



Inside SCI

Sustainable Campus Initiative Newsletter

Ensuring Sustainable Footprint!

QUOTE OF THE EDITION:

"50 years ago, the environmental efforts of the United Arab Emirates began with a vision and wisdom of the country's founder, the late sheikh Zayed bin sultan Al Nahyan. His vision extended well beyond the immediate horizon at the time and still guides us now and at the future."

— His highness sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan – Ruler Representative in Al Dhafra region, Chairmen of the board of directors at the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi.

Opening note:

Few years ago, a team from the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi inaugurated research, surveys, and analysis to examine the effect of single use plastic products on the marine environment.

Local and international studies listed the following 16 marine litter abundant in the beaches and marine environment:

Plastic bags, cups and lids, cutlery, plates, straws, stirrers, food containers, plastic bottles, cotton buds, crisp packets, sweet wrappers, cigarette butts, wet wipes and sanitary items, sticks for balloons, balloons, and microbeads (including nurdles).

11 billion plastic bags are used in the UAE, which is equivalent to around 1,182 bags used yearly/per person.

More than 600 species have been listed endangered due to this issue.

In line with the efforts to cut down the use of the listed products, Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi released Single use plastic policy banning oxo-degradable single use plastic bags less than 50 microns, introducing fees to some of the listed products, takeout items including (cutlery, wet wipes, wrappers...etc)

Do your part to spread the word.

*Stay safe,
Sustainable Campus Initiative Team.*

Eco Pedestal

Addressing Critical Environmental Issues using UAE's resources

United Arab Emirates students and faculty develop cutlery that can be replaced by single use plastic cutlery.

Noran Mousa and Sabeera Haris, PhD scholars at the University's College of Engineering; Emmanuel Galiwango, PhD graduate; under the supervision of Prof. Ali Al-Marzouqi and Prof. Basim Abu-Jdayil in the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, and industrial partner, Yousuf L. Caires. from United Arab Emirates University develop innovative solution replacing single use plastic items to biodegradable organic cutlery from the 40 million date palm trees spread across the UAE.

The students said; "We thought about the dangerous problem we are facing relating to using single use plastics because they take thousands of years to

degrade and they are dumped in the ocean".

They added: "They are the main source of air and soil pollution, so we wanted to produce biodegradable and green cutlery."

The product was made with continuous sideline support to find optimal formulation of sustainable cutlery. With continuous tests, the team was able to successfully produce Palmade forks, knives, spoons and stirrers by grinding date palm leaves and mixing them with polylactic acid, before developing the biodegradable cutlery aiming to replace single use plastics.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Congratulations on your efforts UAEU students!

SCI in Action

Sustainability Action Project

SCI team is currently gathering Sustainability Action Projects from participating universities,.

Please note that the deadline for submitting your college/university project is **17th June 2022**.

Good luck to all.

Eco Watch



Sustainability and ready-made clothing factory

June 22, 2022, at 03:00pm – 04:00 pm

Location: ZOOM

Are curious to know details about sustainable fashion industry?
Do you know that sustainability is included in various ways in ready-made clothing factories like the use of single use plastic bottles to make fabric and reduce waste and the use of organic fabrics that don't contain petroleum products. Join us to find out more about sustainable fashion.

Click [here](#) to register

Interview with a Leader

المجلس GREEN
للشباب YOUTH
MAJLIS

Interview with Ahmed Baharoon Executive Director
Environmental Information, Science & Outreach Management – Environment
Agency – Abu Dhabi

Kindly contact us through our Email to get more information about the
upcoming interview. sustainablecampus@ead.gov.ae



Environmental Occasions

World Sea Turtle Day – 16th of June
World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought – 17th of June
Shark Awareness Day – 14th of July

Green Space:

Would you like to know more about the single use plastic policy?

Book your roadshow by sending us an email at sustainablecampus@ead.gov.ae

Connect with SCI

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

- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/sustainablecampusae/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Sustainable-Campus-Initiative-100339758483754/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SCITweetss>



An Initiative by:

