



الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية
الاجتماعية للمؤسسات
Arabia CSR Network®

Arabia CSR Network

newsletter

March 2020

Volume 8 Issue 103



1st Panel Discussion

Upcoming Training

Stakeholder Engagement Workshop

Current market trends show that organisations are becoming increasingly responsive to the role of stakeholders and not just shareholders. The complex web of stakeholders that most organisations work with makes stakeholder engagement an imperative and one that offers tremendous benefits.

These issues will be addressed during a one-day workshop being organised by Arabia CSR Network, the Region's leading training services provider and think tank. In the workshop delegates will be coached on the most important characteristics of stakeholder engagement, how to map stakeholders to the circles of interest and influence, what kind of factors influence effective consultation, how to manage a successful dialogue with different stakeholders and how to use stakeholder engagement as a tool for long term collaboration.

The workshop will focus on the following:

- Stakeholder Mapping
- Stakeholder Dynamics
- Stakeholder Theory
- Stakeholder Analysis and Engagement
- Stakeholder Dialogue
- Basic principles of Collaboration
- Prioritising CSR Issues

Who will this workshop be for?

All professionals working in the field of CSR, sustainability, communications, marketing in particular, as well as anyone that has a direct interaction with stakeholder constituencies.

Cost of the training:
US\$ 400.00 per participant

Early bird discount:
If you register 4 weeks prior to the training
US\$ 300.00 per participant

Group discount:
If you register more than three participants from the same organisation
US\$ 250.00 per participant

18th March 2020

For more details or to register please contact training@arabiaccsrnetwork.com or call us on +971 4 344 8622 / +971 4 344 8622

MATERIALITY MATRIX WORKSHOP

19th MARCH 2020 | DUBAI, UAE

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

Materiality is the cornerstone of a successful CSR/sustainability strategy. Material issues are those that are most important to stakeholders and can affect stakeholders' decisions regarding an organisation; therefore they are intrinsically linked to long term success. A materiality matrix helps an organisation to identify the most value added CSR/sustainability initiatives to invest in. Our one-day workshop on Materiality Matrix will explain the approach organisations can adopt to engage with stakeholders and identify and prioritise the material issues, with practical examples and interactive sessions. This workshop will be highly effective in building the requisite capacity for CSR/sustainability strategy formulation and sustainability reporting.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This workshop is open to all delegates that have a role in an organisation's CSR and sustainability initiatives. It will also be useful to anyone interested to learn how to prioritise CSR issues and align them to business strategy.

COST OF THE WORKSHOP

US\$ 150 per Member
US\$ 225 per Non Member

تاريخ انعقاد الدورة التدريبية:
25-23 مارس 2020

للمزيد من التفاصيل أو التسجيل يرجى التواصل مع:
training@arabiaccsrnetwork.com
أو الاتصال على: +971 4 344 8622 / +971 4 344 8622

دورة تدريبية عن الإبلاغ حسب المعايير الجديدة للمبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ

تقدم آلاف المؤسسات في جميع أنحاء العالم تقارير سنوية عن أدائها في المجالات البيئية والاجتماعية والحوكمة والموارد الأكثر استخدافاً للإبلاغ عن الاستدامة هو المبادئ التوجيهية للمبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ.

سيتمكن المشاركون شهادة تدريب صادرة عن المؤسسة الأم - المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ في هولندا.

تضمن المعايير الجديدة للمبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ جميع المتطلبات والإجراءات الرئيسية الواردة في الإطار الرابع لوثيقة الإرشادات GRI و تمكينا لتعريفها بشكل متوحي وحدود وتسلط على جميع متطلبات الإبلاغ واستدامة تطوير المعايير وإصدارها من قبل المجلس العالمي لمعايير الاستدامة (GRI) وهي هيئة متخصصة بوضع المعايير في المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ (GRI).

تتطلب الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية الاجتماعية للمؤسسات - هي شبكة منظمات التدريب المتمتع من قبل المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ دورة تدريبية لمدة 3 أيام حول المعايير الجديدة للمبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ يتم إكمال محتوى الدورة المعتمدة من خلال المناقشات والمناقشات والتدريب وزيارات الشبكة.

مزايا برنامجنا في هذا التدريب:

- دورة كاملة عن معايير المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ (GRI)
- معايير المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ (GRI) بالعملي
- الدخول في عملية إعداد التقارير باستخدام معايير المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ (GRI)
- مزايا إضافية:

يشكل هذا التدريب فرصة كبيرة لجميع المؤسسات التي تصدر تقارير الاستدامة وخاصة تلك التي تفتقر أو تفتقر خبرات سابقة في إعداد تقارير المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ (GRI) مستفيد من هذا التدريب، يمكنهم من فهم المعايير والممارسات.

عدد تدريبات المبادرة العالمية للإبلاغ التي أجريت حتى تاريخه:

- 50+
- 400+
- 150+

المهنيين المدربين من المنطقة العربية

تقرير الاستدامة التي أجريت:

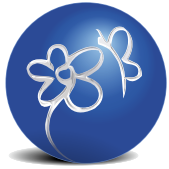
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Building Partnerships for a Sustainable Future ©

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Note from the President & CEO Arabia CSR Network

The rapid and significant advances made by the UAE in the field of sustainable development is a proud achievement for all of us. Infact, ever since the country first signed up to the United Nations'

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework upon its establishment in 2015, UAE has been a leader in making progress in various areas. However, there are still areas where more can be done. These were the sentiments shared by the Deputy Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) as he talked on the side-lines of the 10th World Urban Forum. The event was organised by the UN-Habitat and held in Abu Dhabi.

Commenting on the giant strides made by UAE, the Deputy Director of UNEP said that in the field of water usage and efficiency, UAE ranked amongst the top countries in the world. Furthermore, the assistance provided by UAE to other member countries in their effort to achieve SDG targets was also acknowledged. The voice raised and presence made by UAE within multi-lateral institutions was also appreciated. At the same time, due to the diverse nature of the SDGs there is always room for further improvement. While UAE has broken new ground in its quest to promote renewable energy, there is a lot that can still be done as the country has a promising youth population that is poised to take over the reins of the country and lead it further ahead.

It was a proud moment as the services and leadership of the country for the betterment of humanity was appreciated at an international organisation. The Deputy Director was confident that by teaming up with UAE, much further positive development could be achieved towards speeding up the development of the SDGs. Infact, the view was postulated that countries could stand to learn from the best practices developed by UAE. One such case in point is the Water Security Strategy 2036 which aims on three main programmes in its advancement of the SDGs. Those three programmes are the Water Demand Management

Programme, the Water Supply Management Programme and the Emergency Water Production and Distribution Programme. Another example is the UAE Energy Strategy for 2050 which is targeted towards increasing the contribution of clean energy in the total energy mix to 50% which would lead to savings of \$190 billion by 2050.

The government is also keenly aware that it needs to improve the air quality. This has been covered extensively within the UAE Agenda 2021. As a result of this, regular monitoring of air quality is being conducted through the UAE Air Quality Network. Simultaneously, a National Air Emissions Inventory is being set up along with a project that aims to use advanced satellite data for remote monitoring and modelling.

The target set in this regard is for the country to achieve 90% of green days by 2021. It is heartening to know that the country had already achieved 76% green days in 2016 so that things seem well under control.

These and other initiatives by the government under the visionary leadership of the rulers of UAE have put it in the driving seat in the quest for sustainable development. It is indeed a proud moment to be a citizen of this wonderful country of ours and all of us need to do our bit to make our nation proud.



