



جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

SDG #13: CLIMATE ACTION



CONTENTS

13.1 Low Carbon Energy Use	3
Calculation of Carbon Footprint	3
Key Performance Indicators at Ajman University.....	4
Future Plans:.....	5
13.3 Environmental Education Measures	6
13.3.1 Educational Programs or Campaigns on Climate Change	6
Empowering the Community for a Sustainable Future: Climate Change Training Courses.....	6
Access to Learning Resources for FREE	7
Campaigns and Events on Climate Change at Ajman University:.....	7
13.3.2 University Climate Action Plan.....	12
AU Timeline on Goals Achievement:	13
Long-term Objectives:	14
Carbon Emissions Reduction	14
Climate Data Sharing with Community Groups.....	15
"Race to Zero" Universities and Colleges	15
Environment Center for Arab Towns (ECAT)	16
Emirates Environmental Group (EEG)	16
Emirates Green Building Council	16
COP27 Participation by AU representative	17
13.3.3 Co-operative Planning for Climate Change Challenges	18
Participating in the UAE National Adaptation Plan Consultation Process	18
Greening Education Partnership with UNESCO.....	20
Partnering with Higher Education Sustainability Initiative.....	20
Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Centre	21
13.3.4 Support Government in Climate Change	22
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi.....	22
Events to support Climate Change Initiatives by UAE government organizations.....	23
MOU with Municipality and Planning Department of UAE.....	24
13.3.5 Collaboration with NGOs	25
Emirates Environmental Group (EEG)	25
Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC)	25
UN Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI).....	26

13.1 Low Carbon Energy Use

Ajman University's Climate & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030 highlights its commitment to drive climate action goals in line with the UAE Green Agenda, Net Zero by 2050 Strategy, the National Climate Change Plan of the UAE 2017–2050, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Universities from various parts of the world have shown their willingness to become carbon-neutral in the future. Ajman University has accomplished important milestones in recent years, and we firmly believe in the University's dream team that can achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 and net zero by 2050. That will be an exponential achievement in our contribution to the national and global efforts to tackle climate change. Climate action is a collective action that involves all members of Ajman University. You have a chance to be part of the driving force that will reshape our future, ensure Sustainability and resilience, and preserve our environment and earth for future generations.

<https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-carbon-emissions-reduction>

The AU Climate and Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030 is a practical guide on how the University will deliver key climate commitments, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting a carbon-neutral campus, reducing energy consumption, investing in energy optimization solutions and renewable energy, exploring new ways to decrease direct and indirect CO₂ emissions, minimizing the environmental impact rating of the University activities and processes, and creating awareness on taking action for climate change. The strategy considers how to achieve resilience to the impacts of climate change across University operations and supports a smooth and fair transition to a low and eventually zero carbon future.

AU strategy on Climate and Sustainability, adopted in the year 2022, can be accessed at: https://www.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_Climate_Sustainability_Strategy_Document_2022_2030.pdf

Calculation of Carbon Footprint

After identifying all the activities and processes that generate GHG, including CO₂ and its related gases from emission sources 1, 2, and 3, the carbon footprint of Ajman University has been calculated using 2020 as the base year.

Ajman University has applied the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG PROTOCOL) to report emission sources. The GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard provides requirements and guidance for companies and organizations preparing a GHG emissions inventory. The GHG Protocol is the internationally recognized standard for greenhouse gas accounting on the corporate level. It was developed by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). Gases that trap atmospheric heat are called greenhouse gases (GHGs). Since these gases get trapped in the atmospheric layer instead of being released into space, they cause global warming.

The report on GHG Emissions by Ajman University, as conducted and reported by Axosomatic, can be accessed at:

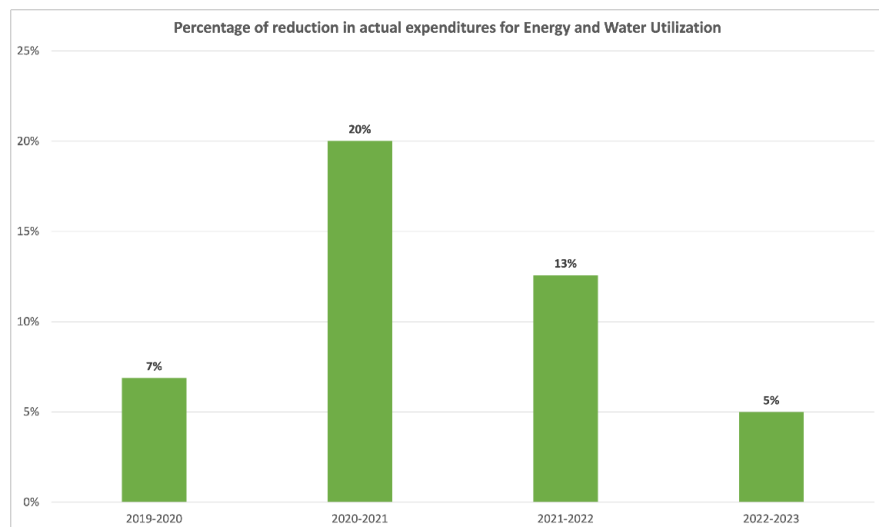
[https://www.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_GHG_Emissions_Reduction_Plan_\(2023_-_2030\).pdf](https://www.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_GHG_Emissions_Reduction_Plan_(2023_-_2030).pdf)

Key Performance Indicators at Ajman University

In Fall 2018, Ajman University adopted an annual key performance indicators (KPIs) based evaluation system for its Colleges/Offices/Units. Each Unit was assigned a set of KPIs mapped to six of AU's strategic goals. This is a standard process that is repeated every academic year. As part of AU's commitment to the UAE Climate strategy, the relevant KPIs were adopted to measure the low carbon energy consumption. Most key offices were assigned to take initiatives during the year that can contribute to 17 UN SDGs. Some of the relevant KPIs assigned during the AY 2021-2022 were:

Key Performance Indicator	# of Offices/Colleges
% Processes digitalized during the AY 2021-2022	24
# Implemented innovative ideas on optimizing the work cycle, saving time and efforts	1
# Activities carried out to support UN SDGs	8
# Food Safety Inspections	1
% Total fund collection from students through non-cash methods	1
# Systems/tools deployed towards digital transformation	1
\$ Efficiency of utility utilization	1
% Archiving of institutional documents (Catalogs, Handbooks, Manuals, etc.) since 2000	1
% Offices that implemented the archiving of documents on Laserfiche	1

The KPI on "**\$ Efficiency of Utility Utilization**" assigned to the Office of University Facilities, was achieved during the past academic years and showcased the AU's commitment to "SDG #13 Climate Action:



<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/campus/energy-and-water-utilization-efficiency>

Future Plans:

Ajman University is committed to setting ambitious carbon reduction targets covering Scope 1 and 2 emissions in alignment with the urgency to combat climate change. These targets vary in their specific emission reduction goals, timelines, and strategies. Still, they all aim to transition to a low-carbon economy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

The KPIs assigned to each Unit strengthened the AU's commitment to Sustainability, as this was one of the key Strategic Goals in the AU Strategic Plan 2022-2027

"Enhance Institution Sustainability"

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/about/strategic-plan-2022-2027>

13.3 Environmental Education Measures

13.3.1 Educational Programs or Campaigns on Climate Change

Ajman University is committed to serving the internal and external community student body within the UAE region and beyond. Several school sessions are organized throughout the year to give students an understanding of Environmental Health, Safety, and Sustainability concepts.

