



جامعة عجمان  
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

20  
24

# SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

**13.3 Environmental education measures**

13.3.3 Co-operative planning for climate change disasters



THE GLOBAL GOALS

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# Introduction

As climate change continues to exacerbate natural disasters and displacement, the need for collaborative planning and action has become increasingly urgent. Universities, as centers of knowledge and innovation, can play a crucial role in fostering resilience and mitigating the impacts of climate-related disasters.

This report delves into the University's commitment to cooperative planning for climate change disasters and its engagement with government agencies and other stakeholders. By examining the University's participation in disaster preparedness and response efforts, we aim to assess its contribution to building a more resilient future.

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

- **Co-operative planning for climate change disasters (13.3.3):** This indicator assesses the University's involvement in collaborative planning efforts to address climate-related disasters, including those that may lead to displacement.

By analyzing this indicator, we can gain valuable insights into the University's role in building community resilience and supporting vulnerable populations.

# Message from the VCFAA

Climate change is a complex challenge that requires a multifaceted approach. Our University recognizes the critical importance of collaboration and cooperation in addressing the increasing risks of climate-related disasters.

By actively participating in co-operative planning efforts, we are committed to building a more resilient community. Through partnerships with government agencies, non-profit organizations, and local communities, we are working to:

- Enhance Disaster Preparedness: Develop comprehensive emergency response plans and conduct regular drills.
- Support Vulnerable Populations: Provide assistance and resources to those affected by climate-related disasters.
- Promote Climate Change Education: Raise awareness about climate change impacts and mitigation strategies.
- Foster Innovation: Encourage research and development of innovative solutions to climate challenges.

Together, we can build a more resilient future.



Collaborative efforts  
are the key to  
success in climate  
action

RABI ALKHOFASH  
VICE CHANCELLOR FOR FINANCIAL  
AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS



# 13.3.3 Co-operative planning for climate change disasters

Ajman University is dedicated to collaborating with national initiatives to address climate change and secure a sustainable future for generations to come. In alignment with the UAE's Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative, inspired by the Paris Agreement, the university actively participates in academic consultations, workshops, meetings, and discussions on the UAE's climate adaptation framework. Since 2022, our representatives have been instrumental in fostering cooperative planning and knowledge-sharing to address climate change challenges, including those related to climate change adaptation on the national level with the UAE government. By working closely with government agencies and other stakeholders, Ajman University aims to contribute to building a more resilient and equitable future.

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

To further illustrate Ajman University's commitment to cooperative planning, the university has actively participated in several national initiatives related to climate change adaptation. By working closely with government agencies, researchers, and policymakers, the university has contributed to the development and implementation of key adaptation policies and plans as per the following examples.

## Participating in the UAE National Adaptation Plan Consultation Process

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

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

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

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



## Ongoing Projects

### Participating in the UAE National Adaptation Plan Consultation Process

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

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

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

#### Project Timeline

Initiation of the AE03 UAE National Climate Adaptation Program

Initial Consultation

Consultation Session 1

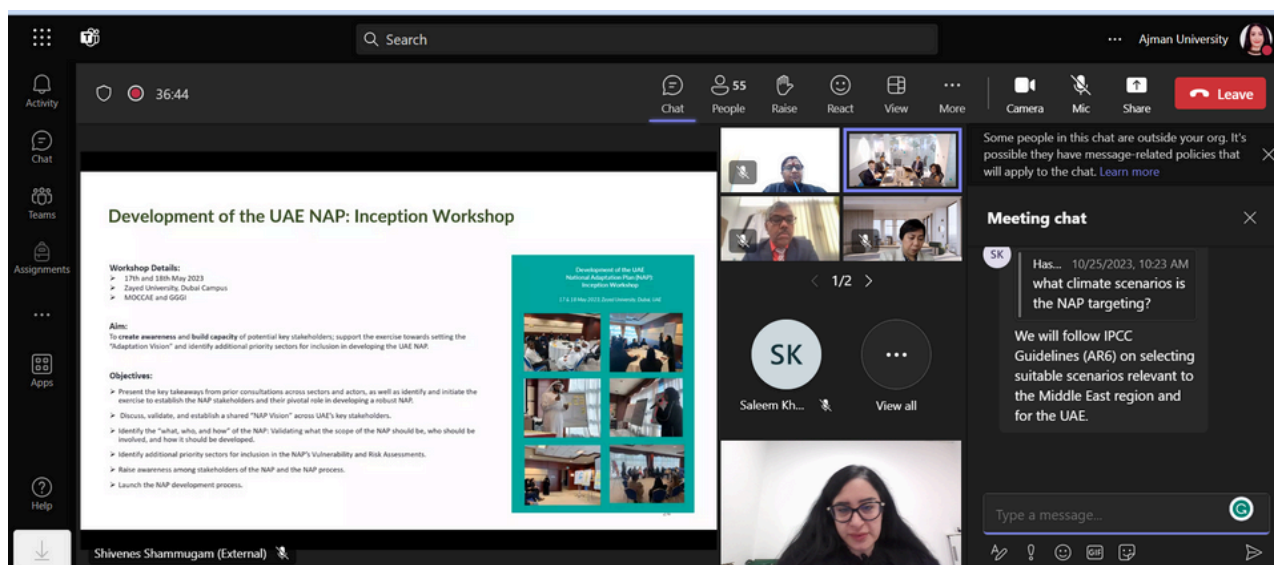
Consultation Session 2.1

Consultation Session 2.2

Consultation Session 2.3

Deliverable of Consultations: draft version of UAE NAP

Consultation Session 3



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

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/UAE\\_NAP\\_Inception\\_Workshop\\_Report\\_-\\_May%2C\\_2023.pdf](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/UAE_NAP_Inception_Workshop_Report_-_May%2C_2023.pdf)

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

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Scope\\_and\\_Details\\_of\\_the\\_Informal\\_Consultation\\_Academic\\_Sector\\_UAE-\\_NAP.pdf](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Scope_and_Details_of_the_Informal_Consultation_Academic_Sector_UAE-_NAP.pdf)

41:21

Search

Ajman University

Chat People Raise React View More

Camera Mic Share Leave

Initial Analysis: who are the key actor of climate adaptation governance?

Shivenes Shammugam (External)

Meeting chat

Has... 10/25/2023, 10:23 AM  
what climate scenarios is the NAP targeting?

We will follow IPCC Guidelines (AR6) on selecting suitable scenarios relevant to the Middle East region and for the UAE.

41:50

Search

Ajman University

Chat People Raise React View More

Camera Mic Share Leave

Initial Analysis: who should the key actors of climate adaptation governance be?

Shivenes Shammugam (External)

Meeting chat

Has... 10/25/2023, 10:23 AM  
what climate scenarios is the NAP targeting?

We will follow IPCC Guidelines (AR6) on selecting suitable scenarios relevant to the Middle East region and for the UAE.





## Ajman University Shapes National Climate Resilience at UAE Adaptation Plan Consultation

Ajman University has reinforced its role as a key advisor to the nation's climate agenda through its active participation in the official government consultation sessions for the UAE National Climate Adaptation Plan (NAP). The high-level meeting, led by the national Climate Change Team and GGGI, focused on integrating social equity and robust governance into the core of the country's strategy to build resilience against climate impacts.

The consultation served as a critical platform to ensure the plan is both inclusive and effective. University representatives contributed expert insights on two foundational pillars of the NAP: conducting a Gender and Social Safeguards Assessment and establishing a Climate Governance Baseline.

"Contributing to the UAE's National Adaptation Plan is a responsibility we hold with the utmost importance," said a senior sustainability lead from Ajman University. "Climate change does not impact everyone equally. Our input ensures that the national strategy is not only scientifically sound but also socially just, protecting vulnerable groups and leveraging the strengths of all segments of society. This aligns perfectly with our university's commitment to sustainable and inclusive development."

The session centered on several key national objectives, where AU's expertise proved invaluable:

- Ensuring Inclusive Adaptation: Providing input to guarantee the NAP mitigates negative social impacts and promotes sustainable development for all people in the UAE.
- Mapping Social Safeguards: Helping to identify key policies related to gender equality and socioeconomic development that are relevant to climate adaptation.
- Strengthening Institutional Capacity: Contributing to the assessment of stakeholder capacity to implement inclusive and equitable climate policies.
- Fostering Collaborative Governance: Engaging as a key stakeholder to ensure the NAP is widely supported, participatory, and effectively addresses the nation's adaptation needs.

Following the session, Ajman University is also contributing to two vital national surveys emanating from the consultation, further solidifying its partnership in the plan's development.

This direct engagement underscores Ajman University's strategic alignment with the UAE's Net Zero 2050 ambition and its commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By lending its academic and professional expertise to this foundational national policy, the university continues to demonstrate its vital role in building a more resilient and sustainable future for the United Arab Emirates.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-shapes-national-climate-resilience-at-uae-adaptation-plan-consultation>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/consultation-sessions-for-the-uae-national-climate-adaptation-plan-nap-gesi>

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

The Development of Gender and Social Baseline Assessment to the UAE National Adaptation Plan (NAP) can be accessed at

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/GESI\\_Consultation\\_UAE\\_NAP\\_Dev\\_27Aug2024.pdf](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/GESI_Consultation_UAE_NAP_Dev_27Aug2024.pdf)

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Survey\\_Questionnaire-1\\_Gender\\_and\\_Social\\_Safeguards.docx](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Survey_Questionnaire-1_Gender_and_Social_Safeguards.docx)

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Survey\\_Questionnaire-2\\_Climate\\_Governance\\_and\\_Stakeholder\\_Mapping.docx](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Survey_Questionnaire-2_Climate_Governance_and_Stakeholder_Mapping.docx)

The screenshot shows a virtual meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide is displayed with the title "Stakeholder Consultation – Academia and Research Gender and Social Baseline Assessment to the UAE National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Development". The slide also mentions "27<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024 (Virtual)" and "Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE) Government of the UAE". The slide features the logos of the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Climate Change & Environment and GGGI. On the right, a grid of participant avatars is visible, including AA, SM, SK, DG, MM, AA, BA, and a video feed of a participant. The bottom of the screen shows the meeting controls and the name "Saleem Khan Amsad Ibrahim Khan (External)".

The screenshot shows a virtual meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide is displayed with the title "National Adaptation Plan (NAP)". The slide is divided into sections: "Definition", "Social considerations in the NAP", "Objectives of the UAE National Adaptation Plan", and "Targeted UAE NAP Sectors". The "Definition" section includes a circular arrow icon and text: "A strategic framework developed by countries to manage the impacts of climate change." and "A primary vehicle for implementing adaptation at the national level." The "Social considerations in the NAP" section includes a shield icon and text: "Social considerations need to be integrated to mitigate negative social impacts and promote sustainable development for the people of the UAE." The "Objectives of the UAE National Adaptation Plan" section lists: "Increase the adaptive capacity of the UAE People, Economy and Environment", "Facilitate mainstreaming adaptation in UAE's sectoral strategies", "Act as an information hub for adaptation data, information and knowledge", "Serve as a guiding document for adaptation planning, implementation & monitoring", "Set a benchmark in the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) Region", and "Demonstrate UAE's commitment to the Paris Agreement". The "Targeted UAE NAP Sectors" section lists: "Health", "Energy", "Water", "Education", "Transport", "Tourism", "Insurance", and "Labour". The slide also features the GGGI logo. On the right, a grid of participant avatars is visible, including HP, IT, ZS, SF, AV, and a video feed of a participant. The bottom of the screen shows the meeting controls and the name "Saleem Khan Amsad Ibrahim Khan (External)".

## Safeguarding policies mitigate, minimize, and manage risks of climate impacts to vulnerable groups

Climate change impacts on UAE are varied...

...and impact vulnerable groups disproportionately<sup>1</sup>



1: [www.worldweatherattribution.org/heavy-precipitation-hitting-vulnerable-communities-in-the-uae-and-oman-becoming-an-increasing-threat-as-the-climate-warms](https://www.worldweatherattribution.org/heavy-precipitation-hitting-vulnerable-communities-in-the-uae-and-oman-becoming-an-increasing-threat-as-the-climate-warms)  
2: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/environmental-and-social-policies/safeguards>

- Reduce mobility and access to essential services
- Increased risk to livelihoods
- Increased stresses on health
- Increased exposure to environmental hazards

Safeguarding policies ensures adaptation initiatives identify and mitigate these risks<sup>2</sup>

Environmental and social impact assessment

Evaluates potential environmental and social effects of a project to safeguard communities and ecosystems

Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities

Applying environmental and social policy standards that are better suited to the private sector

Labor working conditions

Enhance the development benefits of a project by treating workers in the project fairly and providing safe and healthy working conditions

Community health and safety

Addresses the health, safety, and security risks and impacts on project-affected communities

## UAE Climate Change Research Network (CCRN)

### CCRN Objectives

- Provides a forum to discuss topics of relevance to climate research in the UAE and the wider Arabian Gulf
- Facilitates knowledge exchange, and sharing of ongoing work and ideas for further research
- Facilitates identification of recurring research challenges and their solutions
- Allows government and academia to together identify knowledge and data gaps, and define a relevant climate science agenda for the country
- Acts as a springboard for research collaborations and joint research projects
- Provides opportunities for climate scientists in the region to engage with each other and with researchers from other countries

### CCRN Research Clusters

- Climate Data and Modelling
- Climate Change and Infrastructure
- Climate Change & Terrestrial, Marine & Freshwater Ecosystem
- Climate Change & Public Health
- Climate Change & Food & Water Security



GGGI





Ajman University participated in the stakeholder consultation on Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) practices, organized by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAEE) in collaboration with the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). The session aimed to enhance the exchange of expertise among various sectors and discuss ways to advance sustainability practices in the UAE.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University, represented by Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager, took part in discussions focused on aligning private sector activities with ESG standards. Ms. Haddad provided practical recommendations to MOCCAEE on integrating climate priorities and promoting collaborative planning for climate change adaptation and disaster management. She also emphasized the vital role of academic expertise in supporting policy development and fostering sustainable institutional practices.

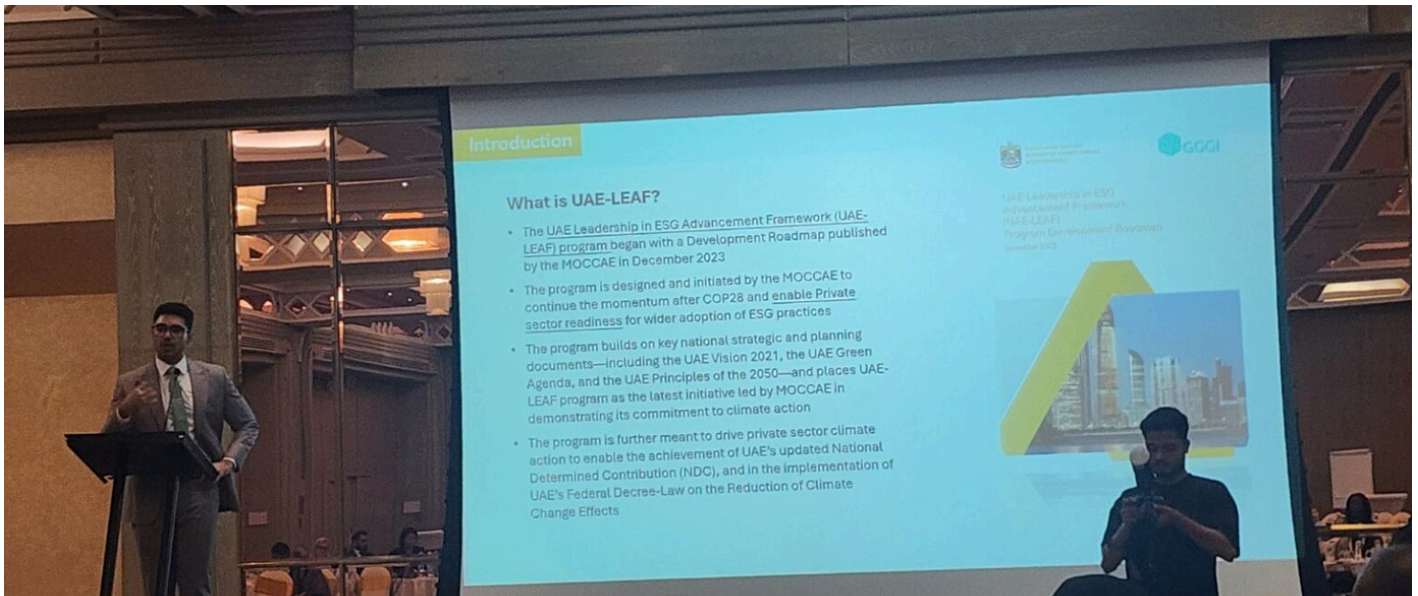
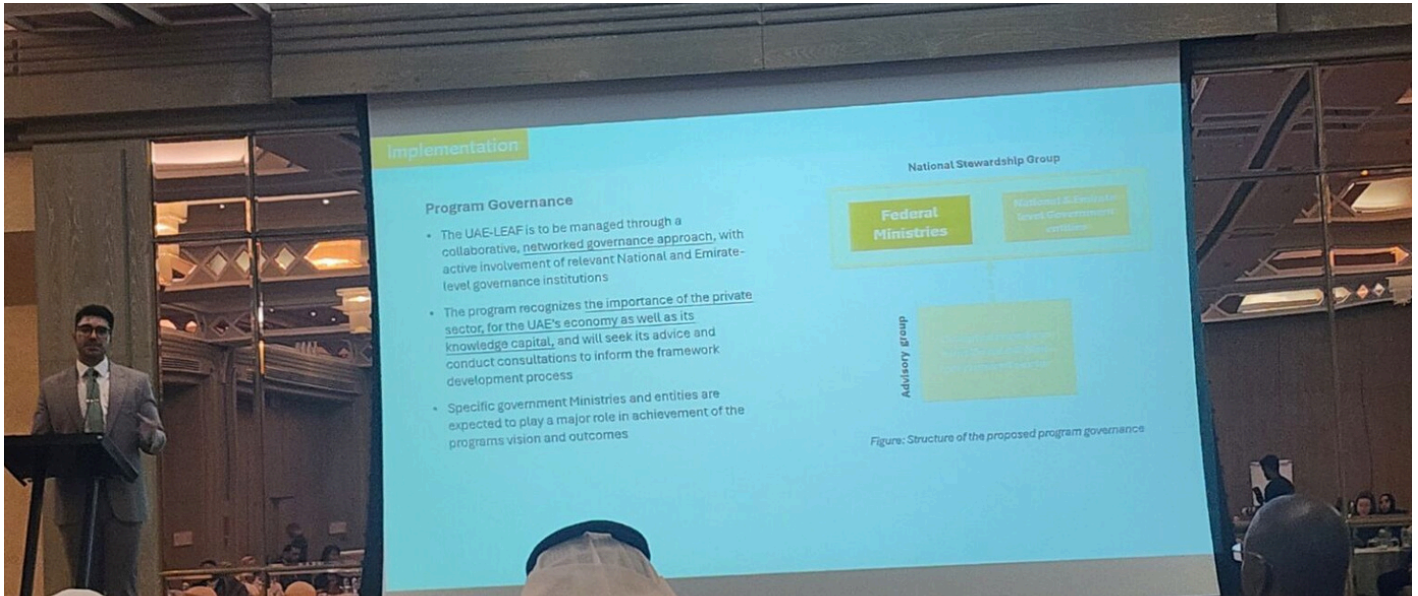
The session was held as part of the UAE Leadership in ESG Advancement Framework (UAE-LEAF) program, launched by MOCCAEE to encourage private sector participation in adopting sustainability practices aligned with UAE Vision 2021, the Green Agenda, and the UAE Principles of 2050.

The participation of Ajman University's Office of Sustainability reaffirms its commitment to supporting national sustainability goals and enhancing collaboration among academia, government, and the private sector. It also highlights the office's role in advancing knowledge and applying academic expertise to support environmental policies and initiatives. This contributes to a more sustainable and resilient future for the United Arab Emirates.

The UAE Leadership in ESG Advancement Framework 2024 (UAE-LEAF) can be found at [https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Stakeholder\\_Invitation.pdf](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/Stakeholder_Invitation.pdf)

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-participates-in-moccaee-consultation-on-esg-practices>





## Greening Education Partnership with UNESCO

Greening education isn't just about planting trees, it's about planting the seeds of a sustainable future. This comprehensive approach aims to weave sustainability concepts and environmental awareness throughout every thread of education, from kindergarten to graduate school and beyond. Ajman University, a leading institution committed to environmental stewardship, is a proud member of this global movement, spearheaded by UNESCO and the Ministry of Education UAE.

### Empowering Changemakers:

The core objective? Equipping students with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to tackle critical global challenges like climate change and environmental degradation. This translates into building environmental literacy, fostering responsible citizens, and promoting a lifestyle rooted in sustainability.

### Beyond Textbooks: A World of Learning

Greening education goes beyond memorizing facts. It delves into critical themes like environmental conservation, renewable energy, resource management, and ethical decision-making. This hands-on approach allows students to connect with the environment, understand its complexities, and explore solutions through practical activities.

### Education: The Key to Unlocking a Sustainable Future

The UN Secretary-General echoes this sentiment. At the Transforming Education Summit, he emphasized that education empowers individuals with the skills needed to address climate change and environmental issues. This comprehensive skillset includes knowledge, social awareness, critical thinking, and teamwork – all essential for navigating real-world challenges.

Greening education allows students to grasp the interconnectedness of global sustainability concerns and recognize how their everyday actions can contribute to solutions.

Session: Plenary Session of the GEP Working Groups

You are viewing Oisín Gill (GEP Secretariat)'s screen

View Options

Recording LIVE Zoom Events Lobby

COP28

**Joint key asks**

- Background document: compiled via GEP
- Joint statement: led by GPE
- Basis for joint advocacy of all GEP members in the lead up to COP28
- Outcome document of highlevel event at COP28

**Greening Education Hub**

- Legacy of COP28: Power of Education!
- 12 days designed around 4 pillars of GEP

**GEP networking at COP28**

- Events and list of participants: Excel list
- Annual GEP meeting

**Highlevel events**

- 1-2 Dec Leaders summit segment on education
- 3 Dec Head of State event, 1st Annual GEP meeting (highlevel segment)
- 8 Dec Ministerial session, 1st Annual GEP meeting (technical segment) ReWired Summit
- Collaborate to maximize visibility including engaging Member States

Participants: 244

Chat: 2

Share Screen

Record

Show Captions

Interpretation

Reactions

Apps

Whiteboards

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## A Global Movement for Greener Tomorrows: The Greening Education Partnership

The Greening Education Partnership, spearheaded by UNESCO and the Ministry of Education UAE, champions this holistic approach. This international collaboration focuses on four key pillars:

- **Greening Schools:** Creating sustainable and healthy learning environments that prioritize resource efficiency and promote environmental responsibility.
- **Greening Curriculums:** Integrating sustainability concepts and environmental issues across different subjects, equipping students with a well-rounded understanding of the challenges and solutions.
- **Greening Communities:** Fostering partnerships between educational institutions and local communities to promote environmental stewardship and collaborative action. Ajman University is a leading contributor to this pillar, actively engaging with the community to promote sustainable practices.
- **Greening Teacher Education:** Equipping educators with the knowledge, skills, and pedagogical approaches necessary to effectively deliver greening education programs.

By working together on these pillars, the Greening Education Partnership, led by UNESCO and the Ministry of Education UAE, strives to empower future generations to build a more sustainable world.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/partnerships/greening-education-partnership>

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

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

Session: Working Group 4: Greening Communities

You are viewing Oisín Gill's screen

View Options

Maja Haddad- Ajman ... Cynthia Marquez Pugelj Rahman Mogaji Reuben Sessa (FAO) Agustin Ocana Raúl Valdés

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### Greening Education Partnership // Partenariat pour une éducation verte

COP28 Greening Education Hub: selection process for sessions

310 Total number of submitted proposals for pillar 1, 2, 3 and 4

Review by Co-ordinators of 4 Pillars, Partners Organisations and COP Secretariat (21/09 - 26/09)

Shortlisted proposals are invited to provide further details on their proposals (26/09 - 02/10)

UAE Ministry of Education review (26/09 - 04/10)

Meeting between the UAE Ministry of Education and COP28 Secretariat to address comments and resolve the list of international submissions (04/10)

Recommendation by the UAE Ministry of Education of the selected proposals (04/10)

COP28 Greening Education Hub: processus de sélection des sessions

310 Nombre total de propositions soumises pour les piliers 1, 2, 3 et 4

Examen par les coordonnateurs des 4 piliers, les partenaires, les organisations et le secrétariat du COP28 (21/09 - 26/09)

Les propositions sélectionnées sont invitées à fournir plus de détails sur leurs propositions (26/09 - 02/10)

Examen du Ministère de l'Éducation des Émirats arabes unis et du Secrétariat du COP28 pour répondre aux commentaires et résoudre la liste des propositions internationales (04/10)

Révision et recommandation du Ministère de l'Éducation des Émirats arabes unis des propositions sélectionnées (04/10)

Recommandation par le secrétariat de l'Éducation des Émirats arabes unis des propositions sélectionnées (04/10)

Unmute Start Video Participants 39 Chat 1 Share Screen Record Show Captions Interpretation Reactions Apps Whiteboards Leave

## Ajman University Engages UNESCO's Final Working Group Meetings on Greening Education

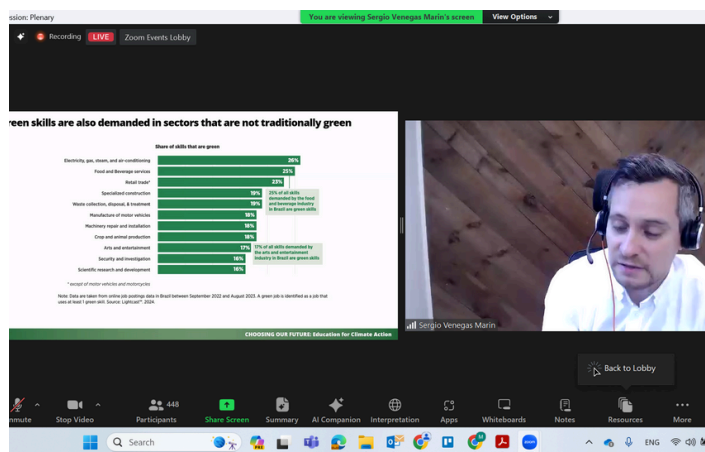
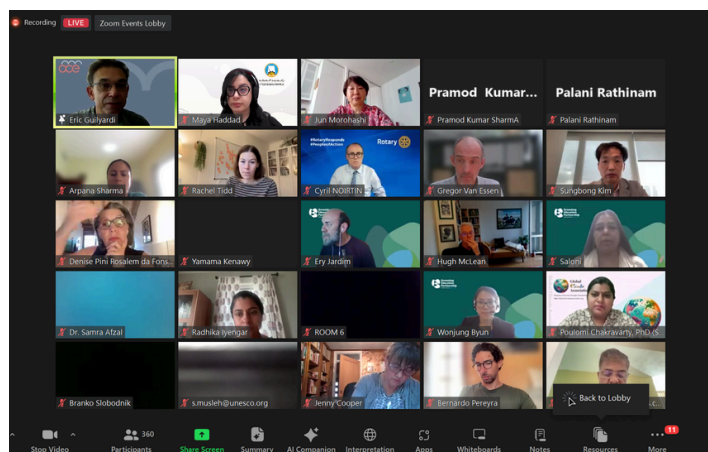


Ajman University's Office of Sustainability is pleased to announce that it participated in the UNESCO's Greening Education Partnership (GEP) Final Working Group Meetings on 15 November 2024. The international gathering brought together institutions, educators, and climate action stakeholders to assess progress and launch new guidance in three priority areas: green school infrastructure, teacher-responsive climate education, and community greening.

Representing Ajman University, our team joined the Communications and Advocacy working group, offering insights into strategies for youth engagement, awareness campaigns, and embedding sustainability within campus culture. Our contributions drew on Ajman University's recent sustainability initiatives and student-led projects to illustrate practical pathways for educational institutions to enhance climate literacy.

Ajman University's involvement in this forum marks another important step in its journey to strengthen its presence on the global sustainability stage. The Office of Sustainability reaffirms Ajman University's dedication to transforming education systems toward climate responsiveness and to working alongside UNESCO and partner institutions in shaping the next generation of sustainable campuses.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-engages-unescos-final-working-group-meetings-on-greening-education>





## Ajman University Joins UNESCO Webinar to Champion ICT and AI in Greening Education

Ajman University (AU) reinforced its commitment to sustainable innovation by participating in the international webinar, "Innovating for a Sustainable Future: The Role of ICT and AI in Greening TVET," on November 13, 2024.

The event, jointly organized by UNESCO IITE and the Wedon Cloud Education Group, was a key initiative under the "Building Future Schools with ICT Competence" project and coincided with the COP29 climate conference in Baku, Azerbaijan. Aligned with the Greening Education Partnership, the webinar focused on integrating sustainability into curricula and strengthening educator capacities.

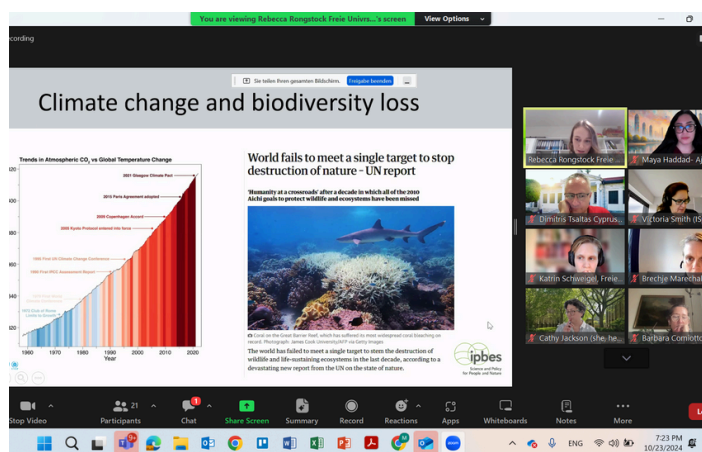
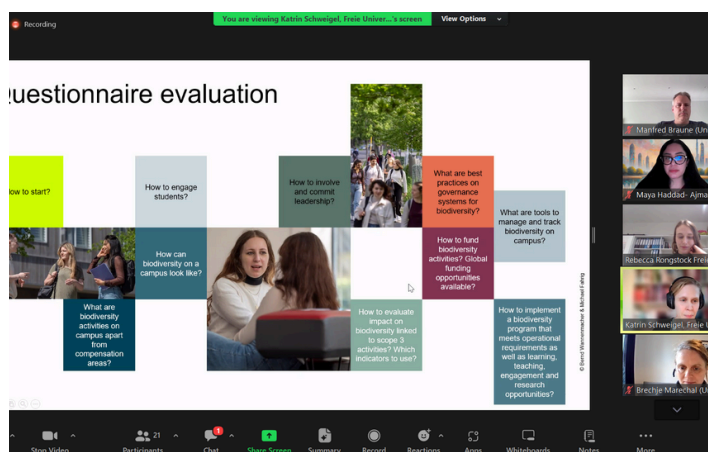
As an active participant in this global dialogue, Ajman University engaged with critical discussions on how Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be leveraged to build a greener future through Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). The session served as a dynamic platform for exploring strategic ways to equip students with the skills needed for the emerging green economy.

The webinar delved into several key objectives, which resonate with AU's own strategic goals in sustainability and education technology. These included:

- Examining the strategic integration of ICT and AI into TVET to foster green skills and sustainability.
- Showcasing global best practices and innovative approaches where technology has successfully promoted environmental stewardship in education.
- Identifying challenges and opportunities in adopting these technologies, from infrastructure to policy alignment.

This participation underscores Ajman University's dedication to aligning its academic and operational practices with global sustainability standards and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in Quality Education (SDG 4) and Climate Action (SDG 13).

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-joins-unesco-webinar-to-champion-ict-and-ai-in-greening-education>



## Ajman University Engages in Global Dialogue on Building Climate-Smart Education Systems

In a demonstration of its commitment to sustainability and global educational leadership, Ajman University (AU) was an active participant in the recent 'UNESCO's Greening Education Partnership Capacity Building Webinar #5: Climate Smart Education Systems.' The virtual event, held on November 7th, brought together international experts to tackle the critical intersection of climate change and education.

The webinar addressed fundamental questions for the future of education, exploring what constitutes a climate-smart education system and how global actors can collaborate to build and strengthen them. The session provided a comprehensive overview of a 7-dimension framework for action, offering practical insights into creating resilient educational infrastructures in the face of climate challenges.

Key topics on the agenda included climate risk analysis for schools, fostering coordination between ministries, integrating climate awareness into national curricula, and enhancing transnational cooperation for climate-smart education.

"Participating in such forward-thinking global forums is essential for a university that aims to be at the forefront of addressing world challenges," said a representative from Ajman University. "Engaging with the strategies discussed in this webinar directly informs our own sustainability initiatives and curriculum development, ensuring our students are prepared to be the solution-makers of tomorrow."

The event featured a distinguished panel of speakers from leading global organizations, including representatives from the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and the Ministry of Climate Change in Zimbabwe, Save the Children, UNESCO, the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), and GEP Nigeria.

Ajman University's attendance at this high-level webinar underscores its strategic focus on integrating sustainability across its operations and academic programs. By engaging with international best practices and frameworks, the university continues to strengthen its role in contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Quality Education (SDG 4) and Climate Action (SDG 13).

