



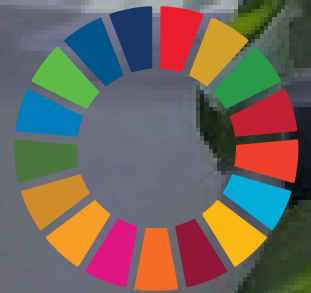
جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

20
24

SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

13.3 Environmental education measures

13.3.1 Local education programmes on climate



THE GLOBAL GOALS

Table of Contents

<u>Introduction.....</u>	06
<u>Message from the Chancellor.....</u>	07
<u>13.3.1 Local education programs on climate.....</u>	08
<u>Empowering the Community for a Sustainable Future: Climate Change Training Courses.....</u>	08
<u>Access to Learning Resources for free.....</u>	09
<u>Campaigns and Events on Climate Change at Ajman University.....</u>	09
<u>Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Launches "Mangrove Champions" Initiative.....</u>	09
<u>The Office of Sustainability Organizes an Orientation Session for New Students on Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action.....</u>	11
<u>Ajman University and Al Zorah Golf Club, affiliated with Al Zorah Development Private Company, Launch Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour Initiative.....</u>	12
<u>The Office of Sustainability Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation in Green Communities Event.....</u>	14
<u>Ajman University and Al Zorah Development Private Company team up for Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration Event.....</u>	15
<u>Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Organizes an Awareness Session and Workshop titled "Your Planet Needs You "at Al Maarifa International Private School.....</u>	16
<u>Indoor Air Quality Monitoring at Ajman University.....</u>	17
<u>The Office of Sustainability Celebrates World Environment Day in Collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club.....</u>	18
<u>Ajman University Participates in SNOC Health, Safety, and Environment Exhibition 2024.....</u>	19
<u>Ajman University Participates in First Education Sector Environment, Health and Safety Forum Organized by Emirates Schools Establishment.....</u>	20

<u>Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Engages in the Fifth EHSPN Conference.....</u>	21
<u>Ajman University hosted the 7th Edition of the Ajman International Environment Conference (AIEC).....</u>	22
<u>Ms. Maya Haddad's Role in Enhancing Sustainability Efforts through Microsoft Sustainability Manager Workshop.....</u>	23
<u>AU Delegates Complete Ajman Sustainability Program.....</u>	25
<u>Ajman University Delegation participate in QS Higher Education Middle East Summit 2024.....</u>	26
<u>Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Hosts Workshop on Clean Water and Sanitation.....</u>	28
<u>Ajman University Engages with Global Dialogue on Climate Policy Leadership in Latin America & Caribbean.....</u>	29
<u>Bridging the Gap: Ajman University Gains Insights from UN Event on Equipping Educators for Sustainable Development.....</u>	31
<u>Ajman University Students Participate in the Launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" Program.....</u>	33
<u>Ajman University Students Participate in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition.....</u>	34
<u>Students and Staff of Ajman University Visit GITEX Dubai 2024 to Explore the Latest Technological Innovations in Sustainability.....</u>	36
<u>The Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement Participate in the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum 2024.....</u>	37
<u>Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Participates in the Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders Summit 2024.....</u>	38
<u>The Office of Medical Services and the Office of Community Engagement Launch Anti-Smoking Awareness Initiative.....</u>	39
<u>The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Celebrates "Urban October" with a Campaign on "Youth and Sustainable Cities".....</u>	40

<u>Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Organizes First Aid Awareness Session.....</u>	41
<u>Ajman University Community Members and Students Participate in the "Clean UAE 2024" Campaign to Promote Environmental Sustainability.....</u>	42
<u>Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Participates in SEE Institute's Climate.....</u>	44
<u>Ajman University Students' Participation in the 3rd Edition of the University Challenge 2024.....</u>	45
<u>The Office of Sustainability Participates in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem.....</u>	47
<u>Ajman University's Sustainability Champion, Ms. Maya Haddad, Selected as Judge for QS Reimagine Education Awards.....</u>	49
<u>Ajman University Students Participate in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University.....</u>	50
<u>Ajman University Shines at Global Sustainability Conference.....</u>	52
<u>The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Organizes a Mangrove Planting and Clean-Up Initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club.....</u>	53
<u>Ajman University Launches 2nd Sustainable Week.....</u>	54
<u>Ajman University and UN Global Compact Inspire Businesses with SDG Ambition Accelerator Info Session.....</u>	56
<u>Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security Program.....</u>	57
<u>Ajman University Celebrates the 53rd UAE Union Day.....</u>	58
<u>A student from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Won the First Place at the Green Campus Competition.....</u>	59
<u>Ajman University Clinches QS Reimagine Education Award 2024 for Pioneering Sustainability Initiative.....</u>	60
<u>Dr. Muna Salameh Highlights Exceptional Student Achievements in "From Point to Sustainable Pavilion" Exhibition.....</u>	61
<u>Ajman University Hosts Session on Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future.....</u>	62

Integrated Marketing Communication Students Present Graduation Projects Under the Theme "Health and Safety for UAE Generations".....63

Ajman University Hosts a Delegation of International Students in the Winter Study Tour 2024.....64

The Office of Sustainability Organizes Emergency Preparedness and Sustainability Workshop.....66

Office of Sustainability Enhances Climate-Ready Workplace Safety in Webinar on Inhalable Hazards.....67

Ajman University Engages with Future Innovators at Dubai Holding’s Investor Pitch Day.....68

Ajman University Strengthens Climate Accountability as Senior Sustainability Manager Completes Advanced GRI Certification.....69

Ajman University Students Excel at Pathway to Net-Zero Competition by BEEAH.....71

Ajman University Students Shine in “Pathway to Net Zero” Competition.....73

The Office of Sustainability Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation on Greening Communities Initiative.....74

Ajman University Contributes to Landmark UCN Planning Session for COP29 in Dubai.....76





Introduction

As the global climate crisis intensifies, universities are increasingly recognized as pivotal institutions in driving sustainable development. By educating future generations and engaging with local communities, universities can play a crucial role in mitigating climate change impacts, promoting adaptation strategies, and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship.

This report delves into the University's commitment to environmental education and its alignment with UN Targets 13.1, 13.3, and 13.B. By examining the University's local education programs and collaborations on climate change, we aim to assess its impact on the following key areas:

- Climate change awareness: Raising public awareness about the causes, consequences, and potential solutions to climate change.
- Climate change mitigation: Promoting strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming.
- Climate change adaptation: Developing strategies to cope with the adverse impacts of climate change.
- Disaster preparedness: Enhancing community resilience to climate-related disasters.

To evaluate the University's performance, we will focus on the following key indicator:

Local education programs on climate (13.3.1): This indicator assesses the University's efforts to raise awareness about climate change risks, impacts, mitigation, adaptation, and early warning systems through local education programs and campaigns.

By analyzing this indicator, we can gain valuable insights into the University's impact on local communities and its commitment to fostering environmental literacy.

Message from the Chancellor

Universities from various parts of the world have shown their willingness to become carbon neutral

Ajman University successfully accomplished important milestones in recent years, and I firmly believe in the University dream team that can achieve carbon neutral 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.



**Climate action is a
collective action
that involves all
members of
Ajman University**

**KARIM SEGHIR,PHD
CHANCELLOR**

13.3.1 Local education programs on climate

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

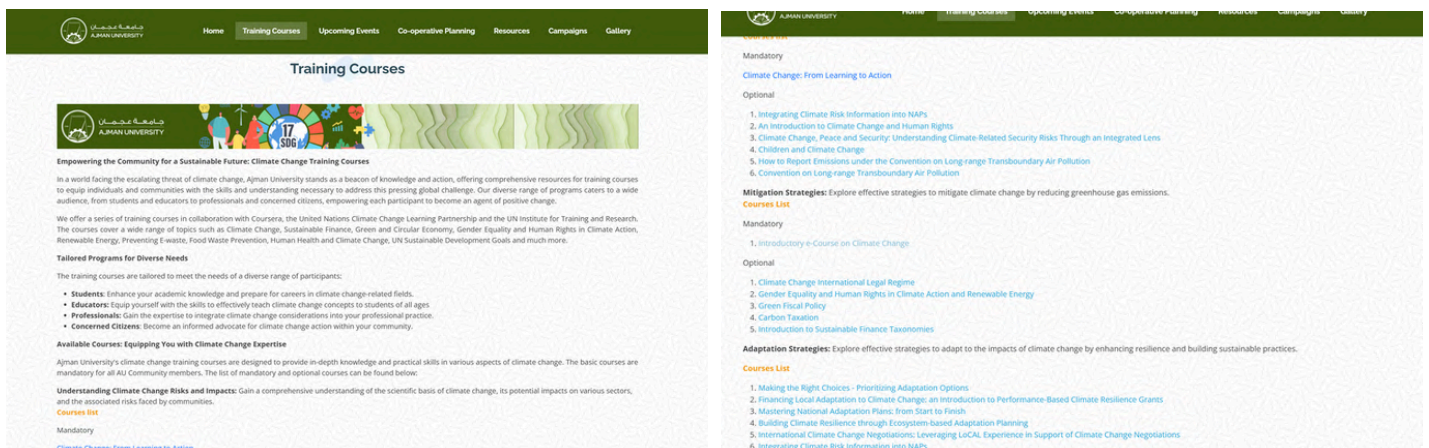
In a world facing the escalating threat of climate change, Ajman University stands as a beacon of knowledge and action, offering comprehensive resources for training courses to equip individuals and communities with the skills and understanding necessary to address this pressing global challenge. Our 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 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>



The left screenshot displays the 'Training Courses' page on the Ajman University website. It features a banner for 'Empowering the Community for a Sustainable Future: Climate Change Training Courses' and a list of available courses. The right screenshot shows a detailed view of a training course titled 'Climate Change: From Learning to Action' with a list of mandatory and optional courses.

Available Courses: Equipping You with Climate Change Expertise

Ajman University's climate change training courses are designed to provide in-depth knowledge and practical skills in various aspects of climate change. The basic courses are mandatory for all AU Community members. The list of mandatory and optional courses can be found below.

Understanding Climate Change Risks and Impacts: Gain a comprehensive understanding of the scientific basis of climate change, its potential impacts on various sectors, and the associated risks faced by communities.

Courses List

Mandatory

Climate Change: From Learning to Action

Climate Change: From Learning to Action

Mandatory

Climate Change: From Learning to Action

Optional

1. Integrating Climate Risk Information into NAPs

2. An Introduction to Climate Change and Human Rights

3. Climate Change, Peace and Security: Understanding Climate-Related Security Risks Through an Integrated Lens

4. Children and Climate Change

5. How to Report Emissions under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

6. Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Mitigation Strategies: Explore effective strategies to mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Courses List

Mandatory

1. Introductory e-Course on Climate Change

Optional

1. Climate Change International Legal Regime

2. Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action and Renewable Energy

3. Green Fiscal Policy

4. Carbon Taxation

5. Introduction to Sustainable Finance Taxonomies

Adaptation Strategies: Explore effective strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change by enhancing resilience and building sustainable practices.

Courses List

1. Making the Right Choices - Prioritizing Adaptation Options

2. Financing Local Adaptation to Climate Change: an Introduction to Performance-Based Climate Resilience Grants

3. Mastering National Adaptation Plans: from Start to Finish

4. Building Climate Resilience through Ecosystem-based Adaptation Planning

5. International Climate Change Negotiations: Leveraging LoCA Experience in Support of Climate Change Negotiations

6. Integrating Climate Risk Information into NAPs

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 AU Climate Action Learning Program 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's Office of Sustainability Launches "Mangrove Champions" Initiative

As part of its commitment to fostering environmental awareness and encouraging students to adopt sustainable practices, Ajman University's Office of Sustainability has launched the "Mangrove Champions" initiative. This initiative aims to unite community efforts in protecting the environment and promoting sustainability. As part of its activities, the Office of Sustainability organized a mangrove planting and event in collaboration with Quest for Adventure.

This initiative aligns with the "Year of Sustainability," which includes a series of events aimed at enhancing environmental awareness in the UAE. Additionally, it reflects the UAE's vision of preserving biodiversity and protecting ecosystems, and it aligns with the 15th Sustainable Development Goal – Life on Land.

The event featured a range of activities, including an introduction to the ecological importance of mangrove trees and their critical role in achieving environmental sustainability. Students participated in planting mangrove saplings and engaged in a kayaking experience along coastal areas to explore this unique ecosystem up close. Participants also gained hands-on experience in marine conservation and interaction with natural elements.

Mangrove trees play a crucial role in coastal ecosystems, serving as natural barriers against shoreline erosion, waves, and storm surges. Additionally, they contribute to water purification and provide natural habitats for diverse marine species and birds, thereby enhancing biodiversity. Furthermore, mangroves possess a remarkable ability to absorb and store carbon dioxide, making them an effective tool in combating climate change.

Participants highlighted the value of these initiatives in raising environmental awareness and inspiring sustainable practices. They noted that the activities deepened their understanding of environmental challenges and strengthened their responsibility toward nature. They also appreciated the event's organization, emphasizing that such initiatives foster teamwork and reinforce sustainability values within the community.

The initiative highlights Ajman University's Office of Sustainability's commitment to promoting environmental awareness and integrating sustainable development principles among students and the broader community. It reflects the University's dedication to implementing impactful initiatives and building strategic partnerships that contribute to the national sustainability agenda and a more sustainable future.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/ehs/news/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-launches-mangrove-champions-initiative>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/mangrove-planting-project>



The Office of Sustainability Organizes an Orientation Session for New Students on Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University organized an orientation session for new students titled "Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action," aimed at empowering them to prepare for emergencies, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and take proactive steps toward safety and environmental responsibility. Additionally, the session was attended by new international exchange students, with a focus on raising awareness about how to act in different emergency situations, the importance of environmental consciousness, and fostering a commitment to sustainability and climate action in their daily lives both on and off-campus.

The session was presented by Maya Haddad, the Sustainability Manager at Ajman University, who covered several important topics, including the significance of emergency preparedness, how to act during medical emergencies, recognizing and interpreting emergency signals, best practices for fire safety and evacuation strategies, as well as handling natural disasters and lab-related emergencies. The session also included an explanation of how to understand campus evacuation maps and assembly points. At the end of the session, Maya Haddad emphasized that Ajman University continues its commitment to sustainability and climate action through organizing initiatives, workshops, events, and active participation in the COP28 conference.

This session represents the efforts of the Office of Sustainability at Ajman University to raise environmental awareness among students and equip them with the necessary skills to handle emergencies, contributing to the development of a safe and sustainable campus environment.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-organizes-an-orientation-session-for-new-students-on-emergency-preparedness-sustainability-and-climate-action>



Ajman University and Al Zorah Golf Club, affiliated with Al Zorah Development Private Company, Launch Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour Initiative

Ajman University in collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club, launched the "Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour" initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club in Ajman. This initiative aligns with the UAE's ambitious goal to plant 100 million mangrove trees by 2030, Al Zorah City's pledge to double the existing mangrove forest in the Al Zorah Natural reserve area to 2.4 million trees and is a testament to the University's dedication to its 2022-2030 climate and sustainability strategy.

The initiative, which kicked off on January 16th, 2024 and will span 13 weeks has drawn enthusiastic participation not only from within the University but also from schools and other external groups. More than 70 individuals have so far actively participated and contributed to the aim of planting around 1,000 mangrove trees. This endeavor reflects the community members' commitment to environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

The primary objective of this initiative is the restoration of mangrove ecosystems, crucial for mitigating the impacts of climate change. These trees play a vital role in maintaining ecological balance and enhancing sustainability by supporting biodiversity, protecting coastlines from erosion, providing critical habitat for fish and other marine life and absorbing significant amounts of carbon dioxide, thus offering a natural solution to climate challenges.

Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, emphasized the alignment of the planting mangrove initiative with the UAE's strategy to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. He commended the Office of Sustainability for establishing effective partnerships with various entities and sectors. Additionally, he underscored the importance of collaborating with Al Zorah Development Private Company to achieve the university's environmental goals. Dr. Seghir highlighted the significance of community efforts in environmental protection and the role of universities in promoting scientific research and innovation in the field of sustainability.

In addition, Mr. Stephen Payne, Golf Operation Manager of Al Zorah Golf Club in Ajman has stated "As part of our outreach and education module to become Audubon Golf certified, one of our tasks is to engage with the local community members. We are delighted to find an amazing opportunity to collaborate with Ajman University in sustainability efforts.

The collaboration will see students come to the Golf Club every Tuesday over a four-month period, in these sessions, an educational 30 minutes is held at the planting site location followed by the student planting between 50-75 mangroves each week. This project will see over 1,000 baby mangroves planted in sustainability efforts which is a fantastic feat.

We are also excited to be hosting a mangrove clean-up in February with the University featuring a 45-minute learning seminar followed by all participants heading to the mangroves and collecting all the disposed waste and litter for a healthier eco system.

We have to thank our Club Partner Quest for Adventure who have made this collaboration possible with the supply of the baby mangroves each week. Without this, this wouldn't have been possible. We look forward to continuing to work with Ajman University on many more projects in the future.'

Quest for Adventure plays an effective role in supporting this initiative, contributing to the supply of 1,000 baby mangrove trees to be planted at the golf club. This reflects its continuous efforts in enhancing climate change mitigation and achieving environmental sustainability. Brian Parry, Head of Community Development at Quest for Adventure, commented that initiative's like this are precisely why Quest operates a mangrove tree growing Nursery as part of the Al Zorah City sustainability plan for doubling the size of the existing mangrove forest. The Mangrove Nursery is supported by Ajman municipality and the Ministry of Climate Change and corporate sponsors to enable community action and environmental education programs that contribute to the UAE commitment to combat climate change.

Through partnerships with key stakeholders, the Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University, drives innovative initiatives to raise environmental awareness and achieve measurable impact on conservation, social responsibility and sustainability practices at Ajman University.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-and-al-zorah-golf-club-affiliated-with-al-zorah-development-private-company-launch-mangrove-planting-and-golf-tour-initiative>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/mangrove-planting-project>



The Office of Sustainability Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation in Green Communities Event

As part of the Greening Communities program by the Ministry of Education and Al Ghurair Foundation, the Office of Sustainability at Ajman University, in collaboration with Goumbook organized the "Greening Communities: Seeds of Tomorrow" event. It aimed to highlight the ecological importance, various benefits, and cultural significance of the Ghaf tree in the United Arab Emirates.

The event featured an enlightening workshop and awareness session presented by Goumbook team members Omaila Sirelkhatim, Education and CSR Manager, and Nasrin Suleiman, Business Development and Campaign Senior Manager, delving into the significance of the Ghaf tree and its profound connection to the heritage and history of the UAE. The workshop emphasized the crucial role of the majestic Ghaf tree in preserving environmental balance and ecosystem restoration.

The event underscored the Ghaf tree's key role in fighting desertification, enhancing soil and air quality, and promoting biodiversity by providing a vital habitat for various organisms. It also explored climate action, emphasizing the Ghaf tree's importance in achieving this goal.

The event offered interactive workshop, inspiring participants to plant Ghaf tree seeds in pots. These seeds will be nurtured until they are ready for transplantation onto the university campus. This direct engagement reflects participants' commitment to preserving the environmental heritage for future generations. This helps in integrating the principles of SDG 13: Climate Action as well as SDG 15: Life on Land.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University is dedicated to promoting environmental sustainability and awareness throughout society. By organizing collaborative events, workshops, and initiatives, it involves a wide range of partners. Additionally, it fosters creativity and innovation in environmental sustainability to enhance social responsibility, cultivating an environmentally mindful community.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-collaborates-with-goumbook-and-abdulla-al-ghurair-foundation-in-green-communities-event>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/greening-communities>



Ajman University and Al Zorah Development Private Company team up for Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration Event

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University, in collaboration with Al Zorah Development Private Company, hosted a Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration event as part of the Greening Communities initiative activities. The event tackled two crucial environmental issues: protecting biodiversity and raising awareness about climate change.

The awareness session delivered by Stephen Payne the Golf Operations Manager and Charlyn Alunday the Membership and Marketing Executive from Al Zorah Golf Club underscored the crucial role of mangrove trees in the natural ecosystem. It highlighted their capacity to absorb carbon dioxide and generate oxygen, thus improving air quality and aiding in climate change mitigation. Additionally, the awareness session discussed mangroves' significance in protecting coastal areas against natural disasters, supporting biodiversity, enhancing water quality and serving as efficient blue carbon ecosystems for carbon absorption and storage.

During the event, a clean-up campaign aimed to raise awareness about marine environment cleanliness, collect waste that harms marine life and ecosystems, and preserve marine habitats for future generations. The campaign involved around 80 volunteers from the AU Community and school students from Al Aqsa Private School, Ajman and National Charity School, Ajman.

The Office of Sustainability collaborates with relevant entities to promote environmental awareness and sustainability. Through knowledge exchange and innovative initiatives, it addresses climate change impacts by organizing workshops, seminars, and campaigns to encourage active participation in environmental preservation for future generations.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-and-al-zorah-development-private-company-team-up-for-mangrove-ecosystem-restoration-event>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/greening-communities>



Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Organizes an Awareness Session and Workshop titled "Your Planet Needs You "at Al Maarifa International Private School

In its ongoing efforts to promote environmental awareness and sustainability, the Office of Sustainability at Ajman University hosted an awareness session and workshop titled 'Your Planet Needs You' for students at Al Maarifa International Private School. This initiative aligns with Ajman University's affiliation with the Greening Education Partnership's "Greening Communities" pillar. The awareness session, presented by Ajman University students Amreen Fatima, Zainab Mohiuddin, and Nasima Mohammad Helal, aimed to inspire sustainable practices for everyday life and empower participant to become environmental stewards in their communities.

The awareness session covered a diverse range of topics, emphasizing the significance of sustainable development goals (SDGs) and their relevance. It specifically focused on SDG 14: Life Below Water and SDG 15: Life on Land, highlighting their importance in environmental conservation. Additionally, the awareness session offered practical and innovative solutions aimed at promoting sustainability in both marine and terrestrial environments.

The awareness session and workshop also featured a quiz game to assess students' understanding of sustainability, with eco-friendly prizes awarded to winners to reinforce positive environmental choices. Moreover, students participated in a pledge activity, imprinting their fingerprints on a pledge paper to symbolize their personal commitment to environmental protection.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University fosters environmental awareness and sustainability throughout its community by organizing various events and initiatives for students, faculty, and staff members. Students are actively encouraged to participate in awareness-raising activities and sustainable initiatives. These endeavors contribute to nurturing a responsible generation dedicated to preserving the planet and promoting sustainable development.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-organizes-an-awareness-session-and-workshop-titled-your-planet-needs-you-at-al-maarifa-international-private-school>



Indoor Air Quality Monitoring at Ajman University

In a significant step that bridges immediate health concerns with long-term environmental stewardship, Ajman University has implemented a comprehensive indoor air quality (IAQ) monitoring system across its facilities. This initiative not only ensures the highest standard of air quality for students, faculty, and staff but also serves as a living laboratory for understanding the tangible impacts of a changing climate on human health.

With a focus on creating a safer and healthier environment, the university has strategically placed air quality monitors throughout its buildings to track key pollutants like particulate matter (PM2.5/PM10), carbon dioxide (CO2), and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The data collected is crucial, as climate change exacerbates indoor air quality issues; increased outdoor pollution from dust storms and industrial emissions, intensified by rising temperatures, can directly infiltrate and degrade the air inside buildings.

"The link between climate change and public health is undeniable, and indoor air quality is a critical piece of that puzzle," said Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager at Ajman University. "When pollutant levels rise, it can lead to health issues like allergies, asthma, and decreased cognitive function. This system allows us to act proactively, making data-driven adjustments to ventilation or deploying air purifiers to maintain a healthy environment."

Beyond its immediate health benefits, this proactive measure is a core component of the university's expanded commitment to sustainability and climate education. The real-time data from the monitoring system will be integrated into academic programs, providing students in environmental science, public health, and engineering with hands-on experience in data analysis and sustainable problem-solving.

This initiative transforms the campus itself into a dynamic learning tool. By monitoring and responding to air quality trends, Ajman University is not only safeguarding the well-being of its community but also cultivating a new generation of leaders equipped with the practical knowledge to tackle environmental challenges. This move powerfully showcases the university's dedication to innovation in environmental health, positioning its campus as a model for climate-resilient and health-conscious institutions in the region.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-champions-campus-health-and-climate-resilience-with-new-air-quality-initiative>



The Office of Sustainability Celebrates World Environment Day in Collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University, in collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club, organized an event to celebrate World Environment Day, aiming to raise awareness about the importance of environmental conservation and natural resources. This year's World Environment Day slogan, "Land restoration, desertification, and drought resilience," underscored the focus on environmental challenges.

The event commenced with a presentation by Mr. Brian Parry, Head of Community Development at Quest for Adventure, highlighting the vital role of mangrove trees in the environment and their significance in climate change mitigation. Mr. Parry provided comprehensive information on these crucial trees and emphasized the importance of building resilience to environmental challenges, such as drought, as part of conservation efforts and sustainability enhancement.

He also shed light on ongoing efforts to plant mangrove trees in the Al Zorah area, aligning with the UAE's goal to plant 100 million trees by 2030 to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. Additionally, Mr. Stephen Payne, Golf Operations Manager of Al Zorah Golf Club in Ajman, briefed participants on necessary safety instructions and procedures during the event.

Thirty-five participants from Ajman University successfully planted 200 mangrove trees during the event. This initiative contributed to soil preservation, coastal erosion reduction, and provided crucial habitats for terrestrial and marine life, promoting sustainable development and safeguarding the environment for future generations.

Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University, emphasized, "World Environment Day reminds us of our deep commitment to protecting biodiversity and natural resources. The celebration promotes environmental awareness and community engagement in conservation and sustainability efforts. It highlights the need for sustainable decision-making and lifestyles that preserve the environment for future generations. By participating, we affirm our commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainability in all aspects of our lives."

The event concluded with a friendly golf competition, where participants enjoyed fostering sportsmanship and social interaction.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-celebrates-world-environment-day-in-collaboration-with-al-zorah-golf-club>



Ajman University Participates in SNOC Health, Safety, and Environment Exhibition 2024

In the presence of Sheikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Sultan Al Qasimi, Vice Chairman of the Oil Council, Ajman University's Sustainability Office participated in SNOC Health, Safety, and Environment Exhibition 2024 (HSE), organized by the Sharjah National Oil Corporation (SNOC) and held at Al Jawaher Reception and Convention Centre in Sharjah. The exhibition was attended by over 200 professionals and experts from government institutions and private companies interested in occupational health and safety. Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University, played a key role in moderating two important sessions at the conference. The first session focused on Environmental Sustainability—"Transitioning to Net-Zero: Strategies for Organizations in the UAE"—where the university presented valuable insights on achieving environmental sustainability and adopting effective strategies to meet environmental goals. The second session addressed "Occupational Health Surveillance: Tools and Techniques for Monitoring Workplace Health," showcasing the latest methods and technologies to enhance employee health and safety.

Additionally, University students and staff participated in interactive workshops and training sessions covering a wide range of topics, including emergency response planning, risk assessment, and management.

Ms. Maya Haddad emphasized the importance of these topics, stating: "Achieving net-zero emissions is not just an environmental goal but a crucial necessity for ensuring resource sustainability and protecting the environment for future generations. Similarly, enhancing health and safety in the workplace is a real investment in employee well-being and productivity. At Ajman University, our commitment to these issues contributes to building a safer and more sustainable work environment, reinforcing our efforts to provide innovative and effective solutions in these vital areas." Ajman University's participation in this exhibition provided an excellent opportunity to share knowledge and exchange experiences in the fields of health, safety, and the environment. It facilitated discussions on current trends and challenges while exploring the latest technologies and solutions.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-participates-in-snoc-health-safety-and-environment-exhibition-2024>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/hse-expo-2024>



Ajman University Participates in First Education Sector Environment, Health and Safety Forum Organized by Emirates Schools Establishment

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability took a leading role at the first Education Sector Environment, Health, and Safety (EHS) Forum, organized by the Emirates Schools Establishment. Under the theme "Our Schools are Safe and Sustainable," the forum served as a critical platform for shaping climate-ready educational institutions, and Ajman University was at the forefront, showcasing how comprehensive EHS practices are essential for building resilience in a changing climate.

The University's presentation highlighted its best practices, framing its effective EHS management system not just as a safety protocol, but as a proactive adaptation strategy. In a region where climate change intensifies environmental risks—from extreme heat degrading air quality to more frequent dust storms affecting campus operations—the university's rigorous safety auditing cycles are a first line of defense. These systems are designed to identify and mitigate evolving environment-related health risks, ensuring the campus remains a safe haven for its community.

Moving beyond theory, the university's booth engaged visitors with interactive games like the "EHS Jeopardy Challenge" and "Spot the Hazards," which were strategically designed to embed principles of climate awareness within safety training. These activities demonstrated how to educate the next generation on navigating a world with new environmental challenges, making the link between personal safety and planetary health both clear and engaging.

The forum's workshops, which focused on innovative solutions for EHS challenges, provided a vital space to discuss sustainability as a core component of institutional resilience. Ajman University's participation underscores its commitment to leading by example, leveraging its expertise to help other educational institutions integrate climate-smart safety practices. This effort reinforces the university's role in establishing not only safe and sustainable learning environments today, but also in preparing them for the challenges of tomorrow.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-participates-in-first-education-sector-environment-health-and-safety-forum-organized-by-emirates-schools-establishment>



Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Engages in the Fifth EHSPN Conference

The Fifth Emirates HigherEd Safety Professional Network (EHSPN) Conference brought together leading Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) professionals from various UAE universities for a collaborative event aimed at addressing critical health and safety issues within higher education institutions. The conference provided a unique platform for the exchange of knowledge, fostering meaningful discussions on essential topics related to safety, sustainability, and emergency preparedness.

The agenda featured several insightful sessions, covering key areas designed to help universities enhance their emergency preparedness and crisis response capabilities, including:

- Keynote session: "The EHS Highwire" written by Mr. Akram Bekzada, which explored the delicate balance of maintaining high EHS standards in complex environments.
- Open Forum on Crisis Management: Moderated by Mr. Prasanth N.K., this interactive session shared best practices and strategies for effective crisis management in higher education, providing valuable insights into real-world applications.
- ZU EHSMS Presentation: Highlighting the impact of Environmental Health and Safety Management Systems (EHSMS) on academic accreditations and university rankings, this presentation showcased how universities can balance excellence in safety and sustainability.
- NYU Abu Dhabi's Panel Discussion: The team from New York University Abu Dhabi shared valuable insights into corrective actions, focusing on overcoming obstacles, task assignments, and effective task closure.

Ajman University was represented by Ms. Maya Haddad, the Sustainability and EHS Manager, who played a key role in the discussions. The Office of Sustainability team from Ajman University also actively participated, engaging with peers from other institutions and contributing to the broader dialogue on enhancing sustainability practices in higher education.

The conference emphasized Ajman University's commitment to sustainability and safety, highlighting the importance of continuous improvement in these areas to enhance academic excellence and well-being across the institution.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-engages-in-the-fifth-ehspn-conference>



Ajman University hosted the 7th Edition of the Ajman International Environment Conference (AIEC)

Ajman University recently hosted the 7th Edition of the Ajman International Environment Conference (AIEC), a landmark event that brought together global experts, academics, and professionals to discuss critical environmental issues. With a focus on "Climate-Neutral City 2050," the conference explored innovative strategies to accelerate climate action and promote sustainable urban development. The event aligned closely with the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, reflecting the UAE's commitment to leading on climate issues.

One of the highlights of the conference was the participation of Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University. Her involvement exemplified the university's dedication to sustainability and active contribution to environmental initiatives. In recognition of her efforts, Ms. Haddad received a certificate of recognition for her valuable contribution to the event.

Key topics discussed during the conference included the role of artificial intelligence in achieving net-zero emissions, transitioning to low-carbon infrastructure, and the integration of circular waste economies. These discussions are critical to addressing the environmental challenges of today and fostering collaboration for a more resilient future.

Ajman University's involvement in hosting the conference not only reinforces its commitment to sustainability but also highlights its role as a key player in the UAE's broader environmental and climate initiatives. By actively engaging in these discussions, the university continues to pave the way for innovative solutions that align with the UAE's Vision 2050.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-hosted-the-7th-edition-of-the-ajman-international-environment-conference-aiec>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/ajman-7th-international-environment-conference-2024>



Ms. Maya Haddad's Role in Enhancing Sustainability Efforts through Microsoft Sustainability Manager Workshop

In a stride towards enhancing sustainable practices and environmental responsibility, Ms. Maya Haddad, Manager of the Office of Sustainability, recently participated in the exclusive Microsoft Sustainability Manager workshop hosted by Microsoft. This workshop, designed for leaders and professionals who are dedicated to sustainability, aims to equip participants with innovative tools and actionable insights that can lead to significant environmental progress.

The Microsoft Sustainability Manager workshop brings together a select group of sustainability leaders to explore advanced solutions within the Microsoft ecosystem, focusing on enhancing environmental, social, and governance performance across various sectors. Ms. Haddad's involvement in this workshop underscores her commitment to integrating cutting-edge digital solutions that align with global sustainability objectives.

A Leader in Action

Ms. Haddad, known for her active role in advocating sustainable initiatives, has long been a pivotal figure in the promotion and execution of green strategies within the organization. Her participation in the workshop is a progressive step towards adopting intelligent, data-driven tools that can streamline the effective practices across departments and initiatives. Her expertise and keen understanding of sustainability challenges have allowed her to leverage digital platforms effectively, driving impactful results that resonate with the broader community.

Through her role, Ms. Haddad has created several noteworthy projects that emphasize sustainable practices, such as awareness campaigns, waste reduction programs, and carbon footprint minimization initiatives. The insights and tools she has gained from the Microsoft workshop are expected to further enrich these initiatives, enabling more efficient data tracking, reporting, and analysis elements that are essential for transparent and impactful sustainability measures.

Harnessing Technology for Sustainable Progress

The Microsoft Sustainability Manager platform offers unparalleled capabilities in enhancing sustainability data, monitoring environmental performance, and aligning with compliance requirements. With these tools, Ms. Haddad envisions enhancing the organization's sustainability framework, ensuring that each project is measurable, scalable, and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Her strategic vision for integrating technology with sustainability emphasizes not only the importance of environmental responsibility but also the role of digital transformation in achieving these objectives. By utilizing this technology, she intends to promote a data-centric approach to sustainability, facilitating greater accountability and clarity in tracking sustainability metrics and targets.

Looking Forward: Building on a Sustainable Vision

Ms. Haddad's participation in the Microsoft Sustainability Manager workshop marks a significant milestone in the organization's journey toward a sustainable future. Her proactive approach in such advanced training sessions showcases her dedication to exploring innovative approaches, equipping the organization with the tools and knowledge necessary to lead in effective practices.

As she continues to apply the insights gained from the workshop, Ms. Haddad stands as a beacon of progressive leadership. Her commitment not only enhances the sustainability agenda within the organization but also inspires a greater commitment to environmental stewardship, establishing a high standard for sustainable practices within the region and beyond.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ms-maya-haddads-role-in-enhancing-sustainability-efforts-through-microsoft-sustainability-manager-workshop>



AU Delegates Complete Ajman Sustainability Program

In a recent initiative, the Ajman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in partnership with BLUEGREEN consultancy, delivered the "Ajman Sustainability Program: Driving Sustainable Business, CSR and ESG Training." The program aimed to equip local businesses with the knowledge and tools to implement sustainable practices and contribute to the emirate's overall sustainability goals.

Ajman University actively participated in the program, with members of the Office of Sustainability attending the training. This participation reflects the university's commitment to sustainability and its role in supporting local businesses in achieving their environmental and social goals.

The training covered a comprehensive range of topics, including best practices in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and environmental sustainability, designing impactful social initiatives, understanding the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and fostering strategic and design thinking for problem-solving and innovation.

The program was met with positive feedback from participants. Lina Hourani and Ashraf Tawakkol, the program's mentors, were praised for delivering an insightful and interactive learning experience. Participants also acknowledged the valuable contributions of their colleagues, Maya Haddad, Ikram Abdu and Rami Elhadi from the Office of Sustainability, who actively participated in the program.

This collaborative effort underscores the commitment of the Ajman Chamber, BLUEGREEN consultancy, and local businesses to work together with various stakeholders in Ajman. By developing and implementing successful and sustainable initiatives, they aim to create a positive impact on the community and environment.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/highlights/au-delegates-complete-ajman-sustainability-program>



Ajman University Delegation participate in QS Higher Education Middle East Summit 2024

At the QS Higher Education Middle East Summit 2024, Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, emphasized the university's alignment with global and regional priorities. He highlighted Ajman University's commitment to sustainability, innovation, and diversity through strategic partnerships, hands-on learning, and inclusive academic initiatives, positioning the institution as a leader in shaping the future of higher education.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University took an active role in the QS Higher Education Middle East Summit 2024, where its participation in sustainability-focused discussions showcased the university's leadership in this critical area. The office's involvement in the summit was marked by its contributions to panels that addressed pressing sustainability challenges, emphasizing the need for higher education institutions to lead the charge in sustainable development. Through this platform, the Office of Sustainability highlighted its innovative initiatives, collaborative projects, and practical strategies for integrating sustainability into academia, campus life, and community outreach. Its presence at the summit not only demonstrated Ajman University's commitment to sustainability but also reinforced its position as a thought leader in shaping the future of sustainable development across the region.

The QS Higher Education Summit: Middle East 2024, attended by 60 esteemed leaders in academia, is a platform for exchanging ideas and addressing critical challenges in the sector. The summit will feature a series of masterclasses and interactive discussions covering pivotal topics, such as:

- The State of Higher Education in the Middle East: This panel explores the region's progress in innovation and knowledge transfer, essential for building a knowledge-based economy.
- Going with the (Digital) Flow: Leaders will discuss how digital transformation is reshaping strategic planning and the future of education.
- Quality Research for the Real World: The focus here is on translating research into practical solutions that address real-world challenges.
- Sustainability Goals – A Reality Check: This panel will assess the progress of institutions in achieving their sustainability targets and highlight the importance of practical, impactful action.
- New Skills for the New-Collar Worker: A discussion on evolving workforce demands and how higher education can equip students with the skills necessary to thrive in emerging fields.
- Recruiting a Diverse Student Body: Leaders will explore strategies for recruiting students from diverse backgrounds, fostering inclusion, and driving cultural diversity within academic institutions.

In conclusion, the Office of Sustainability's participation in the QS Higher Education Summit highlights Ajman University's commitment to advancing higher education in the Middle East. By focusing on equipping students with the skills, knowledge, and values essential for success in a rapidly evolving world, the office reinforces the university's role as a leader in sustainability and innovation.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-delegation-participate-in-qs-higher-education-middle-east-summit-2024>



Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Hosts Workshop on Clean Water and Sanitation

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University, in collaboration with the Office of Student Housing, organized a workshop titled "Clean Water and Sanitation." The workshop, presented by Ms. Maya Haddad, the Sustainability Manager, aimed to emphasize the importance of clean water and sanitation practices while promoting sustainable approaches to water resource management.

The workshop featured an interactive session on Sustainable Development 6th goal: clean water and sanitation. Participants discussed the vital role of these resources in safeguarding the environment and public health. Practical solutions were explored to address challenges and promote sustainable development.

Additionally, the workshop improved students' understanding of global issues by covering various Sustainable Development Goals. Active participation encouraged questions and discussions, enriching the learning experience.

The workshop concluded with an interactive game focused on Sustainable Development Goals, providing participants with an enjoyable and competitive platform to test their knowledge and understanding.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University significantly raises awareness of sustainability among all university members through educational programs such as workshops, lectures, and community events. These activities aim to stimulate active participation and cultivate an environmental and sustainability culture both on and off campus.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-hosts-workshop-on-clean-water-and-sanitation>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/clean-water-and-sanitation-workshop-and-awareness-session>



Ajman University Engages with Global Dialogue on Climate Policy Leadership in Latin America & Caribbean

Ajman University Engages with Global Dialogue on Climate Policy Leadership in Latin America & Caribbean

In a continued commitment to fostering global sustainability dialogue, Ajman University (AU) was an attentive participant at a pivotal online event titled “Climate Policy Leadership in Latin America & the Caribbean: Building Blocks for a Net Zero Future.” The event explored the critical role of robust climate policy in accelerating the transition to a net-zero emissions world.

The discussion was particularly timely, focusing on the Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) region and the pivotal role of Brazil, which is set to host the UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) in 2025. The central theme resonated deeply with global sustainability efforts: how climate policy leadership can incentivize faster climate action, unlock necessary investment, and create a level playing field for those at the forefront of the race to zero emissions.

The event, convened by a coalition of leading organizations including the UNFCCC Climate Champions & Race to Zero, the Talanoa Institute, and InfluenceMap, delved into the essential building blocks required to drive effective net-zero policy and regulation. A key focus was on balancing ambitious emission reduction targets with the ongoing need for economic development.

Key discussion points aligned with the event's core objectives:

1. **Raising the Profile of Net Zero in Brazil:** The event highlighted strategies to elevate the ambition for achieving net-zero emissions within Brazil, leveraging its upcoming position as COP30 host to foster national and regional momentum.
2. **Mobilizing Community Engagement:** A significant emphasis was placed on mobilizing the broader community in Brazil—including academia, civil society, and the public—to actively participate in shaping climate policy discussions.
3. **Showcasing Non-State Actor Influence:** The event showcased the powerful intersection between advocacy from non-state actors—such as businesses, investors, and cities—and the formation of effective climate policy. It detailed how their leadership in the region connects with and influences global climate negotiations.

The insights from speakers, including Venetia Roxburgh, Europe Program Manager at InfluenceMap, provided a data-driven perspective on how policy engagement can effectively drive systemic change.


AU's Connection to the Climate Action Mission

Ajman University's participation in this event underscores its strategic alignment with the global climate agenda. The discussions directly reflect the university's dedication to the principles of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 13: Climate Action. By engaging with these high-level dialogues, AU gains valuable insights into the policy frameworks that are essential for a sustainable future—knowledge that is directly integrated into our curricula, research initiatives, and campus operations.

Understanding the mechanisms that "unlock investment and level the playing field" informs our research in sustainable engineering, environmental sciences, and business administration. It equips our students to become the future leaders and innovators who will navigate and shape the green economy.