Weekly and monthly sessions are organized either at the University premises or schools to provide thorough knowledge on the topic and to make the student body aware of 21st-century skills. As knowledge-sharing, the learning resources are shared on the sustainability page, and students can freely access them for future learning or knowledge enhancement.

Empowering the Community for a Sustainable Future: Climate Change Training Courses

In a world facing the escalating threat of climate change, Ajman University stands as a beacon of knowledge and action, offering comprehensive resources for training courses to equip individuals and communities with the skills and understanding necessary to address this pressing global challenge. Our diverse range of programs caters to a broad audience, from students and educators to professionals and concerned citizens, empowering each participant to become an agent of positive change.

The Office of Sustainability (previously known as the Office of Environmental Health and Safety) offers training courses in collaboration with Coursera, the United Nations Climate Change Learning Partnership, and the UN Institute for Training and Research. The courses cover Climate Change, Sustainable Finance, Green and Circular Economy, Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action, Renewable Energy, Preventing E-waste, Food Waste Prevention, Human Health and Climate Change, UN Sustainable Development Goals, and much more. The list of offered training programs and courses can be found under "**Training Courses**" at the below webpage:


<https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-climate-action-learning-program>

The Summary of Campaigns that run throughout the year is available on the university webpage under the section "**Campaign**":

<https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-climate-action-learning-program>

How we're going green.


AU is incorporating sustainability concepts and criteria into all major planning, assessments and policies. We aim to manage operations in ways that are environmentally conscious, economically feasible and socially responsible.



Energy Conservation

We aim to manage operations in ways that are environmentally conscious, economically feasible and socially responsible. AU's Energy Conservation Policy shows how we are significantly reducing consumption.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Water Conservation

Ajman University is conserving – and repurposing – water to keep our campus clean as well as green. Our sewage treatment and reverse osmosis facilities are leading the way every day.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Access to Learning Resources for FREE

Other than conducting and running the training programs and campaigns on scheduled dates, students can access the study material anytime from the University webpage. These lectures are available for free to any students throughout the year. The community can openly access these campaigns at:

- Under "Training Programs" at the Office of Environmental Health and Safety page:
<https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-climate-action-learning-program>
- Under "Student Development Sessions and Events" at the Office of Sustainability page:
<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/community/student-development-sessions-and-events>

Campaigns and Events on Climate Change at Ajman University:

Ajman University Conducts Sustainability Workshop for Youth During Winter Fest 2022

Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) delivered two interactive and fun workshops for the Junior and Senior student groups at the AU Winter Fest 2022, targeting the Climate challenges, climate change risks, impacts, mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning. AU strongly believes that climate action and sustainability awareness start at a very young age. The sessions aligned with AU's philosophy to ingrain the importance of Sustainability among youth and make them future responsible citizens.



The workshops focused on essential sustainability practices such as energy and water conservation, zero-waste practices, carbon footprint, ways consumers can contribute to sustainable and responsible living, and composting food waste.

The 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals were also highlighted and explained during the workshop. Each student was allowed to express how they could contribute to these goals by making small behavioral changes in their daily routines and lifestyle. The workshops ended on a hopeful note that our youth are the key to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-conducts-sustainability-workshop-for-youth-during-winter-fest-2022>

Ajman University Joins "For Our Emirates We Plant" and Contributes to Planting 3,023 Local Seedlings of Al Samer Trees

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University participated in the annual "For Our Emirates, We Plant" event organized by the Emirates Environmental Group. Around 1,200 volunteers from various government and private institutions nationwide participated in this special afforestation event and planted 3,023 local seedlings of Al Samer



trees. Ajman University's volunteers actively contributed to this initiative, reinforcing the University's commitment to support the UAE's strategic vision for climate neutrality and its efforts to achieve this strategy by expanding its community engagement in environmental activities.

In addition to tree-planting initiatives, the University emphasizes its support for other sustainable programs and initiatives. It strives to enhance environmental awareness and Sustainability among its members and promote a culture of responsibility and environmental consciousness. Through continuous participation in such events, the University aims to be integral to the UAE's journey towards a greener and more sustainable future.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-joins-for-our-emirates-we-plant-and-contributes-to-planting-3023-local-seedlings-of-al-samer-trees>

Ajman University Commits to Reverse Biodiversity Decline Through Worldwide Nature-Positive Alliances

AU is proud to announce that it joined the Nature Positive Universities Alliance, launched at the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in Montreal, Canada. Led by the University of Oxford and the UN Environment Program (UNEP), the Nature Positive Universities Alliance is a global network of universities that have made an official pledge to work towards a worldwide Nature Positive goal to halt, prevent, and reverse nature loss through addressing their impacts and restoring ecosystems harmed by their activities. This push is part of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, a movement to avert climate catastrophe and mass extinction.



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<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-commits-to-reverse-biodiversity-decline-through-worldwide-nature-positive-alliances>

Ajman University Participates in the 'Clean UAE' Campaign in its 21st Edition.

The Office of Sustainability and Community Engagement at AU participated in the "Clean UAE" campaign in its 21st Edition, organized by the Emirates Environmental Group. The campaign was held on World Volunteering Day under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. The initiative aims to enhance and restore the environmental systems in the UAE. Ajman University's faculty, staff, and students from various colleges and disciplines participated in this notable ecological initiative in the Emirate of Ajman.



The University's participation in this campaign aligns with its Climate and Sustainability Strategy for 2022-2023 and is part of its programs and activities related to the Carbon Offset Initiative.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-participates-in-the-clean-uae-campaign-in-its-21st-edition>

Ajman University Students Participate in the United Nations Youth Café

On the occasion of United Nations (UN) Day on October 24, the UN Resident Coordinator Office in the UAE (UN RCO) extended an invitation to students at Ajman University (AU) to participate in the UN Youth Café consultations at the International Humanitarian City (IHC), Dubai. This is the first of a series of consultations that the UN will conduct with UAE youth. The session aimed to gather participants' experiences, understand their priorities and allow their voices to guide the UN's strategic objectives in the UAE.