The knowledge gained from this session is expected to influence AU's ongoing projects and its commitment to fostering an environmentally conscious and resilient campus community.

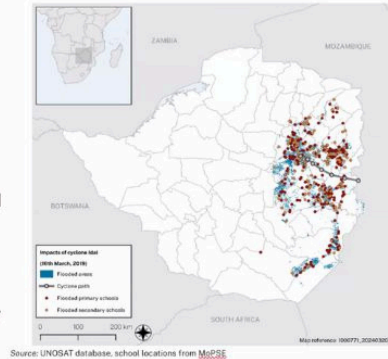
<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-engages-in-global-dialogue-on-building-climate-smart-education-systems>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/climate-smart-education-systems>

## Effects of climate stressors on education

- Climate stressors restrict learners' physical, economic and social access to educational opportunities.
- They worsen already-existing disparities in access to and success in education, especially for the most vulnerable populations. Floods and cyclones can damage and destroy school facilities and local infrastructure, causing displacement, injury and even loss of life.
- They can cause school closures, and some learners do not return to school when the schools eventually open. Even if schools do not close, extreme weather reduces attendance and attainment, which in turn translates into lower earnings and productivity. Cyclone Idai hit the provinces of Manicaland and Masvingo with heavy rains and strong winds in 2019, affecting nearly 130,000 children and more than 400 schools.

Figure 16. Impacts of Cyclone Idai on primary and secondary schools in Zimbabwe in 2019



2/10



- Webinar chat**
- Register to join us for CSF project  
<https://forms.gio/3ap7Ph4jN6G5a0Za>
- Hosni Hussain to Everyone  
Excellent Rahman
- Sofia Dawoody to Everyone  
Hello Every one I am from UK. www.alphareach.com check our free resources please
- Anita Singh to Everyone  
At SEED we have a specific Teacher Capacity building program to support teachers for Greening Education Program. Connect for more details  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/anita-singh-1956-a00c/>
- Umar Ali to Everyone  
Thank you very much for the wonderful practical programs that contributed to more than things for what we are coming to.  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ali-umar-79040218/>
- Sofia Dawoody to Everyone  
Please check our SDG Goals lesson and connect  
<https://alphareach.com/student-resources/sustainable-and-sustainable-living/>
- Its free digital workbook and we look forward to collaborate with educators to develop the lessons further
- Shila Kocobido to Everyone  
Thank you for the resources!
- SURAJ KANISBARI to Everyone  
I want to open sustainable school so I need your full support

## Our Desire: Green School as a Green Community of Practice (CoP) Centre of Excellence model in Nigeria

### OUR FOCUS

- ☐ School Governance
- ☐ Learning and Teaching
- ☐ Operation and Infrastructure development
- ☐ School Engagement with communities

### CHALLENGES

- ☐ Technical Expertise
- ☐ Resource mobilization
- ☐ Funding

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

- ☐ Stakeholder engagement
- ☐ Network building
- ☐ Strategic collaboration

### KEY ISSUES

- ☐ Issue 1: How can conventional schools and youth centres be transformed to green schools
- ☐ Issue 2: How can green schools be more appealing and sustainable
- ☐ Issue 3: What benefit can be accruable to Green schools




- Webinar chat**
- if you support us we will change education for poor and needy very well together
- Jane A to Everyone 09:29 PM  
Join us for a fun, gamified online climate action competition for COP29 (Nov 12 - Nov 25)  
<https://x.com/Seemagayal156439/discussion/1959660415643962018>
- Everyone is welcome!  
<https://springhappystudio.com/league-for-green-education/>
- Bidhan Chandra to Everyone 09:38 PM  
Greetings and respect to all from Bangladesh. Thanks, Bidhan Chandra Pal Founder and Managing Director, Probha Aurora, National Operator, Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), Bangladesh. WhatsApp + Mobile: +880170715222. www.probhaaurora.com <http://gs://www.linkedin.com/in/bidhan-chandra-pal-8350122a/>
- Seema Gayal to Everyone 09:41 PM  
I am a Education and Sustainability analyst Happy to connect Founder of SDG Readiness Platform - <http://www.in-lead.com/in/seema-gayal-cv15a1563> My website: [www.sdgreediness.com](http://www.sdgreediness.com)
- SURAJ KANISBARI to Everyone 09:42 PM  
<https://sites.google.com/view/seemagayal-international/home>


4/7



# CLIMATE SMART EDUCATION SYSTEMS INITIATIVE



To enhance countries' capacities to mainstream **climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability** into education sector plans, budgets and strategies as well as to enhance education ministry capacity for **cross-sectoral coordination** on climate and environment-related policy and programming.



35 eligible countries

Workplace
Philip Tse's screen
Sign In Zoom Events

## CSESI IN ZIMBABWE

Process of Strengthening Greening Aspects (ESD, CC and DRR) in School Curriculum. 2<sup>nd</sup> Syllabi Review.

**For school curriculum**

**Completed:** Review of existing school learning materials (mainly syllabi), focusing on content, methodologies and assessment to identify gaps and opportunities as well as recommendations on strengthening greening aspects (CC, DRR & ESD) in curriculum material.

**Comparative Analysis of the Curriculum and the GCG**

Level Module/course outline/assessment materials/other documents	Climate change aspects found in the module/course outline/assessment materials/other documents	Areas of alignment with the Green Curriculum Guide	Divergence/ gaps between teacher education and Green Curriculum Guide	Recommendations/Op ortunities to strengthening greening aspects (CC, DRR & ESD) in teacher education.

**Webinar chat**

ayla  
<https://www.globalwatcheshop.org/whats-new-do/building-climate-smart-education-systems>

Olivia Copsey to Everyone  
 FEE's Eco-Schools programme eco-schools-global can help your country reach the targets of GEP. Please get in touch with me Olivia@fee.global if you would like to discuss greening your schools and education system.

Asif Ali to Everyone  
 Hello Asif here, I am engaged with young people for climate resilience advocacy.  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/asif-ali-shah-a04873012>  
[vdm\\_source@shahdudum.ca](mailto:vdm_source@shahdudum.ca)  
[marketing@shahdudum.ca](mailto:marketing@shahdudum.ca)  
<https://www.facebook.com/asifali>  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvdm\\_source](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvdm_source)  
<https://www.instagram.com/asifali>  
<https://www.tiktok.com/@asifali>

Sandra Rodriguez to Everyone  
 Good morning, I'm Sandra Rodriguez from ITC network Honduras

Maya Galimidi to Everyone  
 Hello, I am Maya Galimidi founder of Empower with Nature an international transdisciplinary education platform  
[www.empowerwithnature.com](http://www.empowerwithnature.com) and we focus on climate action education: you can connect from  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/maya-galimidi-7aa25325/>

Ratnay Namdi to Everyone  
 Hello Ratnay Mogaji can I meet you after this session?



## Ajman University Explores Digital Technologies for Climate Change Education in GEP Capacity-Building Webinar

Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability, reaffirmed its dedication to educational innovation and environmental stewardship by participating in the Global Education Partnership (GEP) capacity-building webinar titled “Digital Technologies for Curriculum Development Enhancement and Quality Integration of Climate Change Education.” The international event, organized by GEP members Chittagong Grammar School and the State Department for TVET (Bangladesh), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Kenya, was held on 5 September, bringing together educators, policymakers, and sustainability leaders from across the globe.

Centered on the theme of leveraging technology to shape climate-resilient education, the webinar served as a dynamic platform for exploring how digital tools can advance curriculum development and enhance the quality of climate change education. Participants exchanged perspectives on integrating sustainability topics into digital learning frameworks, showcasing how innovations in educational technology can make environmental learning more interactive, inclusive, and impactful.

The session commenced with opening remarks from representatives of the organizing institutions, setting the tone for a series of insightful discussions that emphasized collaboration and knowledge exchange. Experts shared practical approaches to embedding climate education into national curricula through technology-enabled methods, such as digital simulations, e-learning modules, and virtual classrooms designed to foster deeper understanding and student engagement.

The event concluded with an open dialogue among participants, focusing on strengthening cross-border partnerships and promoting digital inclusion in sustainability education. Attendees highlighted the importance of equipping educators and learners alike with the competencies needed to address the challenges of climate change and to contribute to a more sustainable global future.

Ajman University's active participation in this global initiative underscores its continued leadership in sustainability and innovation. Through the Office of Sustainability, the University remains steadfast in advancing the UAE's commitment to quality education and climate action, while empowering future generations to become catalysts for positive environmental change.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-explores-digital-technologies-for-climate-change-education-in-gep-capacity-building-webinar>

## Ajman University Participates in the Third Quarterly GEP Working Group Meeting Focused on Advancing Greening Education

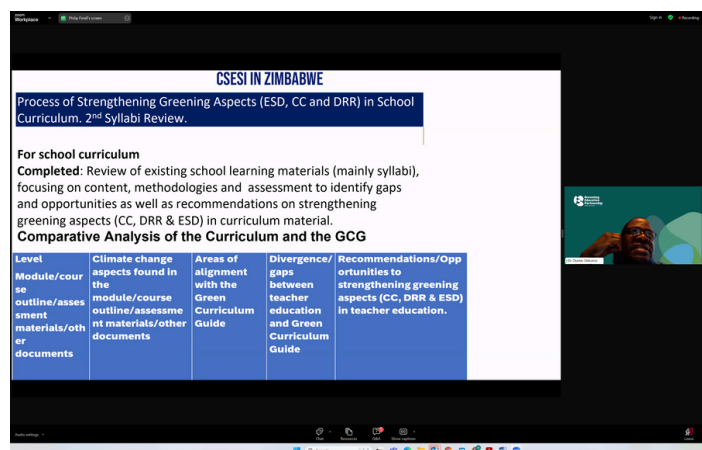
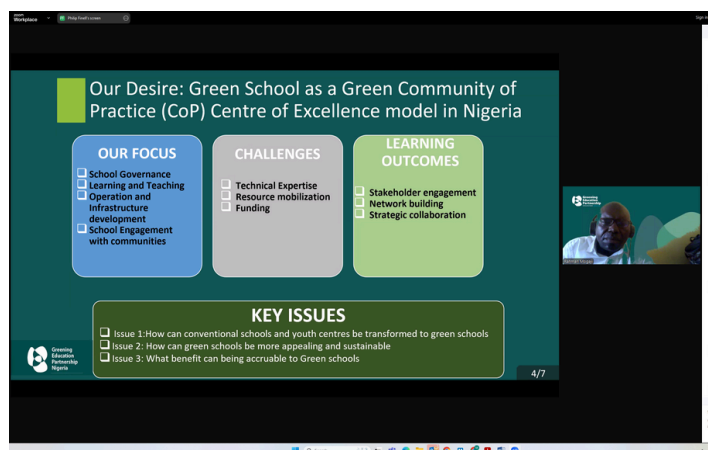
Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability, reaffirmed its commitment to advancing sustainable education by participating in the Third Quarterly Working Group Meeting of the Global Education Partnership (GEP) held on Monday, 23 September 2024. The high-level session brought together education leaders and sustainability experts to share progress updates, outline strategic next steps, and strengthen global collaboration following the launch of two significant publications titled Greening Curriculum Guidance and the Green School Quality Standard.

Centered on the theme of scaling up climate-focused education, the meeting served as a collaborative platform to explore the implementation of comprehensive greening strategies across schools and universities. Representatives from participating institutions discussed the development of two forthcoming technical guidance documents: the Greening Teacher Capacity Policy Dialogue Tool and the Guidance on Greening Communities, led by Working Groups 3 and 4, respectively. These initiatives aim to provide actionable frameworks that support educators, policymakers, and institutions in embedding sustainability principles into their operations and curricula.

The session also featured an engaging dialogue on global preparations for COP29, where greening education is set to be a central theme. Participants exchanged perspectives on how to amplify education's role in driving climate action and aligning national efforts with global sustainability goals. Conducted in both English and French with simultaneous interpretation, the meeting highlighted the importance of inclusivity and cross-cultural collaboration in building a unified approach to environmental education.

Ajman University's engagement in this international forum underscores its dedication to global knowledge exchange and policy innovation in sustainability. Through the Office of Sustainability, the University continues to play an active role in international initiatives that promote quality education, climate awareness, and environmental responsibility, contributing to the UAE's vision of a sustainable, knowledge-driven future.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-participates-in-the-third-quarterly-gep-working-group-meeting-focused-on-advancing-greening-education>



## Partnering with Higher Education Sustainability Initiative

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

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

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

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

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

<div><div>UN Partners</div><div>In 2024-2025, HESI is chaired by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), UN University, UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC), and the Sustain Association - a nonprofit organization and online platform aimed at improving sustainability literacy for all.</div><div>Other UN partners include UNESCO, UN Environment Programme, UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education Initiative, UN-Habitat, UNCTAD, UNCTAD, UN Office for Partnerships, and UN Academic Impact.</div></div> <div>1076 members</div> <div>Filter by region</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> AFRICA</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> ASIA-PACIFIC</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> EUROPE</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> NORTH AMERICA</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> MIDDLE EAST</div>					
Organization	Type	Country	Joined	Link	
17ACADEMY	International Networks & Organizations	Germany	2023	<a href="#">Website</a>	
AACC	National/Regional Networks & Organizations		2024		
A&P American Academy of Project Management	International network or organization	Italy	2024	<a href="#">Website</a>	
ALMAAREFA UNIVERSITY	Higher education institution / University	SAUDI ARABIA	2024	<a href="#">Website</a>	
ALTS-Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	Higher Education Institutions	Italy	2012	<a href="#">Website</a>	
ANSTI	National/Regional Networks & Organizations		2024		
APEC Business School	Higher education institution / University	Hong Kong, China	2024	<a href="#">Website</a>	
APESP - Portuguese Association of Private Higher Education	National / Regional Networks & Organizations	Portugal	2023	<a href="#">Website</a>	
ASPUnivNet	National/Regional Networks & Organizations		2024		
AUT University	Higher Education Institutions University	New Zealand	2023	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Aalborg University	Higher Education Institutions	Denmark	2023	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Aalto University, Finland	Higher Education Institutions	Finland	2012	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Abdulla Al Shuraij Foundation for Education	National/Regional Networks & Organizations	United Arab Emirates	2022	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Abdullah Gül University	Higher Education Institutions	Turkey	2022	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Academic Council on the United Nations System	International network or organization	Canada	2024	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Academy USMP	Higher Education Institutions	Peru	2018	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Academy of Logistics and Transport	Higher education institution / University	Kazakhstan	2024	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Addis Ababa University	Higher Education Institutions	Ethiopia	2012	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Africa Alliance for Health Research and economic development	National/regional network or organization	Kenya	2024	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Africa Universities Fund, Inc	International Networks & Organizations	Nigeria	2022		
Agrocampus Ouest	Higher Education Institutions	France	2012	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Ahlia University Sustainability Initiative	Higher Education Institutions	Bahrain	2021	<a href="#">Website</a>	
Ajman University	Higher Education Institutions	United Arab Emirates	2022	<a href="#">Website</a>	

## Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Centre

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

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

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

The objectives of the research center are:

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

The HSBERC offers the following infrastructure and facilities to its members to enable high quality research:

- Solar Decathlon House: The solar decathlon house serves as a space for experiments involving healthy homes.
- UV-C meters with data logging capabilities
- Spectro-radiometer to measure the energy for light sources in the UV-visible and near Infrared spectrum.
- A color meter to measure color temperature of light sources and the effect of light sources on human circadian rhythm.
- An indoor air quality meter to measure various metrics such as CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, Ozone, TVOC.

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



## Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Participates in UNFCCC Workshop on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and Carbon Markets

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University has participated in an on-campus workshop led by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to explore Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and the potential of carbon markets to support cities in reaching net-zero targets. This workshop, titled "Navigating Article 6: Opportunities for Cities' Net-Zero Commitments," provided an in-depth overview of how cities like Ajman can utilize Article 6's mechanisms to drive sustainable development and climate action at the urban level.

The session opened with a comprehensive introduction to the three main mechanisms within Article 6, which allow for varied approaches to emissions reductions:

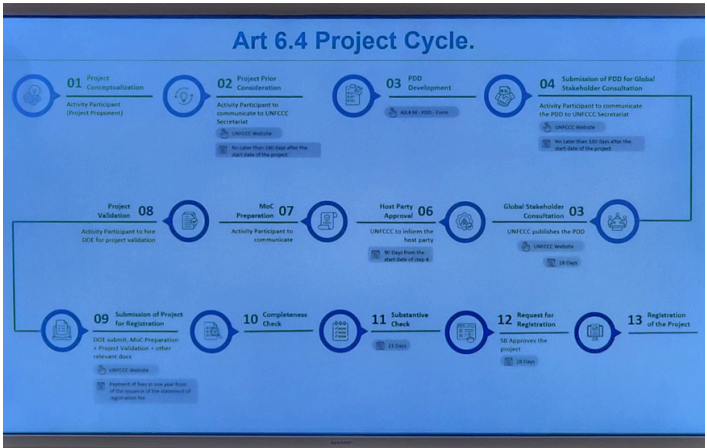
- Article 6.2 focuses on cooperative approaches between countries, enabling cross-border emission reduction exchanges.
- Article 6.4 provides a new market-based system, enabling both public and private entities to generate emission reduction credits, similar to the previous Clean Development Mechanism.
- Article 6.8 encourages non-market-based collaborations for sustainable development, offering alternative options to traditional carbon trading.

In addition, UNFCCC experts included the institutional, accounting, and reporting requirements for effective implementation. These frameworks emphasize transparency and alignment with Nationally Determined Contributions, particularly as cities develop their local greenhouse gas emission reduction objectives. The evolving role of carbon markets was also highlighted, outlining how cities can integrate their climate goals with national strategies for substantial impact.

A case study on Ajman's GHG profile illustrated possible urban mitigation projects within the Article 6 framework. Experts examined the similarities between Article 6.4 and the CDM, with discussions on baseline approaches, crediting periods, and the transition processes from the CDM to Article 6.4. The role of the private sector, particularly in Article 6.2, was emphasized as an increasingly valuable partner in advancing sustainability initiatives.

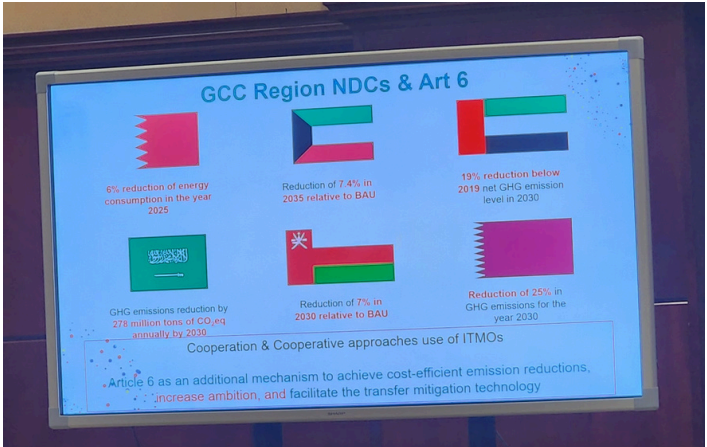
The workshop concluded with a Q&A session where participants exchanged insights on the implementation of Article 6 mechanisms to meet ambitious net-zero objectives. Through case studies, expert presentations, and shared best practices, the workshop highlighted the essential role cities play in advancing global climate objectives, demonstrating how Article 6 tools can lead to significant climate action at the local level.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-participates-in-unfccc-workshop-on-article-6-of-the-paris-agreement-and-carbon-markets>



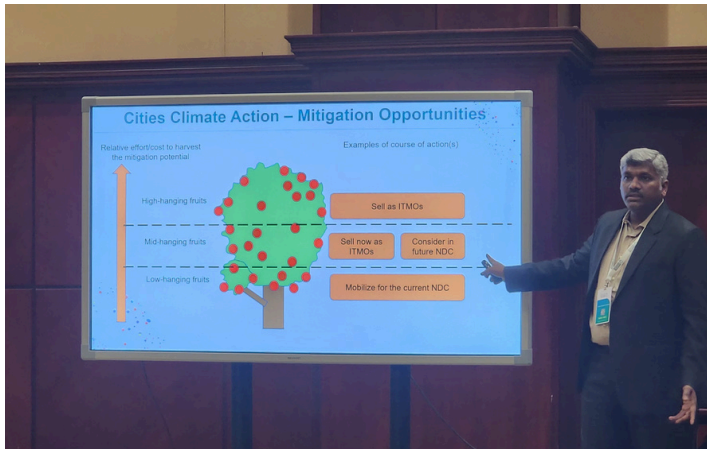
### Relationship between Article 6.4 & CDM – Key differences

Article 6.4 Mechanism	CDM
Only have NDCs (emission reduction)	Only (some) Annex I Countries have legally binding emission reduction targets
For developing countries, the project CDMs provision of info to SB on emission contribution to SD	Limited role for developing countries (i.e. role and commitments of the HC limited to granting of Letters of Approval)
Can participate as sellers or buyers of emission reductions	Developing countries participated in the international carbon market as hosts for CDM projects (no targets)
Expected to report to the UNFCCC ex-post on actions contribute to the NDCs of their countries	The approval of CDM activities implied confirming that participation was voluntary and contributed to SD in the country
Trustworthy Body (CDM – CDM Executive Board)	AS 4ERs (CER – Certified Emission Reductions)
Activity Participants (CDM – Project Participants)	Mitigation Contribution Units (MCUs)
Host Party (CDM – Host Country)	



### PARTNERSHIPS

- UN Climate Change & WFP:** Regional Collaborative Action in Dubai to promote climate action in the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia covering 30 countries
- WFP to host the UN Climate Change Action Plan for supporting the alignment of the regional response to climate change with the global climate action agenda**
- GGGI:** GGGI & WFP initiative to develop & deliver 10 small-scale projects with investment worth 1.1 billion USD across 14 countries
- Global Compact Network UAE:** WFP leading UN Global Compact UAE Network to complement the efforts of private sector partners in advancing responsible business activities



### Carbon Market Mechanisms Regulator....

Compliance Carbon Markets	Voluntary Carbon Markets
Mandatory systems regulated by government organizations to cap emissions for specific industries.	Where carbon credits can be purchased by those that voluntarily want to compensate for their emissions.
<b>Compliance</b>	<b>Voluntary</b>

Independent standards (40+)

