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Arabia CSR Network®

**ONLINE CSR ADVANCED
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14th - 16th November 2021

GRI ARABIA CSR NETWORK 2021

**Online Training
GRI Standards for
Sustainability Reporting**

Date: 18th - 20th November, 2021

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Arabia CSR Network®

**ONLINE
GAP ANALYSIS
WORKSHOP**

16th December 2021

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Note from the President & CEO Habiba Al Mar'ashi

Hello Arabia CSR Network members, readers and followers.

October marks the start of a cooler weather in most of the Arab countries, and we hope all of you are able to enjoy some quality time outdoors.

At the Arabia CSR Network, our office has been buzzing with activities and programmes. We are always grateful for opportunities to make a difference in the sustainability performance for so many organisations and government entities in the MENA region. We welcomed in October a new Platinum Member on board – the Al Bayader International who are celebrating 30 years of conducting a successful business in the region. Ahlan wa sahan! I was delighted to attend the launch of UAE's first solar rooftop in the food packaging sector, a partnership between Al Bayader International and Total Solar ME and give the key-note address (read more on page 4).

Our landmark programme in October was the Arabia Corporate Social Responsibility Forum, which brought to culmination our year-long efforts to put together a fantastic forum of high-profile speakers from the region and beyond that would discuss the topic of "From 2020 – 2030: Post Pandemic Sustainability and Resilience". It was held under the Patronage of Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, the Forum witnessed the attendance of more than 400 people in the course of the 2-day event from different entities and institutions at the level of the Arab world and abroad, both in presence and virtual.

The Forum included several strong plenary sessions - 'From Words to Actions: The Goal of Achieving Net Zero', 'Workers, Wellness & Welfare: Empowering Internal Stakeholders', 'A Crisis on Our Plates: Tackling Climate Change through Food Systems', 'Lessons Learned. The Future of Corporate Fabric', and 'Economic Sustainability: Recovery, Regulation and Resilience' – which were each designed to foster an inclusive and sustainable recovery while contributing to resilient economies and societies at home and abroad (read more on page 5).

The Forum was followed by a glamorous ceremony to award the winners of the 14th cycle of the prestigious Arabia CSR Awards. Regarded as the 'Green Oscars of the Middle East,' the awards recognised the corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies and operations of 40 green champions from amongst 100 applicants across 9 Arab countries. (read more on page 6).

At the start of October, on the occasion of the 91st National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I was invited to participate in the virtual intellectual symposium entitled "Saudi citizenship is our base". At this event, I put across the business-related benefits of

socially responsible practices such as a supportive workplace culture, generous community outreach, and managing the carbon footprint and other relevant related aspects.

The start of the month also brought very good news for companies that publish their sustainability reports. On 5th October, the GRI Standards had been strengthened so they can deliver the highest level of transparency for impacts on the economy, the environment and the people, with a major update to the world's most widely used sustainability reporting standards. The updates will bring a razor-sharp focus to determining material topics, with clarity on reporting principles, requirements and structure.

In my capacity as World Green Building Council's (WorldGBC) Director and Board Member, I attended the WorldGBC Annual General Meeting. At this meeting, the WorldGBC pushed their global strategy – Sustainable Buildings for Everyone, Everywhere and the participants discussed at length critical topics such as Climate Action, Health & Wellbeing, Resources & Circularity, and Engagement & Networks.

This meeting was followed by a very exciting roundtable which I attended at the Danish Pavilion at Dubai Expo to discuss Climate Software for Governments. This roundtable was organised by the Royal Danish Consulate General. The roundtable was to honour the host, U.A.E., for its impressive approach in making the impossible possible.

At Expo, I was also present at the opening of 'Accenture Exchange', (ACSRN's Platinum Member). The Accenture Exchange offers demos on AI, block chain, cloud, quantum computing and machine learning, among others. It also provides visitors the opportunity to learn more about Accenture's tech platforms and the role played by the company in the Expo as one of the digital partners.