<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-students-participate-in-the-united-nations-youth-cafe>

Ajman University Organizes "Make it Green" Campaign on Campus

On the occasion of World Cleanup Day and World Environmental Health Day, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, in cooperation with the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University (AU), brought together more than 80 students, staff, and faculty members to volunteer in the University's campus-wide cleanup of litter on campus.



This initiative comes in line with UAE's Green Agenda and United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the theme "Strengthening Environmental Health Systems for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".

The activity aims to promote the long-term goal of a zero-waste campus, spread awareness of the importance of environmental health, and offer an easy way to volunteer and engage in community activities.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-organizes-make-it-green-campaign-on-campus>

Ajman University Takes a Step Towards Carbon Neutrality by Contributing to Emirates Environmental Group's Recycling Program

As part of the University's ongoing efforts to support a carbon-neutral campus by 2030, minimize the University's environmental impact, create awareness of climate change, and offset its carbon footprint, the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, in collaboration with the AU community members notably Office of Facilities, Office of Finance and the Library, the University was able to collect 3,290 kg of paper and is now eligible to plant one tree at the "For Our Emirates We Plant" Event.

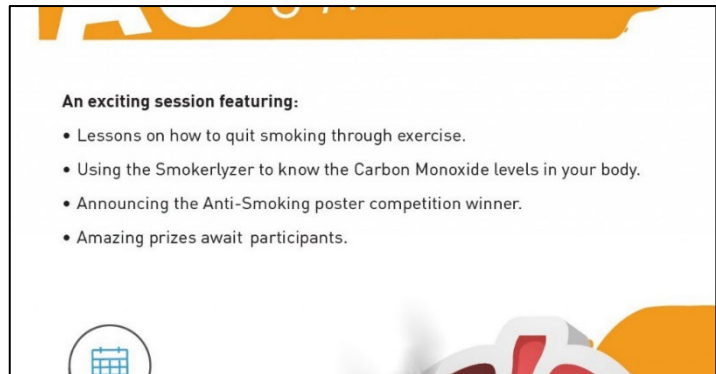


<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-takes-a-step-towards-carbon-neutrality-by-contributing-to-emirates-environmental-groups-recycling-program>

AU Anti-Smoking Campaign

Ajman University launched the "AU Anti-Smoking Campaign" in alignment with World No Tobacco Day. This campaign's primary aim was to create awareness about the harmful effects of smoking on the human body the damage that smoking does to the climate and your surroundings, and to introduce innovative methods to support smoking cessation.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/au-anti-smoking-campaign>



Green Campus Initiative by Ajman University Students Holds Promise for a Sustainable Future

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety at Ajman University launched the Green Campus Initiative in parallel with the first-ever MENA Climate Week hosted by the United Arab Emirates. The MENA Climate Week was a historic week-long event involving stakeholder engagement for climate action and paved the road towards COP27 and COP28.

Coinciding with this momentous event, Ajman University's Green Campus Initiative highlights AU's commitment to nurturing a safe and healthy working environment for AU Community members.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/green-campus-initiative-by-ajman-university-students-holds-promise-for-a-sustainable-future>



AU Workshop Introduces Students to Environment-Friendly Art

In cooperation with the Sustainability Club, the Fine Arts Center and Office of Student Life organized a workshop entitled 'Environmentally Friendly Art' on January 24, 2022—the workshop aimed to discuss and implement artistic ideas and projects serving the environment. Among them is recycling waste materials to produce creative works of art.

During the workshop, an old lighting unit was recycled to produce a home chandelier using crystal beads and plastic threads innovatively.



<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/au-workshop-introduces-students-to-environment-friendly-art>

Community Cleanup Day

In February 2022, Ajman University took an environmentally conscious initiative by organizing a "Community Cleanup Day." The event focused on desert cleaning, particularly vital during the winter when the desert is a preferred destination for many—in collaboration with Ajman Municipality, the University's volunteers joined hands to preserve the natural beauty and cleanliness of the desert.



University volunteers participated enthusiastically in this initiative to combat desert pollution, educating themselves and raising awareness about responsible waste management.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/community-clean-up-day>

Ajman University's Sustainability and Climate Change Workshop Reveals Interesting Insights

Ajman University's Office of Community Engagement & Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), in collaboration with INJAZ UAE, hosted an informative webinar on Sustainability. The initiative reflects Ajman University's commitment to being a part of the global action to address climate change challenges to secure a sustainable future for the upcoming generations. Following this goal, Ajman University strives to contribute to UAE's Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative of the Paris Agreement.



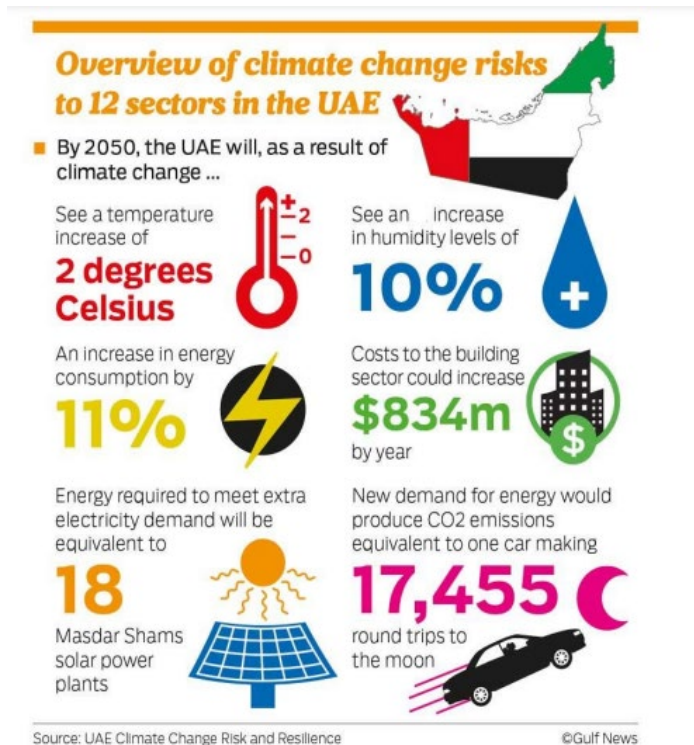
<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-universitys-sustainability-and-climate-change-workshop-reveals-interesting-insights>

13.3.2 University Climate Action Plan

Ajman University launched the AU Climate & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030, which outlines the roadmap and actionable targets to address climate change. The plan was in line with the UAE Green Agenda 2015-2030, the National Climate Change Plan of the United Arab Emirates by the Ministry of Climate Change and the Environment (MOCCA), as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations; mainly SDG 13 which aims to "take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts."