## The Office of Sustainability Launches Air Quality Monitoring System in Collaboration with Al Athaab and Aeron Systems

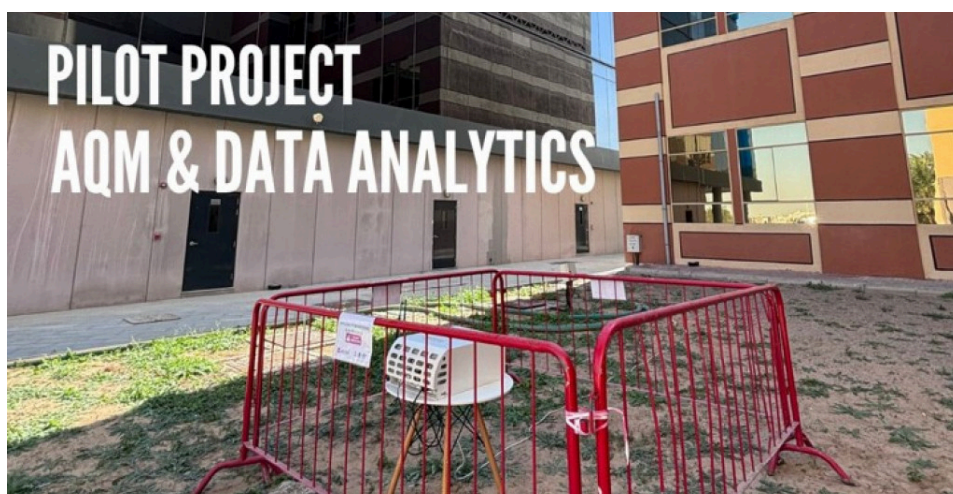
The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University has partnered with Al Athaab Environment and Safety Solutions LLC and Aeron Systems to launch an air quality monitoring system on campus. This collaboration aims to enhance the ambient outdoor environment, ensuring the health and safety of the university community members.

This system facilitates the monitoring of key air pollutants like carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and ozone, providing reports with precise data adhering to local and international standards. These insights empower effective measures to enhance air quality on campus, pinpointing affected areas and implementing necessary actions to uphold healthy air levels.

Ensuring high air quality within educational settings is crucial, as it significantly impacts both students and teachers. Clean air is fundamental for health and comfort, leading to improved concentration and academic performance. Furthermore, maintaining a pristine environment promotes positive interactions among students and cultivates a motivating atmosphere within classrooms. This helps in integrating the principles of SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being as well as SDG 13: Climate Action.

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University is dedicated to fostering a healthy and sustainable learning environment for faculty, administrative staff, and students. They achieve this through diverse strategies, utilizing cutting-edge technologies and best practices to monitor and enhance air quality on campus. Additionally, they raise awareness about the importance of health and the environment through campaigns, workshops, and lectures on the impact of air quality on well-being and academic performance.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/the-office-of-sustainability-launches-air-quality-monitoring-system-in-collaboration-with-al-athaab-and-aeron-systems>





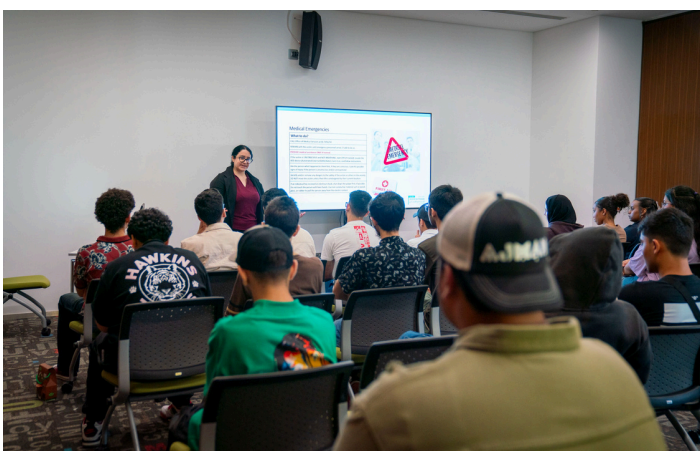
## The Office of Sustainability Organizes an Orientation Session for New Students on Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action

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 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 programmes 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>







## Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Participates in UNFCCC Workshop on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and Carbon Markets



The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University has participated in an on-campus workshop led by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to explore Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and the potential of carbon markets to support cities in reaching net-zero targets. This workshop, titled "Navigating Article 6: Opportunities for Cities' Net-Zero Commitments," provided an in-depth overview of how cities like Ajman can utilize Article 6's mechanisms to drive sustainable development and climate action at the urban level.

The session opened with a comprehensive introduction to the three main mechanisms within Article 6, which allow for varied approaches to emissions reductions:

- Article 6.2 focuses on cooperative approaches between countries, enabling cross-border emission reduction exchanges.
- Article 6.4 provides a new market-based system, enabling both public and private entities to generate emission reduction credits, similar to the previous Clean Development Mechanism.
- Article 6.8 encourages non-market-based collaborations for sustainable development, offering alternative options to traditional carbon trading.

In addition, UNFCCC experts included the institutional, accounting, and reporting requirements for effective implementation. These frameworks emphasize transparency and alignment with Nationally Determined Contributions, particularly as cities develop their local greenhouse gas emission reduction objectives. The evolving role of carbon markets was also highlighted, outlining how cities can integrate their climate goals with national strategies for substantial impact.

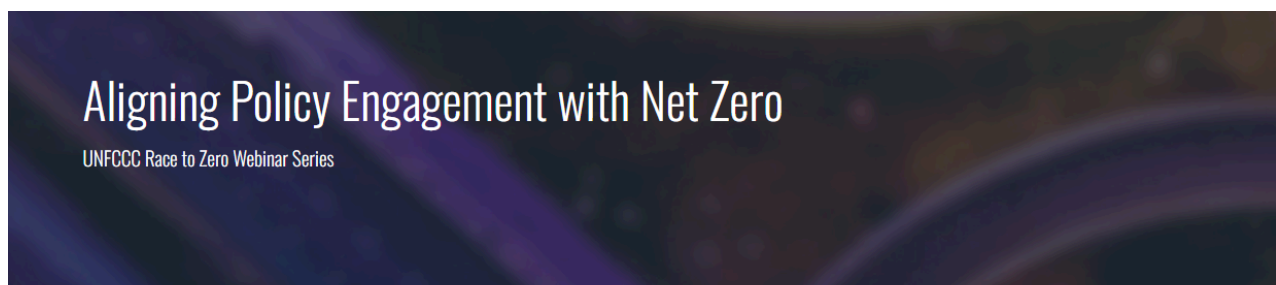


A case study on Ajman's GHG profile illustrated possible urban mitigation projects within the Article 6 framework. Experts examined the similarities between Article 6.4 and the CDM, with discussions on baseline approaches, crediting periods, and the transition processes from the CDM to Article 6.4. The role of the private sector, particularly in Article 6.2, was emphasized as an increasingly valuable partner in advancing sustainability initiatives.

The workshop concluded with a Q&A session where participants exchanged insights on the implementation of Article 6 mechanisms to meet ambitious net-zero objectives. Through case studies, expert presentations, and shared best practices, the workshop highlighted the essential role cities play in advancing global climate objectives, demonstrating how Article 6 tools can lead to significant climate action at the local level.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-participates-in-unfccc-workshop-on-article-6-of-the-paris-agreement-and-carbon-markets>

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



**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

### Event Details

📅 March 19th, 2024

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

📍 Zoom Webinar

✉ [events@influencemap.org](mailto:events@influencemap.org)

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>

## 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 Omaima 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 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 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>





## 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.

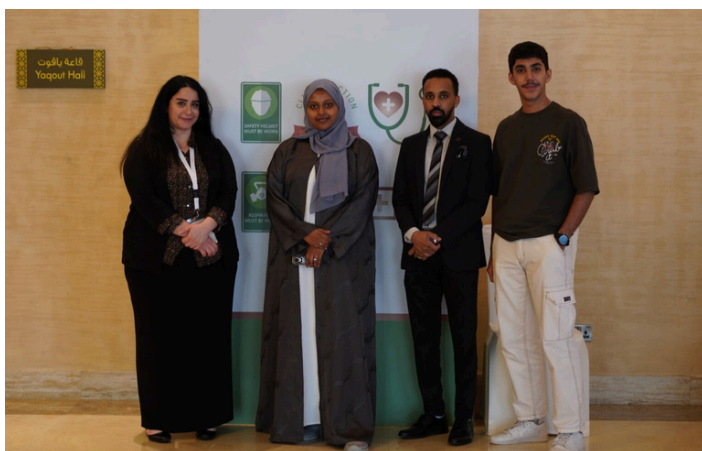
Additionally, University students and staff participated in interactive workshops and training sessions covering a wide range of topics, including emergency response planning, risk assessment, and management.

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



The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University participated in 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 Office of Sustainability showcased the University's best practices in environmental health and safety at the forum, focusing on education, environment, health, and safety sectors.

In addition, Ajman University's booth highlighted the University's efforts to create a safe and sustainable campus through implementing an effective EHS management system including safety auditing cycles, aimed at mitigating environment health and safety risks. The booth also featured interactive games designed to make learning about environmental health and safety an engaging experience. Visitors participated in activities such as "First Aid Game", "EHS Jeopardy Challenge", and "Spot the Hazards", effectively increasing awareness about occupational health and safety procedures.

The forum included numerous educational and awareness workshops in the fields of environment, health, and safety, aiming to raise awareness about safety standards and sustainable practices across educational institutions. The forum also provided a platform to discuss innovative solutions to challenges in these vital areas.

Ajman University's participation in the forum underscores its commitment to promoting best practices in health and safety within educational institutions. The University leverages leading experiences to support efforts in establishing a safe and sustainable learning environment for its community.

<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>







## 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.

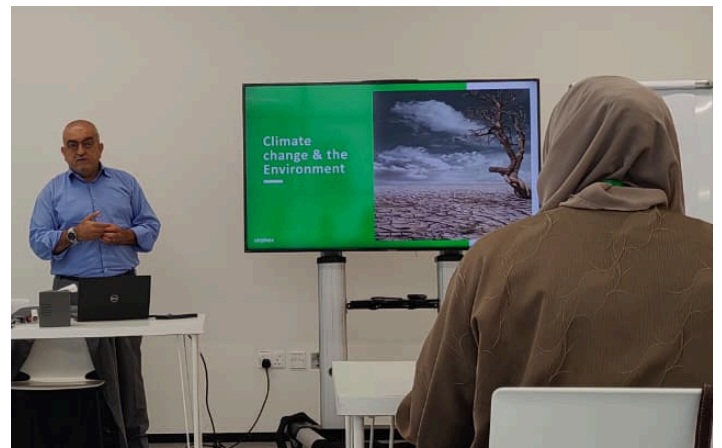
Ajman University actively participated in the program, with members of the Office of Sustainability attending the training. This participation reflects the university's commitment to sustainability and its role in supporting local businesses in achieving their environmental and social goals.

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>







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

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







In a further commitment to health and wellness, Ajman University has implemented an indoor air quality monitoring system aimed at ensuring the highest standard of air quality within its facilities. With a focus on creating a safer environment for students, faculty, and staff, the university has placed air quality monitors throughout its buildings to track key air pollutants and identify trends.

Indoor air quality plays a vital role in the overall well-being of the university community. When pollutant levels increase, it can lead to health issues and discomfort. The monitoring system allows the university to address potential problems by making necessary adjustments such as improving ventilation or installing air purifiers. Solutions like these ensure that air quality remains at optimal levels, preventing issues before they arise.

