



QUOTE OF THE EDITION:

"We highly appreciate and value the role of women, their leadership, and their outstanding contributions to the nation and community service in various fields."

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan – Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

Inside SCI

**Sustainable Campus Initiative
Newsletter**
Ensuring Sustainable Footprint!

Opening note: Let's protect our marine life and coral reefs

Have you ever wondered what's the importance of coral reefs? Learn about coral reefs this summer!

Coral reefs are incredibly important for biodiversity. They serve as habitats and a source of food for marine life including crabs, oysters and fish. They are also special because they filter pollution, sand and sediments. Coral reefs are found in tropical and semi-tropical shallow waters while different species are found in the Arctic region!

Richly diverse coral reefs are found in Abu Dhabi covering 350 *km*². The coral reefs in this region are unique because they are more heat tolerant than any other corals on the planet, living in 36 degrees Celsius or higher during the summer. However, coral reefs are largely at risk due to natural stressors and climate change accelerated by human-triggers like urban activity.

Annually, a coral health monitoring and assessment programme is conducted to check on the status of coral communities in Abu Dhabi's coastal waters.

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed, the Ruler's Representative in Al Dhafra Region and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) said, "Despite the harsh environmental conditions for coral reefs here in the Arabian Gulf, they are able to adapt and provide habitats for a variety of marine species in the region. They are highly resilient, which enabled them to adapt to the highest temperatures in the world in an unusual way, distinguishing it from other types of coral reefs."

To learn more about Abu Dhabi's efforts to conserve corals, visit: [Link](#)

Let's spread the word about coral reefs to inspire awareness and action against climate change!

Stay safe,
SCI team



Sponsors Welcome:

Borouge, a joint venture between Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and Austria-based Borealis, is a leading contributor to innovative plastic solutions for various industries. Borouge endorses the protection of human wellbeing, resource optimisation, and knowledge building to support new opportunities among community members.

As a provider of plastic and chemical products, Borouge commits to sustainability principles and proactively addresses environmental issues, such as water sanitation and the safe management of chemicals. In alignment with the vision of Borouge to positively impact society today and tomorrow, we have partnered with SCI for over five years to build leadership capacity among the youth.

“At Borouge we are proud of our commitment to sustainability in everything we do. Through our long-standing engagement with Sustainable Campus Initiative (SCI) we inspire today's youth to understand and adopt sustainability principles to protect our precious environment and empower our community,” said Maitha Al Marashi, VP Sustainability, Borouge.



Eco Pedestal

University students collaborate over Korean-UAE cultural dialogue to learn about environmental strengths

This month's Eco Pedestal highlights the winners of the Korea-UAE Green Culture Exchange Online Quiz Contest, held during the 2020-2021 Korean – UAE cultural dialogue organised by Daejayeon to understand environmental challenges and strengths between the UAE and Korea. The environmental conservationist students from the UAE, Sravani Tenneti, from Manipal Academy of Higher Education Dubai, received second place, and Mahrah Abdul Rehman Juma, from UAE University, was awarded third place. Congratulations to both winners on this feat!



University of Sharjah build a Sustainable Garden

The University of Sharjah (UoS) has earned their position in this month's Eco Pedestal for their Sustainability Gardens project, a community garden established in 2018 to increase green spaces and reduce carbon emissions, while providing an educational opportunity for students. Sustainability is at the core of the garden project with the production of organic compost from leftover vegetable peels, tea bags, fallen plants and shrubs, leaves, paperboards, and bird remains. All UoS stakeholders (students, staff and faculty members) are encouraged to drop off their organic waste to convert to compost. The garden produces an impressive 115kg of crops, 1 ton of organic compost and recycles 1.1 tons of organic waste while restoring soil fertility. In addition, the garden was developed with reusable materials, three solar panels and saved water usage by 30% using HDPE liners.



SCI in Action

Environmental footprint or carbon footprint, have you made your choice?

The SCI team invited Mona Al Alawi, President of the Bahrain Women's Association for Human Development to deliver an Environmental Youth Talk on making mindful daily lifestyle choices to reduce one's carbon footprint. Human activities such as heavy energy consumption have contributed to the release of greenhouse gases resulting in changes to the Earth's atmosphere. The talk highlighted the importance for change to start with small personal actions to reduce consumption.

Taking small steps to reduce your footprint can help offset carbon emissions which affect the atmosphere, weather and nature. One example shared during the talk was of the Amazon rainforest, which due to human activity, has become a natural carbon emitter and sink simultaneously. Over 35 participants had the chance to learn more about reducing carbon footprint in their daily lives and on the proactive small actions they can take. Thank you to all the contributors for the success of this informative session!





Eco Watch



Durability and Single use materials 18th August 2021, 3:30 - 4:30pm on Zoom

Language: English

Join us for a talk with Zeina Al Hashimi, nature lover, passionate environmentalist and sustainability specialist who will share her knowledge on sustainability and single use items. Zeina will share her story of embarking on a sustainable lifestyle and what she does to encourage people to start their environmental journey. The talk will cover the UAE's significant contributions to exceed its Sustainable Development Goals in environmental conservation and sustainable development.



Green Space

Are you an Emirati young lady working on an environmental project? Let us celebrate you and your accomplishments by sending us your photo and work!

Please email sustainablecampus@ead.gov.ae with your details.

To mark International Youth Day, we encourage all youth to share with us your celebrations of this day and tell us more about your commitment to environmental conservation. Share your story to inspire others!

Check out this month's important days!

- International Youth Day – 12th August
- Emirati Women's Day – 28th August
- International Whale Shark Day – 30th August

Connect with SCI

Join our network and stay updated with all things sustainable at:

- Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/greenyouthmajlis/about/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Sustainable-Campus-Initiative-100339758483754/>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/sustainablecampusae/>
<https://www.instagram.com/greenyouthmajlis/?hl=en>

And follow our movement through our hashtags
#SustainableCampus #UAEYouth!



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