Keeping up with our engagement with the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance. I, in my capacity as a member of the GISD Alliance, participated in the 3rd annual GISD Alliance Meeting with the UN Secretary-General. I was also privileged to speak in 2 sessions: 1) UN Secretary-General - "Expanding the impact of the GISD Alliance" and; 2) the GISD Alliance Discussion with Member States - "Moving the money behind the SDGs". At this year's Annual Meeting, GISD published a set of sector-specific metrics to accurately measure the impact of companies on sustainable development. The metrics will initially cover eight industries.

We hope this short newsletter is able to justify all the hard work our team and partners are putting in to make a positive difference to the world we live in. We hope that you continue to stay in touch with us, and engage with us via our various platforms – through events, trainings, research etc. Stay safe everyone!





ACSRN News

Saudi Citizenship is our Base

On **2nd October**, under the occasion of the 91st National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the "Responsibility Initiative" platform cordially invited ACSRN President & CEO; Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi to participate in the virtual intellectual symposium entitled "Saudi citizenship is our base". The symposium aimed to support efforts made to enable institutions, companies, organisations and individuals to implement social responsibility, one of the first-level objectives of the Saudi Vision 2030.

ACSRN President & CEO shared that "Corporate Citizenship is good for the bottom line. You can use socially responsible practices to attract new customers and investors. A supportive workplace culture, generous community outreach programme, sustainable or locally sourced ingredients, and a small carbon footprint are all great ways to differentiate yourself from your competition. Corporate citizenship can strengthen your company's reputation and boost your marketing efforts. It can also improve customer loyalty, brand recognition and employee retention". Indeed, companies that prioritise corporate citizenship use responsible business practices and train their employees to uphold the same values, recognise the importance of being good corporate citizens make the world a better place for everyone. Making corporate citizenship a priority comes with a list of advantages. In turn, these companies have more opportunities for growth and new chances to make a difference.

GRI: Launch of the updated Universal Standards

On **5th October**, the GRI Standards launched the revised Universal Standards to deliver the highest level of transparency for impacts on the economy, environment and people, with a major update to the very foundation of the worlds' most widely used sustainability reporting standard. The launch of the revised Universal Standards – to be used by over 10,000 companies that already use GRI for their reporting will:

1. Bring a razor-sharp focus to determining material topics, with clarity on reporting principles, requirements and structure – ensuring reports are of the highest quality, informing improved decision-making by reporting organisations and information users alike.
2. Provide the first and only reporting standards to fully reflect due diligence expectations for organisations to manage their sustainability impacts, including on human rights, as set forth in intergovernmental instruments by the UN and OECD.
3. Enable consistent and comparable reporting, best positioning companies to respond to emerging regulatory requirements, such as the EU's Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and the enterprise value reporting plans by the IFRS Foundation.

The publication of the first GRI Sector Standard – for oil and gas – as part of GRI's integrated and complete modular system of sustainability reporting was also unveiled during the webinar. The addition of Sector Standards will help companies focus reporting on the issues that matter most within their sectors, to address their shared challenges on sustainable development. With 40 sectors identified, standards for coal, mining, agriculture, aquaculture and fishing are already under development.

WorldGBC AGM

Arabia CSR Network CEO and President, in her capacity as WorldGBC Board Member, attended the World Green Building Council's (WorldGBC) Annual General Meeting (AGM) on **5th October**. WGBC continues to implement their global strategy – Sustainable Buildings for Everyone, Everywhere, and they are moving towards accelerating implementation. The meeting focused on the latest insights from WGBC's annual Member Value and Impact Survey, preparations ahead of the UN Climate Conference COP26 and the 2022 Annual Plan priorities and more. The projects that WGBC advanced this year supported their movement to continue to align and accelerate meeting their collective targets. WorldGBC projects and global advocacy helped accelerate demand for sustainable buildings, which in turn further drives demand for the tools, training and advocacy support that GBCs deliver in their markets. In the meeting, they have also discussed the WGBC achievements and growth opportunities on:

- a. Climate Action
- b. Health & Wellbeing
- c. Resources & Circularity
- d. Engagement & Networks