By taking these proactive measures, Ajman University is showing its dedication to the health and safety of everyone on campus. This initiative not only highlights the importance of maintaining high indoor air quality standards but also showcases the university's commitment to sustainability and innovation in environmental health.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/indoor-air-quality-monitoring-at-ajman-university>



## 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>

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





## Ajman University Joins Regional Dialogue on Sustainable Resource Management

Ajman University (AU) is set to participate in a key virtual meeting of the Energy & Water Community of Practice, scheduled for September 11, 2024, underscoring its commitment to advancing sustainability and efficient resource management within the region.

The meeting agenda highlights a collaborative forum designed to foster an open discussion among member institutions. The dialogue will center on critical operational topics, including strategies for Water Leak Detection and analyzing Energy & Water charges for schools and departments. These discussions are pivotal for institutions like AU seeking to optimize utility spending and minimize environmental impact.

A significant focus of the meeting will be the collective move away from Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs). Participants, including Ajman University, will discuss practical advice and strategies for this transition, signaling a shift towards more direct and impactful renewable energy investments and practices.

The session will also feature an update from the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC), delivered by Claire Mitchell. This update will ensure that all members, including AU, are aligned with the latest developments and best practices in the global sustainability sector.

Ajman University's involvement in this community of practice positions it at the forefront of the sustainability conversation among educational institutions. By engaging in these critical discussions, the university not only gains valuable insights to enhance its own campus operations but also contributes to a broader, collective effort to promote environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility in resource management.

The outcomes of this meeting are expected to directly inform AU's ongoing sustainability initiatives, supporting its mission to integrate eco-friendly practices across all university departments and services.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-joins-regional-dialogue-on-sustainable-resource-management>

## Ajman University's Role in the ISCN Biodiversity Community of Practice (Meeting 1)

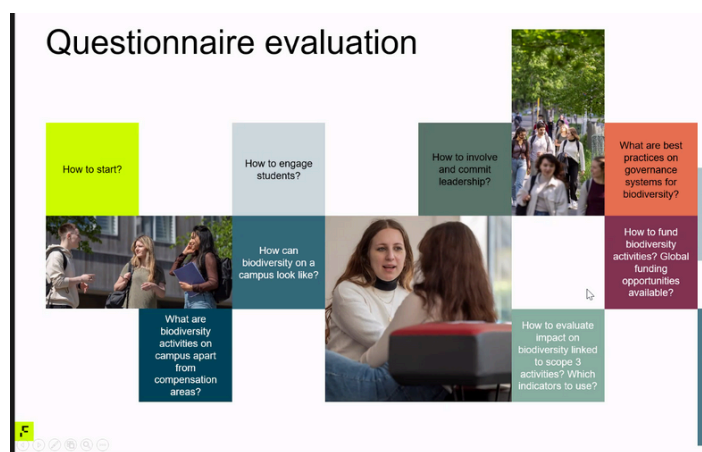
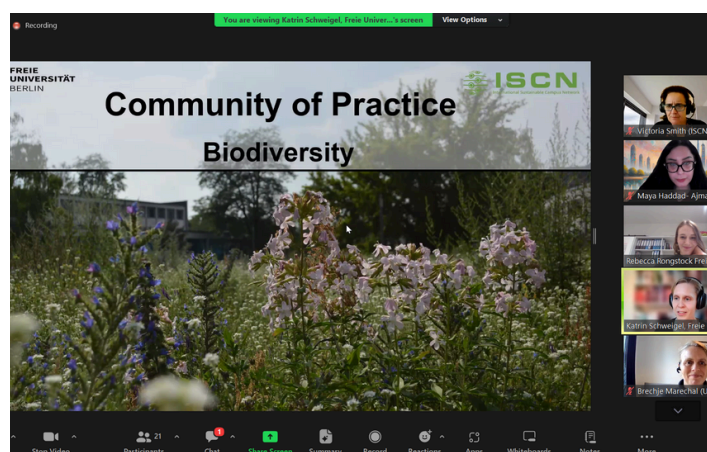
Ajman University proudly participates in the International Sustainable Campus Network's (ISCN) Biodiversity Community of Practice, joining a prestigious group of higher education institutions such as Yale University, Harvard University, the University of Toronto, and King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST). This global network is dedicated to advancing biodiversity conservation and restoration through collaboration, research, and knowledge exchange.

The Biodiversity Community of Practice focuses on integrating biodiversity considerations into key areas such as campus operations, teaching, research, responsible purchasing, and community engagement. By sharing best practices and collaborating on biodiversity initiatives, members are empowered to lead impactful efforts within their institutions and contribute to the broader global movement for biodiversity protection.

Ajman University's involvement highlights its dedication to sustainability, aiming to embed biodiversity into its operations and academic environment. Through this collaboration with some of the world's most renowned universities, AU strengthens its capacity to drive biodiversity-focused initiatives, playing a key role in conservation efforts locally and globally. By embracing this mission, AU not only enhances its own practices but also contributes to the global effort to protect and restore biodiversity for future generations.

To learn more, visit: Biodiversity Community of Practice - ISCN ([international-sustainable-campus-network.org](https://international-sustainable-campus-network.org)).

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-role-in-the-iscn-biodiversity-community-of-practice>





## Ajman University Strengthens Global Sustainability Ties at ISCN Biodiversity Community of Practice Meeting

Demonstrating its active role in the global sustainability dialogue, Ajman University (AU) participated in the ISCN Biodiversity Community of Practice (CoP) meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. The virtual gathering brought together international higher education leaders to discuss the critical role of universities in implementing the landmark Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework following COP16.

The session featured key insights from global sustainability leaders, including Emily Stott from the University of Oxford's Nature Positive Universities (NPU) initiative and Emilio Latorre from the ISCN-LATAM Chapter. The discussions focused on the outcomes and challenges of COP16, held earlier this year in Cali, Colombia, and how higher education institutions can serve as catalysts for achieving global biodiversity targets.

“Active participation in forums like the ISCN Biodiversity CoP is integral to our sustainability strategy,” said Maya Haddad from Ajman University's Office of Sustainability. “Engaging with peers from Oxford, LATAM, and other global institutions allows us to benchmark our practices, gather innovative ideas, and reinforce our commitment to the Nature Positive Universities initiative. The insights on translating international agreements into local action are directly applicable to our campus and community initiatives.”

The meeting's agenda delved into two core themes:

- Representing Higher Education at COP16: Emily Stott shared her experience advocating for the university sector's role in global biodiversity policy.
- International Exchange as a Catalyst for Local Change: Emilio Latorre discussed how global cooperation, particularly through networks like the Sustainable Campus Network (RUCAS), drives tangible sustainability projects at the institutional level.

Ajman University's consistent involvement in the ISCN Community of Practice underscores its strategic commitment to environmental stewardship and global citizenship. By contributing to these discussions, AU continues to align its operations, curriculum, and research with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Life on Land (SDG 15), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Quality Education (SDG 4).

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-strengthens-global-sustainability-ties-at-iscn-biodiversity-community-of-practice-meeting>

To learn more, visit: Biodiversity Community of Practice - ISCN ([international-sustainable-campus-network.org](https://international-sustainable-campus-network.org)).

## 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-qs-reimagine-education-awards>



## Ajman University Represented at Key ERASMUS-Funded Sustainable Tourism Development Initiative in Italy



In a significant step aimed at enhancing Ajman University's international collaboration, Faculty Member Dr. Mohamad Khairi Ishak represented the institution in a key sustainable tourism development initiative in Milan, Italy. The event, held on February 26-27, 2024, was fully funded by the ERASMUS Fund.

Dr. Ishak is a Faculty Member of the Department of Electrical Engineering in the College of Engineering and IT.

Dr. Ishak's representation at this international event is significant for promoting his and Ajman University's role as a key contributor to ERASMUS projects on the global stage. His successful participation in the event has positioned Ajman University as a frontrunner in shaping the future of ERASMUS initiatives.

The project, officially titled "Smart, Optimized, High-quality and On-Demand Tourism Innovative Education For Sustainable and Green Development (SOHO)", receives financial support from the European Union (EU) and is spearheaded by Universitatea Politehnica Din Bucuresti, Romania.

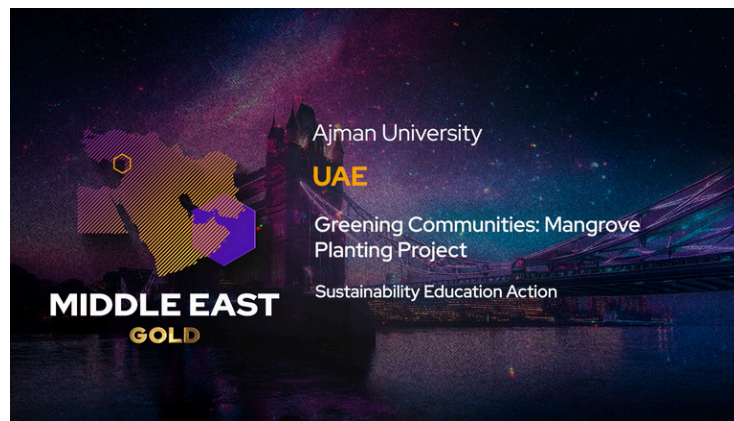
SOHO's main focus is on sustainable tourism, specifically addressing environmental aspects, green energy, and smart technologies. Each Knowledge & Competence Center will explore challenges related to its national context, facilitating a peer-learning approach among participating institutions from UAE, Malaysia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Italy, France and Romania.

This meeting serves as a stepping stone for Ajman University to collaborate and engage in various ERASMUS projects and international grants. Overall, it signifies the institution's commitment to playing a significant role in the global landscape of sustainable and innovative education.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-represented-at-key-erasmus-funded-sustainable-tourism-development-initiative-in-italy>



## 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-qs-reimagine-education-award-2024-for-pioneering-sustainability-initiative>

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

## Ajman University Champions Circular Economy Dialogue at High-Level Mashreq Future Sustainability Forum

Ajman University, represented by the Office of Sustainability, took part in the Mashreq Future Sustainability Forum Roundtable held at Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai. Organized by Gulf Intelligence and hosted by Mashreq Bank, the high-level roundtable brought together sustainability leaders and experts to explore the critical question: “How can sustainability and the circular economy drive greener economies?”

The roundtable, hosted by Joel Van Dusen, Group Head of Corporate and Investment Banking at Mashreq, and Faisal Mohammed Al Shimmari, Executive Vice President and Head of ESG & Corporate Strategy at Mashreq, convened thought leaders from the financial, environmental, and industrial sectors to discuss pathways toward sustainable economic transformation. The forum focused on how renewable energy adoption, circular economy integration, and green investments can collectively accelerate the transition toward low-carbon, resilient economies.

The discussion emphasized the pivotal role of the circular economy in decoupling growth from resource depletion by promoting reduction, reuse, and recycling models. Experts also highlighted how sustainable business practices and cross-sector collaboration can generate green jobs, strengthen global competitiveness, and advance alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement.

Distinguished speakers included Dr. Samar Abdo Al Ghalebi, Founder of VestinGrow, who shared insights on green infrastructure investments; Riad Bestani, Founder and CEO of ECOsquare, who discussed industrial solutions to waste management; Ragini Kalapatapu, Head of ESG at Egis, who elaborated on decarbonization strategies; and Hassaan Ghazali, ESG Expert at AHG Global, who addressed the policy dimensions of sustainability and environmental law. The session was moderated by Sean Evers, Managing Partner at Gulf Intelligence.

