



جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

20
24

SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

13.3 Environmental education measures

13.3.5 Environmental education collaborate with
NGO



THE GLOBAL GOALS

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Introduction

As the global climate crisis intensifies, the need for collaborative action has never been more urgent. Universities, as centers of knowledge and innovation, can play a crucial role in driving sustainable solutions. By partnering with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities can amplify their impact and accelerate progress towards a more sustainable future.

This report delves into the University's commitment to climate adaptation and its collaborations with NGOs. By examining the University's partnerships with NGOs, we aim to assess its contribution to:

- **Capacity Building:** Enhancing the capacity of NGOs to address climate change challenges.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** Facilitating the exchange of knowledge and expertise between the University and NGOs.
- **Joint Projects and Initiatives:** Implementing collaborative projects to address specific climate adaptation needs.
- **Advocacy and Policy Influence:** Advocating for climate-friendly policies and practices.

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

- **Environmental education collaborate with NGO (13.3.5):** This indicator assesses the University's partnerships with NGOs to address climate change adaptation challenges.

By analyzing this indicator, we can gain valuable insights into the University's role in building a more resilient and sustainable future.

Message from the Chancellor

The escalating climate crisis demands urgent action and innovative solutions in collaboration with NGOs.

Ajman University is committed to playing a pivotal role in addressing the global challenge of climate change. By partnering with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), we are leveraging our collective expertise and resources to drive positive change. These collaborations enable us to extend our reach beyond our campus, fostering innovation and empowering communities. Through joint research projects, capacity-building initiatives, and advocacy efforts, we are working together to address pressing environmental issues and promote sustainable practices. By sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise, we are creating a powerful force for positive change.



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

**KARIM SEGHIR,PHD
CHANCELLOR**

13.3.5 Environmental education collaborate with NGO

Ajman University, recognizing the critical importance of environmental sustainability, has embarked on a collaborative initiative with various Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). This partnership aims to foster a culture of environmental consciousness and empower individuals to take action. By combining the University's academic expertise with the practical experience of NGOs, the initiative seeks to:

- **Promote Environmental Education:** Develop and implement innovative educational programs and workshops to raise awareness about environmental issues, such as climate change, pollution, and resource conservation.
- **Conduct Research and Innovation:** Collaborate on research projects to identify sustainable solutions to environmental challenges and promote the adoption of eco-friendly technologies.
- **Engage the Community:** Organize community outreach programs, volunteer activities, and public awareness campaigns to involve the broader community in environmental initiatives.
- **Foster Partnerships:** Build strong relationships with local and international organizations to share knowledge, resources, and best practices.

Through these collaborative efforts, Ajman University strives to create a positive impact on the environment and inspire future generations to become responsible environmental stewards. This report will discuss the various NGOs that Ajman University is affiliated with in the following sections.



For over three decades, the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) has been a beacon of sustainability in the UAE and beyond. Founded in 1991, this dynamic organization boasts a diverse membership – students, individuals, families, businesses, government agencies, universities, and even international organizations. This inclusive approach fosters a powerful coalition dedicated to protecting the environment and promoting long-term development.

The university has partnered with EEG on various projects, including implementing environmental education and awareness programs, supporting community-based adaptation projects such as tree planting initiatives, clean-up campaigns, environmental education sessions, and awareness programs, capacity building and ecological public speaking skills for students, judging climate change student artwork and presentations and more. In addition to these specific projects, Ajman University and EEG have collaborated on several other initiatives, such as organizing conferences, workshops, and public events on climate change.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/partnerships/emirates-environmental-group-eeeg>

Below some of the events AU partnered with EEG during the year 2024:

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

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





In Association with



الجمعية العربية للمسؤولية الاجتماعية
Arabesque CSR Network



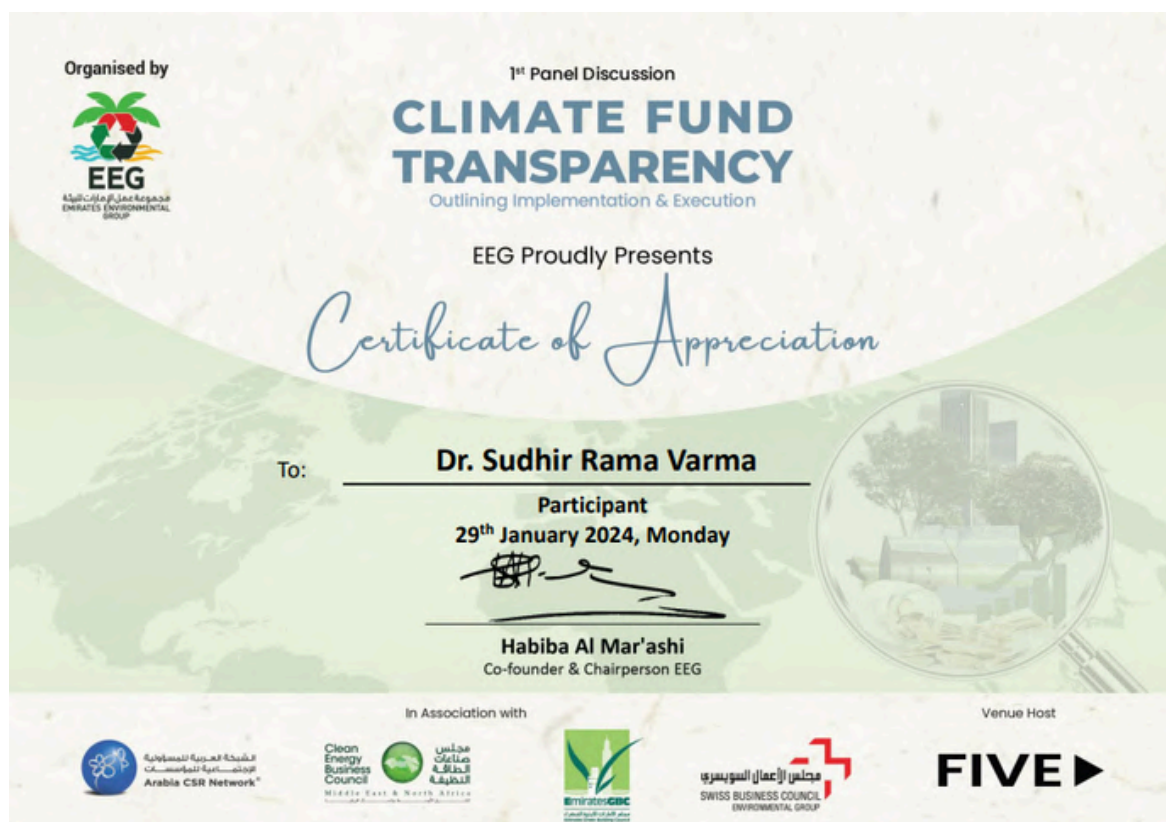
Clean Energy Business Council
مجلس الطاقة النظيفة
Middle East & North Africa



مجلس الأعمال السويسري
SWISS BUSINESS COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

Venue Host

FIVE ▶



In Association with



الجمعية العربية للمسؤولية الاجتماعية
Arabesque CSR Network



Clean Energy Business Council
مجلس الطاقة النظيفة
Middle East & North Africa



مجلس الأعمال السويسري
SWISS BUSINESS COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

Venue Host

FIVE ▶





The Emirates Green Building Council (EmiratesGBC) stands as a non-profit powerhouse at the forefront of sustainability within the UAE's built environment. As the UAE's official Green Building Council, endorsed by the World Green Building Council, EmiratesGBC plays a pivotal role in driving green building practices and fostering a sustainable future.

Established in 2006, EmiratesGBC has witnessed a remarkable transformation in the sector. They have been instrumental in this progress by advocating for green building policies, implementing rating systems, and facilitating knowledge sharing. Their vision is nothing short of ambitious: to propel the UAE to the forefront of sustainable built environments globally.

EmiratesGBC fosters a collaborative environment through its diverse membership of over 150 individuals and organizations, including notable sustainability advocates Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University and Dr. Muna Salameh- Senior Lecturer at the College of Architecture, Art and Design. Members benefit from a multitude of advantages, including reduced costs for educational programs, training sessions, and green building events.

Their strategic goals reflect a comprehensive approach:

- Communication and advocacy: Raising awareness and influencing policies for a greener future.
- Collaboration: Building partnerships to accelerate progress.
- Education: Equipping stakeholders with the knowledge to build sustainably.
- Innovation: Encouraging and supporting the development of cutting-edge sustainable solutions.
- Acceleration: Prompting swift and impactful action towards a sustainable built environment.

Ultimately, EmiratesGBC's mission is to ensure a decarbonized and healthy environment, while securing the organization's long-term growth and stability.


<https://emiratesgbc.org/individual-members/>

Below are some of the events AU partnered with EGBC :

[Ajman University Hosts Awareness Sessions on Indoor Environmental Quality](#)

[Green Campus Initiative by Ajman University Students Holds Promise for a Sustainable Future](#)

[AU Students Recognized for Best 'Green Economy Project'](#)



EmiratesGBC

مجلس الإمارات للأبنية الخضراء

Emirates Green Building Council


HOME

|

ABOUT US

|

NEWS



PUBLICATIONS

MEMBERSHIP

TECHNICAL PROGRAMS

EVENTS

EDUCATION

GREEN BUILDING TOOLTIPS

M

Mahkameh Fattahi

MARIAM ALMAZROUE

Marina Georgieva MRICS

Mary Kamille Carlos

Maya Haddad

Mohamed Rabah Ali Abdellatif Ali

Mohammed Saeed

Mohammed Shamroukh

N

Nadeemur Rehman

Neha Yoosuf

Noura Al Hammadi





جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

**Between
Ajman University (AU)
And
Emirates Green Building Council**

2024

UN Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)



The Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) was founded at the Rio+20 Conference in 2012 as a joint initiative combining several United Nations institutions and the higher education community. The effort is now led by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the Sulitest Association, an NGO and an online platform devoted to increasing global sustainability literacy. UNESCO, UN Environment Programme, UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education project, UN University, UN-HABITAT, UNCTAD, UNITAR, UN Office for Partnerships, and UN Academic Impact are among HESI's recognized partners. With strong UN linkages, HESI aspires to bridge the gap between higher education, science, and policy-making by advocating for higher education's critical role in sustainable development, facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogues and action, and disseminating outstanding sustainable practices. Ajman University joined this worldwide movement in 2022, bolstering the joint effort to integrate sustainability ideas into higher education curricula and practices for a more sustainable future.

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

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

The SDG Accord



Ajman University, a leading institution committed to sustainability, is a proud signatory to the SDG Accord. This international agreement serves a dual purpose:

The SDG Accord serves a dual purpose:

Elevating Education's Role in Sustainability: It aims to inspire, celebrate, and champion the crucial role education plays in achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This includes highlighting the value these interconnected goals bring to governments, businesses, and society as a whole.

A Commitment to Action: The Accord functions as a commitment between universities and colleges. Signatories, like Ajman University, pledge to step up their efforts to deliver the SDGs. This involves annual reporting on their individual progress and sharing these learnings collaboratively, both nationally and internationally. Ultimately, the goal is to present updated SDG metrics from the Accord at the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development each year.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/the-sdg-accord>

In a landmark achievement for the United Arab Emirates, Ajman University has secured a membership in the highly selective International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN), becoming the first university in the UAE and the second in the entire MENA region to receive this honor. This prestigious recognition signifies Ajman University's unwavering dedication to integrating sustainability into its core functions. Traditionally known for including world-renowned institutions like Harvard and MIT, the ISCN membership places Ajman University among the frontrunners of global sustainability efforts within the higher education sector.

This acceptance unlocks a plethora of benefits for Ajman University. They will now have the privilege of collaborating with leading universities and sustainability experts around the world, fostering a dynamic exchange of knowledge and best practices. Imagine AU researchers working alongside counterparts at MIT on a cutting-edge clean energy project, or AU students participating in international sustainability conferences alongside their peers from Harvard.

AU will have the opportunity to demonstrate commitment to sustainability, collaborate with global experts within member institutions, connect with fellow members during ISCN events, and share best practices with peers via the ISCN website, newsletter and social media accounts; as follows:

- **Demonstrating Commitment:** Being part of an elite group like the ISCN signifies AU's dedication to sustainability on a global stage. This can enhance their reputation and attract eco-conscious students, faculty, and partners.
- **Collaboration with Global Experts:** The ISCN network provides a platform to connect with leading universities and sustainability professionals. This fosters knowledge sharing, joint research projects, and the exchange of best practices that can significantly accelerate AU's sustainability initiatives.
- **ISCN Events:** Membership grants access to exclusive ISCN conferences, workshops, and events. These gatherings provide invaluable opportunities to network with peers, learn about cutting-edge advancements, and stay updated on global sustainability trends.
- **Sharing Best Practices:** The ISCN website, newsletter, and social media channels offer AU a platform to showcase its sustainability achievements and initiatives to a global audience. This not only inspires others but also allows AU to learn from the shared experiences of fellow members.

Overall, Ajman University's membership in the ISCN is a significant accomplishment that positions us as a leader in sustainability within the UAE and the MENA region. It opens doors to a world of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and opportunities to contribute to a more sustainable future.

Ajman University's membership in the ISCN is a testament to its pioneering role in sustainability within the MENA region. This achievement paves the way for groundbreaking collaborations, knowledge exchange, and the collective pursuit of a more sustainable future. With the support of the ISCN network, Ajman University is poised to become a true leader in sustainability for the entire region.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/international-sustainable-campus-network-iscn>

<https://international-sustainable-campus-network.org/membership/ajman-university/>

Nature Positive Universities” with the University of Oxford and the UN Environment Program (UNEP)



The fight for a healthy planet just got a major boost with the launch of the Nature Positive Universities Alliance. This groundbreaking initiative, spearheaded by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the University of Oxford, and a powerful network of 577 universities from 115 countries, is rewriting the narrative on how universities can tackle environmental challenges.

Beyond Awareness, Towards Action:

The alliance goes beyond mere awareness-raising campaigns. It has secured high-level pledges from 136 universities to actively address and restore the environmental footprint of their operations. This translates to concrete actions on various fronts:

- **Campus Sustainability Audits:** Universities are conducting comprehensive assessments to identify areas with the most significant environmental impact. This could include energy consumption, waste generation, water usage, and landscaping practices.
- **Shifting Practices:** Based on the audits, universities are implementing sustainable practices like reducing energy consumption through energy-efficient buildings and appliances, minimizing waste through composting and recycling programs, promoting water conservation through efficient irrigation systems and low-flow fixtures, and transitioning to native and pollinator-friendly landscaping.
- **Habitat Restoration:** Many universities are actively involved in restoring ecosystems on their campuses. This could involve planting native trees and shrubs, creating pollinator gardens, and renaturalizing waterways.

Empowering Student Leaders: The Nature Positive Student Ambassadors

The Nature Positive Student Ambassadors program is another powerful facet of the alliance. With 364 passionate students from 46 countries, it fosters a global network of young changemakers. These student ambassadors play a crucial role in several ways:

- **Campus Advocacy:** They advocate for sustainability initiatives within their universities, working with administration and faculty to implement environmental best practices.
- **Peer Education:** They organize workshops, campaigns, and events to raise awareness about environmental issues and engage their fellow students in sustainability efforts.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** The program facilitates the exchange of knowledge and experiences between student ambassadors through online platforms and international conferences. This allows them to learn from each other's successes and challenges, fostering a sense of global community and collaboration.

A Holistic Approach: Addressing Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss

The alliance recognizes the interconnectedness of environmental issues. It emphasizes that universities can be powerful catalysts, guiding their communities towards a "Nature Positive" future. This means tackling climate change and biodiversity loss simultaneously. Here's how:

- **Climate Action:** Universities are exploring ways to reduce their carbon footprint and transition towards renewable energy sources. This can involve investing in solar panels, wind turbines, and energy-efficient infrastructure.
- **Biodiversity Conservation:** Many universities are actively involved in research and conservation efforts to protect endangered species and ecosystems. This can involve collaborating with local communities and government agencies on conservation initiatives.
- **Promoting Resilient Ecosystems:** The alliance understands the importance of building robust ecosystems that can withstand environmental pressures. Universities are working to restore degraded land, promote sustainable land management practices, and create buffer zones around protected areas.

Ajman University Joins the Movement: A Local Commitment with Global Impact

During COP15, Ajman University proudly joined this global movement, solidifying its unwavering commitment to environmental restoration and sustainability. This significant step demonstrates the university's dedication to fostering a culture of environmental responsibility within its campus and the wider community. By participating in the alliance, Ajman University contributes to a global movement pushing for a future where universities are not just centers of learning but also leaders in environmental stewardship.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/nature-positive-alliance-with-the-university-of-oxford-and-the-un-environment-program-une>

HYBRID EVENT Hosted by:  **جامعة عجمان**
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

Nature Positive Universities

Institutional pledges for nature

1st Dec 2023 12:15-13:15
Al Ferjan Room, Mobility Pavilion
Greening Education Hub



DR. MAYA HADDAD
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

EMELY STOTT
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

KATHERINE COLLIN
YANER COLLEGE

DR. RAMI BATVIO
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

RIINA KOIVURANTA
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

HEATHER NEEDHAM
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

DR. NICO TILLIE
TU Delft

MOHAMMED BAJILA
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

MAJA KENT
ANWAR GARGASH
DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY

Green Zone, Expo City Dubai



HYBRID EVENT Hosted by:  **جامعة عجمان**
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

Nature Positive Universities

Student Ambassador showcase

1st Dec 2023 10:45-11:45
Al Maktaba Room, Mobility Pavilion
Greening Education Hub



MAYA HADDAD
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

EMELY STOTT
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

DR. RAMI BATVIO
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

NEIL MILES
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

FAVOUR ERAGBE
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN

ATADI MISHRA
IIT BOMBAY

HURABAH MUZAKKIL
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

SORA YAMAGUCHI
VIDANT AGRAWAL
MANAKO MIZUNO
AND ERINA KON
UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

AVERY MORIN
LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY

ANASTACIA CHARTRAND
LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY

Green Zone, Expo City Dubai



Ajman University in collaboration with the University of Oxford is pleased to invite you to COP28 session titled:

Nature Positive Student Ambassadors: A Global Showcase of Student-led Campus Action for Nature

DATE: December 1, 2023 | TIME: 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM | LOCATION: Al Maktaba Room, Mobility Pavilion, Greening Education Hub, COP28 Green Zone

Speakers



Emily Stott
University of Oxford

Maya Haddad
Ajman University

Hurabah Muzakkil
Ajman University

Ayadi Mishra
IIT Bombay

Dr. Rami Batvio
University of Helsinki

Neil Miles
University of Oxford

Favour Eragbe
University of Benin

Sora Yamaguchi
University of Tokyo

Avery Yarnika Lydia Morin
Laurentian University

Anastacia Chartrand
Laurentian University



Ajman University in collaboration with the University of Oxford is pleased to invite you to COP28 session titled:

Institutional Pledges For Nature: A Community Of Institutions Setting Ambitious Biodiversity Targets, Actions, And Reporting

DATE: December 1, 2023 | TIME: 12:45 PM - 1:15 PM | LOCATION: Al Ferjan Room, Mobility Pavilion, Greening Education Hub, COP28 Green Zone

Speakers



Emily Stott
University of Oxford

RIINA KOIVURANTA
University of Helsinki

KATHERINE COLLIN
YANER COLLEGE

HEATHER NEEDHAM
University of Oxford

DR. NICO TILLIE
TU Delft

DR. MOURAD AHMIM
University of Bejaia

MOHAMMED BAJILA
Ajman University

MAJA KENT
ANWAR GARGASH
DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY





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.

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:

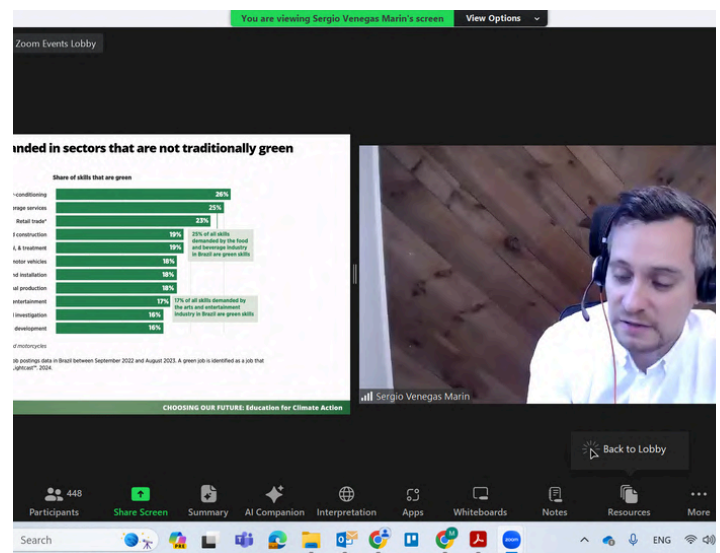
Greening Schools: Creating sustainable and healthy learning environments that prioritize resource efficiency and promote environmental responsibility.

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 Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education (EAUC)



The EAUC is a prestigious global network, representing over 285 universities worldwide, including top institutions like the University of Oxford and Imperial College London. With a combined student body exceeding 4.5 million and a half-million strong faculty and staff, the EAUC is a powerful force for sustainability education. EAUC is the leading body for sustainability in the post-16 education sector in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. They have been promoting sustainability in post-16 education for over 20 years. Primarily a membership body, they serve 300 organisations whilst also working to change systems that enable sustainability action.

EAUC is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee and is always not-for-profit. This alliance promotes holistic whole organisation approaches where leadership and governance, estates and operations, teaching and learning and collaborations are all actively driving sustainability so that they're equipping learners for their lives, being responsible organisations and shaping society for the better. EAUC does this by supporting members to create meaningful sustainability change, convening the network to generate solutions to shared challenges and creating systems change to establish a more enabling environment for sustainability action.

Notably, Ajman University is the sole UAE member and the second in the MENA region, solidifying its position as a sustainability leader.

This membership unlocks a multitude of benefits for the Ajman University community:

- Sustainability Education Leadership: Collaborate with leading institutions to develop innovative, sustainability-focused curricula across disciplines.
- Sharing Best Practices: Learn from and share best practices with global experts on implementing sustainable practices within our campus operations.
- Reduced Environmental Footprint: Gain access to resources and expertise to reduce our university's environmental impact significantly.
- Global Recognition: Enhance Ajman University's global recognition for its dedication to sustainability, attracting eco-conscious students and faculty.

The Office of Sustainability is excited to offer free membership in the EAUC to all Ajman University students, faculty, and staff! This is an exceptional opportunity to:

- Deepen your knowledge of sustainability through exclusive resources and events.
- Connect with a global network of sustainability leaders and collaborate on innovative projects.
- Play a part in building a more sustainable future for our university and the world.
- Interested AU students, faculty, and staff can register for free EAUC membership.

This membership aligns perfectly with Ajman University's unwavering commitment to sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Together, we can create a sustainable future for our campus community and empower our graduates to be responsible global citizens.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/the-alliance-for-sustainability-leadership-in-education-eauc>

https://www.eauc.org.uk/educational_membership

United Nations' Environment Program Race to Net Zero for Universities



Climate change is the defining challenge of our generation. The Race to Zero campaign is a beacon of hope, a global movement igniting fierce competition for a pollution-free future. This ambitious initiative unites a diverse coalition – from industry titans and innovative startups to bustling metropolises and forward-thinking universities. Ajman University in the UAE is a prime example, actively contributing to this crucial effort.

Together, this coalition pushes for a resilient future built on three pillars:

- **Clean Energy:** Transitioning away from fossil fuels and embracing renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and geothermal power.
- **Sustainable Jobs:** Creating new opportunities in green technologies, energy efficiency, and circular economies.
- **Inclusive Economic Growth:** Ensuring a just transition that benefits everyone, not just the privileged few.

This unprecedented alliance is the largest of its kind, with over 11,309 non-state actors committed to achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. This powerful group includes 8,307 businesses across various sectors, 595 financial organizations shifting investments towards sustainable projects, 1,136 cities leading the charge in urban sustainability, 52 governments and regions stepping up national and regional commitments, 1,125 educational institutions preparing future generations for the climate challenge, and 65 healthcare institutions promoting a healthy planet for healthy people.

Led by respected High-Level Champions, the Race to Zero operates independently of national governments. However, it reinforces the ambitious goals set by the Climate Ambition Alliance, established at the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit. This collaboration strengthens the fight against climate change by creating a powerful synergy between international agreements, national policies, and the actions of non-state actors.

Ajman University exemplifies this global commitment. They've pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, with a specific target for 2030. Their actions contribute significantly to the worldwide transition towards a decarbonized economy, a future powered by clean energy and sustainable practices. This is just one example of the countless organizations and institutions driving change through the Race to Zero campaign.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/united-nations-environment-program-race-to-net-zero-for-universities>

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

The International Society of Sustainability Professionals (ISSP) is the global hub for sustainability leaders. This dynamic network connects professionals from diverse industries across the world, fostering collaboration and empowering them to drive positive change.

Empowering Professionals, Amplifying Impact

ISSP's mission is clear: to equip and inspire sustainability professionals at every stage of their careers. They achieve this through three key pillars:

- **Building a Thriving Community:** ISSP fosters a vibrant global network where professionals can connect, share knowledge, and break down silos.
- **Delivering In-Depth Training:** ISSP offers a comprehensive suite of programs like the Sustainability Short Course and Sustainability Foundations. These programs equip learners with the latest insights and tools to excel in the sustainability field.
- **Elevating the Profession:** ISSP spearheads the Sustainability Excellence credentials, including the SEA (Sustainability Excellence Associate) and SEP (Sustainability Excellence Professional). Their recent partnership with Prometric has streamlined the registration process and offers flexible exam options (in-person or online).

A Global Network in Action: Our Sustainability Journey

The diverse range of professionals benefitting from ISSP's resources is exemplified by the membership of our sustainability team at Ajman University. Their membership in ISSP allows them to connect with colleagues around the world, access valuable training programs, and stay current on the latest advancements in sustainability practices. Through their participation in ISSP, they are empowered to make a significant contribution to Ajman University's sustainability initiatives and inspire others to do the same.

A Global Force for Sustainable Change

ISSP's ultimate goal is to create a ripple effect of positive change. By building a strong global network and empowering sustainability professionals, they strive for a sustainable transformation across industries and ultimately, the planet itself.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/international-society-of-sustainability-professionals>

Ajman University, a leading institution of higher learning committed to environmental stewardship, recognizes the importance of fostering future sustainability leaders. Having Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at AU as an Affiliate Member in a prominent environmental organization such as IEMA provides a valuable platform for community members to cultivate their knowledge and engagement in this critical field.

A Gateway to Global Connections and Resources

This membership unlocks a treasure trove of resources that empowers Ajman University's community to become active participants in the global sustainability movement. Through access to a global network of sustainability professionals, faculty can connect with colleagues, share best practices, and stay current on the latest advancements. Students benefit from exposure to diverse perspectives and gain valuable insights into potential career paths in the ever-evolving sustainability sector.

A Springboard for Sustainability Action

The Affiliate Membership program offers a wealth of practical tools and resources. Ajman University community members can leverage these resources to develop an engaging sustainability-focused curriculum, while students gain access to toolkits and guides that equip them to implement sustainable practices in their everyday lives and future careers.

Investing in a Sustainable Future

Ajman University's commitment to Affiliate Membership underscores its dedication to building a generation of sustainability leaders. By empowering faculty and students with knowledge, connections, and practical tools, Ajman University paves the way for a more sustainable future for all.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/institute-of-environmental-management-and-assessment-iema>

Environment Center for Arab Towns (ECAT)



Founded in 2005 by the Arab Town Organization (ATO), the Environmental Center for Arab Towns (ECAT) serves as a vital hub for environmental collaboration in the Arab world. Led by H.E. Dawood Al Hajri, ECAT tackles critical environmental challenges and promotes sustainable development across Arab cities and towns.

- Bridging the Gap, Fostering Collaboration

ECAT boasts a robust network of 50 Arab cities and 138 Arab experts, including Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University. This diverse network fosters communication and collaboration, breaking down barriers and allowing urban centers to learn from each other's experiences.

- Knowledge is Power: Empowering Change Through Information Sharing

Recognizing the importance of knowledge in achieving sustainability, ECAT facilitates the exchange of critical environmental expertise through conferences and discussion forums. They are also developing a comprehensive knowledge-sharing platform – a valuable resource for researchers, decision-makers, and the general public. This platform will ensure widespread access to vital information, empowering positive environmental action.

- Investing in the Future: The Green Ambassador Programme

ECAT understands the importance of cultivating environmental awareness from a young age. Their Green Ambassador Programme, open to students from Grades 6 to 12, equips young people with the knowledge and skills necessary to become environmental stewards. By fostering a generation of eco-conscious individuals, ECAT paves the way for a greener future for Arab cities.

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

Emirates Higher Education Safety Professionals Network (EHSPN)



Ajman University plays a vital role in fostering a safe learning environment for its students and staff. As a member of the Emirates Higher-Education Safety Professional Network (EHSPN), established in 2016 (formerly known as USHeR), the university leverages a collaborative platform dedicated to health, safety, and environment (HSE) best practices.

The EHSPN network connects HSE professionals across UAE's higher education institutions. This membership offers Ajman University's HSE department several advantages:

Collaboration: Connect with peers from other universities to share knowledge and develop effective safety protocols.

Resource Sharing: Gain access to best practices and strategic tools implemented by other institutions.

Challenge Resolution: Discuss and find solutions to common HSE concerns specific to the higher education sector.

By actively participating in the EHSPN network, Ajman University strengthens its commitment to safety and contributes to a culture of well-being for the entire university community.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/emirates-higher-education-safety-professionals-network-ehspn>



COY 18 UAE Knowledge Partner



Ajman University (AU) joined the United Nations Youth Climate Change Conference (COY18 UAE) as a knowledge partner, forging a powerful collaboration that empowers young people to lead the charge on climate action. This partnership underscores the UAE's unwavering commitment to nurturing a generation of passionate environmental stewards.

- **AU Takes Center Stage: Empowering Youth Voices**

Ms. Maya Haddad, AU's Sustainability Manager, and Mohammed Balila, a Senior Lecturer, led a captivating session titled "Climate Changers: Youth-led Solutions for a Greener Future." Joined by a team of students – Hurairah Muzammil, Dana Binmahmood, Mesk Alhammadi, Itemat Sauria, and Aya Ochi – they showcased the breadth of innovative solutions young minds are developing to combat climate change.

- Sparkling Innovation: A Focus on Solutions

The session delved into the critical role youth play in tackling environmental, economic, and social challenges associated with climate change. The focus was firmly on solutions, with participants exploring innovative approaches for the future. AU representatives encouraged creativity and active problem-solving, highlighting the power of young minds to shape a more sustainable future through technological advancements and a commitment to sustainability practices.

- Building a Sustainable Future: The Power of Youth

AU representatives consistently emphasized the vital role of youth as agents of positive change. Their ability to raise awareness, inspire action within their communities, and champion sustainable behaviors positions them as catalysts for innovation and progress. Through their engagement in environmental initiatives, young people have the power to significantly contribute to building a more sustainable and balanced world.



Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager at Ajman University, echoed this sentiment: "The role of youth in achieving climate change solutions cannot be ignored. They are a driving force for innovative solutions and implementing environmental initiatives through modern technology. Their unique ability to embrace challenges and turn them into opportunities is crucial for shaping international climate policy."

- Investing in the Future: AU's Commitment to Youth Empowerment

Ajman University actively empowers its students by supporting their participation in conferences like COY18 UAE. This involvement allows students to broaden their horizons, gain a deeper understanding of climate change impacts, and become active participants in climate action. By nurturing their leadership skills and commitment to environmental responsibility, AU is shaping the next generation of climate leaders.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/coy-18-uae-knowledge-partner>

A Landmark Collaboration:

Ajman University and BEEAH Education, a leader in environmental solutions and education, have signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to equip students and stakeholders with the skills and knowledge to become future sustainability leaders. This partnership marks a new chapter in promoting environmental consciousness within the UAE's educational landscape.

Focus on Qualifications and Education:

The Institute of Environmental Management and Sustainability Middle East (IEMS Academy), BEEAH Education's professional certification arm, will offer Ajman University students and faculty a comprehensive range of programs. These include:

Industry-standard qualifications in environmental management

Certifications in various sustainability areas like UN Sustainable Development Goals, circular economy, and net zero transition

Specialized courses addressing climate change, plastic pollution, and air quality

Shared Vision for a Sustainable Future:

Both institutions emphasized the importance of this collaboration for the UAE's future.

Khaled Al Huraimel, Group CEO of BEEAH: Stressed the role of education in achieving the UAE's sustainability goals and fostering innovation in this critical field.

Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University: Highlighted the university's commitment to sustainability and expressed confidence that this partnership will develop skilled professionals who will champion environmental initiatives in the UAE and globally.

Hind Al Huwaidi, Managing Director of BEEAH Education: Emphasized their commitment to offering industry-relevant training and supporting Ajman University students in building successful careers in sustainability.

Building on Strengths:

Ajman University, with its legacy of inclusivity and innovation, and BEEAH Education, with its expertise in environmental solutions and learning, are well-positioned to create a powerful learning environment. This partnership leverages the strengths of both entities to empower future generations to create a more sustainable future.



<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/beeah-group>

Ajman University Partners with BEEAH Education's IEMS Academy to Offer Industry Leading Sustainability Qualifications

The Institute of Environmental Management and Sustainability Middle East (IEMS Academy), the Professional Certifications and Conformity Assessments arm of BEEAH Education, has signed a comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding with Ajman University. The landmark MoU marks the beginning of an important collaboration between both entities; and will see IEMS offer the students and stakeholders of the leading UAE institution with the unprecedented opportunity to gain professional qualifications and certifications in the field of sustainability and environmental management.

The agreement was signed by Khaled Al Huraimel, Group CEO of BEEAH, and Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, in the presence of senior management representatives from both parties, at BEEAH Group's new, state-of-the-art headquarters. During the event, both entities discussed areas of strategic importance within ESGs, explored focus areas in sustainability and environmental education, and emphasized the importance of future-forward education methods that result in the adoption of best-in-class industry practices.

Commenting on the occasion, Khaled Al Huraimel, Group CEO of BEEAH, said, "We are pleased to enter into this MOU with Ajman University, one of the UAE's most notable, diverse and inclusive educational institutions. As a key area of focus for the UAE, sustainability constitutes an important part of our national agenda and strategy for future development. Through this collaboration, we will introduce the educational community to new possibilities within the spectrum of environmental management and sustainability, while enhancing their skills and contributions to these fields. By encouraging discourse, innovation, and collaboration in these sectors, we will work collectively towards consolidating the UAE's position as a pioneer in sustainability development and leader in net zero targets."

As part of the agreement, IEMS will offer a range of industry-centric foundational courses and specialized educational programs; which include integrated waste management qualifications and certification programs in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the circular economy, climate change, plastic pollution, net zero transition and air pollution.

Commenting on the partnership, AU Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir, said, "As a socially responsible higher education institution, Ajman University places great emphasis on sustainability and environmental consciousness among its faculty, staff, students, and alumni. This partnership with BEEAH, renowned for its expertise in environmental management solutions and learning, will help both entities in enhancing the knowledge and expertise of students in environment management, helping them gain meaningful careers in this emerging field and evolve as champions of sustainability and environment in the UAE as well as globally."



Sharing her thoughts on the partnership, Hind Al Huwaidi, Managing Director of BEEAH Education, said, “BEEAH Education is proud to work with Ajman University, one of the leading institutions in the UAE, to offer training and qualifications across a range of sustainability specializations. Our team of highly qualified industry professionals and international experts has developed a comprehensive range of industry-specific courses, programs and workshops for the students and stakeholders of the university. Through this collaboration, we aim to support their skill development, enhance their career opportunities, inspire awareness about these critical industries, and support them in becoming valuable resources in the UAE’s journey towards building a sustainable and secure future.”

Established in 2017, the Institute of Environmental Management and Sustainability (IEMS) Academy provides blended training and development programmes which enhance people’s knowledge and the skills required for current and future jobs in rapidly evolving, future-ready industries. IEMS’ accomplished team of multinational industry experts enable skill development through a range of quality-focused, industry-specific training courses, programmes, and workshops, which are affiliated with numerous internationally accredited institutions.

Known as the first private university in the GCC, and the first UAE university to admit expatriate students, Ajman University was established in 1988 as a pioneer for inclusion, innovation, and social impact. In 2020, Ajman University became one of the first six higher education institutions in the world to receive global accreditation from the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), UK’s independent body and a global leader in quality assurance for higher education.

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2023/ajman-university-partners-with-beeah-educations-iems-academy-to-offer-industry-leading-sustainability-qualifications>

The United Arab Emirates buzzes with anticipation as Dubai gears up to host the 28th UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP28) from November 30th to December 12th, 2023. This crucial global event tackles climate change, a pressing challenge of our time. While world leaders hold immense sway over the outcome, a powerful force is emerging – engaged youth and academia.

- **Ajman University: Championing Youth Leadership in Climate Action**

Ajman University, a leading institution of higher learning, has taken a significant step by joining the COP28 Universities Climate Network (UCN). This network unites UAE universities, fostering collaboration to mobilize youth and academia leading up to COP28. Ajman University's participation reflects its commitment to inclusivity and empowering young people to spearhead the fight against climate change. In an era where climate issues dominate global discourse, the UCN's structure and purpose are commendable – empowering young minds to become agents of change.

- **Mobilizing Young Minds, Shaping Climate Action**

As a UCN member, Ajman University will actively participate in joint initiatives that mobilize young people through impactful discussions and projects. This includes providing a platform for young voices to be heard and actively shape climate policy conversations.

- **Leading the Green Charge: Ajman University's SDG Focus**

The UCN operates thematic working groups on various climate disciplines. Ajman University takes pride in leading the Green Job Skills Working Group under the guidance of Ms. Maya Haddad, their Sustainability Manager. This aligns perfectly with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 13 on Climate Action and SDG 17 on Partnerships for the Goals. Ajman University's commitment to these SDGs underscores its proactive role in influencing climate legislation and fostering international collaboration in tackling climate change.

- **UAE Youths Take Center Stage: Ajman University Joins COP28 Universities Climate Network**

The United Arab Emirates buzzes with anticipation as Dubai gears up to host the 28th UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP28) from November 30th to December 12th, 2023. This crucial global event tackles climate change, a pressing challenge of our time. While world leaders hold immense sway over the outcome, a powerful force is emerging – engaged youth and academia.

- **Building Momentum Towards COP28: A Collaborative Spirit**

As COP28 nears, the unwavering dedication and collaborative efforts of institutions like Ajman University, alongside the broader UCN, are paving the way for a transformative event. Over 70,000 participants – heads of state, government officials, industry leaders, private sector representatives, academics, specialists, and most importantly, young people – will convene at Dubai's Expo City. Fueled by the UCN's collaborative spirit and innovative thinking, they will collectively chart a course towards effective climate action and policy creation.

AU co-leads the UAE Universities Climate Network

The UAE's Universities Climate Network (UCN), a 36-member group, has announced the appointment of Khalifa University's Dr. Samuel Mao and Dr. Rasha Bayoumi of the University of Birmingham Dubai as Co-Chairs and Ajman University's Maya Haddad as Head of Operations, taking the UCN to the next stage of advancing climate action regionally and internationally, and promoting sustainability across the UAE's academic sector.