Roundtable on Climate Software for Governments

With Denmark's continuous commitment to building a sustainable future and sharing its expertise with the rest of the world, the Royal Danish Consulate General in collaboration with the Danish Pavilion commenced the Expo with hosting 'The Danish Sustainability Days' from the **5th-7th of October**, which highlighted Denmark's position as a global leader within sustainability. 'Sustainability Days' is an attempt to bring together people from the UAE and the region with Danish companies to showcase Denmark's solutions in potential new areas, such as hydrogen, power-to-X and other energy-efficient solutions. In line with the event, ACSRN President and CEO, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, attended the roundtable on 6th October entitled "How climate software for governments can get you from goals and plans to climate action". The roundtable was to honour the host, U.A.E., for its impressive approach in making the impossible possible. The session included several speakers including the Ambassador of Denmark to the U.A.E, the Consul General of Denmark in Dubai, Deputy Director General at Environment Protection Agency of Denmark, the CEO at cBrain, and the former Danish Minister of Economic and Interior Affairs. Located in the Mobility District, the Denmark Pavilion showcases 'hygge', the Danish way of living, and explains Denmark's ambitious carbon-reduction goals in greater detail.





Accenture Exchange at EXPO 2020

ACSRN President & CEO was present in the recent opening of its corporate members' platform, the 'Accenture Exchange' at Expo 2020 on **12th October**. The space provides visitors the opportunity to learn more about Accenture's tech platforms and the role played by the company in the Expo as one of the show's digital partners. The Accenture Exchange offers demos on AI, block chain, cloud, quantum computing and machine learning, among others. Demos included information security and customer relations solutions, e-ticketing technologies, AI-powered virtual assistants, geolocation services, and more. "We are privileged at Accenture to play an integral role with Etisalat Digital in delivering the first World Expo in the region while amplifying the UAE's position on the global stage," said Alexis Lecanuet, Accenture's regional Managing Director in the Middle East. "Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, we collaborated with Expo 2020 and Etisalat Digital to deliver on the promise to create the next generation of visitor-facing applications for the mega-event market over the next decade." As Expo 2020's Digital Services Partner, Accenture designed and implemented the platforms that power hyper-personalised guest experiences at the event. "We set out to help Expo deliver on their theme 'Connecting Minds, Creating the future' by making the Dubai even the most connected Expo ever," said Gerardo Canta, senior Managing Director at Accenture. "Accenture and Etisalat Digital worked with Expo and its other technology partners to build a vast digital infrastructure that delivers a highly personalised visitor experience."

3rd Annual GISD Alliance Meeting

ACSRN President & CEO, in her capacity as a member of the UN GISD Alliance, attended and was invited to speak and share her intervention for the 3rd annual GISD Alliance Meeting with the UN Secretary-General - "Expanding the impact of the GISD Alliance" and the GISD Alliance Discussion with Member States - "Moving the money behind the SDGs". On **19th October**, Business leaders joined the UN Secretary-General to ramp up delivery of critical investment tools to mobilise investment in sustainable development. Recognised for trailblazing work in sustainable development finance, the group is working with the UN to develop guidelines and products that align the existing finance and investment ecosystem with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Since Secretary-General Guterres convened the GISD Alliance in October 2019, its members, CEOs of 30 top global businesses, have produced standards and tools aimed at moving trillions of dollars to bridge the gap in financing needed to realise the UN's 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

At this year's Annual Meeting, GISD published its latest investment tool designed to align financing with sustainable development. Through analysis of existing frameworks and corporate responsibility reports, GISD has created a set of sector-specific metrics to accurately measure the impact of companies on sustainable development. The metrics will initially cover eight industries defined under MSCI's Global Industry Classification Standard. GISD is also developing a Model Mandate, providing a menu of options to define contractual relationships between asset owners and asset managers, encouraging long-term investment aligned with sustainable development. GISD is working with the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group, the COP-26 climate conference bureau and G7, as well as engaging with the multilateral development banks, to develop actionable recommendations on ways to scale up private investment for sustainable development.