As the world looks towards Brazil and the LAC region to champion the next phase of climate leadership, Ajman University remains committed to being an active part of the conversation, contributing to the cross-continental exchange of ideas that is vital for achieving a net-zero future.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-engages-with-global-dialogue-on-climate-policy-leadership-in-latin-america-caribbean>



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Aligning Policy Engagement with Net Zero

UNFCCC Race to Zero Webinar Series

Climate policy leadership can incentivize faster climate action, unlock investment, and level the playing field for those leading the race to zero emissions.


This [online event](#) will explore how the Latin America & Caribbean (LAC) region and Brazil, in its future position as COP30 host, can become a global leader on climate policy engagement. What building blocks are needed to drive forward net zero policy and regulation to achieve the emission reduction we need in the years ahead, while upholding development? How can non-state actors, like businesses, investors and cities, be engaged in shaping better climate policy to cut emissions?


The objectives of this event are to:


- Raise the profile of achieving net zero emissions in Brazil;
- Mobilize the community in Brazil to engage in climate policy discussions; and
- Showcase the intersection between non-state actor advocacy in the region, and how this connects with global discussions.


The event is convened by UNFCCC Climate Champions & Race to Zero, Talanoa Institute, and InfluenceMap. InfluenceMap's Europe Program Manager, Venetia Roxburgh, will be speaking at the event.

Event Details

 March 19th, 2024

 2:30 - 4:00PM GMT/ 9:30 - 11:00AM ET

 Zoom Webinar

 events@influencemap.org

[Sign Up](#)



Bridging the Gap: Ajman University Gains Insights from UN Event on Equipping Educators for Sustainable Development

In line with its deep commitment to integrating sustainability across all academic and operational facets, Ajman University (AU) was an engaged participant in the Sulitest official event, “Bridging the Gap: Equipping Educators for Sustainable Development,” held at the United Nations.

This high-level forum brought together a global coalition of leaders from higher education accreditation bodies, sustainability networks, and ranking organizations to address one of the most pressing challenges in education: effectively preparing educators to lead the charge on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The event featured two dynamic panel discussions, each focusing on a critical lever for systemic change in higher education.

Panel 1: Quality Assurance and Assessment as Drivers for Change

Moderated by John North of the Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative (GRLI), this panel explored how accreditation standards and evaluation metrics can catalyze the integration of sustainability. Speakers from the world's most influential bodies highlighted a significant shift:

- Lily Bi, President and CEO of AACSB International, and Susan Hart of EFMD Quality Services (EQUIS), discussed how their accreditation frameworks are increasingly prioritizing social responsibility and environmental stewardship as core markers of quality.
- Duncan Ross, Chief Data Officer at Times Higher Education (THE), and Leigh Kamolins from QS, detailed how their respective rankings, particularly the THE Impact Rankings, are creating powerful incentives for universities to demonstrate their commitment to the SDGs by making sustainability performance a key competitive differentiator.
- Katrin Muff, President of the Positive Impact Rating (PIR), emphasized the importance of measuring a business school's positive impact on society, moving beyond traditional metrics to assess its role in shaping a sustainable future.

The key takeaway for AU was clear: the landscape of quality assurance is evolving rapidly, with global benchmarks now explicitly rewarding institutions that embed sustainability into their DNA.

Panel 2: Expanding Innovative Practices – The Role of Networks

The second panel, moderated by Kathleen Ng of McGill University and Sulitest, shifted the focus to collaboration and the power of collective action. Leaders from premier global sustainability networks shared strategies for scaling up innovative teaching and operational practices:

- Meghan Fay Zahniser from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) showcased tools like the STARS reporting framework that helps institutions measure their sustainability performance.
- Patrick Paul Walsh, Vice President of Education at the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), highlighted the critical role of science-based resources and curricula, such as those from the SDG Academy, in educating future leaders.
- Meredith Storey from the UN Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) and Quinn Runkle from Students Organising for Sustainability-UK (SOS-UK) discussed transformative pedagogical approaches and the vital role of student engagement in driving campus-wide change.

The discussion reinforced the invaluable role of international networks in sharing best practices, providing resources, and creating a community of practice dedicated to accelerating sustainability in education.

Alignment with Ajman University's Strategic Vision

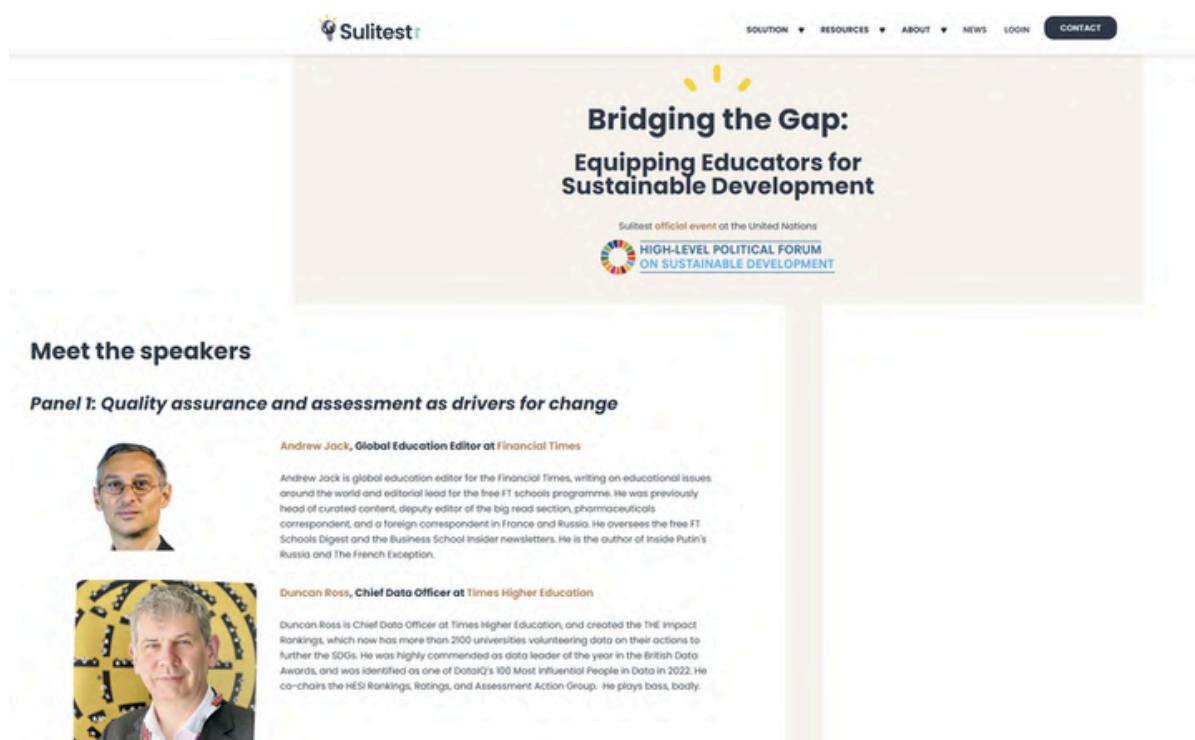
Ajman University's participation in this UN event directly supports its strategic mission to be a leader in sustainability and social responsibility. The insights gained on evolving accreditation standards, impactful assessment tools, and collaborative networks provide a vital roadmap for AU's ongoing initiatives.

The discussions directly inform our efforts to:

- Continuously enhance our academic programs to meet and exceed global sustainability standards.
- Leverage international frameworks to benchmark and improve our campus operations.
- Empower our faculty with the latest tools and pedagogical approaches to educate the sustainability leaders of tomorrow.

By engaging with these global dialogues, AU reaffirms its commitment to not only adapting to the changing landscape of higher education but to actively shaping it. The university is dedicated to ensuring that its graduates are equipped with the sustainability literacy and responsible leadership skills required to tackle the world's most complex challenges.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/bridging-the-gap-ajman-university-gains-insights-from-un-event-on-equipping-educators-for-sustainable-development>



Ajman University Students Participate in the Launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" Program

Ajman University students, Itemad Sauria and Khadeeja, under the supervision and coordination of the Office of Sustainability, participated in the "Sustainability Heroes" program. This initiative, launched by Nestlé in collaboration with INJAZ UAE and under the patronage of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, aims to empower young leaders in sustainability.

The program's launch event, held at the Intercontinental Festival City Hotel, was attended by several prominent figures, including H.E. Safeya Hashem Al Safi, Acting Assistant Undersecretary for the Commercial Control and Governance Sector at the Ministry of Economy, and Hajar Bakhit Alketbi, Director of the Government Communication Department at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, along with senior executives from Nestlé. The event featured discussions on integrating sustainability into the business sector and laid the foundation for the six-month program, which aims to empower students to explore and implement best sustainability practices across various fields.

Participants will engage in interactive workshops and hands-on training led by experts in entrepreneurship and sustainability, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to create impactful, long-term projects.

Ajman University is committed to sustainability and empowering students to drive positive change. By supporting initiatives that foster innovative solutions, the University is shaping a generation of future sustainability leaders ready to make a lasting impact in their communities and beyond.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-students-participate-in-the-launch-of-the-sustainability-heroes-program>



Ajman University Students Participate in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition

Ajman University students took part in the 24th edition of the Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition, organized by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) from November 25 to 28, and hosted by Higher Colleges of Technology – Dubai. This competition serves as a leading educational platform aimed at enhancing youth awareness of environmental sustainability issues, as well as developing their critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills to address environmental challenges.

A team from the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, along with the College of Engineering and Information Technology, represented Ajman University in the competition. They presented an innovative and sustainable solution under the theme: "Green Innovation: Visions for the Cities of Tomorrow", competing against teams from various universities across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Additionally, a team from the College of Dentistry participated by presenting a project under the theme: "Preserving Ocean Balance: Understanding Planetary Security", which highlighted the role of oceans in enhancing environmental security and mitigating climate change.

The participating students highlighted that the competition offered a valuable opportunity to enhance their analytical skills, present ideas on a prestigious platform, and engage with global environmental experts. They also appreciated the event's role in promoting environmental innovation and encouraging practical, sustainable solutions for a better future.

For the 2024 edition, EEG established four key themes that address pressing environmental issues:

1. Green Innovation: Visions for the Cities of Tomorrow
2. Eco-Journeys: Planning for Sustainable Tourism
3. Harmonious Communities: The Path to Climate Awareness
4. Preserving Ocean Balance: Understanding Planetary Security

The competition witnessed extensive participation, with over 534 students competing in 89 teams from 16 countries, representing various universities across the MENA region.

Ajman University is dedicated to fostering an educational environment that nurtures innovation and sustainability. It actively involves students in competitive platforms where they can analyze environmental issues and propose research-driven, creative solutions. The University also emphasizes the importance of environmental responsibility, creating opportunities for collaboration with sustainability experts and institutions, and empowering students as future leaders in environmental protection and sustainable development.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-students-participate-in-the-24th-inter-college-environmental-public-speaking-competition>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/the-23rd-cycle-of-the-inter-college-environmental-public-speaking-competition>



Students and Staff of Ajman University Visit GITEX Dubai 2024 to Explore the Latest Technological Innovations in Sustainability

As part of Ajman University's Sustainability Office's commitment to raising awareness among students and staff about cutting-edge technological solutions in the fields of environment and sustainability, the office organized a visit to GITEX Dubai 2024. The event, held at the Dubai World Trade Centre from October 14 to 18, 2024, offered a valuable opportunity to explore innovative technologies that contribute to reducing carbon emissions, improving resource management, and advancing environmental sustainability.

This visit offered a valuable opportunity to explore technological innovations aimed at reducing carbon emissions, improving resource management, and enhancing environmental sustainability. It also provided participants with the chance to attend specialized presentations and workshops, broadening their professional perspectives and deepening their understanding of cutting-edge technologies.

Moreover, GITEX 2024 focused on environmental innovations aimed at supporting sustainability and the green economy. The exhibition showcased green data centers powered by renewable energy, AI systems for energy management to minimize waste, and smart grids paired with energy storage solutions to improve the efficiency of clean resources. Additionally, the event featured technologies such as carbon capture systems that convert emissions into useful materials, along with IoT-based environmental solutions for real-time monitoring of air and water quality, helping to reduce pollution and protect environmental resources.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/students-and-staff-of-ajman-university-visit-gitex-dubai-2024-to-explore-the-latest-technological-innovations-in-sustainability>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/gitex-2024>



The Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement Participate in the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum 2024

The Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University participated in the second day of the 12th cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum 2024, held under the patronage of the UAE Ministry of Economy. The forum, themed "Sustainable Prosperity: Reorienting for a Balanced Future," aimed to bring together experts and thought leaders from the Arab region and beyond to discuss pressing regional and global issues, proposing effective solutions through discussions, panel sessions, and interactive Q&A.

In line with Ajman University's commitment to developing inclusive education and enhancing community engagement, a group of university students were supported to attend the forum, offering them the opportunity to engage in valuable discussions that took place during the event. Additionally, this support extended to students from the National Charity School, providing them the chance to interact with experts and leaders participating in the forum, which contributed to expanding their knowledge horizons and increasing their awareness of global and regional issues.

The forum addressed key topics such as economy, innovation, investment, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurship, environmental sustainability, and social and behavioral aspects.

The efforts of the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University reflect the University's commitment to promoting community awareness and active participation in critical issues that shape the future. By supporting participation in prominent events like the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum, the two offices aim to provide educational opportunities for all segments of society, contributing to the development of a generation capable of driving positive change within their communities.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-and-the-office-of-community-engagement-participate-in-the-arabia-csr-sustainability-forum-2024>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/arabia-csr-forum-2024>



Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Participates in the Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders Summit 2024

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability participated in the second edition of the Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders Summit 2024, held at Marina Hall, ADNEC Center, Abu Dhabi, from October 17 to 18, 2024, under the theme "Shaping a Sustainable Tomorrow."

Chaired by H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade, the two-day summit served as a leading platform to accelerate progress toward sustainable development, strengthen climate resilience, and promote environmentally responsible economic growth.

The summit brought together leaders and experts from both the public and private sectors across the region to develop and adopt green and sustainable practices that address the unique environmental and economic challenges faced by Middle Eastern nations. Its impact extended beyond the region's borders, contributing to the global fight against climate change by fostering innovative ideas and solutions that advance social well-being and environmental stewardship.

Ajman University was represented by Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager at the Office of Sustainability, who participated in panel discussions exploring the role of higher education in driving sustainable transformation and the importance of integrating sustainability principles into institutional and community practices.