An official handover ceremony organized at New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) was attended by His Excellency Edward Hobart, the UK Ambassador to the UAE, His Excellency Ambassador Majid Al-Suwaidi, Director-General, COP28 UAE Presidency, Professor Sir John O'Reilly, President, Khalifa University, and other key stakeholders.

Her Excellency Razan Al Mubarak, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP28, said: "Universities play an integral role in supporting climate action. They provide the research, education and expertise to respond to the climate challenge, developing the solutions and capacity to reduce emissions and address the adaptation gap. With the appointments of Dr Samuel Mao, Dr Rasha Bayoumi and Ms Maya Haddad in the UAE, I am delighted that UCN are building on their success at COP28 to take forward this agenda across the MENA region."

The UAE Universities Climate Network (UCN) is a powerful alliance of 35 universities across the Emirates. We stand united in the fight against climate change, empowering young minds to become the next generation of environmental leaders.

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

UCN's Four Pillars: Driving Climate Action and Sustainability in UAE Universities

The Universities Climate Network (UCN), comprising 36 UAE-based universities and higher education institutions, is a united front for driving youth and academic engagement in addressing climate change. This network was established to consolidate the voices of UAE universities, highlighting the critical role that higher education plays in climate action. With a vision that extends beyond COP28, UCN's long-term impact is structured around four key pillars, each fostering leadership, innovation, and action in different aspects of climate responsibility.

Empowering Youth Climate Leaders through Student Engagement

In a strategic move to elevate youth involvement, UCN introduced the Student Youth Engagement Pillar to ignite a global movement led by young climate advocates. This pillar focuses on empowering students from the UAE and beyond to take leadership roles in tackling climate change. By providing platforms for youth to engage in meaningful climate discussions, UCN ensures that young voices are heard at both local and global levels.

This initiative is designed to nurture the next generation of climate leaders, who are poised to drive sustainable practices across various sectors. Through workshops, leadership programs, and hands-on projects, UCN is inspiring students to be at the forefront of climate action, showcasing the UAE's commitment to developing future climate ambassadors.

Fueling Innovation and Solutions through Research

UCN's Research & Innovation Pillar underscores the critical role of academic research in accelerating climate solutions. The initiative encourages UAE universities to contribute cutting-edge research and analysis that directly influences climate policies. By bridging the gap between scientific inquiry and policy implementation, this pillar equips policymakers with data-driven insights to advance climate solutions in alignment with national and global goals.

UCN's member institutions are actively conducting research that explores sustainable technologies, green finance, and climate resilience. These research efforts aim to catalyze practical solutions that can be rapidly adopted, ensuring that academic findings translate into actionable climate strategies. This pillar reflects UCN's commitment to making research a central driver of environmental innovation in the UAE.

Activating Communities through Evidence-Based Initiatives

UCN's Communal Activations Pillar highlights the importance of community engagement in the fight against climate change. By activating university campuses and collaborating with key stakeholders, UCN is expanding public participation through evidence-based initiatives. These initiatives are designed to increase climate literacy, promote sustainability, and encourage a broader sense of environmental stewardship.

UCN is committed to turning universities into hubs for climate action, where students, faculty, and the wider community work together on projects that raise awareness and drive tangible environmental outcomes. The communal activations led by UCN demonstrate the power of collective action and the vital role of educational institutions in inspiring broader societal involvement in climate efforts.

Leading by Example: Campus Carbon Neutrality

In alignment with the UAE's ambitious 2050 Net Zero strategy, UCN's Campus Carbon Neutrality Pillar is setting a powerful example by driving decarbonization across university campuses. This pillar encourages member institutions to develop and implement comprehensive strategies that aim for carbon neutrality, making UAE universities leaders in sustainability.

From energy-efficient infrastructure to innovative waste management solutions, UCN is working to ensure that campuses become models of sustainability. This commitment not only aligns with national climate goals but also reinforces the idea that educational institutions can lead by example in the global effort to mitigate climate change.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2023/ucns-four-pillars-driving-climate-action-and-sustainability-in-uae-universities>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/highlights/au-co-leads-the-uae-universities-climate-network>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/uae-universities-climate-network/?viewAsMember=true>

<https://cop28.ajman.ac.ae/en/%C2%A0https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/Partnerships/cop28-universities-climate-network>

Ajman University Partners with Dubai Supreme Council of Energy to Drive UAE's Net-Zero Transition Through Energy Efficiency

In a landmark initiative, Ajman University collaborated with Dubai's Supreme Council of Energy (DSCE) to explore the pivotal role of energy efficiency in the UAE's transition to a net-zero energy system. The research aligns with the UAE's Vision 2050, focusing on key strategies to reduce carbon emissions while maintaining sustainable economic growth.

One standout research project, "Role of Energy Efficiency in Achieving Net Zero," highlighted energy efficiency's critical role, as it contributes over 40% of the emissions abatement required by 2040. The project explored existing cost-effective technologies that can double global energy efficiency by 2040, with a strong focus on sectors like buildings, transport, and industry. By 2030, the goal is for all new buildings to be net-zero carbon-ready, while reducing fuel demand and enhancing industrial energy management practices can lead to significant emissions reductions in the short term.

A significant recommendation from the study was for Dubai to enhance its Green Mobility Strategy, which encourages the adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles, particularly in government fleets. The study advocated for the continued expansion of Dubai's green vehicle program, showcasing Dubai as a global model for energy security and efficiency. Ajman University's contribution to this research exemplifies its commitment to sustainability and academic excellence. This partnership with the DSCE not only highlights Ajman University's role in driving the UAE's environmental goals but also emphasizes the importance of collaboration between academia and government bodies in shaping the future of sustainable development in the region.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2023/ajman-university-partners-with-dubai-supreme-council-of-energy-to-drive-uaes-net-zero-transition-through-energy-efficiency>

Ajman University and Greenpeace Join Forces for a Sustainable Future

We're thrilled to announce an exciting new partnership with Greenpeace for the #MENA Awards . Together, we're launching the #UAE Wellbeing Economy Award to recognize and promote sustainable development practices that foster a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient #UAE.

This groundbreaking project will focus on four key pillars:

- Well-being: Prioritizing human health and happiness
- Social Inclusivity: Ensuring equitable opportunities for all
- Environmental Sustainability: Protecting our planet for future generations
- Equitable Resource Distribution: Promoting fair and just resource allocation

By collaborating with Greenpeace, we aim to inspire innovation, drive positive change, and build a future where well-being and sustainability are at the forefront of our society.

Greenpeace is an independent global NGO and campaigning network founded in 1971. Its mission is to ensure the ability of the Earth to nurture life in all its diversity. Greenpeace focuses on environmental issues such as climate change, deforestation, overfishing, commercial whaling, genetic engineering, and other issues.

Key characteristics of Greenpeace:

- Global reach: Greenpeace comprises 27 independent national/regional organizations in over 55 countries across Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Pacific, as well as a coordinating body, Greenpeace International.
- Scientific research: Greenpeace conducts research to support its campaigns and provide evidence-based arguments.
- Advocacy: The organization works with governments, corporations, and the public to promote environmental policies and solutions.

Greenpeace has been involved in numerous high-profile campaigns over the years, such as protecting forests and advocating for renewable energy. Its work has influenced public opinion and policy on environmental issues around the world.

Greenpeace MENA (Middle East and North Africa) is a regional branch of the global environmental organization. It operates in several countries in the region, including Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, and Tunisia. It advocates for Climate Change matters since the MENA region is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, water scarcity, and desertification. Greenpeace MENA works to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable agriculture to address these challenges. Recent campaigns in the MENA region include:

No Plastic Challenge: A campaign to encourage individuals and businesses to reduce their use of single-use plastics.

Clean Energy Future: A campaign promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in the region.

Save the Mediterranean: A campaign to protect the Mediterranean Sea from pollution and overfishing.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/partnerships/greenpeace-mena>

Ajman University Signs MoU with Greenpeace MENA to Launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award"

Ajman University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Greenpeace Middle East and North Africa (Greenpeace MENA) to launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award" in the United Arab Emirates. The MoU aims to promote sustainable development practices by encouraging stakeholders to actively participate in shaping a forward-looking vision for the UAE, one that is characterized by prosperity, inclusivity, and resilience, with a strong emphasis on environmental and social sustainability to ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.

The "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award" will open for applications on December 11, 2024, and is specifically targeted at students and independent researchers working in institutions based in the UAE. The award invites participants to submit innovative ideas and proposals that reimagine the concept of wellbeing and challenge traditional economic systems in the country.

The award also focuses on several key areas concerning the future of the UAE's economy, addressing critical issues such as: the future of alternative economies, societal perceptions that consider luxury as an indicator of wellbeing, the search for alternative indicators to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and exploring the future of energy and sustainable energy transitions in the country. The goal of the award is to highlight the importance of critical thinking and offer innovative economic solutions that meet the environmental and social challenges of the 21st century.

This award provides a unique opportunity for participants to present ideas that contribute to developing innovative economic solutions that align with the UAE's vision for sustainable development and the enhancement of community wellbeing beyond traditional metrics. Interested participants can apply for the award through the dedicated link, which will open in December 2024.

The MoU between Ajman University and Greenpeace MENA is in line with the University's commitment to corporate social responsibility, raising awareness about environmental and economic sustainability, and supporting research and initiatives aimed at improving quality of life and fostering collaboration among various stakeholders in both the academic and local communities.

[Ajman University Signs MoU with Greenpeace MENA to Launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award"](#)
[| Sustainability at Ajman University](#)



Strategic Partnership with Emirates Green Building Council Advances Ajman University's Sustainability Leadership and Institutional Impact

Ajman University (AU) has further solidified its commitment to global sustainability leadership through a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Emirates Green Building Council (EmiratesGBC). This strategic alliance, endorsed by Chancellor Prof. Dr. Karim Seghir and EmiratesGBC Chairman Mr. Khaled Bushnaq, establishes a comprehensive framework to integrate sustainability across the University's core functions: curriculum enhancement, research innovation, and community engagement.