The AU Climate and Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030 is a practical guide on how the University will deliver key climate commitments, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting a carbon-neutral campus, reducing energy consumption, investing in energy optimization solutions and renewable energy, exploring new ways to decrease direct and indirect CO2 emissions, minimizing the environmental impact rating of the University activities and processes, and creating awareness on taking action for climate change.

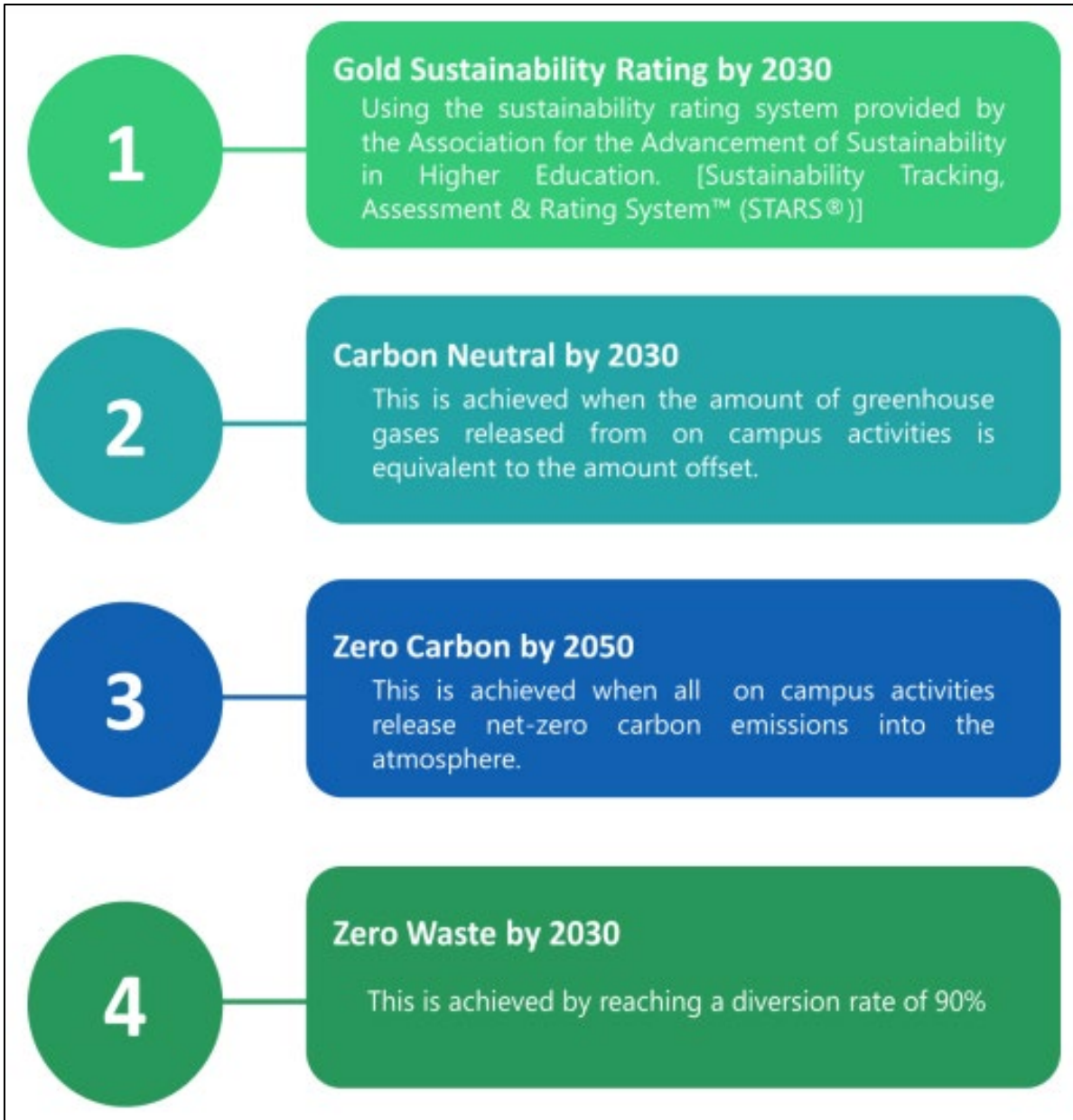
The long-term objectives of the University are to achieve a neutral, zero-waste campus, a Gold Sustainability rating in the STARS® system by 2030, and zero carbon by 2050. To achieve these objectives, the University shall continue working towards achieving the following goals: 1- Adoption of sustainable practices to decrease GHG emissions, 2- Sourcing sustainable procurement contracts and products, 3- Promoting renewable energy solutions on-campus, 4- Developing sustainable investment plans necessary to support approved, viable strategies to attain climate neutrality, using environmental, social and governance criteria (ESG).



AU Timeline on Goals Achievement:



Long-term Objectives:



Carbon Emissions Reduction

Ajman University's Climate & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030 highlights its commitment to drive climate action goals in line with the UAE Green Agenda, Net Zero by 2050 Strategy, the National Climate Change Plan of the UAE 2017–2050, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Universities from various parts of the world have shown their willingness to become carbon-neutral in the future. Ajman University has accomplished important milestones in recent years, and we firmly believe in the University's dream team that can achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 and net zero by 2050

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/community/carbon-emissions-reduction>

Climate Data Sharing with Community Groups

Ajman University is a part of many local government and community groups to share the AU's commitment to climate change, its impact, and our initiatives on campus that contribute to our strategy. The data sharing is done through some community groups on their formal webpage, where data is published, or through local events organized for the community either in the form of a symposium or as a presenter by an AU representative.

"Race to Zero" Universities and Colleges

The campaign partners with EAUC, Second Nature, and the UN Environment Programme. EAUC is the secretariat. The institution is added to the UNFCCC Race to Zero campaign by committing to this campaign. This campaign replaces the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges.