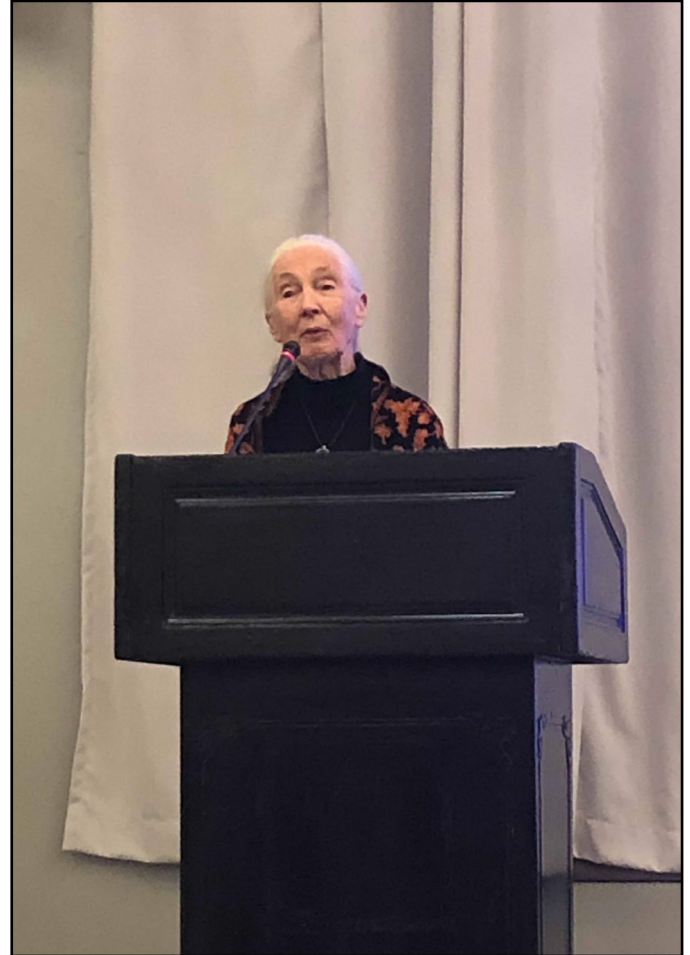


ACSRN News & Events

ACSRN attends Panel Discussion with Dr Jane Goodall

Jane Goodall, the world's leading British scientist and conservationist, known for six decades of relentless effort to protect chimpanzees, human's closest living relatives, was in Abu Dhabi in February to attend a panel discussion organised by the UK Embassy in the UAE. ACSRN attended the panel discussion held at Radisson Blu, Abu Dhabi on **4th February**, it focused on climate change and how human activity is already having a dramatic impact on our environment, oceans and biodiversity loss. Goodall also talked about her Roots & Shoots, a global community action programme that helps youth to become the informed generation of compassionate citizens that the world urgently needs.

The organisation partners with schools, educators and youth organisations to inspire and educate young people to make a difference on an individual level. H.E Patrick Moody, the British Ambassador to the UAE, opened the panel discussion moderated by Ms Sophia Bracknell, Deputy Ambassador at the British Embassy in Abu Dhabi. Jane has been travelling the world, speaking about the threats facing chimpanzees and environmental crises, with a message for all: Everything is connected—everyone can make a difference. Through her groundbreaking work, Dr Goodall has redefined species conservation to include the needs of local people and the environment. How can we disagree when she says: Human beings have a responsibility to take action on behalf of all living things and the planet we share with them!

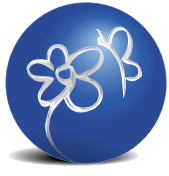


President & CEO attends Sharjah Excellence Award ceremony

Habiba Al Mar'ashi, President & CEO of ACSRN, attended the 4th edition of Sharjah Excellence Award, under the patronage of Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Crown Prince and Deputy Ruler of Sharjah, at the Sharjah Expo Centre on **12th February**. More than 100 organisations from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, and Kuwait took part in the Sharjah Excellence Award, in addition to male and female entrepreneurs.

ACSRN President & CEO, one of the jury members, was also honoured at the ceremony, which has seen the presence of a number of top government officials, ambassadors and consuls, businessmen and media.





ACSRN News & Events

Ajman Tourism collaboration with ACSRN

The Director-general of Ajman Department of Tourism Development hosted a meeting for ACSRN team led by Habiba Al Mar'ashi, President & CEO of ACSRN, at his office on **19th February** to discuss the potential of collaborating in recycling and capacity building programmes. Both sides discussed a wide range of activities which would result in sustainability initiatives from setting up an environment-friendly office to CSR training programmes. Twelve key areas of interest were identified in the meeting to foster a long-term partnership, and achieve tangible results in reducing carbon emission, energy conservation and boosting recycling. As per the meeting, ACSRN agreed to collect recyclable materials from Ajman Tourism Office on a weekly basis, host annual tree planting campaign with the Tourism Department, providing the staff with volunteering opportunities, join hands with the department for the "Clean Up UAE" campaign in liaison with Ajman Municipality, regular face-to-face meeting between the ACSRN & Ajman Tourism.