This partnership directly supports AU's strategic pillar of fostering sustainable development and amplifying its societal impact. A key objective is the enrichment of academic offerings within the College of Architecture, Art, and Design (CAAD), providing students with direct pathways to applied research, professional certification guidance, and policy development in green building practices.

The collaboration has yielded significant, high-impact activities that demonstrate AU's active role in shaping regional sustainability discourse:

1. Recognition of Academic Expertise at Regional Forum

The University's academic expertise was prominently featured at the MENA Green Building Awards 2024, where an AU representative served on the official judging panel. This role underscores the institution's influence in evaluating and advancing best practices in sustainable design and construction across the Middle East and North Africa, aligning its academic standards with regional industry excellence.

2. Pioneering Research in Sustainable Built Environments

AU is a key implementing partner in the "Healthy UAE Universities Campaign," an initiative led by EmiratesGBC and Saint-Gobain. The University recently hosted a critical "Measurement Week" project, facilitating advanced research into Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) and Energy Monitoring on campus. This partnership with international industry leaders exemplifies AU's capacity to conduct translational research that directly contributes to healthier, more energy-efficient educational infrastructures.

The University extends its gratitude to Dr. Riad, Dean of CAAD, for his academic leadership, and to its research partners from Saint-Gobain and EmiratesGBC for their collaborative engagement.

Through this multi-faceted partnership with EmiratesGBC, Ajman University demonstrates a sustained institutional commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities). This initiative is a testament to AU's dedication to producing graduates who are equipped to drive the green economy and to conducting research that delivers tangible, sustainable impact.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/strategic-partnership-with-emirates-green-building-council-advances-ajman-universitys-sustainability-leadership-and-institutional-impact>



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Panel 1: Quality Assurance and Assessment as Drivers for Change

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

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

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

Panel 2: Expanding Innovative Practices – The Role of Networks

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

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

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

Alignment with Ajman University's Strategic Vision

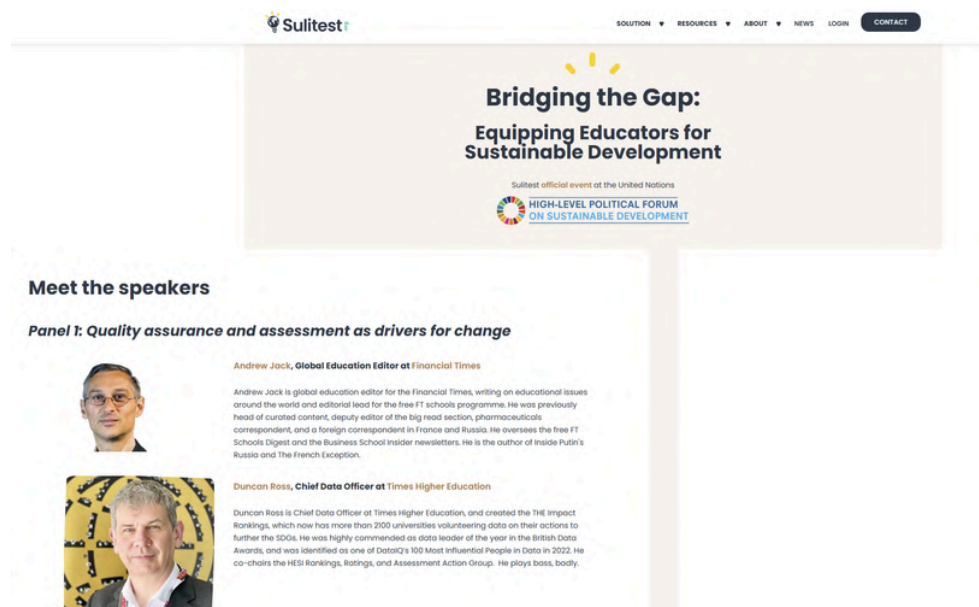
Ajman University's participation in this UN event directly supports its strategic mission to be a leader in sustainability and social responsibility. The insights gained on evolving accreditation standards, impactful assessment tools, and collaborative networks provide a vital roadmap for AU's ongoing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

The discussions directly inform our efforts to:

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

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

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



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).

[Ajman University's Role in the ISCN Biodiversity Community of Practice | Sustainability at Ajman University](#)

[Ajman University Joins the International Sustainable Campus Network \(ISCN\) as the First UAE Institution | Ajman University | Ranked No. 6 in the UAE](#)



ISCN
International Sustainable Campus Network

Ajman University Strengthens Global Sustainability Ties through Ongoing ISCN Partnership (Meeting 2)

Ajman University (AU) continues to actively shape the global conversation on sustainability in higher education through its ongoing participation in the International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN) Sustainability Governance and Leadership Community of Practice.

The University will contribute to the group's latest meeting, scheduled for October 21, 2024, which is part of a regular series of collaborative sessions. This community of practice, a key initiative of the ISCN, provides a vital forum for senior sustainability leaders from world-class institutions to exchange strategies, address shared challenges, and advance best practices in campus governance and leadership.

The upcoming meeting's agenda includes a welcome, a roundtable for representatives to introduce themselves and their institutions, a focused discussion on current topics, and planning for the group's future activities. This consistent engagement allows members to build lasting partnerships and deepen their collective expertise.

"Our continued involvement in the ISCN Community of Practice is a core part of our strategy to remain at the forefront of sustainable university governance," said a senior AU representative. "These regular meetings provide an invaluable platform for peer learning and ensure that Ajman University is both contributing to and benefiting from the world's most innovative approaches to campus sustainability."

The ISCN is a global consortium of leading colleges and universities committed to making sustainability a fundamental part of campus operations, research, and education. Its Communities of Practice are long-term working groups focused on specific, critical areas like governance, where members drive progress through sustained collaboration.

This active and continuous engagement underscores AU's deep commitment to its role as a responsible global citizen. By working within this prestigious international network, the University reinforces its dedication to integrating sustainability into the core of its institutional leadership and strategic planning.

[Ajman University Strengthens Global Sustainability Ties through Ongoing ISCN Partnership | Sustainability at Ajman University](#)

Ajman University Strengthens Global Sustainability Ties at ISCN Biodiversity Community of Practice Meeting (Meeting 3)

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).

[Ajman University Strengthens Global Sustainability Ties at ISCN Biodiversity Community of Practice Meeting](#) | [Sustainability at Ajman University](#)

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

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

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

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

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

The Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement Participate in the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum 2024 | Sustainability at Ajman University.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

Celebrating Innovation and Sustainability

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

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

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

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

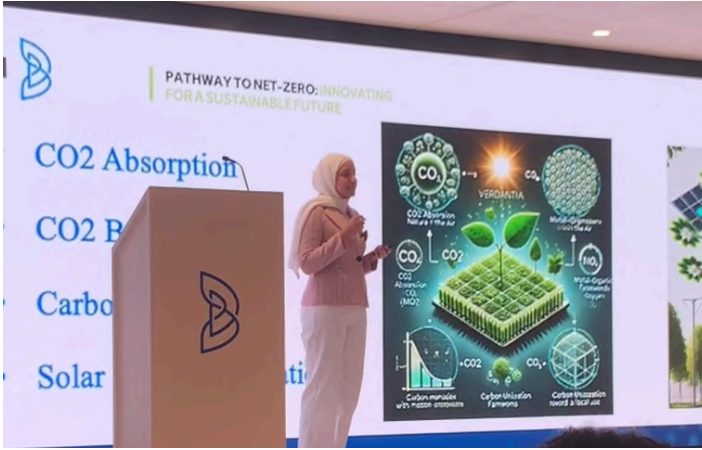
Team 3 led by Jean Luca-Lista, an exchange student at Ajman University, along with team members Ahmad Salah, Mohammed Ashraf, Amjad Fatooh and Mohammed Houssam won the third prize for their creative use of algae to naturally purify air in high-density spaces.

Nurturing Sustainability Skills

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

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

[Ajman University Students Excel at Pathway to Net-Zero Competition by BEEAH | Ajman University | Ranked No. 6 in the UAE](#)



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.

[Ajman University Joins Regional Dialogue on Sustainable Resource Management | Sustainability at Ajman University](#)

Ajman University Academic Strengthens Global Sustainability Links with Prestigious Society Membership

In a move that reinforces Ajman University's (AU) growing expertise in the global sustainability landscape, Dr Muna Salameh, Principal Lecturer at the College of Architecture, Art and Design, has been elected as a member of the World Society of Sustainable Energy Technologies (WSSET).

This prestigious membership provides a platform to engage with leading international researchers and industry professionals, fostering collaboration that aligns directly with AU's strategic commitment to addressing global environmental challenges. The membership recognizes Dr Muna's dedication to pioneering research and innovation in the field of sustainable energy.

The World Society of Sustainable Energy Technologies is a renowned international organization dedicated to advancing research, development, and implementation of sustainable energy technologies. Through this membership, Dr Muna will contribute to and benefit from a global knowledge network, with opportunities to collaborate on cutting-edge projects that support the transition to a clean energy future.

"I am delighted to join this global community of experts," said Dr Muna. "This is a significant step that will enable me to bring the latest international research and practices back to our students and colleagues at Ajman University. I look forward to collaborating on innovative solutions that contribute to a more sustainable world."

This achievement underscores Ajman University's ongoing mission to empower its faculty and students to become leaders in sustainability and to make a tangible impact on both a local and global scale.

[Ajman University Academic Strengthens Global Sustainability Links with Prestigious Society Membership | Sustainability at Ajman University](#)



UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Ajman University Joins Prestigious UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Bolstering Its Commitment to Global Goals

AJMAN, UAE – In a significant move that underscores its deep commitment to addressing the world's most pressing challenges, Ajman University (AU) has announced its official membership with the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), a global initiative launched by the UN Secretary-General to mobilize expertise for sustainable development.

