support Women's Empowerment Principles Declaring that gender equality in the private sector is "good for business", 167 chief executives from around the world have signed the Women's Empowerment Principles—Equality Means Business. UN Women and the Global Compact released the list of executives at the Equality Means Business: Putting Principles into Practice conference (9 March, New York), which marked the first anniversary of the launch of the principles. [More](#). [View list of CEO signatories](#).

2. Local Network News and Updates:

• Launch of Local Network Exchange Programme

The Global Compact and the Spanish Local Network launched the Local Network Exchange Programme (8 March, Madrid) convening contact persons representing Local Networks in Zimbabwe, Belgium, Egypt, the Dominican Republic and Mexico. The Exchange Programme seeks to foster collaboration among Local Networks by providing an opportunity to share experiences and identify best practices across regional boundaries. [More](#).

• Networks Launch Series Addressing Business and Peace

The first in a series of Local Network meetings on business and peace (1 March, Berlin) underscored the increasing importance attributed to the joint Global Compact - PRI publication for investors and companies on "Responsible Business in Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas". Additional events are planned throughout 2011 in a variety of Local Networks. [More](#).

3. Participant Status: New Signatories, COPs and Delistings

In March, 145 companies and 54 non-business stakeholders joined the Global Compact. 150 companies were delisted for failing to communicate on progress. The largest companies (by employee number) to join during the month were: HNA Group Company Limited (China), Danish Crown (Denmark), Posten Norge AS (Norway), Teijin Limited (Japan) and Auchan Polska (Poland).

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Join Caring for Climate

Caring for Climate (C4C) is a global business leadership platform on climate change jointly convened by the Global Compact and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). Through C4C, companies advance and showcase climate-change policies and solutions and contribute to key governmental deliberations, especially linked to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June 2012 which will set the sustainability agenda for the next decade. Supported by 400 companies in 65 countries, C4C is open to all Global Compact participants. [More information](#).

2. More Opportunities: Children's Rights and Business Principles, Addressing Corruption

Many of the engagement opportunities announced in past issues of the Bulletin are still active. [View the full list of Engagement Opportunities](#)

FEATURED RESOURCES

1. Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights: Seeks to provide an authoritative global standard for preventing and addressing the risk of adverse human rights impacts linked to business activity. The Principles are the product of six years of research and extensive consultations led by the Special Representative for Business and Human Rights, involving governments, companies, business associations, civil society, affected individuals and groups, investors and others around the world. [More information](#). [Download](#).

EVENTS

1. UN Global Compact Week (16-20 May, Copenhagen)

- INVITATION ONLY - UN Global Compact Week will convene practitioners who are engaged in the initiative's working groups, issue platforms and Local Networks. The Week will feature the Global Compact Annual Meeting, the Annual Local Networks Forum and a variety of issue-specific meetings. This global gathering of the most active companies and organizations is designed for working-level representatives to share experiences across issues and countries.

For more information and detailed schedule of events, please see the event website or contact@unglobalcompact.org.

2. Principles for Responsible Management Education Summit (7-8 June, Brussels)

- OPEN INVITATION - Held under the theme of Partnership in Responsibility: Embedding PRME in Support of the Corporation of the 21st Century, the PRME Summit will foster dialogue between business, business schools and other stakeholders around responsible business challenges, needs and innovative business practices. It will provide a platform for educational institutions to interact, as well as address corporate expectations on management education/development.

For more information contact Ms. Lisle Ferreira, Manager, PRME Secretariat ferreira@unglobalcompact.org. [Register for the event](#).

TOTAL FIGURES AS OF 31 MARCH:

- **BUSINESS PARTICIPANTS: 6,111**
- **NON-BUSINESS PARTICIPANTS: 2,600**
- **COPS RECEIVED: 10,788**
- **DELISTED BUSINESS PARTICIPANTS: 2,262**

UNGC NEWS

EEG HOSTS FIRST STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT LOCAL NETWORK FOR GCC STATES

On the 3rd of April, 2011, EEG hosted the first Steering Committee of the year for the UN Global Compact Local Network for GCC States. The meeting was attended by 4 members as Mrs. Al Marashi provided a brief of the Local Network and its activities.