Informal public dialogue on Financing for Development

ACSR President & CEO attended on **21st October** the informal public dialogue on the progress of the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) on Financing for Development (FFD), in preparation for the 2022 financing for Sustainable Development Report. During the discussion, representatives from the Secretariat, the five major institutional stakeholders (World Bank Group, IMF, WTO, UNCTAD and UNDP), and other Task Force members briefed Member States and external stakeholders on their work. They also discussed about the 2022 financing for Sustainable Development Report. A short presentation was followed by an interactive discussion to solicit feedback and input. The 2021 financing for Sustainable Development Report (FSDR) of the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development was also shared, which warns that COVID-19 could lead to a lost decade for development. The report highlights the risk of a sharply diverging world in the near term where the gaps between rich and poor widens because some countries lack the necessary financial resources to combat the COVID-19 crisis and its socio-economic impact. Short-term risks are compounded by growing systemic risks that threaten to further derail progress, such as climate change. The report recommends immediate actions to prevent this scenario and put forward solutions to mobilise investments in people and in infrastructure to rebuild better. It also lays out reforms for the global financial and policy architecture to ensure that it is supportive of a sustainable and resilient recovery and aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

Al Bayader International opens UAE's 1st Solar Rooftop in the food packaging sector

Al Bayader International, the UAE's sustainable and innovative manufacturer and supplier of packaging and cleaning solutions for diverse uses, inaugurated on **26th October** the country's first and largest solar rooftop within the food packaging sector at its state-of-the-art manufacturing plant in Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA). The solar rooftop was inaugurated by ACSRN President & CEO, Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, the CEO of Total Energy Mr. Elias Kassis and Mr. Abdulla Bin Damithan CEO & managing Director of DP World – UAE Region. Set on the rooftop of the plant, the solar farm's high-efficiency photovoltaic panels were installed by Total Solar ME in a 20-year partnership with Al Bayader International. The rooftop solar plant spans an area of 10,000 square metres and will generate 940KW of clean electricity annually, meeting about 20% of the requirements of the factory.



Al Bayader International's solar rooftop is part of the Shams Dubai programme and will offset 700 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions annually, equivalent to the weight of two Airbus A380s. Every unit of electricity generated by the rooftop will be audited and accounted for, with an advanced monitoring system to measure the amount of energy generated and financial benefits thereof, calculated in real time. The company's manufacturing processes in Jebel Ali are also zero waste – all industrial scrap produced during production is recycled and reused in production. The group adds recycled bottle flakes in its production from local suppliers, ensuring it contributes to recycling local waste, in addition to having an Eco-Bayader Products Programme which further encourages consumers to embrace sustainability.





Arabia CSR Forum 2021- From 2020 – 2030: Post Pandemic Sustainability and Resilience

The Arabia CSR Network held its 9th edition Arabia CSR Forum on the **3rd and 4th of October, 2021** at Swissotel Al Murooj, Dubai, under the Patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment with the support of Emirates Environmental Group (Environmental Partner), and with the presence of H.E. Sheikh Salim Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al Qasimi – President of Ras Al Khaimah Civil Aviation Department and Member of the Executive Council of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah. The two-day event was held as a "Carbon Neutral – courtesy of Farnek, a distinction that not many conferences can aspire to achieve.

This year's forum saw leaders and experts from the government, UN, private sector, and academia from different Arab countries and other parts of the globe. The discussions and the presentations were immensely informative combining different perspectives from a various high-level range of speakers from different regions, the MENA, USA, London, Africa and South East Asia. They joined the Forum to discuss important issues related to NetZero, climate change, food systems and economic sustainability. Themed: From 2020 – 2030: Post Pandemic Sustainability and Resilience"; the forum was held with a vision to present a policy coherence roadmap that requires mutual supportive and integrated policies across economic, social and environmental objectives aligned with sustainable development goals. The COVID-19 pandemic has led to devastating effects all around the world that require a strategic economic recovery to primarily re-think the way "things are done" and to promote businesses and sectors that help address existing global development challenges. It was anchored by Mr. Hassan Al Mar'ashi, and Mrs. Abrar Alalim from Salam National Archives.

Session 1: From words to Actions: The goal of achieving a net zero. According to the UN Secretary General António Guterres, "Emissions must fall by half by 2030 and reach net-zero emissions no later than 2050 to reach the 1.5 Celsius goal. If we fail to meet these goals, the disruption to economies, societies and people caused by COVID-19 will pale in comparison to what the climate crisis holds in store." The 1st plenary sessions addressed the kinds of economic models and business strategies that will help in achieving and succeeding to a Net Zero World, and on the different ways that the governments and the other relevant stakeholders can help business to stay on track over decades of disruptive changes to make net-zero durable model for long term impact.