This strategic membership aligns AU with a prestigious network of universities, research centers, and knowledge institutions worldwide, all dedicated to implementing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

As a member of the SDSN, Ajman University will actively contribute to and benefit from a collaborative platform focused on practical problem-solving for sustainable development. This includes:

- Promoting Integrated Education: Developing and sharing educational programs and curricula that equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to achieve the SDGs.
- Driving Applied Research: Conducting and leveraging interdisciplinary research to identify and scale innovative solutions for environmental, social, and economic challenges.
- Strengthening Public Engagement: Collaborating with government, business, and civil society to facilitate the adoption of sustainable pathways and policies, both locally and regionally.

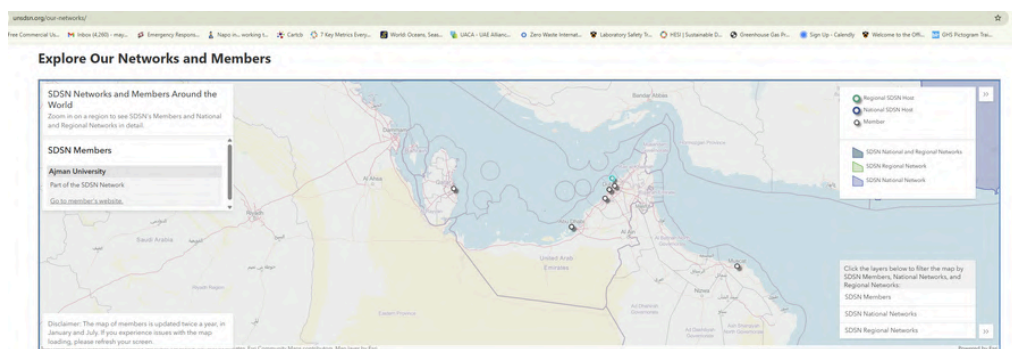
"We are immensely proud to join the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network," said Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager at Ajman University. "This membership is a testament to our institutional commitment to being a catalyst for positive change. It provides an unparalleled opportunity for our faculty and students to engage in global dialogues, contribute meaningful research, and help translate the Sustainable Development Goals into tangible action within our community and beyond."

The SDSN, launched in 2012, works under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General to accelerate learning and promote integrated approaches that address the interconnected economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Its global network is structured around both national and regional chapters.

AU's membership will enable it to connect with leading experts, participate in specialized working groups, and access cutting-edge resources to further integrate the SDGs into its academic and operational fabric. This initiative directly supports the university's strategic pillars of academic excellence, research innovation, and social responsibility.

About the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN):

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. The SDSN works closely with United Nations agencies, multilateral financing institutions, the private sector, and civil society. For more information, visit www.unsdsn.org.



Ajman University Architecture Students Triumph at Prestigious ASHRAE Student Debate Competition

Students from the Department of Architecture at Ajman University have demonstrated exceptional talent and intellectual prowess by securing a win at the prestigious ASHRAE Student Debate Competition. The event was held on Thursday, 21st November 2024, at the Auditorium of Al Safa Art & Design Library in Dubai.

Under the supervision of Dr.Muna Salameh, students Aysha Nimra and Itemat Sauria, alongside their teams, represented the university with distinction. The competition provided a rigorous platform for students to engage in critical discourse on pivotal industry topics, showcasing their deep knowledge, confidence, and debating skills.

The debate featured challenging and forward-thinking themes central to the future of the built environment, including:

- Energy Efficiency vs. Occupant Well-Being: Examining the primary drivers of sustainable development.
- Digital Innovation vs. Human Expertise: Debating the key forces behind building decarbonization.
- The Future of Urban Planning: Weighing the merits of Smart Cities against Green Cities.

"This victory is a testament to the quality of our academic programs and the dedication of our students," said Dr.Muna. "Competing in a forum like ASHRAE allows our future architects to hone essential skills and gain recognition among industry professionals. We are incredibly proud of how they represented Ajman University."

The achievement highlights the department's success in providing students with opportunities that extend beyond the classroom, fostering critical thinking, public speaking, and engagement with global sustainability trends.

This win not only brings acclaim to the students and the Department of Architecture but also reinforces Ajman University's commitment to developing skilled graduates who are prepared to lead and innovate in their fields.

[Ajman University Architecture Students Triumph at Prestigious ASHRAE Student Debate Competition | Sustainability at Ajman University.](#)

CANIE Accord

Ajman University has proudly joined the Climate Action Network for International Educators (CANIE) as a Signatory to the CANIE Accord, becoming the first university in the United Arab Emirates to take this bold step toward advancing climate action in the international education sector.

The CANIE Accord, established in alignment with the Paris Agreement's objective to limit global warming to 1.5°C, represents the international education community's collective commitment to reducing emissions, fostering climate literacy, and embedding sustainability into all levels of educational practice.

By signing the Accord, Ajman University reaffirms its dedication to sustainable transformation, climate-conscious operations, and education that empowers future generations to lead with responsibility and purpose. The University's participation underscores its strategic alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action, while advancing the UAE's national agenda for net-zero emissions and environmental stewardship.

This achievement marks a significant milestone in Ajman University's sustainability journey, highlighting its continued efforts to integrate environmental awareness across teaching, research, and community engagement. Becoming a CANIE Accord Signatory strengthens Ajman University's global collaboration and reinforces its responsibility to prepare students as climate-conscious leaders shaping a sustainable future.

According to the official CANIE signatory listing, Ajman University has committed to 61 actions across five thematic areas, demonstrating comprehensive engagement with the Accord's framework. The University achieved full completion under Leadership and Influencing and Climate Education, while advancing measurable progress in Emissions Accounting, Travel, and Sustainable Operations.

Through this membership, Ajman University joins an international network of institutions and professionals working collaboratively to design policies, share resources, and drive measurable progress in reducing emissions, promoting climate education, and advancing equity within global learning communities.

This milestone further amplifies Ajman University's ongoing sustainability initiatives, which include participation in major international platforms, the integration of environmental awareness across curricula, and campus-wide efforts to promote green practices through the Office of Sustainability.

CANIE Accord | Partnerships



Ajman University Academic Reinforces Commitment to Global Sustainability with Ambassador Certification

In a testament to Ajman University's (AU) steadfast dedication to global environmental stewardship, Dr Muna Salameh, Principal Lecturer at the College of Architecture Art and Design has successfully gained a membership certification as a Global Ambassador of Sustainability (GAoS).

This prestigious membership recognizes Dr. Muna's ongoing commitment to advancing sustainability principles and her active role in fostering environmental awareness. The GAoS network comprises individuals worldwide who are dedicated to driving meaningful change and promoting sustainable practices within their communities and professional fields.

Dr. Muna's continued affiliation with this global body will further strengthen the university's international linkages in sustainability. It provides a platform to collaborate with a worldwide network of practitioners, share best practices, and integrate cutting-edge global perspectives into AU's academic and research initiatives.

"Sustainability is a collective responsibility crucial for preserving our planet for future generations," said Dr. Muna. "I am thrilled to continue my work with the GAoS family, and I look forward to contributing to our shared mission of raising awareness and driving tangible efforts for a more sustainable world. This role is a powerful vehicle to amplify our impact."

This achievement underscores Ajman University's strategic focus on embedding sustainability across its curriculum, research, and community outreach, empowering its faculty and students to become leaders in creating a more resilient and sustainable future.

Ajman University Academic Reinforces Commitment to Global Sustainability with Ambassador Certification | Sustainability at Ajman University



Ajman University Partners with Sharjah Social Services Department to Advance Community Development

In a landmark agreement aimed at bolstering educational and social services in the region, Ajman University and the Sharjah Social Services Department (SSSD) formalized their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at a signing ceremony recently held at the university's campus. The event was led by Dr. Jassim Mohammed Al Hammadi, the Director of Knowledge Management at the SSSD, and Dr. Abdulhaq Al Nuaimi, the Vice Chancellor for Communication and Community Affairs, with senior representatives from both institutions witnessing this pivotal collaboration.

The MoU outlines several key areas of cooperation that promise to enhance educational opportunities for students while simultaneously addressing social needs in the community. This partnership is not just a commitment to academia but a strategic initiative designed to enrich the skill sets of future professionals and strengthen social responsibility among participants.

Field Training Opportunities

One of the cornerstone agreements under the MoU is the provision of field training placements for Ajman University students at the SSSD. This initiative allows students to engage in practical experiences related to their fields of study, thereby equipping them with invaluable knowledge and skills that are essential in today's job market. The structured training program will span an entire academic semester, ensuring that students receive substantive exposure to real-world challenges and community responsibilities. Such initiatives are instrumental in bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, fostering a new generation of well-rounded professionals ready to contribute to society.

Educational Discounts and Staff Development:

Recognizing the importance of continuous professional development, Ajman University has also committed to offering special discounts on its Continuing Education programs to SSSD employees. This initiative aims to support the professional growth of the department's staff, enhancing their capabilities and enriching their contributions to community service. In an era where lifelong learning is essential, such programs not only empower individuals but also bolster the overall effectiveness of public service organizations.

Joint Research Initiatives:

Another critical aspect of the partnership focuses on collaborative research and development. The MoU sets forth a framework for conducting social research and studies, alongside the creation of new academic and professional programs. This collaboration is expected to drive the development of specialized courses, training sessions, and seminars aimed at addressing social issues that are currently not covered by existing educational offerings. By leveraging each institution's expertise, they can co-create knowledge that is both academically rigorous and socially relevant.

Fostering Innovation and Creativity:

Collaboration through the Ajman University Innovation Center is envisaged as a platform for inspiring creativity and innovation at both local and global levels. The partnership will facilitate the exchange of ideas, the organization of workshops, and the operation of innovation labs. Such initiatives are vital for cultivating a culture of creativity, essential for the sustainable growth of both education and social services sectors.

Community Engagement and Social Responsibility:

Furthermore, the MoU emphasizes the importance of organizing joint community events including conferences, seminars, and social initiatives. Both Ajman University and the SSSD are poised to actively participate in these engagements, reflecting a shared commitment to community service. A dedicated joint working committee will oversee the implementation of the agreement, ensuring regular evaluations and the formulation of future plans.