President & CEO attends GISD Strategy Group Meeting in South Africa

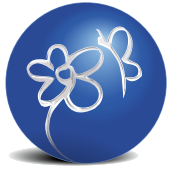
Habiba Al Mar'ashi, President & CEO of ACSRN and one of the CEOs of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance (GISD Alliance), along with Mr. Ali Al Jassim, member of the Strategy Group and Co-Chair of the Working Group 1 of GISD Alliance, attended GISD Strategy Group Meetings held in Johannesburg in South Africa on **24th - 25th February**. The GISD Alliance, that represents all regions of the globe and a wide range of financial and non-financial companies, is the world's leading investment and business community committed to facilitate investments



in sustainable development in partnership with fellow investors, governments and multilateral institutions. Three Working Groups (WGs) met as part of the Strategy Meeting of GISD Alliance that targeted a long-term investment plan to achieve a prosperous planet for all people, in which profitability and sustainability converge. Each working group has a specific role to drive investment for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

- WG1 : Increase the supply of long-term investment for sustainable development
- WG2 : Create SDG investment opportunities in all countries, especially in developing countries
- WG3 : Enhance the impact of private investment on sustainable development.

The first day of the Strategy Meeting at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange focused on the importance of strong engagement between Working Group members to leverage their potentials and develop internal and external expertise for WGs. All the Working Groups agreed to have clear objectives, broadening of methodologies and organise themselves for future. The Working Groups had a thorough PPP that covered the issue in detail across continents in renewable energy. Development of long-term benchmarks and indices, Credit rating and Sustainability Scores, Data and Incentives along the Investment Chain were the key topics of the second day held at Investec. The speakers highlighted the importance of having a universal language for SDGs which would make it workable for everyone involved in the process, and a close interaction between the 3 working groups to derive an action plan to accelerate SDI. Other developments during the two-day meetings included a review of the overall progress made by the Working Groups; what GISD would achieve in the short, mid and long-term with regards to discussion with external stakeholders on investment needs. Work is also underway to compile a list of available sustainable development-related metrics to assess their relevance for measuring the contribution of private companies to the SDGs. Work is in progress to incentivise supply of funding for SDGs, as well as the role of regulation.



Member News

Dewa: 350,000 Dubai residents join 'My Sustainable Living' programme

The Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) has made the announcement of more than 350,000 Dubai residents having enrolled in its 'My Sustainable Living' programme. The programme promotes the responsible usage of water and electricity in order to reduce their carbon footprint. It is a proud moment for the entity as the programme is a first-of-its-kind in the Middle East that helps Dubai residents to compare their monthly water and electricity usage with the average usage of similar efficient homes so that they are able to make informed decisions based on current data. The programme comes equipped with four features such as a comparison dashboard of similar homes in the region, a graph of estimated consumption trends, a monthly consumption report and also conservation tips.

Speaking on the success of the programme, the Managing Director and the CEO of DEWA said that the customer engagement response to the entity's initiatives and programmes was a pleasant and encouraging development as it helps them to consolidate the sustainable development of Dubai. He added that in this regard DEWA's cumulative savings between 2009 and 2018 reached 2 TWh of electricity and 7.4bn gallons of water, equivalent to \$326.7m (AED1.2bn).

To find out more, please visit:



<https://www.constructionweekonline.com/business/261161-dewa-350000-dubai-residents-join-my-sustainable-living-programme>

ENOC to open 22 new service stations across UAE by end of 2020

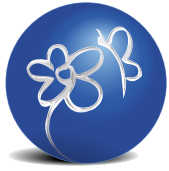
In yet another example of its commitment towards promoting sustainable development in the region, the Emirates National Oil Company announced its plan to open 22 new service stations across the UAE by the end of 2020. These service stations would be fully equipped with smart fuel dispensers; fully integrated digital wall displays and advanced Vapour Recovery System that are all geared towards the promotion of sustainable best practices.



As a testament to its devotion to bringing customer ease, the service stations will be coupled with award-winning convenience store ZOOM to fulfil the daily needs of the customers. To give them ease of payment options, the ENOC service stations will include various methods such as VIP, ENOC Pay, NOL, Apply Pay, Samsung Pay, GPay, Dubai Smart Government and Dubai Now. The group announced that it plans to open ten service stations in Sharjah, nine in Dubai and three in the Northern Emirates. This would increase the group's retail network from 136 service stations to 193 across the UAE by end of 2021.

To find out more, please visit:

<https://gulfnews.com/uae/transport/enoc-to-open-22-new-service-stations-across-uae-by-end-of-2020.69506387>



Local News

UAE has taken strides in energy sustainability: Hamdan bin Mohammed

UAE has taken great strides in diversifying its energy resources and is continuously edging closer towards sustainability. These were the sentiments of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council, at a meeting in which he welcomed Chief Executive Officer at Emirates Nuclear Energy.