Ajman University's participation in the summit reaffirms its strong commitment to supporting national and international sustainability initiatives, while reinforcing its position as a leading academic institution in innovation and sustainability at both the regional and global levels.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-participates-in-the-forbes-middle-east-sustainability-leaders-summit-2024>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/forbes-sustainability-leaders-summit>



The Office of Medical Services and the Office of Community Engagement Launch Anti-Smoking Awareness Initiative

The Office of Medical Services, in collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University, organized an awareness event about the dangers of smoking and encouraging individuals to quit. The event offers free carbon monoxide breath tests using the advanced “Smokerlyzer” device. This event is part of the University’s ongoing efforts to support the health and well-being of its community members through practical preventive and awareness programs. The Smokerlyzer allows participants to measure the level of carbon monoxide in their breath, helping them accurately understand the impact of smoking on their lung function and respiratory system. Each participant also receives a detailed, documented report that enables them to track their progress regularly, especially if they decide to quit smoking. The tests are conducted in a private clinic operated by the Office of Medical Services, providing a safe and confidential environment that respects individual privacy. Approximately 10 people benefit from this service each month, including students, staff, and faculty members. The event offers participants a clear view of their health status, helping them make informed decisions to improve their lifestyle and gradually reduce their dependence on smoking.

The event received positive feedback from the university community. Many participants expressed their appreciation for the opportunity and praised the support they received during the testing process, noting that such efforts reflect the University’s genuine concern for the health and well-being of its members.

The Office of Medical Services and the Office of Community Engagement continue to collaborate on various initiatives aimed at spreading awareness and promoting a culture of health and prevention. These programs play a key role in building a more conscious university community by educating students and staff about the risks of unhealthy habits and encouraging them to take small but meaningful steps toward a healthier, more balanced life.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-medical-services-and-the-office-of-community-engagement-launch-anti-smoking-awareness-initiative>



The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Celebrates "Urban October" with a Campaign on "Youth and Sustainable Cities"

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University celebrated "Urban October," dedicated to raising awareness about urban sustainability, by launching a campaign focusing on "Youth and Sustainable Cities." This campaign aligns with the global call to address critical challenges such as climate change and social justice through the development of sustainable cities.

The key messages of the campaign included the urgent need for sustainable urban development, the role of youth in driving innovative solutions for sustainable cities, and the importance of education in fostering a sustainable mindset among future generations.

In addition, the College of Architecture, Art, and Design played a key role in promoting the campaign's messages by highlighting the outstanding work done by the college in the field of sustainability, including the contributions of students and faculty members. The campaign featured several initiatives that contributed to raising awareness about sustainability, including social media posts and videos spotlighting prominent individuals in this field.

Virtual seminars were also organized, addressing key topics related to sustainability and the role of youth in driving this movement. Additionally, a campus discussion was organized focusing on the main messages of the campaign and the importance of student and University community engagement. These initiatives helped motivate students to actively participate in achieving urban sustainability and spread the culture of sustainability within their academic and community environments.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University is dedicated to raising environmental awareness and encouraging sustainable practices within the University community. Through innovative campaigns and events, it inspires students and the community to contribute to achieving sustainable development goals. The office also offers educational opportunities to promote sustainability, emphasizing the importance of collaboration across all sectors for a balanced future.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-at-ajman-university-celebrates-urban-october-with-a-campaign-on-youth-and-sustainable-cities>



Join us for Urban October!

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Organizes First Aid Awareness Session

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University organized a first aid awareness session aimed at equipping faculty members, staff, and students with essential skills in first aid and CPR techniques. The session sought to raise awareness on how to respond quickly and effectively in emergency situations, enabling attendees to handle critical situations with confidence until professional medical help arrives.

The session, led by Abdulrahman Ahmed Al-Muraqab, a first-year Nursing student at the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences with a certified first aid qualification, covered the basics of administering first aid in cases of burns, wounds, fractures, and choking. The session also provided detailed explanations on CPR techniques and how to correctly apply them in cases of respiratory or cardiac arrest. Additionally, the importance of prompt action and taking the right first aid steps until specialized medical help arrives was emphasized, enhancing the participants' ability to manage emergencies effectively and with confidence.

Through such initiatives, the Office of Sustainability at Ajman University aims to foster an academically aware community that understands the significance of first aid and CPR techniques, contributing to creating a safer and more resilient environment for handling emergencies.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-organizes-first-aid-awareness-session>



Ajman University Community Members and Students Participate in the "Clean UAE 2024" Campaign to Promote Environmental Sustainability

As part of its commitment to promoting environmental sustainability and fostering community engagement, Ajman University Community members and students, along with their families, participated in the 23rd edition of the "Clean UAE" campaign. Organized by the Emirates Environmental Group under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, this initiative reflects the University's dedication to raising environmental awareness among students and the broader community while encouraging the adoption of eco-friendly practices that contribute to preserving natural resources and achieving sustainable development.

Ajman University's participation in this campaign underscores its sustainable approach and commitment to educating students on the importance of environmental conservation and active involvement in meaningful community initiatives. Through this event, students and their families had the opportunity to interact with experts and volunteers from various organizations, gain insights into waste-related challenges, and understand their impact on ecosystems. Additionally, the campaign instilled values of teamwork, volunteerism, and social responsibility among participants, reinforcing their role in building a more sustainable future.

The "Clean UAE" campaign is one of the UAE's leading environmental initiatives. Held from December 5 to 14, 2024, the campaign aimed to enhance environmental awareness and reinforce the concept of social responsibility. It brought together diverse community members to help clean natural areas and responsibly dispose of waste, contributing to environmental preservation and sustainability.

This year's campaign saw participation from various sectors, with 83,123 volunteers from educational institutions, government entities, businesses, and families. Their collective efforts led to the collection of 43,441 kilograms of waste and the cleaning of 95.5 square kilometers of land nationwide, showcasing their dedication to sustainable environmental practices.

Participants from the University described the campaign as an inspiring experience that increased their awareness of the environmental impact of waste and motivated them to adopt sustainable habits, such as reducing plastic consumption, recycling, and participating in other environmental initiatives. They also expressed gratitude for the organizational efforts that ensured the campaign's success, commending the Ajman University Office of Sustainability for offering valuable opportunities for active involvement in environmental activities and boosting their ecological awareness.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-community-members-and-students-participate-in-the-clean-uae-2024-campaign-to-promote-environmental-sustainability>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/clean-uae-2024>



Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Participates in SEE Institute's Climate Talk Series: Unlocking AI Solutions for a Sustainable Future

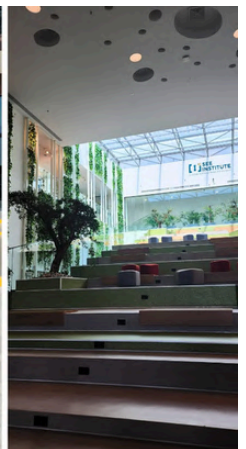
The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University recently attended the 6th edition of the Climate Talk series, hosted by the SEE Institute. This engaging event focused on the transformative role of artificial intelligence in enhancing sustainability within the built environment. Experts gathered to discuss AI-driven innovations in areas such as smart building management, energy efficiency, and sustainable urban planning.

Ajman University's office of sustainability in this event underscores its commitment to providing students with comprehensive insights into global sustainability trends. By engaging in discussions on how AI can optimize resource use and drive sustainable practices, the Office of Sustainability aims to enrich the learning experience for students and prepare them for a future defined by innovation and sustainability. This aligns perfectly with the university's mission to foster collaboration between academia, industry, and policymakers, empowering students to contribute meaningfully to a more sustainable world.

The SEE Institute is recognized as a leading hub for sustainability education, research, and business incubation, focusing on promoting sustainable practices both locally and globally. Aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the institute addresses the increasing demand for sustainability professionals through its comprehensive education programs. Operating from a net zero emissions building, which serves as a benchmark for energy efficiency, the SEE Institute collaborates with governments, industries, and academia to advance the global sustainability agenda through research initiatives, conferences, and knowledge sharing.

Through participation in events like the Climate Talk series, the Office of Sustainability continues to strengthen its role as a leader in sustainability education and innovation, helping shape a greener and more resilient future for all.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/office-of-sustainability-at-ajman-university-participates-in-see-institutes-climate-talk-series-unlocking-ai-solutions-for-a-sustainable-future>



Ajman University Students' Participation in the 3rd Edition of the University Challenge 2024

Ajman University participated with two teams, each consisting of three students, in the 3rd edition of the "University Challenge," which took place as part of the International Government Communication Forum at Sharjah Expo, in partnership with the United Arab Emirates University, from September 3 to 5, 2024.

The "University Challenge" spanned three days, targeting university students from GCC countries. The competition brings together creative students to compete in designing and presenting innovative projects and initiatives that contribute to achieving tangible social benefits and enhancing positive interaction between government institutions and the community. This includes developing new services to enhance institutional performance efficiency, establishing digital platforms to facilitate interaction between governments and citizens, making services more accessible and user-friendly.

- Team 1: Inaya Nasim, Hafsa Khalid, and Maira Hanif – second-year students from the College of Medicine – developed “Sihha 360: Revolutionizing Healthcare Content Creation.” This application leverages AR and AI-powered technology to transform healthcare content creation. By integrating real-time data, blockchain security, and IoT insights, Sihha 360 delivers personalized, dynamic health narratives for both patients and providers, ensuring accurate, engaging, and secure communication. The app aims to enhance healthcare experiences, fostering innovation and coordination within the UAE’s healthcare sector.
- Team 2: Mahrah Ahmed Al Ghareeb, Aisha Alkubaisi, and Razan Qanbour, third-year Biomedical Engineering students from the College of Engineering and IT, developed "عونكم", an application designed to improve communication between people of determination and government entities. This platform allows users to report harassment or emergencies, share relevant content, and raise awareness through educational sessions and social media campaigns. The app offers a comprehensive suite of features, including direct complaint reporting to authorities, access to financial support programs, participation in workshops and training, connections to rehabilitation centers, real-time updates on people of determination, and guidance on relevant laws and policies. Additionally, the app enables users to share stories and experiences through integrated social media features, fostering inclusivity and community engagement. The application aspires to create a more supportive and inclusive society where people of determination can connect, engage, and thrive.

Ajman University's participation in the "University Challenge" reflects its commitment to developing students' capabilities and encouraging their active involvement in government communication. Through this initiative, the University contributes to fostering innovation and enhancing the role of youth in finding creative solutions to societal challenges, which reflects the institution's academic direction in preparing a generation capable of making a positive impact on society and contributing to improving the services provided to the community.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-students-participation-in-the-3rd-edition-of-the-university-challenge-2024>



The Office of Sustainability Participates in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

The Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club, participated in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, celebrated annually on July 26. Around 20 volunteers from Ajman University, including students and staff, took part in the event, engaging in activities such as cleaning plastic waste from the mangrove environment and planting mangrove saplings in the golf area. The initiative aimed to raise environmental awareness and promote sustainable practices.

Moreover, this event highlights the importance of mangrove forests as a unique and vulnerable ecosystem, emphasizing their crucial role in coastal protection, biodiversity support, and carbon emission reduction. As one of the most effective natural solutions to climate change, mangrove forests absorb significant amounts of carbon dioxide and serve as rich habitats for marine life.

This event provides an opportunity to enhance efforts toward the sustainable management of mangrove forests, ensuring their preservation for future generations. Officially adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 2015, the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem underscores the vital role of mangroves in maintaining ecological balance and combating climate change.

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability is committed to raising environmental awareness and promoting sustainable practices. Through events and initiatives, it aims to protect natural resources and foster community sustainability. The office actively engages students, faculty, and staff in volunteer activities, while also building strategic partnerships to support environmental initiatives and advance sustainable development goals.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-participates-in-the-international-day-for-the-conservation-of-the-mangrove-ecosystem>





Ajman University's Sustainability Champion, Ms. Maya Haddad, Selected as Judge for QS Reimagine Education Awards

Ajman University proudly announces that Ms. Maya Haddad, the university's dedicated Sustainability Manager, has been appointed as a judge for the 2024 QS Reimagine Education Awards in the category of Sustainability Education: Literacy. Known globally as the "Oscars of Education," the QS Reimagine Education Awards recognize outstanding projects that revolutionize learning and elevate educational accessibility. In this role, Ms. Haddad will evaluate innovative initiatives that empower students with sustainability knowledge and inspire responsible environmental action.

Ms. Haddad's selection reflects her deep expertise and unwavering commitment to sustainability education, both locally and globally. She has been instrumental in advancing sustainable practices within Ajman University and beyond, making her an ideal judge for this award category. Her contributions align closely with Ajman University's vision of promoting sustainability literacy and supporting UAE's Vision 2030.

Ajman University celebrates Ms. Haddad's latest achievement, which highlights the institution's standing as a leader in sustainability and education. Her role as a judge in these prestigious awards underscores the university's commitment to fostering global change through education, and we look forward to the impact she will make in spotlighting transformative sustainability projects worldwide.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-sustainability-champion-ms-maya-haddad-selected-as-judge-for-q-s-reimagine-education-awards>



REIMAGINE EDUCATION



Ajman University Students Participate in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University

Ajman University students took part in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium, organized by Khalifa University, to highlight inspiring youth-led projects in sustainability. The symposium brought together experts and specialists who engaged with young leaders to discuss the latest sustainable innovations, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and collective efforts for a more sustainable future.

During the event, Ajman University students presented their Sustainability Week "Sustaina" initiative, which was implemented at the University to raise environmental awareness among students, faculty, and staff while encouraging the adoption of sustainable practices that contribute to environmental conservation. Representing the university in presenting this initiative were Hurairah Faatimah Muzammil, along with Itemat Sauria, and Nasima Helal.

The initiative focused on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through interactive activities and hands-on experiences, dedicating each day to a specific environmental theme. On the first day, Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy was addressed through discussions on integrating sustainability into various professions and measuring carbon footprints. The second day highlighted Goal 14: Life Below Water with an Escape Room Challenge, educating students on marine pollution risks and the importance of biodiversity conservation. On the third day, Goal 15: Life on Land was explored through interactive educational games covering issues like desertification and recycling, while the "Trash to Treasure" competition focused on Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, where students created artworks using recycled materials. The initiative concluded with a focus on Goal 13: Climate Action, featuring tree planting within the University and showcasing sustainable projects aimed at developing innovative environmental solutions.