Dr. Jassim Al Hammadi underscored the significance of this partnership, describing it as a crucial step toward enhancing social responsibility and promoting social development. He noted that the extensive experience of the SSSD in social work and research aligns effectively with the academic strengths of Ajman University, creating a synergistic relationship that holds promise for both organizations and the community at large.

In conclusion, this partnership between Ajman University and the Sharjah Social Services Department represents a significant milestone in fostering educational opportunities, advancing research, and enhancing community engagement. It stands as a testament to the commitment of both institutions to enrich the lives of individuals and families within the community, while also nurturing the next generation of professionals equipped to address critical social challenges.

Ajman University Partners with Sharjah Social Services Department to Advance Community Development | Ajman University | Ranked No. 6 in the UAE



Times Higher Education Ranks Ajman University #1 in the UAE for Climate Action

Ajman University is proud to announce that we have been ranked the #1 university in the UAE for Climate Action by the renowned Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings 2024. This Recognition is a testament to our unwavering commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and our relentless efforts in addressing the world's most pressing challenges, including environmental sustainability, social inclusion, economic growth, and partnerships.

In addition to its #1 rank in the UAE for 'Climate Action' (UN SDG 13), Ajman University was also ranked #2 in the UAE for 'Partnership for Goals' (UN SDG 17) and #3 in the UAE for 'Good Health and Well Being' (UN SDG 3) in THE Impact Rankings.

"Ajman University's stellar performance in THE Impact Rankings is a testament to its relevance as an institution that is not only promoting academic excellence but also making great strides in supporting sustainable development in the region. Contributing to the UAE's sustainable development vision and embedding the skills and values of sustainability among our students is a top priority at Ajman University," said Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University.

Ajman University's top ranking in climate action means it is the leading university in the UAE in addressing issues related to global climate change and enhancing adaptive capacity through robust research and effective campus policies.

According to THE Impact Rankings, top-ranked universities in the climate action category not only lead in risk reduction but also play a pivotal role in shaping national and international policies on climate resilience. Ajman University, with its top ranking, is at the forefront of integrating climate change mitigation into its operations and programs, thereby contributing significantly to global climate resilience.

Ajman University's #2 rank in the UAE in 'Partnership for Goals' is a testament to our efforts in forging strong international partnerships to support sustainable development across various sectors. This recognition reassures our commitment to driving international cooperation, which is crucial for tackling global climate change, inequality and poverty.

In UN SDG 3 namely Good Health and Well-Being, Ajman University was ranked #3 in the UAE for being at the forefront of enhancing public health through innovative research, comprehensive health services and community outreach programs.

Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings identify and celebrate universities that excel across multiple United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These institutions stand out in individual areas and demonstrate comprehensive excellence in contributing to sustainable global development. In 2024, THE evaluated 2,152 universities from 125 countries/regions to produce the overall Impact Ranking.

[Times Higher Education Ranks Ajman University #1 in the UAE for Climate Action | Ajman University | Ranked No. 6 in the UAE](#)

#1

FOR CLIMATE ACTION
IN THE UAE

#2

FOR PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS
IN THE UAE

#3

FOR GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING
IN THE UAETimes Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2024

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.

[Ajman University Engages UNESCO's Final Working Group Meetings on Greening Education | Sustainability at Ajman University](#)

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.

"Engaging in these high-level UNESCO forums is crucial for staying at the forefront of educational innovation," said Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager at Ajman University. "The insights gained on greening our curricula and leveraging AI directly support our mission to develop future-ready, environmentally conscious graduates. Participating in this session allows us to bring global best practices back to our own community and further integrate sustainability into the AU experience."

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).

[Ajman University Joins UNESCO Webinar to Champion ICT and AI in Greening Education | Sustainability at Ajman University](#)

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."

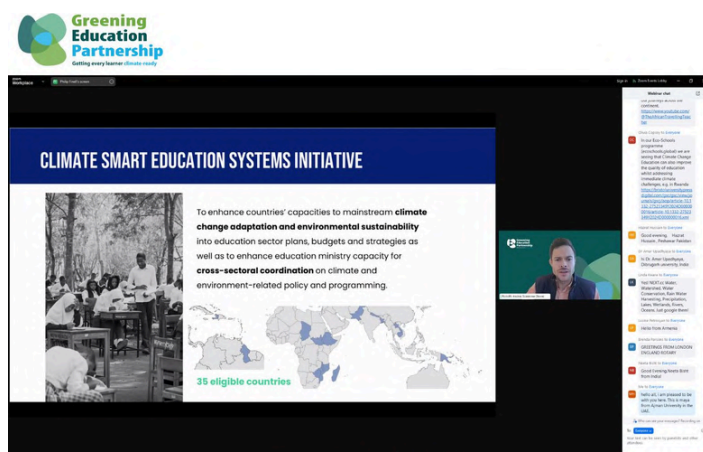
The event featured a distinguished panel of speakers from leading global organizations, including representatives from the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education and the Ministry of Climate Change in Zimbabwe, Save the Children, UNESCO, the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning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

Ajman University Engages in Global Dialogue on Building Climate-Smart Education Systems | Sustainability at Ajman University

Climate Smart Education Systems



Ajman University Participates in the 3rd UNESCO World Open Educational Resources Congress

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability participated in the 3rd UNESCO World Open Educational Resources (OER) Congress, organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in collaboration with the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation. The congress, held on November 19–20, 2024, took place for the first time in the Arab region under the theme 'Digital Public Goods: Open Solutions and AI for Inclusive Knowledge Access.' The congress aimed to strengthen international collaboration in advancing open educational resources and to explore ways to leverage emerging technologies and artificial intelligence. The goal was to expand access to knowledge and achieve global educational equity. Participants also discussed progress in implementing the 2019 UNESCO Recommendation on OER, along with best practices that promote sustainable policies ensuring equitable access to quality education for all.

Ajman University was represented by Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager, and Diocel Ortega, Manager of Quality Assurance. They participated in a series of workshops and discussions addressing key topics such as inclusivity and equitable access to knowledge in alignment with SDG 4 – Quality Education, effective communication strategies in digital literacy and educational pedagogy, and the role of open solutions and AI in promoting inclusive access to knowledge. They also engaged in discussions with the UNESCO team on

enhancing collaboration in higher education across the UAE and contributed to proposing the launch of the UAE Universities Network for SDG Acceleration, a joint initiative between Ajman University and UNESCO.

This participation underscores the Office of Sustainability's commitment to advancing Ajman University's role in promoting sustainable education, fostering inclusive and innovative learning practices, and contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals regionally and globally.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/news/2024/ajman-university-participates-in-the-3rd-unesco-world-open-educational-resources-congress>



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

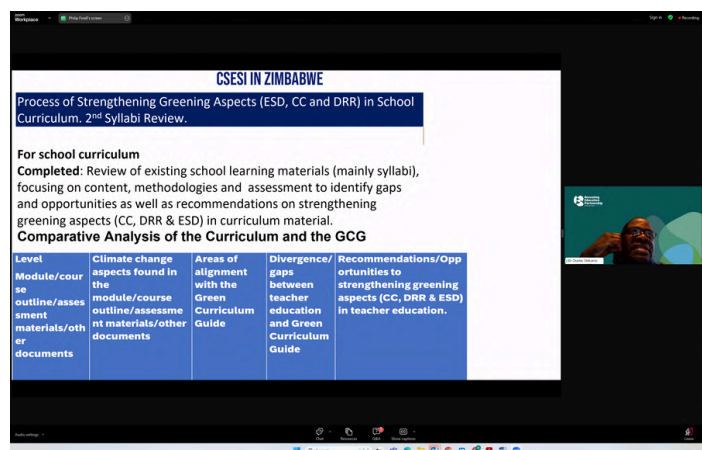
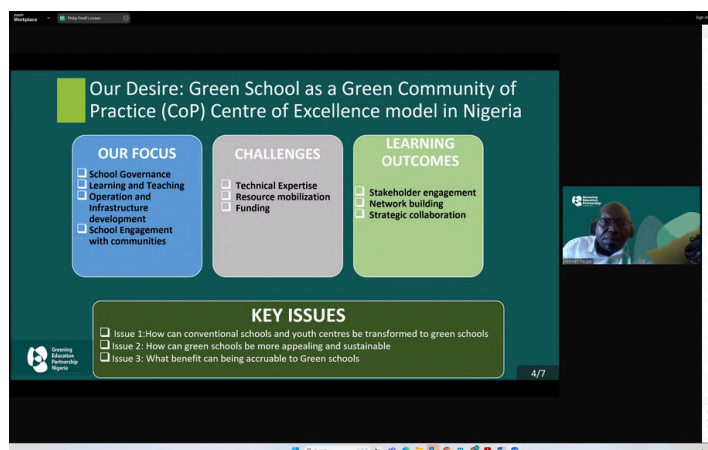
Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability, reaffirmed its commitment to advancing sustainable education by participating in the Third Quarterly Working Group Meeting of the Global Education Partnership (GEP) held on Monday, 23 September 2024. The high-level session brought together education 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>



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-participates-in-the-third-quarterly-gep-working-group-meeting-focused-on-advancing-greening-education>

AU co-leads the UAE Universities Climate Network

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

An official handover ceremony organized at New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) was attended by His Excellency Edward Hobart, the UK Ambassador to the UAE, His Excellency Ambassador Majid Al-Suwaidi, Director-General, COP28 UAE Presidency, Professor Sir John O'Reilly, President, Khalifa University, and other key stakeholders.

Her Excellency Razan Al Mubarak, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for COP28, said: "Universities play an integral role in supporting climate action. They provide the research, education and expertise to respond to the climate challenge, developing the solutions and capacity to reduce emissions and address the adaptation gap. With the appointments of Dr Samuel Mao, Dr Rasha Bayoumi and Ms Maya Haddad in the UAE, I am delighted that UCN are building on their success at COP28 to take forward this agenda across the MENA region."

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

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

Student Youth Engagement Pillar:

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

Research & Innovation Pillar:

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

Communal Activations Pillar:

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

Campus Carbon Neutrality Pillar:

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

To learn more about the UCN, check out their LinkedIn page [here](#).

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

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We thank you for your
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to the SDGs.



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