H.H Sheikh Hamdan further added these achievements were solely due to the exemplary vision of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and the constant follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces. During the meeting, the participants were briefed on the progress of UAE's Peaceful Nuclear Energy Programme which culminated in the issuance of the operational licence for the first unit of the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant.

To find out more, please visit:

<https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395302824727>

International News

Transparency that drives impact where next for GRI

As GRI continues on its promise to deliver the most effective global sustainability standards, the focus is on providing the companies with the necessary support through giving high quality, accessible and impactful reporting. This was the message given out by the Vice Chair of the GRI Board, and CEO of CalSTRS – as he addressed the GRI Reporters' Summit in Arizona yesterday.

The summit was an opportunity to learn about GRI's strategic plans and gain practical insights into the latest developments in sustainability reporting. The event was attended by more than 120 representatives from corporations.

During the meeting, the attendees were also informed about the new GRI Tax Standard from the GRI Chief of Standards. Furthermore, the emerging trends to increase the quality of reporting, and how GRI services were support them was also discussed in an interactive session. To find out more, please visit

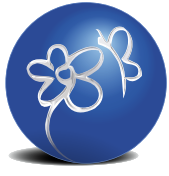
<https://www.globalreporting.org/>

UN Global Compact rings the bell for gender equality at 81 stock exchanges

As of the 26th of February, 75 stock exchanges from all over the world have confirmed their participation in an event that will be held on the 8th of March to celebrate International Women's Day. Now in its 6th consecutive edition, the event involves ringing the opening or closing bell at stock exchanges globally in recognition and celebration of International Women's Day. The theme for the 2020 edition of International Women's Day is 'I am Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights'. Under this theme, the milestones that have been achieved such as the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted in 1995, to advance the empowerment of women and girls worldwide will be highlighted and celebrated. The event also coincides with the 20th anniversary of the UN Global Compact, a five-year milestone towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, and the among others