<https://www.educationracetozero.org/current-signatories>

Mbarara University of Science and Technology	Uganda	2030	Coming Soon	Pending	
Ndejje University	Uganda	2030	Coming Soon	Plan	Publish
Shimoni Core PTC	Uganda	2040	Coming Soon	Pending	
Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics	Ukraine	2035	2030	Pending	
West Ukrainian National University	Ukraine	2050	Coming Soon	Pending	
Abu Dhabi Polytechnic	United Arab Emirates	2050	Coming Soon	Pending	
Ajman University	United Arab Emirates	2050	2030	Plan	Publish
Al Ain University	United Arab Emirates	2030	Coming Soon	Pending	
Capital College	United Arab Emirates	2030	Coming Soon	Plan	Publish
Capital University College	United Arab Emirates	2030	Coming Soon	Pending	
Higher Colleges of Technology	United Arab Emirates	2030	Coming Soon	Pending	
Manipal Academy of Higher Education	United Arab Emirates	2040	Coming Soon	Pending	

Environment Center for Arab Towns (ECAT)

The Environmental Center for Arab Towns (ECAT) is a notable scientific research Center linked with the Dubai (UAE) Municipality that was founded in 2005 by the Arab Town Organization (ATO). ECAT is critical in resolving environmental problems and challenges of sustainable development in Arab cities and towns. Its primary purpose, with a network of 50 Arab cities and 138 Arab Experts, is to bridge communication barriers and stimulate collaboration among these urban centers. ECAT strives to enable the exchange of critical environmental expertise through conferences and discussion forums wherein the participants share their strategies and initiatives that contribute to improving Climate challenges and sustainability at large. Recognizing the importance of information and advice in achieving sustainable development, ECAT plans to create a knowledge-sharing platform that will be a significant resource for researchers, decision-makers, and the general public. Furthermore, ECAT's Green Ambassador Programme, open to students in Grades 6 through 12, demonstrates the organization's commitment to cultivating environmental awareness and sustainable practices among the youth, paving the way for a greener, more eco-conscious future for Arab cities and their future generations.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/environment-center-for-arab-towns-ecat>

Emirates Environmental Group (EEG)

The Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) is an outstanding organization committed to environmental conservation and long-term development. Since its inception in 1991, EEG has had substantial growth and influence, attracting members from various backgrounds, including students, people, families, business entities, government agencies, educational institutions, and international organizations. EEG's active engagement in the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and membership in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) highlight its global importance and reputation. EEG's goals are similarly significant, focusing on education, community engagement, and long-term waste management, making it an essential force for environmental conservation in the UAE and the Middle East. Ajman University has been a prominent member of the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) for over two years, actively engaging in various environmental activities, including panel discussions, workshops, and recycling initiatives.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/emirates-environmental-group-eeeg>

Emirates Green Building Council

Emirates Green Building Council is a non-governmental organization promoting and educating on sustainability in the building environment in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the wider region. As the UAE's official Green Building Council, authorized by the World Green Building Council, it plays a critical role in furthering green building principles and supporting sustainability. With about 150 members representing a diverse range of experts involved in green building, EmiratesGBC provides a forum for cooperation, **information sharing**, and advancement in this critical sector.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/emirates-green-building-council>

COP27 Participation by AU representative

AU representatives participated and presented in the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP27). The work of the Centre of Islamic Finance at AU, as a consultant to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), was presented to help build the organization's legitimacy in the Islamic Finance world around nature and climate.



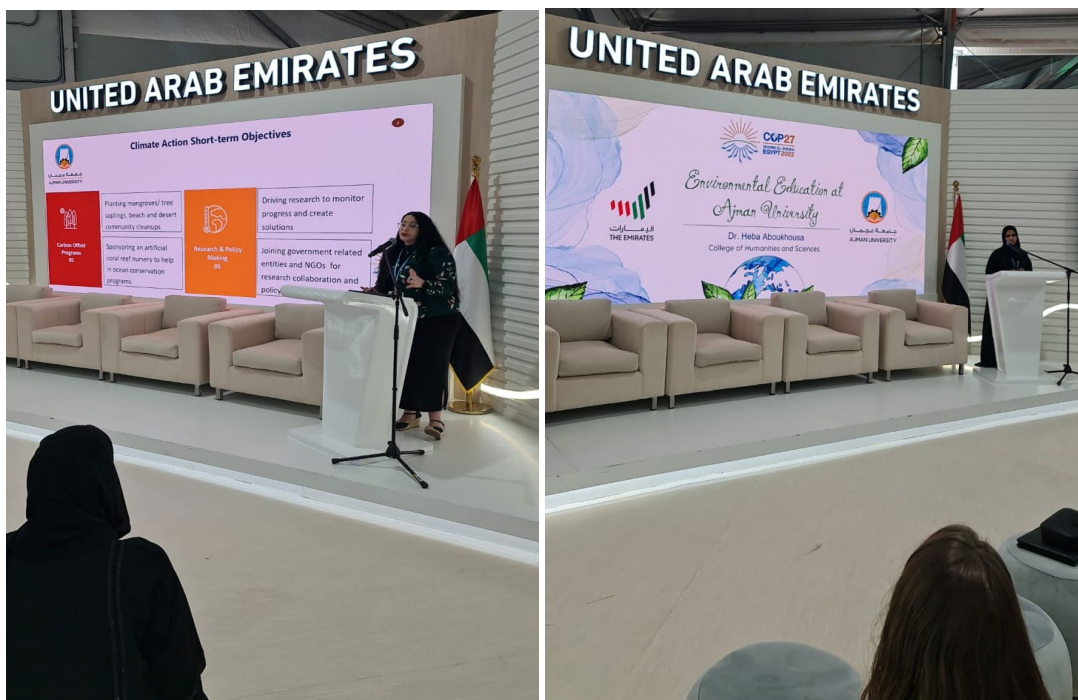
<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/cba/dba-news/news/2022/au-ceif-director-to-represent-ajman-university-at-cop27>

In line with the AU's commitment to delivering climate action goals consistent with the AU Climate and AU Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030, the UAE Green Agenda, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, Ajman University (AU) joined forces with the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE) to be part of a high-level delegation representing the United Arab Emirates in COP27, the global climate change conference.

COP27 brought together more than 45,000 participants to share ideas solutions, and build partnerships and coalitions. Indigenous peoples, local communities, cities, and civil society, including youth and children, showcased how they address climate change and shared how it impacts their lives.

The participation of Ajman University in COP27 has showcased the role of the University as a higher education institution in tackling climate change and advocating environmental sustainability.