She also focused on the role of the Steering Committee in the Local Network, which included providing policy and strategic guidance in the development of the Network, providing inputs on the annual work plan, reviewing strategy and outline new development and sharing information with other Local Networks about GC-related activities.

EEG is also delighted to represent the UN Global Compact Local Network for GCC States during the Annual Local Network Forum in Copenhagen in May.



UPCOMING EVENTS

UPDATES

MAIL BAG

EEG EVENTS

CAN COLLECTION DRIVE

Drop Aluminium Cans on Saturday morning, May 7th, 2011 at designated locations all over the UAE
For more information or to register, visit us at www.eeg-uae.org or call 04 344 8622, fax 04 344 8677
Email: eeg@emirates.net.ae, join as at facebook.com/eeg.uae

5TH COMMUNITY LECTURE FOR 2011

EEG will be organizing its fifth community lecture for the year 2011 on the 31st of may, speaker Mr. Doug Cook

OTHER EVENTS

ARABIA CSR AWARDS CLINIC

The Arabia CSR network will be organizing specialized clinic for all registered participants of the 4th cycle of the Arabia CSR Awards on the 26 of june 2011



EEG BIDS FAREWELL

After more than three years and umpteen educational programs, EEG would like to take this opportunity to bid Mrs. Sabiha Sheikh, EEG's Educational Coordinator, adieu! Her contribution to EEG will never be forgotten and we can only wish her the best of luck for a bright and prosperous future. We thank her for all the work and dedication and hope to see her back to EEG as an environment-lover for each of our programs.

This month, we also bid farewell to Ms. Hazel Alfon, a Fellow from the PhilRice Institute in the Philippines. Ms. Alfon was with us for over 6 months and we are happy to say that we were able to capacitate her with the skills and knowledge she will cherish for life. We, too, are thankful for all the value she added to EEG and its programs. Thank you once again and we will miss you!



CHRISTOPHER CROWLEY, REPTON SCHOOL, DUBAI:

"Thank you for much for an excellent day at the EEG Public Speaking Competition at Knowledge Village yesterday. It was an expertly organized event with super facilities, first-class food and refreshments and an extremely welcoming atmosphere. Our pupils absolutely enjoyed the day, learned a great deal and came away with the fondest of memories."

EEG MEMBERS UPDATE

EEG warmly welcomed 9 new and 9 renewed Student and Individual members, 2 new and 3 renewed Corporate members, in the month of March 2011

INDIVIDUAL AND STUDENT MEMBERS

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------------|-----|
| Michel Zabe | Renewal | Ruben Simon Roy | Renewal | Fatma Saeed Al Roken | New |
| Divya Jethwani | Renewal | Rose Ann Roy | Renewal | Sidak Hanspal | New |
| Pooja Vinod | Renewal | Shalini Juliana Shashi | Renewal | Devesh S. Chandwani | New |
| Aadya Sharma | Renewal | Priyanka Sridhar | New | Alreem Essa Bin Ali | New |
| Raj Aryan | Renewal | Kunal S. Wadehra | New | Anirudha Sadasivan | New |
| Armaan Patel | Renewal | Eshan Patel | New | Stacey Allison Sasi N. | New |

CORPORATE MEMBERS

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------------------|-----|--|--|
| Acciona Agua | Renewal | Abu Dhabi Distribution Company | New | | |
| Citibank | Renewal | Unique Metal Technologies | New | | |
| Det Norske Veritas | Renewal | | | | |

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 email us on eeg@emirates.net.ae

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

PAPER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

EEG thanks the **432 participants** for collecting **95,868 kg** of paper during **April 2011**, a decrease of **11%** compared to **March 2011**. The collection has also **decreased by 20%** compared to **April 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 | Quantity (kg) | Individual | Quantity (kg) |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| Dubai Women's College | 1720 | ABB Industries | 6710 | Alia Yusuf Ahmed | 1400 |
| Zayed University | 1350 | Petrofac-Sharjah | 5710 | Simran Vedvyas | 876 |
| Etisalat Academy | 1180 | Total Total Abu Al Bukhoosh | 1590 | Divya Jethwani | 720 |