One of the key achievements of the initiative was the launch of the "Sustaina" E-magazine, which serves as a platform for documenting sustainability efforts at the University and encouraging students to actively engage in environmental issues. The magazine also expands environmental awareness by collaborating with global platforms such as Oxford University's "Nature Positive University" and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The participation of Ajman University students in this symposium reflects the University's strong commitment to sustainability through student-led initiatives. It provided them with a valuable opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions with peers from other UAE universities, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration. Additionally, the University aims to empower its students to become sustainability leaders through hands-on experiences and direct interaction with experts, while emphasizing the role of cooperative partnerships in addressing climate challenges and promoting sustainable solutions.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-students-participate-in-the-youth-sustainability-leaders-symposium-at-khalifa-university>





Ajman University Shines at Global Sustainability Conference

Ajman University proudly showcased its sustainability and climate action achievements at The Grace Preservation Second Global Conference, an esteemed event organized by the Emirates Red Crescent with the support of ADNOC, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), WAM, the Dubai Charity Association, among other prominent partners. The conference, held on November 26, 2024, was a convergence of minds focused on advancing sustainability both nationally and globally.

Central to the discussions were best practices in sustainability, groundbreaking projects, and the pioneering efforts of UAE universities. The agenda delved into crucial areas such as minimizing food waste, advancing sustainable agriculture, fostering a circular economy, and exploring innovative water preservation solutions.

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability extended an invitation to its community, urging students and staff to engage in diverse sessions, absorb valuable insights, and connect with industry experts.

Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University, participated as a speaker in a panel discussing 'Sustainable Projects and Experiences of UAE Universities for Future Generations.' She shared AU's exemplary sustainability practices and its steadfast dedication to cultivating future generations of sustainability leaders.

This conference provided Ajman University with a remarkable platform to highlight its successes and reaffirm its commitment to promoting sustainability at both institutional and community levels.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/ehs/news/ajman-university-shines-at-global-sustainability-conference>



The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Organizes a Mangrove Planting and Clean-Up Initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University organized an initiative for planting mangrove trees and a clean-up campaign at Al Zorah Golf Club, aimed at raising environmental awareness and encouraging active participation in preserving biodiversity. This initiative is part of the office's efforts to support environmental and community values, motivating individuals to engage in activities that contribute to protecting the environment and preserving marine ecosystems.

Around 25 volunteers, including Ajman University members and students, took part in the event, working together on various environmental activities and reflecting their commitment to protecting the environment.

The initiative included planting mangrove trees, a crucial step in enhancing this vital ecosystem that plays an essential role in coastal protection and maintaining biodiversity in the region. Additionally, the initiative involved organizing various volunteer activities, including collecting plastic waste and other pollutants that threaten marine life, aiming to reduce plastic pollution, which significantly impacts the marine environment.

This initiative provides a valuable opportunity for active participation in protecting the environment from pollution and promoting the sustainability of marine ecosystems. Through these voluntary activities, the Office of Sustainability at Ajman University seeks to build a more sustainable environment, contributing to the community's responsibility toward future generations. The initiative also highlights the importance of collaborative efforts among community members to address environmental issues and work toward practical, sustainable solutions to the challenges we face today.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-at-ajman-university-organizes-a-mangrove-planting-and-clean-up-initiative-at-al-zorah-golf-club>



Ajman University Launches 2nd Sustainable Week

The College of Architecture, Arts and Design successfully concluded the second edition of its highly anticipated "Sustainable Week," an initiative designed to empower the next generation of architects and designers with the knowledge and passion for environmental stewardship. Spearheaded by Dr. Muna Salameh, a leading expert with a PhD in Sustainable and Built Environment, the week served as a dynamic platform for inspiring young leaders to build a greener future.

The event was inaugurated with opening remarks from Dr. Muna Salameh, followed by addresses from Dr. Riad Saraiji, Dean of the College, and Dr. Jihad Awad, Head of the Architecture Department, setting a collaborative and forward-thinking tone for the days ahead.

A Week of Insight and Hands-On Learning

Sustainable Week featured a rich program of lectures and interactive workshops, delving into the core principles and practical applications of sustainability in architecture and design.

- Day One focused on foundational knowledge, with Dr. Muna Salameh delivering a keynote on essential sustainability principles. Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager, emphasized integrating these concepts into education and practice. The day was capped with a special guest lecture by Prof. Dr. Khaled Galal Ahmed from the United Arab Emirates University, who shared valuable insights from his extensive experience.
- Day Two explored the synergy between traditional wisdom and modern design. Dr. Salameh presented a lecture titled "Passive Design Solutions: Future of the Past," which was immediately followed by a hands-on workshop. Led by Dr. Salameh and Ms. Ayat from Ajman University, participants explored sustainable practices inspired by time-honored architectural designs.
- Day Three highlighted the creative potential of circular economies. Dr. Salameh lectured on the critical role of recycled materials, after which senior students led a practical workshop. They guided their peers in creatively repurposing discarded materials into art, turning theory into tangible action.

A Core Commitment to Future-Ready Education

The initiative underscores the College's deep commitment to embedding sustainability into its educational fabric.

Dr. Muna Salameh stated, "Increasing awareness of sustainability among architecture students is essential, as they play a crucial role in designing solutions that help mitigate climate change. By instilling these values early, we prepare them to become responsible architects who can shape a sustainable and resilient built environment for future generations."

Echoing this sentiment, Dean Dr. Riad Saraiji highlighted that Sustainable Week is a direct reflection of the College's vision. "We are committed to providing students with educational opportunities that equip them to face future challenges. These events offer a unique platform for learning and interacting with experts, which enriches our students' experience and opens new horizons in architecture, arts, and design."

By fostering an environment of innovation and practical learning, the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design continues to demonstrate its leadership in preparing students to shape a more sustainable and resilient world.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-launches-2nd-sustainable-week>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/second-sustainable-week>



Ajman University and UN Global Compact Inspire Businesses with SDG Ambition Accelerator Info Session

In a powerful demonstration of its commitment to sustainable development, Ajman University, in collaboration with the UN Global Compact, recently hosted an insightful information session on the groundbreaking SDG Ambition Accelerator. The webinar galvanized companies from various sectors, all united by a common goal: to dramatically scale their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The session provided a comprehensive overview of how the accelerator serves as a catalyst for corporate transformation. Participants discovered how the program empowers businesses to set ambitious, science-based targets, drive innovation, and deeply embed sustainability into their core strategic operations.

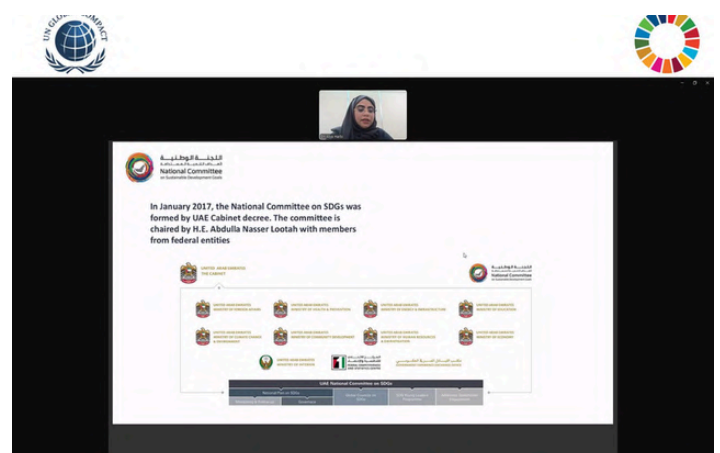
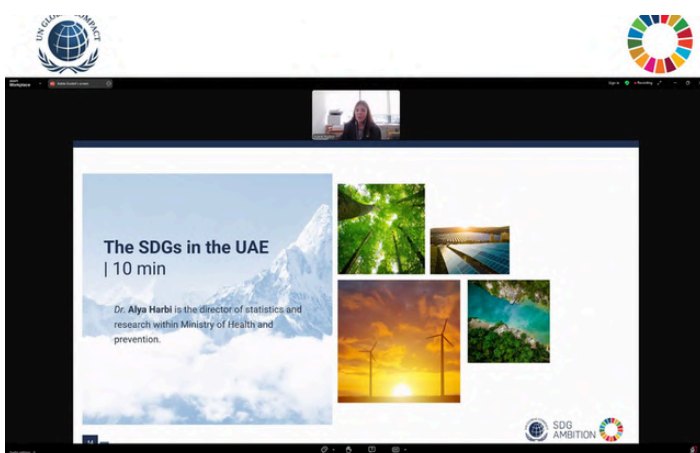
The SDG Ambition Accelerator is a focused, three-month program designed to provide businesses with the expert guidance and tools needed to fully align their strategies with the 17 SDGs. This alignment is not just about corporate responsibility; it's a powerful strategy for building long-term resilience, mitigating risk, and unlocking new avenues for growth in a rapidly evolving global economy.

A representative from Ajman University stated, "Hosting this session underscores our role as a hub for sustainable innovation. We are committed to connecting our business community with global frameworks that turn ambition into actionable, measurable results. This program is a perfect vehicle for any company ready to move from commitment to concrete progress."

The session resonated with a diverse audience, from those beginning their sustainability journey to seasoned professionals looking to scale their efforts. The overwhelming takeaway was clear: the path to a more sustainable and equitable future requires bold, collaborative action, and the SDG Ambition Accelerator provides the critical roadmap to get there.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-and-un-global-compact-inspire-businesses-with-sdg-ambition-accelerator-info-session>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/sdg-ambition-accelerator-info-session>



Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security Program

Cultivating a Greener Tomorrow: Innovation for Food Security

At Ajman University, sustainability is a key element that drives our community to progress. As part of an ongoing program to promote food security and sustainable agriculture, students joined the Office of Sustainability team in an initiative where they handed out planting kits consisting of seed-embedded pencils and pots made from recycled materials to faculty and staff members. This creative approach supports environmental stewardship and promotes several key aspects of sustainable development, such as food security, waste reduction, and community involvement. These pencils, once fully used, can be planted, allowing the seeds within to grow into plants. This signifies the importance of circular economy principles, transforming everyday items into something more valuable and sustainable. By promoting gardening as a way to cultivate your food, this initiative ties to the larger goal of promoting food security and reducing our environmental impact.

The initiative aligns with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including:

- SDG 2: Zero Hunger – By encouraging individuals to grow their food, the initiative directly contributes to food security.
- SDG 4: Quality Education – The distribution of these sustainable tools to faculty highlights the importance of education in fostering a culture of sustainability.
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities – The use of recycled materials and community-driven participation fosters the creation of sustainable urban environments.
- SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production – Reducing waste through the use of recycled pencils and pots supports responsible consumption practices.
- SDG 13: Climate Action – By reducing waste and encouraging local food production, we contribute to lowering the carbon footprint.
- SDG 15: Life on Land – The initiative emphasizes the importance of preserving natural ecosystems and biodiversity through sustainable land use.

The students' involvement in distributing these sustainable planting kits underscores the power of collective action. Together, through small steps, we can create a greener and more sustainable tomorrow for all. This initiative not only promotes environmental stewardship but also encourages the Ajman University community to participate in a more sustainable and resilient future.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/highlights/sustainable-agriculture-food-security-program>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/plantable-pencils-and-pots-promoting-sustainable-agriculture-and-food-security>



Ajman University Celebrates the 53rd UAE Union Day

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman, Chairman of the Executive Council, chaired the meeting of Ajman University's Board of Trustees, Ajman University celebrated the 53rd National Day at Sheikh Zayed Center on campus. The event was organized by the Deanship of Student Services and attended by Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of AU, Cabinet members, faculty, staff, and students.

The celebration included the participation of all colleges, the Office of Sustainability, and several external entities, including the General Command of Ajman Police, Al Mahatta Museum, Sharjah Museums Authority, Holy Qur'an Complex in Sharjah, Sharjah Academy for Astronomy, Space sciences & Technology, Emirates Astronomy Society, Sultan Bin Ali Al Owais Cultural Foundation, Manbat Store, the Traditional Games House, and Sharjah Institute for Heritage. These contributions enriched the event with diverse activities and traditional displays that highlighted the cultural and national identity of the UAE.

Highlights of the celebration included a traditional Yola dance performance by "Al Wishahat Al Harbia," a patriotic performance by Sheikh Poet Majid Al-Khatri, who presented a poetic excerpt about the UAE, and a spirited singing performance by the Student Music Club, creating a vibrant and festive atmosphere. Additionally, the event featured an art exhibition showcasing creative works by a group of talented artists.

At the conclusion of the celebration, Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services, honored the participating artists and contributors, in recognition of their efforts in making the celebration a success.

This celebration reflects the commitment of the Deanship of Student Services at Ajman University to honor national occasions. It emphasized the Deanship's role in fostering national identity and instilling values of pride and belonging among students through events that combine cultural, heritage, and creative elements, celebrating the UAE's rich history and remarkable achievements.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-celebrates-the-53rd-uae-union-day>



A student from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Won the First Place at the Green Campus Competition.

The Pharmacy student Doaa Al Alimi and her team represented Ajman University at the Green Campus Competition held at Khalifa University. The team won the first place with their project titled the Innovative Green Electric Pots! This achievement is especially meaningful as it highlights our commitment to sustainability and aligns closely with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Doaa explained” As a pharmacy student, I recognize the critical impact of air pollution on mental health and its connection to respiratory diseases and other health issues. This awareness has guided our project’s development, as we integrated specific plants known for air purification and potential applications in research and labs. These plants could offer valuable resources for ongoing research in health and environmental sciences. Our Green Electric Pots are an innovative, eco-friendly solution aimed at advancing sustainability within educational institutions. These solar-powered smart pots not only purify the air but also support urban greening through hydroponic systems. We’re proud to have developed a solution that reflects our creativity, dedication, and the environmental values that Ajman University stands for”.