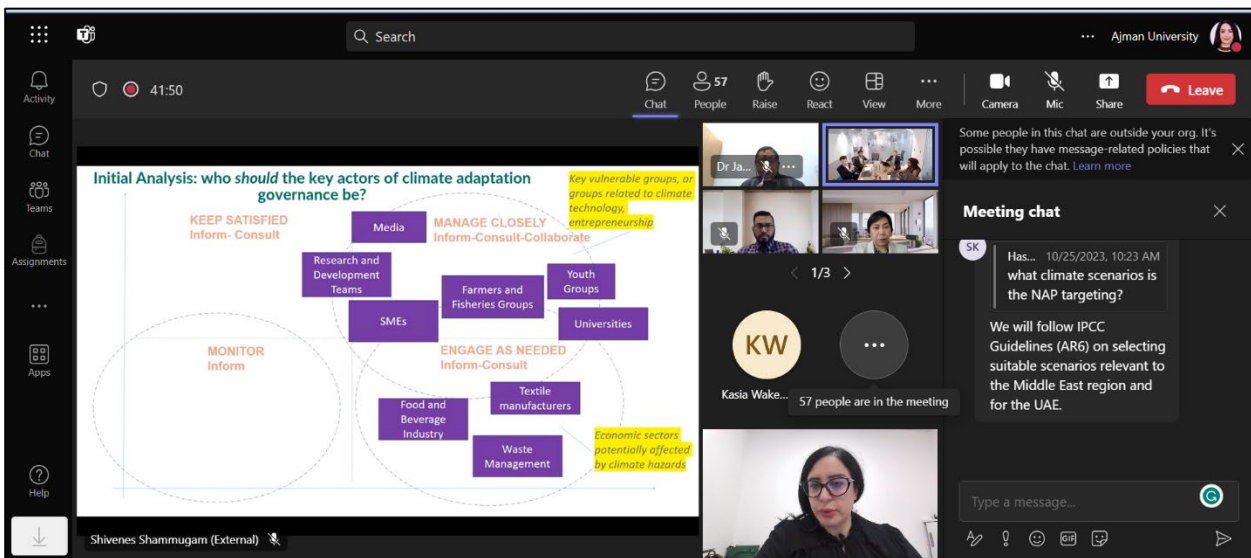
<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2023/ajman-university-participates-in-cop27-egypt-as-part-of-high-level-uae-delegation>



13.3.3 Co-operative Planning for Climate Change Challenges

Ajman University is committed to participating in national initiatives to address climate change issues to ensure a sustainable future for the next generation. To accomplish this Goal, the university supports the UAE's strategic initiative for Net Zero 2050 following the Paris Agreement. Since 2022, Ajman University's representatives have participated in academic consultations, workshops, meetings, and discussions regarding the climate adaptation framework of the UAE.

The United Arab Emirates has risen to the occasion and became one of the first nations in the MENA region to support the Paris Agreement. As part of this, it has launched initiatives that tackle the problems posed by climate change. The UNFCCC COP28 in November–December 2023 is a significant turning point where the world can observe the advancements made in the Paris Agreement. UAE, which will host the first Global Stock Take and the COP28 this year, has adopted a set of plans known as a National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The UAE's National Action Plan (NAP) is expected to be the next significant step in proving its leadership in the fight against climate change. It will integrate adaptations for climate resilience across the Federal Government and help identify the vulnerabilities associated with climate risks across the seven national Emirates.



Participating in the UAE National Adaptation Plan Consultation Process

The commitment of AU to the plan can be accessed under the "**Co-operative Planning**" section at <https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-climate-action-learning-program>.

Intending to "build an economy that protects the environment and an environment that supports the economy's growth," the UAE government adopted the "National Climate Change Plan of the United Arab Emirates 2017-2050."

<https://www.moccae.gov.ae/assets/30e58e2e/national-climate-change-plan-for-the-united-arab-emirates-2017-2050.aspx>

With the objective of "Advancing the UAE's economic diversification agenda through innovative solutions," Ajman University joined the team in December 2022 with representatives from the Office of Sustainability. Since becoming the "Adaptation Champions," AU has participated in events, conferences, and symposiums organized online and in person with several initiatives and support needed to tackle climate change.

(5) Step-wise approach of developing UAE NAP:

A step-wise methodological approach to develop UAE NAP based on UNFCCC's Technical Guidelines

Element A Laying the groundwork and addressing gaps for the UAE's NAP	Element B Preparatory Elements for the UAE's NAP	Element C Development of Implementation Strategies of the UAE's NAP	Element D Monitoring and Evaluation of the UAE's NAP
Outcome-1 Strengthened adaptation governance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Initiating UAE's NAP preparation process with inception workshop 2) Stock take of Policies, Plans, Programs and Existing Capacity for Adaptation; alignment of NDC 3) Adaptation Policy and Financing Capacity of National Institutions is Understood 4) The state of current data availability and the capacity of data management and collection institutions is understood 5) A NAP Strategy is Developed based on current knowledge 	Outcome-2 Evidence basis designed to produce Adaptation Options <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Vulnerability and Gap assessment undertaken across key economic sectors 2) Sub-National /Resilience-level Vulnerability assessments undertaken for each Emirate 3) Risk Assessments from 2019; Expanded on other identified sectors 4) Adaptation Options Defined and Prioritized 5) Social and Gender Mainstream Assessment Developed 6) A Private Sector's Engagement Financing Strategy Developed for Adaptation Investments 	Outcome-3 Institutional Framework and Capacity <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Institutional Mechanisms and Contribution Plan for Managing Adaptation is Designed 2) Capacity building and a mainstreaming plan is designed based on Assessed Capabilities for Implementing Adaptation measures 3) Legal Mandating of the NAP is designed 	Outcome-4 Monitoring and Evaluation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Monitoring and Evaluation Approach Assessed 2) Monitoring and Evaluation Structure Designed

Ongoing Projects

Participating in the UAE National Adaptation Plan Consultation Process

Project Collaborators: Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (UAE) and The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Ajman University is committed to participating in national initiatives to address climate change issues in order to ensure a sustainable future for the next generation. In order to accomplish this goal, the university supports the UAE's strategic initiative for Net Zero 2050 in accordance with the Paris Agreement. Since 2022, Ajman University's representatives have participated in academic consultations, workshops, meetings, and discussions regarding the climate adaptation framework of the UAE.

The United Arab Emirates has risen to the occasion and became one of the first nations in the MENA region to support the Paris Agreement, and as part of this, has launched initiatives that tackle the problems posed by climate change. The UNFCCC COP28 in November–December 2023 is slated to be a significant turning point where the world can observe the advancements made as part of the Paris agreement. UAE, which will host both the first Global Stocktake and the COP28 this year, has adopted a set of plans known as a National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The National Action Plan (NAP) of the UAE is expected to be the next significant step in proving its leadership in the fight against climate change. It will integrate adaptations for climate resilience across the Federal Government and help identify the vulnerabilities associated with climate risks that can be seen across the seven national Emirates.

Project Timeline

Initiation of the AE03 UAE National Climate Adaptation Program

Initial Consultation

Consultation Session 1

Consultation Session 2.1

Consultation Session 2.2

Consultation Session 2.3

Deliverable of Consultations: draft version of UAE NAP

Consultation Session 3

Development of the UAE NAP: Inception Workshop

Workshop Details:

- 17th and 18th May 2023
- Zayed University, Dubai Campus
- MOCCA and GGGI

Aims:

- To create awareness and build capacity of potential key stakeholders; support the exercise towards setting the "Adaptation Vision" and identify additional priority sectors for inclusion in developing the UAE NAP.

