



## QUOTE OF THE EDITION:

"We have to strike a balance of responsibility between our duty to update other sources of energy, protecting our environment, and ensuring a proper legacy for our next generation."

– 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:

### Ramadan Greetings

Ramadan is an opportunity to disconnect from daily routines, and aspire to a healthier lifestyle, mentally, spiritually, and physically. Ramadan is relevant to sustainability in main ways, from reducing food portions, donating to the less fortunate, and even community outreach for important causes. Ramadan is also a time to practice self-discipline by taking on actions you wouldn't have otherwise started, similarly, the environment needs willpower and dedication. Like reducing screen time, rationalizing resources, and choosing local products to support businesses.

Fasting is not only about refraining from food and drinks, but it is also important to utilize this time for doing good, for the environment, yourself, and your community.

Need some tips to get you started this Ramadan? We've got you covered!

Here are few untraditional tips for giving back sustainably:

1. Reduce screen time and disconnect any unused appliances
2. Avoid unnecessary shopping by buying only what you need
3. Be considerate to other living creatures and avoid harming organisms or the environment
4. Reduce your food portions and transform leftovers
5. Join an environmental initiative like SCI

Have a Blessed Ramadan, and Eid Mubarak!  
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

With every new month, we recognize environmental champions in our community who have shown exceptional efforts towards sustainability. This month's Eco Pedestal goes to New York University – Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) and American University of Sharjah (AUS) for the launch of Higher Education Climate Dialogues on April 11-12, 2021.

The youth-led discussion created a space for students, educators, and strategic stakeholders to exchange environmental best practices in aims to inspire more ambitious environmental efforts across UAE universities.

The dialogue featured efforts to promote sustainability during the pandemic, energy transition, and the role of attachment in promoting environmental behavior.

Various guest speakers also attended the discussion, such as the Ministry of Climate Change and the Environment, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development, and Masdar.

For more information:

<https://wp.nyu.edu/abudhabi-hecd/conference/>

## SCI in Action

### An Hour with Alia Al Blooshi

The Sustainable Campus Initiative (SCI) Team hosted an Environmental Youth Talk on April 22nd featuring Environmental Activist, Alia Al Blooshi, who shared her journey towards zero-waste living and 100 students. Alia took on the new lifestyle 3 years ago after seeing single-use plastic consumption and decided to alter her lifestyle for her health and the environment. Alia said, “an important aspect of starting a lower footprint lifestyle is cutting single-use plastic bottles and using reusable bottles”.

She explained how minimal and easy changes like these can result into significant impacts on waste generation. The participants exchanged questions and ideas about waste-free living, composting, and small daily actions to start when beginning an environmental journey.



**Zero  
waste**



# SCI in Action

## Bag of Gratitude Workshop

In early April, Green Youth Majlis (GYM) and Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination (ZHO) partnered for virtual workshops to create handmade gifts by upcycled material.

15 GYM members and People of Determination learned the basics of sewing in a four-day Zoom workshop with Christine Wilson, CEO of Peahead, in English and Abdullah Al Kamzari, Rehabilitation instructor from ZHO, who conducted the Arabic workshop.

The customized bags created were then gifted to students from Liwa School, to display the importance of reusing discarded materials.

Abdullah Al Kamzari explained that the workshop was an easy to complete for all participants and they were proud to finish the task using the materials, like rivets, glue, decorative items.

Nithila Adlin Thangaraj, GYM Member, mentioned how fun and interactive the workshop was and for spreading enthusiastic and positive energy during Ramadan in a beautiful initiative!

## SCI Roadshow at Manipal Academy of Higher Education

As a part of Sustainable Campus Initiative's ongoing efforts to engage with university students, the SCI outreach team conducted a virtual roadshow with Manipal Academy of Higher Education in Dubai with the environmental club, Manipal Environment Conservation Society.

63 educators and students joined the interactive talk discussing the pillars of SCI and participation opportunities related to environmental education and sustainability best practices. Dr. Bhakti Moore, Deputy Chairperson & Associate Professor – School of Design & Architecture, explained the importance of joining environmental initiatives, such as SCI as it presents countless education and volunteering opportunities for students, allowing them to pioneer environmental change in their surrounding community.



# Eco Watch



## SCI Phase 3 Workshop

*May 30, 2021, at 1:00 – 2:30 pm on Zoom*

As part of our efforts to ease and enhance engagement in the Sustainable Campus Initiative and reach out to a bigger number of universities, educators, students, and stakeholders participating as well as actively working with SCI Team, we are working on “SCI Phase 3”, to develop SCI’s components and opportunities acquired join us to have a say in SCI phase 3 , your valuable opinions will help us further enhance and develop the initiative.



## Green Space

Hello May!

There are many opportunities to celebrate the planet and take part in environmental occasions. Check out the upcoming days below and don’t hesitate to share your input on social media or via email, we look forward to seeing all your environmental efforts!

- **May 8 - International Migratory Bird Day**
- **May 21 - Endangered Species Day**
- **May 22 - International day for biological diversity**

# 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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