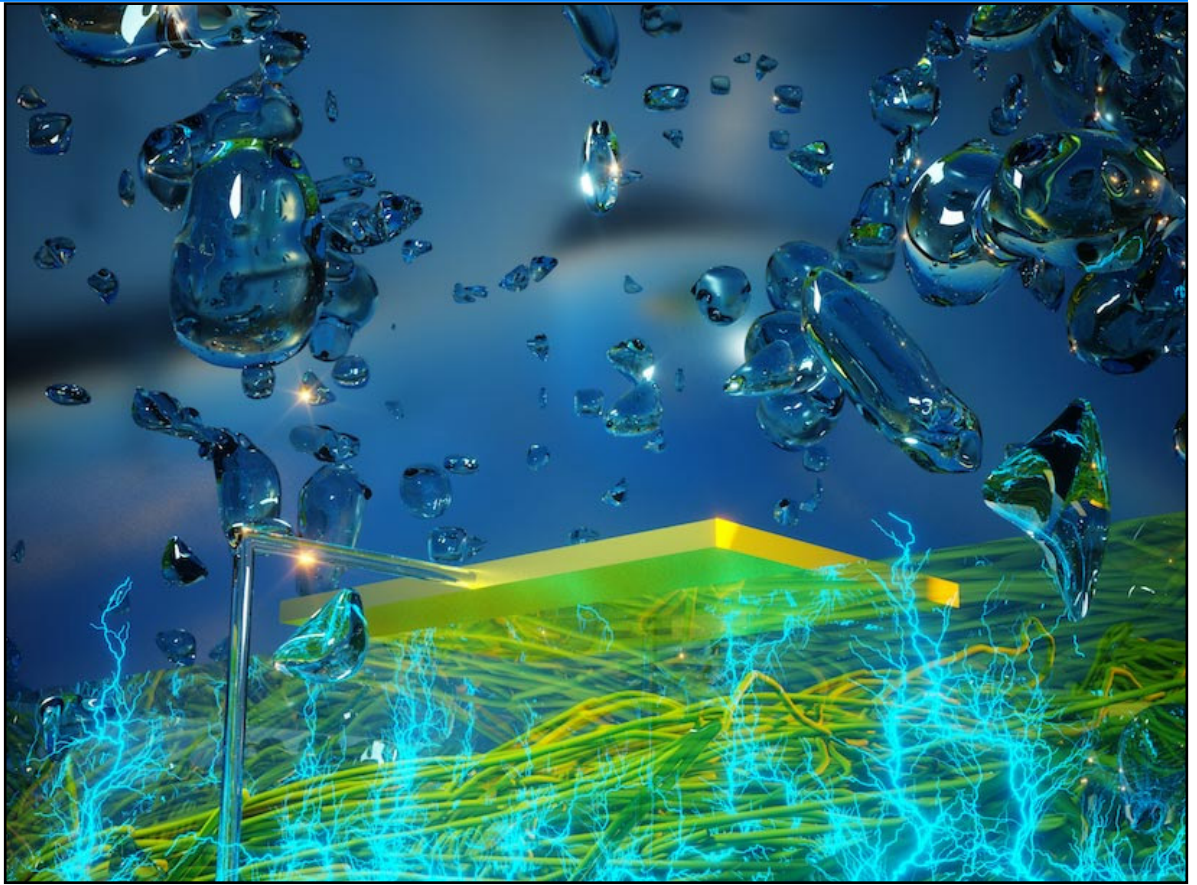
To find out more, please visit

<https://www.unglobalcompact.org/news/4528-02-27-2020>



New Invention Generates Electricity “Out of Thin Air” Offers Clean Energy 24 / 7

Feature, Blogs, White papers, Articles...



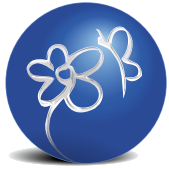
According to the reports made by scientists at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, a new device has been developed that can use a natural protein to create electricity from moisture in the air. This is a completely new technology that can have significant implications for the future of renewable energy, climate change and in the future of medicine.

The report was compiled by the scientists, and published in the magazine Nature. The device named ‘Air-gen’ short for air-powered generator, is able to combine with electrically conductive protein nanowires produced by the microbe *Geobacter*. This in turn enables the Air-gen to connect electrodes and to interact with the protein nanowires in such a way that electrical current is generated from the water vapor naturally present in the atmosphere.

The scientists say that the ultimate goal is to make large-scale systems. For example, the technology can be replicated on a large scale to help power up domestic homes. Similarly, this could lead to the development of stand-alone air-powered generators that supply electricity off the grid. Once the technology is stable enough to get to an industrial scale for wire production, it will be only a matter of time before it will be able to contribute majorly towards sustainable energy production.

To find out more, please visit:

<https://scitechdaily.com/new-invention-generates-electricity-out-of-thin-air-offers-clean-energy-24-7/>



Best Practices From The Archives Al Naboodah Construction Group (Ancg) Winner - Arabia Csr Awards 2018 - Construction Sector Category

Profile

Al Naboodah Construction group is the brainchild of two brothers Saeed and Mohammad Al Naboodah. Since being founded in 1960, the company has gone from strength to strength and has become one of the best respected and powerful construction companies in the region. The company handles a diverse portfolio that includes transportation, electrical, agriculture, logistics, civil engineering, travel, fit-out and renewable energy areas.

The company has a reputation for innovation and diversification in its solutions. It is involved in many high profile projects within UAE which implies the high standing that it enjoys. The company engages in sustainability at all levels within the organisation and is aligned with international business practices and policies that are geared towards a sustainable future.

In terms of sustainability, Al Naboodah Construction Group has come a long way in a relatively short space of time. The company has a long history in the region and whereas previously it used to engage merely in philanthropic activities and in more ad-hoc manner, it has now put in place robust corporate governance and sustainability policies that propel the company on to an international platform with international standards. Al Naboodah is fully committed to its sustainability journey and has accordingly allocated major resources and budget to it.



Summary

Al Naboodah Construction Group (ANCG) encourages engaging in sustainability at every level within the organisation. Its sustainability roadmap defines very clear environmental, social and governance targets for the entire organisation and is supported by a robust committee structure that involves commitment across the entire group. Balancing the company's needs with those of the community is important for its success, the environment, and society as a whole.

Through vigorous & extensive employee training and workshops the company is developing a tradition of institutional memory that insulates it from outside shocks and makes it more resistant to setbacks.

As a privately-owned, Emirati conglomerate, the group is proud of its sustainability framework that was built entirely from the ground up, involving key stakeholders from all levels, to create a framework of policies and objectives that were tailor-made for the specific social, environmental and economic objectives of the company yet also address the realities of the UAE as a country.