Objectives:

- Present the key takeaways from prior consultations across sectors and actors, as well as identify and initiate the exercise to establish the NAP stakeholders and their pivotal role in developing a robust NAP.
- Discuss, validate, and establish a shared "NAP Vision" across UAE's key stakeholders.
- Identify the "what, who, and how" of the NAP: Validating what the scope of the NAP should be, who should be involved, and how it should be developed.
- Identify additional priority sectors for inclusion in the NAP's Vulnerability and Risk Assessments.
- Raise awareness among stakeholders of the NAP and the NAP process.
- Launch the NAP development process.

From: Shaemma Rashed Mbwana
To: Mrs. Afra Al Doobi, Ernest El Ajmi, Soeila Dione Prestige
Subject: RE: Developing the structure of the UAE's National Adaptation Plan (NAP)
Date: Friday, December 9, 2022 1:42:14 PM
Attachments: inaoe001.docx

****External Email****

Dear Adaptation Champions,

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA) and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) are in the process of developing the structure of the UAE's National Adaptation Plan (NAP), that will act as a strategic guide for undertaking climate adaptation.

As part of the process, a bottom-up approach is employed to ensure there is adequate consideration and understanding of the key actors involved in climate adaptation, challenges faced on the ground, and the impacts of climate data availability, governance structure and other factors on climate action.

We are therefore sending a Survey to public, private, academic and civil society actors on the ground that play a role in climate governance, climate science/data, financing of climate interventions, and social/gender/grassroots engagement to collect information and gain valuable insight on climate-related challenges, opportunities, governance, data availability and other climate-related areas.

Please complete the following Survey by **Tuesday 13th December 2022** to provide your insight on the above, which will support MOCCA and GGGI in charting a strategic path for climate adaptation: <https://forms.office.com/CF2G6eudM5>

Sincerely,
 Shaemma

Shaemma Rashed Mbwana
 Climate Change Analyst
 Climate Change

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 محلل تغير مناخى
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The Project timeline of the UAE National Adaptation Plan, as adopted by Ajman University, can be accessed at

https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/UAE_NAP_Inception_Workshop_Report_-_May%2C_2023.pdf

The scope and details of the initial consultation session can be found at

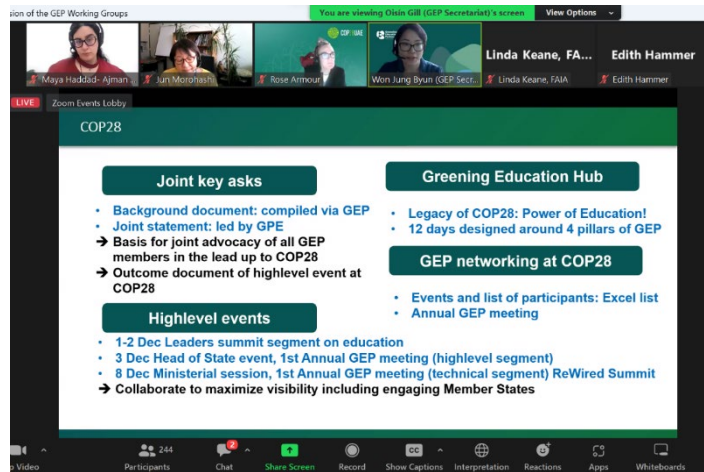
https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Scope_and_Details_of_the_Informal_Consultation_Academic_Sector_UAE-_NAP.pdf

Greening Education Partnership with UNESCO

Ajman University is committed to being part of the Greening Education Partnership.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/greening-education-partnership-with-unesco>

This new Greening Education Partnership aims to deliver strong, coordinated, and comprehensive action that will prepare every learner to acquire the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to tackle climate change and promote sustainable development. Drawing upon ESD's holistic approach to learning, the Greening Education Partnership aims to inspire action from countries to empower learners with the skills required for inclusive and sustainable economic development in the transition toward digital and green economies.



The participation timeline and consultation meeting records can be found under "Co-operative" planning on:

<https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-climate-action-learning-program>

Partnering with Higher Education Sustainability Initiative

Ajman University (AU) is enrolled as a member of the United Nations Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI). This initiative is an open partnership between several United Nations entities and the global higher education community, which was launched in 2012 to highlight the critical role that higher education plays in achieving sustainable development. It also aims to provide an interactive interface between higher education, science, and policymaking by highlighting the role of the higher education sector in supporting sustainable development, convening multi-stakeholder discussions and actions, and sharing best practices.

Higher education institutions play a crucial role in supporting the implementation of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by ensuring that future generations of learners have the skills, mindsets, and attitudes to transform organizations and societies truly.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/ajman-university-joins-the-renowned-united-nations-higher-education-sustainability-initiative>

Ajman University shall utilize this important membership to play an active role in the various global action groups that support SDG integration into curricula, research, programs, and campus practices, facilitate knowledge exchange, and strengthen partnerships for the goals.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/un-higher-education-sustainability-initiative-hesi>

Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Centre

Ajman University's Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Center (HSBERC) aims to do impactful research at the intersection of building, environment, and health to promote healthy living across communities and societies.

The research at HSBERC is focused on the following areas associated with building plan, design and construction:

- Indoor air quality and disinfection of indoor air
- Effect of Building Materials selection and construction on healthy living
- Light and health
- Architectural and Interior design and planning for healthy living
- Occupant behavior

The objectives of the research center are:

- ✓ To provide high-quality research and studies on how buildings' sustainable design, construction, and operations contribute to the health and well-being of occupants.
- ✓ To provide consultancy services to the public and private sectors
- ✓ To organize and participate in continuing education and training seminars and conferences for the community.
- ✓ To collaborate with international partners on areas relevant to the center's mission.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/research/research-at-au/research-centers/healthy-and-sustainable-built-environment-research-center-hsberc>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=BBJlIomRqmY&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ajman.ac.ae%2F&source_ve_path=Mjg2NjY&feature=emb_logo

13.3.4 Support Government in Climate Change

Ajman University is committed to participating in national initiatives to address climate change issues to ensure a sustainable future for the next generation.

In recognition of the escalating threat posed by climate change, Ajman University joined forces with the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA) in its consultations to develop a comprehensive national climate change adaptation plan. This collaboration aims to equip the UAE government with the



outputs of various stakeholder groups to establish the necessary tools and strategies to effectively address the multifaceted challenges posed by a changing climate. The University's team of experts worked closely with MOCCA officials to assess the potential impacts of climate change on various sectors, including water resources, agriculture, infrastructure, and human health.

Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi

Starting as a small group of pioneering ecologists in 1996 working in the harsh desert environment, EAD has grown – breaking down barriers and pushing the limits of science and conservation.

EAD is now the most significant environmental regulator in the Middle East, continuing the strong legacy of the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan by exemplifying his conservation values.

EAD's work focuses primarily on Abu Dhabi, but it also operates in close partnership with a range of organizations and governments across the globe to deliver substantial environmental impact.