The brilliant third year Pharmacy student will represent Ajman University at the Green Campus Competition with her project at COP29 in Baku.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/pharmacy/news/2024/a-student-from-the-college-of-pharmacy-and-health-sciences-won-the-first-place-at-the-green-campus-competition>

For more information on the Project: [Innovative Green Electric Pots](#) | [Student Research Projects](#)



Ajman University Clinches QS Reimagine Education Award 2024 for Pioneering Sustainability Initiative

Ajman University is proud to announce that it has won the prestigious QS Reimagine Education Award 2024 for "Sustainability Education Action." This accolade was awarded in recognition of the University's groundbreaking initiative, the 'Greening Communities: Mangrove Planting Project.' This honor underscores the University's commitment to environmental sustainability and its dedication to empowering youth and communities with the necessary skills and knowledge to drive the UAE's ambitious sustainability goals.

The project's objectives align with the UAE's national plan to plant 100 million mangrove trees by 2030. Spearheaded by Ajman University's Office of Sustainability, in partnership with Al Zorah Development Private Company and Quest for Adventure, the initiative engages students and local communities in the preservation and rejuvenation of mangrove ecosystems, highlighting Ajman University's pivotal role in advancing a sustainable future.

Reflecting on this significant achievement, Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, said, "Receiving the QS Reimagine Education Award for Sustainability Education Action is a powerful validation of our commitment to sustainability. It invigorates our efforts to engage youth and communities in impactful environmental action, driving meaningful change in alignment with the UAE's sustainability objectives."

The project incorporates a variety of educational programs and workshops designed to heighten awareness about critical environmental issues. These initiatives equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to tackle environmental challenges, empowering them to become advocates for positive change within their communities.

Moreover, the initiative supports several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including Quality Education, Climate Action, Life on Land, and Partnerships for the Goals.

The QS Reimagine Education Award is a highly esteemed honor within the education sector, recognizing innovative approaches that enhance learning outcomes, improve employability, and advance sustainability education. Now in its 11th year, the award features 17 categories, celebrating transformative educational practices globally. Each year, the competition attracts over 1,200 submissions from around the world, evaluated by a distinguished panel of more than 900 international expert judges.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-clinches-q-s-reimagine-education-award-2024-for-pioneering-sustainability-initiative>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/q-s-reimagine-education-awards-winner>



Dr. Muna Salameh Highlights Exceptional Student Achievements in "From Point to Sustainable Pavilion" Exhibition

Ajman University's first-year architecture students showcased their creativity and growth during Day 1 of the "From Point to Sustainable Pavilion" exhibition and jury. Under the guidance of Dr. Muna Salameh, and the support of Ms. Ayat, and Eng. Omar, the students displayed remarkable progress as they transitioned from conceptualizing designs based on a single point to creating fully realized Sustainable Pavilion projects.

A unique highlight of the exhibition was the students' focus on sustainable solutions, even as first-year students. Guided by Dr. Muna Salameh, they carefully selected sustainable materials for their designs, emphasizing eco-friendly approaches in their creative processes. This reflects Ajman University's commitment to embedding sustainability principles early in architectural education.

The event was enriched by the attendance of and Arch Lana from the Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC), whose presence and evaluation added significant value to the experience. A special thanks was extended to alumna Farah, who inspired students with her insights and shared journey in the field of architecture.

Dr. Muna Salameh also acknowledged Dr. Riad Saraiji, Dean of the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, for his unwavering support and encouragement, which played a crucial role in the success of the event.

The exhibition marked a milestone for the students and highlighted Ajman University's dedication to fostering creativity, sustainability, and excellence in architectural education.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/cad/news/2024/dr-muna-salameh-highlights-exceptional-student-achievements-in-from-point-to-sustainable-pavilion-exhibition>



Ajman University Hosts Session on Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future

Ajman University's College of Business Administration hosted Ms. Almas Muhammad Shafiq, Specialist, Training - BEEAH Education, IEMS Academy, Middle East. Ms. Shafiq led a session titled "Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future," discussing greenhouse gas impact and encouraging student participation in an upcoming sustainability competition. This event reflects the University's ongoing commitment to promoting environmental awareness and fostering sustainable practices among its students and community.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-hosts-session-on-pathway-to-net-zero-innovation-for-a-sustainable-future>



Integrated Marketing Communication Students Present Graduation Projects Under the Theme "Health and Safety for UAE Generations"

In celebration of the UAE's 53rd National Day, the College of Mass Communication organized an inspiring graduation projects exhibition for Integrated Marketing Communication students under the theme "Health and Safety for the Generations of the UAE."

Supervised by Dr. Dina El-Khattat and Ms. Loyal Ayoub, the event was inaugurated by Dr. Hosam Salama, Dean of the College, in the presence of Dr. Emad Omar, Head of the Department, alongside faculty members and colleagues.

The exhibition featured three innovative awareness campaigns designed by the students. The first campaign, titled "Aman" (Safety) and carrying the slogan "Your Safety Lies in Your Awareness," aimed to educate children and youth about the importance of cybersecurity and strategies for protecting themselves from cybercrimes. Another campaign, "Today's Children Are Tomorrow's Heroes," highlighted the importance of supporting children and nurturing their abilities to prepare them as future leaders. The third campaign, "Draw Your Life Path" with the slogan "Shape Your Healthy Path," focused on promoting healthy nutrition and physical activity to ensure the well-being of children and youth, while encouraging participation in sports events organized across the UAE. The graduation projects demonstrated the students' creativity and commitment to addressing key societal issues, aligning with the UAE's vision for a healthier and more secure future for its generations.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/integrated-marketing-communication-students-present-graduation-projects-under-the-theme-health-and-safety-for-uae-generations>



Ajman University Hosts a Delegation of International Students in the Winter Study Tour 2024

The Office of International Academic Affairs at Ajman University organized the Winter Study Tour 2024 to promote diversity and cultural exchange among international students, fostering educational paths, research, and cross-cultural communication. Additionally, the tour aimed to highlight and explore the United Arab Emirates' efforts in environmental sustainability across various sectors.

Three colleges from Ajman University – the College of Engineering and Information Technology, the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, and the College of Business Administration – collaborated to organize the week-long Winter Tour. The event hosted a diverse delegation, consisting of 64 students from partner universities of Ajman University, including Caucasus University in Georgia, EPHEC in Belgium, Manipal University Jaipur in India, Woxsen University in India, Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences in Germany, Hochschule Rhein Main in Germany, ITMO University in Russia, Scientific College of Design in Oman, The Hague University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands, and University of Malaya in Malaysia. The tour featured a diverse range of recreational and educational activities, including visits to iconic landmarks such as the Burj Khalifa, Dubai Frame, Louvre Museum, Sheikh Zayed Mosque, and Global Village. Additionally, students explored various companies and institutions like Gulf Craft, Sharjah Research Technology and Innovation Park (SRTIP), Huawei Innovation Centre, Gulf Drug Establishment, Al Baddad Capital Group, Emirates Global Aluminum, Veolia (Moalajah), and ZainTech.

During the industrial visits, seminars, workshops, and sessions were organized to enrich students' academic journey and broaden their knowledge. These activities covered various topics including business, innovation, engineering, and artificial intelligence. Furthermore, students also learned about companies' efforts in environmental sustainability and sustainable development, gaining insights into corporate social responsibility.

The Office of International Academic Affairs at Ajman University fosters educational and research partnerships while promoting student diversity through international visits for students and faculty, supporting scientific research and cultural enrichment. Additionally, the university's colleges organize diverse educational and interactive activities to enhance cultural and educational exchange, fostering shared experiences.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-hosts-a-delegation-of-international-students-in-the-winter-study-tour-2024>



The Office of Sustainability Organizes Emergency Preparedness and Sustainability Workshop

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University recently hosted a workshop entitled "Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action," led by Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager. The workshop aimed to raise awareness about the importance of emergency readiness and sustainable practices in light of the challenges posed by climate change. Participants gained valuable knowledge and skills to effectively manage emergencies and address the impacts of climate change.

The workshop covered emergency preparedness, climate adaptation, and environmental risk mitigation, offering guidance on handling emergencies and implementing proactive measures against climate change and environmental disasters. Furthermore, the workshop stressed firefighting best practices, evacuation procedures, campus plans, and natural and laboratory-related emergencies. It also showcased the university's dedication to sustainability and involvement in climate action, such as COP28 participation.

Participants acquired crucial emergency response skills, enhancing personal and community safety. They were also motivated to participate in campus sustainability initiatives, fostering a greener environment. Upon completion, attendees were awarded certificates recognizing their training in emergency preparedness, sustainability, and climate action.

The Office of Sustainability is committed to fostering a culture of health and safety on and off-campus. They achieve this through organizing awareness events, workshops, and training sessions to enhance safety awareness and implement best practices. Furthermore, the university prioritizes a safe environment and emphasizes accident prevention and effective response as integral to its mission in education, research, and service.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/130324-092159>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/emergency-preparedness-sustainability-and-climate-action-orientation-fall-2024>



Office of Sustainability Enhances Climate-Ready Workplace Safety in Webinar on Inhalable Hazards

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University has further equipped the university to address the evolving occupational health challenges of a changing climate through its participation in a specialized two-part webinar series on inhalable hazards, held on 10th and 17th July 2024.

The series, delivered by Janina Sander from global precision instrument leader TSI, provided critical training in exposure monitoring and respiratory protection—skills increasingly vital as climate change intensifies workplace air quality risks.

"The intersection of climate change and occupational safety is a key frontier for sustainability," said Rami Elhadi from the Office of Sustainability. "Rising temperatures, prolonged dust storms, and increased airborne pollutants directly impact the health and safety of our university community. This training is essential for developing proactive, climate-resilient safety protocols to protect our personnel in facilities, labs, and outdoor campus environments."

The webinars focused on two core components of modern occupational hygiene:

1. **Aerosol Monitoring:** The first session, "Aerosol Monitoring: How to Monitor Dust Exposure?", delved into the science of dust formation and measurement technologies. In a region where climate change is projected to increase the frequency and intensity of dust storms, the ability to accurately monitor particulate matter is crucial for pre-emptively safeguarding outdoor workers and managing indoor air quality.
2. **Respirator Fit Testing:** The second session, "Respirator Fit Testing: How to Improve Respiratory Protection?", emphasized fit testing as a critical defense measure. With environmental air quality becoming more unpredictable, ensuring the proper fit and performance of respiratory protective equipment (RPE) is a fundamental step in climate adaptation for workforce safety.

This initiative strengthens Ajman University's comprehensive approach to sustainability, which integrates human health and safety with environmental stewardship. By building technical capacity in climate-aggravated hazards, the Office of Sustainability directly supports the university's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3) and Climate Action (SDG 13), fostering a safer, healthier, and more resilient campus community.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/office-of-sustainability-enhances-climate-ready-workplace-safety-in-webinar-on-inhalable-hazards>

Ajman University Engages with Future Innovators at Dubai Holding's Investor Pitch Day

Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability, strengthened its commitment to environmental innovation by participating in the Innovate for Tomorrow Challenge 2024 Investor Pitch Day. The high-profile event, hosted by Dubai Holding in collaboration with in5, was held at the prestigious Expand North Star in Dubai Harbour Terminal 1, convening top entrepreneurs, investors, and sustainability leaders to champion groundbreaking solutions for the UAE's most pressing environmental challenges.

Centered on the theme of fostering a sustainable future through innovation, the event served as a dynamic platform for eight visionary entrepreneurs. These innovators presented a series of pioneering and scalable ideas designed to reshape the green business and technology landscape. Their pitches addressed a wide spectrum of critical issues, including advancements in renewable energy, novel waste reduction strategies, and practical applications of the circular economy.

The session commenced with welcoming remarks from representatives of Dubai Holding and in5, setting the stage for a series of compelling presentations that highlighted the vibrant entrepreneurial spirit and the UAE's deepening focus on sustainable innovation. Following the pitches, the event facilitated valuable one-on-one discussions between the entrepreneurs and a panel of investors and sustainability experts, opening doors to potential mentorship, investment, and collaborative ventures.

The Investor Pitch Day culminated in a networking session, allowing participants to connect, exchange ideas, and explore strategic partnerships aimed at accelerating the UAE's sustainability objectives. The entire initiative underscored the nation's steadfast commitment to empowering entrepreneurship and fostering innovation that directly contributes to the UAE Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative.

Ajman University's active presence at this national platform reinforces its dedication to promoting sustainability, innovation, and knowledge exchange beyond the classroom. This engagement solidifies the university's role as a key contributor to the UAE's sustainable development agenda, ensuring it remains at the forefront of nurturing the next generation of eco-innovators and thought leaders.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-engages-with-future-innovators-at-dubai-holdings-investor-pitch-day>



Ajman University Strengthens Climate Accountability as Senior Sustainability Manager Completes Advanced GRI Certification

In a strategic move to advance its climate leadership and transparency, Ajman University announced that Ms. Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager, has successfully completed an advanced professional training program on the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards. This certification equips the University with world-class expertise to measure, manage, and communicate its sustainability performance, with a heightened focus on climate action and environmental accountability.

The GRI Standards are the world's most widely adopted framework for sustainability reporting, used by organizations in over 100 countries. The rigorous training provides professionals with the skills to systematically report on a organization's economic, environmental, and social impacts. For Ajman University, this directly enhances its ability to track and disclose progress toward its climate goals.

Ms. Haddad's newly certified expertise ensures that the University's sustainability reporting will now be aligned with the most current global benchmarks. This is particularly critical for climate-related disclosures, as the GRI framework includes specific standards for reporting on energy consumption, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and overall environmental footprint.