CAN COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

There were **31 participants** in the can collection campaign in **April 2011**, which shows a decrease of **18%** in participants compared to **April 2010** and the quantity collected has also been decreased by **28 %** compared to **April 2010**. On the other hand, the collection of cans has increased by **80 %** with total collections of **461 kg** compared to the collection of **March 2011**. Let us put more efforts to recycle more aluminum cans to keep them out of the landfills. Don't forget to encourage your friends and neighbors to join our **Can Collection Day on 7th of May** and boost next month's collection! Top collectors for the month of April were:

| Schools | Quantity (kg) | Companies | Quantity (kg) | Individual | Quantity (kg) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Al Ain English Speaking School | 65 | The Taste Department | 19 | Mohammed Ali Badshah | 21 |
| Al Diyafah High School | 60 | Jebel Ali Golf Resort and Spa and Wasl-Barsha (Tie up) | 15 | Khursheed Dumasia | 11 |
| Gulf Indian High School | 28 | HSBC-DIC | 12 | Hassain Amin | 10 |

GLASS COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

Recycling glass means conserving water and energy! EEG thanks the **49 participants** for collecting **26,362 kg** for the month of **April 2011**, a **4%** decrease from **March 2010**, while it shows an increase by **5%** compared to **March 2011**. Let's encourage more people to recycle this material. The top collectors for the month of April were:

| Schools | Quantity (kg) | Companies | Quantity (kg) | Individual | Quantity (kg) |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Dubai English Speaking School | 230 | Fairmont Hotel | 11255 | Mohammed Ali Badshah | 368 |
| Al Rabee Kindergarten | 80 | Park Hyatt | 4865 | Rayan Khalid Hamad | 64 |
| Al Raha International School-AUH | 21 | Hyatt Regency | 2860 | Oreen Vase | 30 |

PLASTIC COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

The collection of plastic for **April 2011** reached **8244 kg** from **128 participants**, a **37 %** decrease from **April 2010**, and almost no change in quantity compared to **March 2011**. Let us put more efforts to recycle more plastic to keep them out of landfills. Top collectors for the month were:

| Schools | Quantity (kg) | Companies | Quantity (kg) | Individual | Quantity (kg) |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| Liwa International School | 175 | Emirates Golf Club | 660 | Akbar Badshah | 254 |
| Fujairah Private Academy | 140 | Khadamat-Al Ain | 480 | Abdullah Malalla | 95 |
| Al Rabee Kindergarten | 135 | Creek Golf Club | 290 | Maryam Malalla | 60 |

TONER COLLECTION CAMPAIGN

A total of **1026 pieces** were collected from **28 participants** during the month of **April 2011**, an increase of **5 %** from **April 2010**, it also shows a massive increase of **145 %** compared to the collection of **March 2011**. GREAT JOB !!! Let's continue to keep those toxic chemicals out of our landfills to prevent possible pollution of our aquifers. The top Collectors for the month of April were:

| Schools | pcs. | Companies | pcs. | Individual | pcs. |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| The Petroleum Institute | 620 | Dutco Balfour | 60 | Rayan Khalid Hammas | 25 |
| Dubai Men's College | 62 | MPH Consulting Services | 40 | Mukul Anand Janraj | 17 |
| Jumeirah Primary School | 38 | One to One Hotel | 32 | Aswin Ramaswamy | 15 |

BATTERIES, TETRAPAK AND MOBILE CAMPAIGNS

Among the special projects that EEG is implementing includes the recycling and collection of 3 different waste stream - Mobile, Tetra Pak and Battery. A total of **17 mobile phones** were collected for the month of **April** by **2** participating organizations. With the participation of **4 corporate members**, **2 Schools** and **4 Individual members**, a total of **207 kgs** of tetra-pak were collected. A total of **168 kgs** of batteries were collected by **8 participants** to the Battery Collection campaign.

Thank you for your efforts!