Ajman University has joined the tribe in being part of this change by participating in the initiatives and also organizing new events that focus on the Climate agenda:

<https://sustainablecampus.ead.ae/sis/sciWebsite/web/site/campuses>

<https://www.ead.gov.ae/en/About-Us>



Events to support Climate Change Initiatives by UAE government organizations

Tree plantation event by Emirates Environmental Group (EEG)

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University participated in the annual "For Our Emirates, We Plant" event organized by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG). Around 1,200 volunteers from various government and private institutions nationwide participated in this special afforestation event and planted 3,023 local seedlings of Al Samer trees.



In addition to tree-planting initiatives, the University emphasizes its support for other sustainable programs and initiatives. It strives to enhance environmental awareness and sustainability among its members and promote a culture of responsibility and environmental consciousness. Through continuous participation in such events, the University aims to be integral to the UAE's journey towards a greener and more sustainable future.

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<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-joins-for-our-emirates-we-plant-and-contributes-to-planting-3023-local-seedlings-of-al-samer-trees>

Joining the "Nature Positive Universities Alliance"

Ajman University (AU) proudly joined the Nature Positive Universities Alliance, launched at the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) on December 8th, 2022, in Montreal, Canada. Led by the University of Oxford and the UN Environment Program (UNEP), the Nature Positive Universities Alliance is a global network of universities that have made an official pledge to work towards a global Nature



Positive goal to halt, prevent, and reverse nature loss through addressing their impacts and restoring ecosystems harmed by their activities. The initiative launched with 111 universities from 44 different countries, who have made individual pledges to start a journey towards becoming nature-positive

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-commits-to-reverse-biodiversity-decline-through-worldwide-nature-positive-alliances>

"Clean UAE" campaign by EEG

The Office of Sustainability and Community Engagement at Ajman University participated in the "Clean UAE" campaign in its 21st edition, organized by the Emirates Environmental Group. The campaign was held on December 5th, World Volunteering Day, under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. The initiative aims to enhance and restore the environmental systems in the United Arab

Emirates. Ajman University's faculty, staff, and students from various colleges and disciplines participated in this notable ecological initiative in the Emirate of Ajman.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-participates-in-the-clean-uae-campaign-in-its-21st-edition>



MOU with Municipality and Planning Department of UAE

The MOU between the parties was signed to share events, activities, conferences, and lectures organized or sponsored by both parties. These events align with the UAE strategy for aligning the sustainability and Climate action in the country's infrastructure development. AU Innovation Centre will be conducting joint operation events with new innovative business ideas that bring sustainability to the region

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/mou/municipality-planning-department>

<https://auic.ajman.ac.ae/community-engagements/>

13.3.5 Collaboration with NGOs

Ajman University has a strong record of collaboration with NGOs on climate adaptation, including the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC), UN Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI), and more.

Emirates Environmental Group (EEG)

The university has partnered with EEG on various projects, including implementing environmental education and awareness programs, supporting community-based adaptation projects such as tree planting initiatives, clean-up campaigns, environmental education sessions, and awareness programs, capacity building and ecological public speaking skills for students, judging climate change student artwork and presentations and more.



In addition to these specific projects, Ajman University and EEG have collaborated on several other initiatives, such as organizing conferences, workshops, and public events on climate change.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/emirates-environmental-group-eeg>

Some of the events AU partnered with EEG during the year 2022 were:

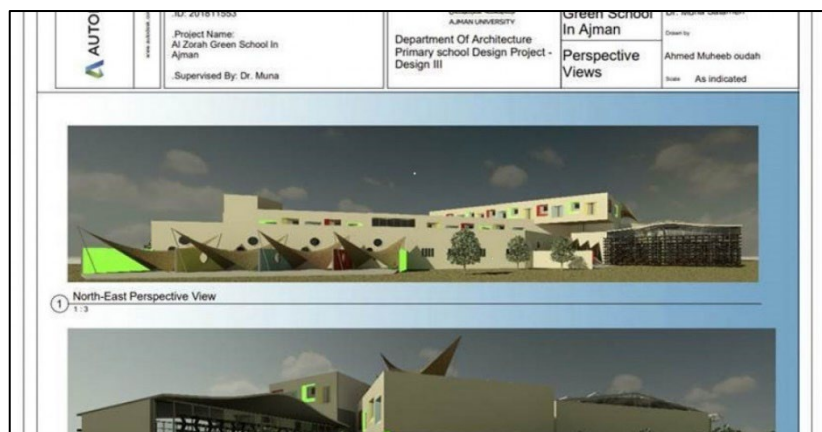
<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-takes-a-step-towards-carbon-neutrality-by-contributing-to-emirates-environmental-groups-recycling-program>

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/ajman-university-joins-for-our-emirates-we-plant-and-contributes-to-planting-3023-local-seedlings-of-al-samer-trees>

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/aust-students-volunteer-in-clean-up-uae-campaign>

Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC)

Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) at the forefront of promoting and educating on sustainability in the built environment in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the wider region. As the UAE's official Green Building Council, authorized by the World Green Building Council, it plays a critical role in furthering green



building principles and supporting sustainability. With about 150 members representing a diverse range of persons involved in green building, including Ajman University, EGBC provides a forum for cooperation, information sharing, and advancement in this critical sector. Its vision and objectives have changed to suit

the changing context, intending to make the UAE a global leader in sustainable built environments. Communication, advocacy, collaboration, education, innovation, and acceleration are among its strategic objectives, with the ultimate goal of supporting a decarbonized, healthy environment and assuring the organization's continuous development and stability.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/emirates-green-building-council>

Some of the events AU partnered with EGBC are:

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2023/ajman-university-hosts-awareness-sessions-on-indoor-environmental-quality>

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2022/green-campus-initiative-by-ajman-university-students-holds-promise-for-a-sustainable-future>

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/cad/news/au-students-recognized-for-best-green-economy-project>

UN Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)

The Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) was founded at the Rio+20 Conference in 2012 as a joint initiative combining several United Nations institutions and the higher education community. The effort is now led by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the Sulitest Association, an NGO and an online platform devoted to increasing global sustainability literacy. UNESCO, UN Environment



Programme, UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education project, UN University, UN-HABITAT, UNCTAD, UNITAR, UN Office for Partnerships, and UN Academic Impact are among HESI's recognized partners. With strong UN linkages, HESI aspires to bridge the gap between higher education, science, and policy-making by advocating for higher education's critical role in sustainable development, facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogues and action, and disseminating outstanding sustainable practices. Ajman University joined this worldwide movement in 2022, bolstering the joint effort to integrate sustainability ideas into higher education curricula and practices for a more sustainable future.

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/memberships/un-higher-education-sustainability-initiative-hesi>

<https://sdgs.un.org/HESI>

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/ajman-university-joins-the-renowned-united-nations-higher-education-sustainability-initiative>