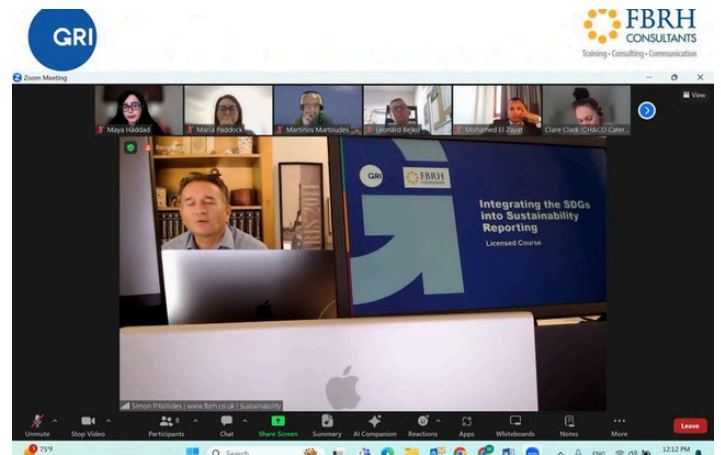
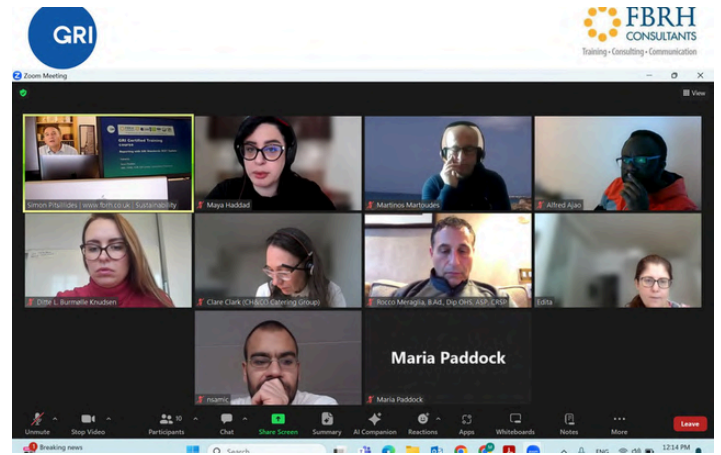
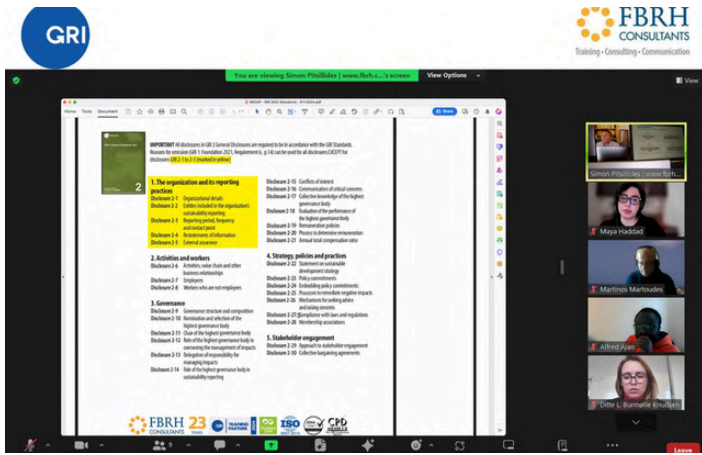
"This training is a direct investment in our capacity to drive meaningful climate action," said Ms. Haddad. "The GRI Standards provide a rigorous, credible structure for us to not only report on our carbon footprint but to strategically manage it. It allows us to move from intention to measurable impact, ensuring our initiatives—from energy efficiency and waste reduction to sustainable procurement—are effectively tracked and communicated to our stakeholders with full transparency."

This development is a key step in Ajman University's ongoing commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 13: Climate Action. By adopting a globally recognized reporting standard, the University strengthens its position as a sustainability leader in the higher education sector, demonstrating that institutional accountability is foundational to combating climate change.

The enhanced reporting capabilities will inform future sustainability reports, providing clear, comparable data that benchmarks the University's environmental performance against international best practices, thereby solidifying its role in fostering a sustainable future.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-strengthens-climate-accountability-as-senior-sustainability-manager-completes-advanced-gri-certification>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/gri-training>



Ajman University Students Excel at Pathway to Net-Zero Competition by BEEAH

Ajman University's College of Business Administration, in partnership with the BEEAH group, hosted the second annual "Pathway to Net Zero: Innovating for a Sustainable Future" competition. This event brought together students from the Innovation and Entrepreneurship course to develop practical solutions to real-world carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions challenges, a crucial step towards achieving net-zero emissions.

Throughout the semester, students applied design thinking principles – empathy, lateral thinking, prototyping – to create innovative solutions aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The competition fostered valuable skills in problem-solving, teamwork, and innovation while addressing critical environmental issues.

Celebrating Innovation and Sustainability

Twenty teams – 16 from Ajman University and 4 from the British University – presented their projects to a panel of esteemed judges, showcasing a wide range of sustainable solutions. After a rigorous evaluation, the top three teams, all from Ajman University, were awarded prizes for their outstanding contributions to environmental sustainability.

Three enterprising teams of students from Ajman University won the first, second and third prizes respectively for displaying unmatched creativity and innovation in designing sustainable solutions to endemic CO₂ emissions challenges.

Team 1 led by Yahya Ait Elhadi and comprising students Abdulrahman Hammad, Abed Shirzad and Khaled Aldubhani won the first prize for their solution focused on enhancing the efficiency of air-conditioning systems while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Team 2 led by Dina Ataallah, along with team members Sarah Barake and Reema Saif won the second prize for Carbonbloom, an artificial tree that mimics real trees to absorb carbon emissions and release oxygen into the atmosphere.

Team 3 led by Jean Luca-Lista, an exchange student at Ajman University, along with team members Ahmad Salah, Mohammed Ashraf, Amjad Fatooh and Mohammed Houssam won the third prize for their creative use of algae to naturally purify air in high-density spaces.

Nurturing Sustainability Skills

This competition demonstrates Ajman University's commitment to hands-on learning, preparing students for success in a sustainability-driven world. By emphasizing creativity and practical application, the university is cultivating graduates equipped to drive meaningful change in their careers.

Ajman University remains dedicated to fostering a culture of innovation and sustainability, empowering students to lead the way towards a cleaner, greener future.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-students-excel-at-pathway-to-net-zero-competition-by-beeah>



Ajman University Students Shine in “Pathway to Net Zero” Competition

We are thrilled to announce that Mohammed Houssam, a dedicated student from the Architecture Department, along with his talented teammates from various majors, proudly represented Ajman University in the prestigious “Pathway to Net Zero” competition. Organized by the Institute of Environmental Management and Sustainability (IEMS) Academy in collaboration with the College of Business Administration at Ajman University, the competition brought together top university teams from across the UAE.

The team's innovative project, “iPurify,” earned them an impressive 3rd place finish!

As part of their Innovation and Entrepreneurship course, the team developed iPurify—a groundbreaking device designed to regulate CO2 levels in classrooms. By leveraging the natural properties of algae and integrating a heat exchanger, iPurify maintains optimal oxygen and temperature levels, fostering a conducive learning environment. Additionally, the device features a UV light for disinfection, ensuring a healthier and safer space for students.

The competition spanned several months, during which participants engaged in mentorship and training sessions, refining their projects to meet real-world sustainability challenges. The journey concluded with a grand finale held at the iconic BEEAH Headquarters, where the team's dedication and creativity were celebrated.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mohammed Houssam and his team for their remarkable achievement, showcasing the innovative spirit of Ajman University students and their commitment to sustainability.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/cad/news/2024/ajman-university-students-shine-in-pathway-to-net-zero-competition>



The Office of Sustainability Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation on Greening Communities Initiative

In line with the UAE strategic initiative to achieve climate neutrality by 2050, The Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with the Goumbook and the Abdullah Al Ghurair Foundation, organized an awareness event as part of the Greening Communities Initiative by the Ministry of Education. Around 70 participants took part in the event, planting approximately 75 mangrove trees.

The event emphasized the crucial role of mangrove trees in ecological balance and air quality improvement. It highlighted their ability to absorb greenhouse gases and store carbon. Additionally, it underscored their significance in coastal ecosystems, serving as habitats for marine organisms like fish, crustaceans, and birds. This also serves as part of the University's biodiversity targets as a founding member of the Nature Positive Alliance along with the University of Oxford and UNEP. The event boosted environmental awareness and encouraged responsibility towards nature. Attendees were inspired to take concrete conservation actions. They also enjoyed kayaking through scenic waterways, surrounded by lush greenery and vibrant marine life thriving among the mangrove roots.

The Office of Sustainability is dedicated to implementing environmental initiatives to address climate challenges and raise awareness about preserving the environment. Through collaboration with local and global partners, it aims to reduce emissions and promote sustainability across sectors, supporting sustainable development and environmental conservation for present and future generations.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-collaborates-with-goumbook-and-abdulla-al-ghurair-foundation-on-greening-communities-initiative>





The UAE's Universities Climate Network (UCN), a 38-member group, has announced the appointment of Khalifa University's Dr. Samuel Mao and Dr. Rasha Bayoumi of the University of Birmingham Dubai as Co-Chairs and Ajman University's Maya Haddad as Head of Operations, taking the UCN to the next stage of advancing climate action regionally and internationally, and promoting sustainability across the UAE's academic sector.

The Universities Climate Network (UCN) actively drives the climate conversation through a dynamic series of events, blending both virtual and in-person formats to foster collaboration. Building on this momentum, the network recently held a pivotal in-person gathering at the University of Birmingham's Dubai campus, with active participation from Ajman University. This landmark event served as a critical strategic session to advance pillar activities and solidify a powerful, collaborative presence for the upcoming COP29 climate conference.

The session was elevated by a keynote address from a distinguished global leader, Victoria Galán-Muros, Chief of Research and Analysis at The UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC). Her expertise in international higher education provided an invaluable framework for the UCN's work, challenging the network to consider the global impact of its research and outreach and setting a thoughtful tone for the discussions to come.

These discussions formed the core of the afternoon's agenda. Following an initial period of registration and networking that allowed colleagues to connect, the formal programme commenced with a welcome from the UCN Chairs and Ms. Galán-Muros's inspiring address. The event then moved into its collaborative phase with a series of breakout exercises, where each pillar group—including delegates from Ajman University—convened to deeply discuss their specific activities and strategize their engagement for COP29. To synthesize these focused conversations, pillar leads subsequently presented concise summaries to the entire assembly. Ultimately, the session concluded with a forward-looking review of next steps and closing remarks from the UCN Chairs, ensuring all participants, including the team from Ajman University, departed with a clear and unified action plan for the important work ahead.

The UAE Universities Climate Network (UCN) is a powerful alliance of 38 universities across the Emirates. We stand united in the fight against climate change, empowering young minds to become the next generation of environmental leaders.

This network was formed to unify the voices of UAE universities, showcasing the crucial role of higher education in tackling climate change. Its lasting impact extends beyond COP28. The network's strategy rests on four pillars for thought leadership and action:

Student Youth Engagement Pillar:

Empowering Youth Climate Leaders: Igniting a global movement of student climate action by empowering young leaders from the UAE and worldwide.

Research & Innovation Pillar:

Fueling Innovation and Solutions: Disseminating climate research and analysis, providing policymakers with actionable recommendations to accelerate climate solutions.

Communal Activations Pillar:

Engaging Communities with Action: Activating university campuses and stakeholders to broaden public engagement on climate change through evidence-based initiatives.

Campus Carbon Neutrality Pillar:

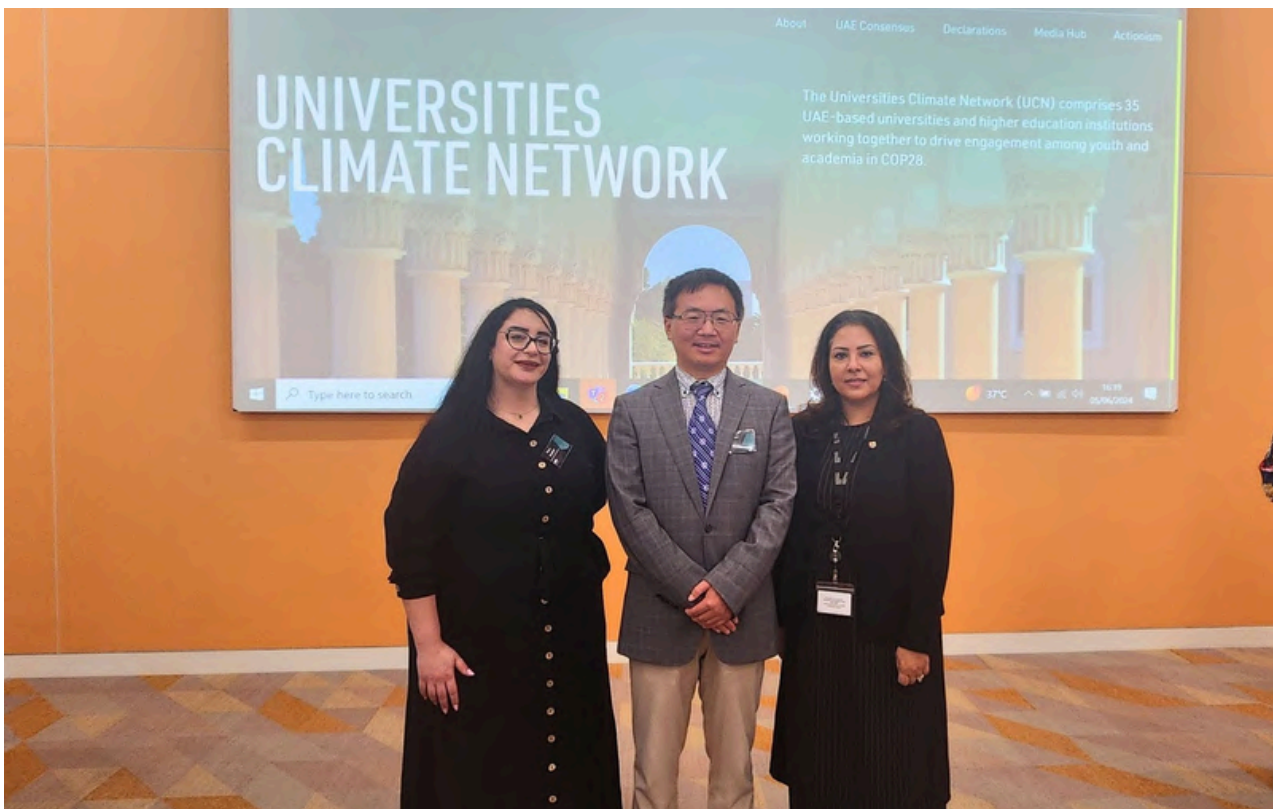
Leading by Example: Pioneering Carbon Neutrality: Spearhead university decarbonization plans, aligning with the UAE's ambitious 2050 Net Zero strategy.

The UCN offers a variety of opportunities to get involved, from participating in research projects and workshops to attending conferences and events. Whether you're a student, faculty member, or community leader, there's a place for you in our network.

Together, we can create a more sustainable future for the UAE and the world.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-contributes-to-landmark-ucn-planning-session-for-cop29-in-dubai>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/ucn-in-person-mixer-june-2024>



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We thank you for your
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