Throughout the engaging discussion, participants underscored the importance of public awareness, innovation, and partnerships between the private and public sectors to build circular systems that enable long-term prosperity and environmental balance. The forum reinforced the message that sustainability is not merely an environmental obligation but a strategic economic opportunity that paves the way for a greener and more inclusive future.

Ajman University’s participation reflects its ongoing commitment to fostering a sustainable mindset within and beyond academia, aligning with the UAE’s vision to lead in climate action, green finance, and circular economy innovation.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-champions-circular-economy-dialogue-at-high-level-mashreq-future-sustainability-forum>

## AI and Digital Transformation Take Center Stage in Mining Sector Panel



Ajman, UAE - Dr. Fares Howari, Dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences at Ajman University, successfully moderated a pivotal panel session on "Innovation and Digital Transformation in the Mining Sector" in collaboration with key industry partners, including Fujairah Natural Resources Corporation, the Arab Industrial Development Standardization and Mining Organization, and the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure.

The high-profile event brought together leading experts in artificial intelligence, data analytics, and technological innovation to explore cutting-edge approaches to mining and resource extraction. Distinguished panelists included Dr. Nour Aburaed from the University of Dubai, Dr. Mohammed Al-Loughani from Mohamed Bin Zayed University of AI, Professor Mérouane Debbah from Khalifa University, and Mr. Rob Mortimer, founder of Fuelre4m.

Dr. Howari orchestrated a comprehensive discussion that delved into critical themes such as AI applications in mineral exploration, sustainability challenges, and the potential of digital technologies to revolutionize the mining industry. The panel explored innovative solutions ranging from AI-driven image processing to advanced predictive maintenance technologies.

Key topics addressed included:

- Artificial intelligence's role in improving operational efficiency
- Environmental sustainability in resource extraction
- Cybersecurity challenges in digital mining
- Workforce transformation through technological innovation

The event highlighted the UAE's commitment to technological advancement in the resource sector, showcasing the nation's leadership in integrating cutting-edge digital solutions into traditional industries. Dr. Howari emphasized the transformative potential of these technologies, stating that "embracing innovation is crucial for creating a more efficient, safe, and sustainable future in the mining sector."

The panel session concluded with a robust audience Q&A, providing a platform for deeper exploration of the intersection between technology and resource extraction.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ai-and-digital-transformation-take-center-stage-in-mining-sector-panel>



## Ajman University Lends Expertise to National Climate Agenda at Emirates Environmental Council Brainstorming Session

In a significant move to align institutional knowledge with national priorities, Ajman University's sustainability leaders participated in a high-level brainstorming session with the Emirates Municipal Environmental Council. The session, convened by the Council established under the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, focused on developing integrated strategies to advance the UAE's environmental and climate goals.

The University's delegation, including its Senior Sustainability Managers and faculty experts, contributed across multiple specialized teams, positioning AU as a key academic partner in translating national climate policy into actionable, ground-level initiatives.

"Our role extends beyond our campus borders," stated Maya Haddad from Ajman University's Office of Sustainability. "This collaborative session was a powerful demonstration of how academic research, innovation, and community engagement can directly inform and accelerate national progress. By contributing to these teams, we are ensuring that scientific rigor and educational excellence are embedded into the UAE's journey toward a sustainable future."

The brainstorming session saw AU experts provide strategic input across five critical pillars of the Council's work:

1. Environmental and Municipal Studies and Research: University researchers proposed collaborative studies on pressing local environmental challenges, offering the institution's advanced labs and data analysis capabilities to support evidence-based municipal decision-making.
2. Education and Public Awareness: Drawing on its core mission, the AU team brainstormed innovative public outreach campaigns and curriculum frameworks designed to foster a culture of environmental stewardship from schools to the wider community.
3. Regional and International Representation: Faculty members with global experience contributed insights on international best practices, helping to position the UAE's municipal efforts within the broader context of global climate agreements and partnerships.
4. Policy and Legislation Development: Legal and policy scholars from the University provided critical analysis for drafting robust environmental regulations, ensuring that new policies are both scientifically sound and practically enforceable.
5. Transformational Projects: Engineers and sustainability innovators from AU contributed ideas for pioneering projects in areas like circular waste management and green infrastructure, showcasing the university's capacity to be a testbed for scalable, real-world solutions.

This active participation underscores Ajman University's deep commitment to its Third Mission of community engagement and its strategic alignment with the UAE's Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative. By lending its academic and technical weight to the Emirates Municipal Environmental Council, the University continues to solidify its role as a vital engine for environmental progress and a key contributor to a greener, more resilient future for the nation.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-lends-expertise-to-national-climate-agenda-at-emirates-environmental-council-brainstorming-session>

## Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Takes Part in Dubai Holding Women + Fin-Erth Climate Dinner

Ajman University, represented by the Office of Sustainability, participated in the inaugural Dubai Holding Women + Fin-Erth Climate Dinner held on 17 September 2024 at Al Nafoorah, Jumeirah Al Qasr Hotel, Dubai. Organized by Dubai Holding, in partnership with Fin-Erth, the exclusive event gathered around 80 influential women leaders across the UAE's climate ecosystem to explore collaborative pathways for advancing climate solutions and building momentum towards a sustainable future.

Building on the legacy of COP28 and Dubai Holding's pivotal role as a Principal Pathway Sponsor, the dinner marked the first step in establishing a dedicated community of female leaders committed to driving environmental progress and supporting the UAE's Net Zero 2050 agenda. The evening featured a welcome reception followed by a guided seated dinner designed to encourage open dialogue, knowledge exchange, and collective brainstorming around unlocking innovative approaches to climate action.

Throughout the discussions, participants reflected on the power of women's leadership in accelerating sustainability initiatives across diverse sectors, from green finance and circular economy solutions to low-carbon innovation. The gathering underscored the significance of fostering inclusive platforms where women can collaborate, mentor, and amplify each other's impact in shaping a resilient climate future.

The event also served as a launchpad for ongoing engagement, with attendees invited to join a dedicated WhatsApp community, a dynamic network aimed at sustaining collaboration, learning, and mutual support among women driving climate action in the region. Fin-Erth will circulate the key discussion takeaways and future action points emerging from the dinner's thematic tables.

Ajman University's participation reflects its ongoing dedication to empowering women in sustainability leadership and its alignment with the UAE's national vision for climate innovation, gender inclusion, and global environmental stewardship.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-universitys-office-of-sustainability-takes-part-in-dubai-holding-women-fin-erth-climate-dinner>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/dubai-holdings-building-momentum-in-climate-dinner>



## 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>



## Workshop: Sustainability in Higher Education by CAA

Ajman University reaffirmed its commitment to advancing sustainable development and environmental responsibility by participating in the “Sustainability in Higher Education” workshop, organized by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) under the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Held on 21 November 2024 at the University of Sharjah’s Men’s Forum, the event brought together leaders, academics, and sustainability experts from across the UAE’s higher education sector.

The workshop aimed to enhance understanding of the newly developed Green Education (GreenEd) Framework, a national roadmap designed to integrate sustainability into higher education and technical vocational institutions. The framework aligns with the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategy and global climate goals, guiding universities toward environmentally responsible operations, socially inclusive communities, and effective governance models.

The program opened with welcoming remarks by Prof. Hamid Al-Naimiy, Chancellor of the University of Sharjah, followed by Dr. Sameera Almulla, Director of the CAA, who highlighted the ministry’s commitment to embedding sustainability as a core principle in higher education. Keynote speakers shared impactful case studies, including Julia Carlow, Associate Head of Sustainability at the American University of Sharjah, who presented “Sustainability Excellence in Higher Education”, and Dr. Eesa Al Bastaki, President of the University of Dubai, who showcased his university’s success as the world’s second and the region’s first Net Zero Energy Campus.

Subsequent sessions focused on youth engagement and institutional collaboration. Majed Bin Saad, President of the UAE Green Youth Majlis, inspired participants with a talk on empowering youth to become sustainability advocates, while Dr. Rasha Bayoumi, Co-Chair of the Universities Climate Network (UCN), discussed how 35 UAE-based universities, including Ajman University, are working collectively to achieve campus carbon neutrality and strengthen climate action initiatives.

The workshop featured a presentation by Prof. Mufeed Batarseh, Policy Development and Quality Expert at the CAA, who introduced the GreenEd Framework Draft Guidance Manual. The framework is structured around five sustainability pillars: Academics and Research, Community Engagement, Operations and Resources, Planning and Administration, and Innovation and Leadership. These pillars serve as benchmarks for institutions to align their strategies with the UAE’s sustainability vision.

Interactive group sessions followed, providing participants an opportunity to exchange insights and develop practical action plans for integrating sustainability into teaching, research, and campus operations.

Ajman University's active participation in the workshop underscores its role as a member of the national GreenEd Taskforce Committee and the Universities Climate Network, contributing to the UAE's vision of building climate-resilient and knowledge-driven education systems.

The event concluded with a collective call to action, encouraging all higher education institutions to implement the GreenEd Framework and continue strengthening the UAE's leadership in sustainability-focused education.

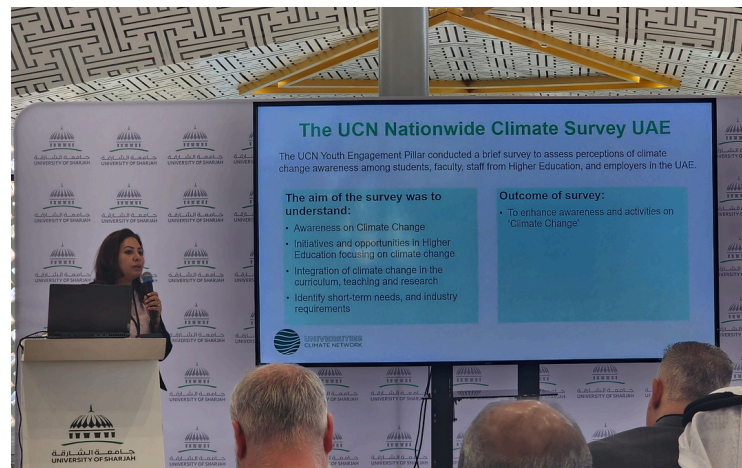
Ajman University's participation reflects its unwavering commitment to aligning education with the nation's sustainability agenda, preparing future leaders who will drive climate action and sustainable innovation across the region.

To view the presentations given during the workshop, please click [here](#).

To view the GreenEd framework, please click [here](#). This document was introduced by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoHSER), which is designed to serve as a roadmap for higher education and TVET institutions to operationalize sustainability initiatives. By outlining clear frameworks and actionable steps, this Framework aligns with the UAE's commitment to climate neutrality (NZE) and empowers institutions to contribute to the UAE's sustainability strategies and Net Zero 2050 goals. Ajman University was part of the taskforce committee, commissioners, experts, and the higher education institutions that contributed in developing the GreenEd Framework.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/highlights/workshop-sustainability-in-higher-education-by-caa>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/gallery/workshop-sustainability-in-higher-education-by-caa>



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We thank you for your  
continued support in  
our efforts to contribute  
to the SDGs.



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