Session 2: Workers, Wellness & Welfare: Empowering Internal Stakeholders. The COVID-19 pandemic had a huge impact on employee's wellbeing and welfare and has triggered the urgent need to escalate worker wellbeing issues on an urgent basis. There has not only been a plethora of physical health implications, but also a range of wide-spread and hard-hitting mental health consequences such as anxiety, loneliness, uncertainty, and fear. The second plenary session emphasized on how the businesses empowered and gained their worker's trust especially those that are on the front line and what had the businesses done to address mental health issues like stress, fear and uncertainty.

Session 3: A Crisis on Our Plates: Tackling Climate Change through Food Systems. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time; it has a disproportionate impact on the agricultural sector as it negatively affects food security. The food we eat and how we produce it, is increasingly coming under scrutiny. Animal agriculture and consuming animal products has endangered our public health and has significant environmental consequences and is exacerbating many other problems around animal and worker abuse. This session focused on different agricultural practices that will tackle these challenges to ensure food security for all, the ways to transform our conventional food systems to promote food security and healthy diets, reduce inequalities and injustices, the impact of hunger and food security around the world, and outcomes of our actions on our food systems.

Session 4: Lessons Learned. The Future of Corporate Fabric. All countries faced unprecedented challenges of recovering from the consequences of the pandemic, and have had to focus on economic recovery for survival. Companies have realised that socially and environmentally destructive activities and investments must be avoided, and no longer can relinquish the responsibility to global issues such as climate change and social inequality to the government. The plenary session speakers had spoken about the steps they took to ensure that they don't fall back towards "Business as Usual" and move forward towards "Building Back Better" addressing sustainability key issues like climate change, public health, economic inequality, women empowerment.

Session 5: Economic Sustainability: Recovery, Regulation and Resilience. There are hardly any businesses that haven't felt the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting social distancing, work from home requirements and changes in consumer behaviour. To understand the various challenges and opportunities felt by businesses, the speakers of this session spoke about the stunning impact that has resulted from the Pandemic of COVID-19 resulting in an enormous collapse of many industries and what steps the businesses and governments have taken to prevent a deeper economic impact and contribute to sustainable recovery and resilience, and the form of the recovery we will expect.

Forum - 1st Day: Plenary Session 1: From Words to Actions - The Goal of Achieving Net Zero

Head of Session: **Ms. Farah Yassine** - Vice Chair, EmiratesGBC

Panelists:

- **Prof. Dr. Najat A. Saliba** - Professor of Chemistry at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, American University of Beirut
- **Eng. Saeed Al Abbar** - CEO, AESG
- **Mr. Faisal Ali Rashid** - Senior Director at The Dubai Supreme Court of Energy



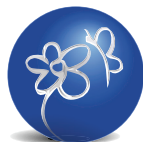
Forum - 1st Day: Plenary Session 1: Workers, Wellness & Welfare: Empowering Internal Stakeholders

Head of Session: **Ms. Hanan Abbas** - CSR Adviser/Consultant

Panelists:

- **Mr. Eugene Mayne** - CEO, Tristar
- **Mr. Yu Tao** - President & CEO, CSCEC Middle East
- **Mr. Abdul Aziz Mohammed Hanif** - CEO, Knox Technical Services
- **Mr. Abdulrahman Al Turjuman** - VP Marketing and CSR Unit, SEDCO
- **Mr. Nitesh Gupta** - Director, Metworld DMCC





Forum - 2nd Day: Plenary Session 1: A Crisis on Our Plates: Tackling Climate Change through Food Systems

Head of Session: **Mr. Youshey Zakiuddin** - Senior Executive Corporate Sustainability, Du

Panelists:

- **Dr. Fadi S. Karam** - Consultant in Agro-Meteorological Systems & Hydro-Meteorological systems, FAO
- **Mr. Nidal Haddad** - Founder, Al Bayader International
- **Mr. Jamil Haddad** - Head of sustainability and Business Development, Al Bayader International
- **Ms. Ineza Umhuza Grace** - CEO, The Green Fighter
- **Dr. Fred Yamoah** - Associate Professor in Sustainability & Food Marketing at Birkbeck- University of London
- **Eng. Zeena AL Jaajaa** - Arab Network for Food Sovereignty
- **Mrs. Zenabou Segda** - Communicator, Environmentalist, Economist, Gender and Climate Change Specialist, Burkina Faso



Forum - 2nd Day: Plenary Session 2: Lessons Learned. The Future of Corporate Fabric

Head of Session: **Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi** - President & CEO, Arabia CSR Network

Panelists:

- **Dr. Yousef Al Assaf** - President, Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)
- **Ms. Reena Vivek** - CEO, Zurich International Life
- **Mr. Alexis Lecanuet** - MD, Accenture Middle East & Turkey
- **Ms. Olga Rudkovskaya** - Manager Sustainability and Supply Chain Services- Middle East, DNV



Forum - 2nd Day: Plenary Session 3: Economic Sustainability: Recovery, Regulation and Resilience

Head of Session: **Eng. Saeed Al Abbar** - CEO, AESG

Panelists:

- **H.E. Abdul-Aziz Al Nuaimi** - Assistant Undersecretary, Commercial Affairs Regulatory Sector, Ministry of Economy
- **Mr. Navid Hanif** - Director of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office of the UNDESA
- **Ms. Cristina Gamboa** - CEO, World Green Building Council
- **Mr. Amr A. Eid** - CEO, Omniclouds
- **Mr. Ali Al Hashemi** - Director for Science and Technology Policies & Programmes Department - Ministry of Industry & Advanced Technology





14th Arabia CSR Awards Presented to 40 "Green Champions" in the Middle East

The Arabia CSR Network held its 14th cycle of Arabia CSR Awards on **4th October 2021**, at Swissotel Al Murooj, Dubai under the Patronage of H.E. Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al Qasimi - Chairman of the Rak Al Khaimah Civil Aviation Department and member of the executive council of Government of Ras Al Khaimah and in the Presence of H.E. Sheikh Majid Bin Sultan bin Saqr Al Qasimi, the Chairman of CCAD Emirates. "We are at a point in time when we truly have the most important choice to make – to continue living and operating our businesses in an unsustainable way - or to embrace the sustainable development goals and create a better and more resilient world for ourselves and our children and their children. There is a real risk today that because of COVID, the existing inequalities in our societies will be further exposed and will increase significantly. We cannot and should not let this happen. Long-term and sustainable recovery requires concerted efforts, comprehensive strategies and both public and private investment" said ACSR President & CEO Mrs. Habiba Mar'ashi in her opening speech at the Awards.

The Arabia CSR Awards recognised the corporate social responsibility initiatives of 40 green champions from amongst 100 applicants across the world. The winners were adjudged on the basis of international benchmarks such as the United Nations Global Impact (UNGI) principles, the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards, the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) model, and the 17 - UN Sustainable Developments Goals. The 14th cycle of Arabia CSR Awards was exceptionally significant due to the fact that post recovery strategies from the devastating effects of Covid-19 pandemic saw business and sectors promoting and supporting sustainable development and addressing issues that challenge the very existence of human race. The Awards was sponsored by Gulf Petrochemical Industries Co. – Gulf Petrochemicals Industries, SIPCHEM, McDonalds UAE, and Al Sayer Group. The official Communications Partner was ASDAA BCW. The media partner was Control Climate Middle East. DNV was the Assurance Provider. The environmental partner was the Emirates Environmental Group. This event was a carbon neutral event courtesy of Farnek. The Arabia CSR Network calls on organisations in the Arab Region to be a part of the prestigious awards in its 15th Cycle to be launched in January 2022.

The winners in the various categories are:

 ARABIA CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AWARDS			Congratulations to the Proud Winners of the 14th Cycle of Arabia CSR Awards 2021					
Winners	Country	Organisation Name	Winners	Country	Organisation Name			
Small Business Category			Energy Sector Category					
Winner	Jordan	Sanabel Landscape Architecture Urban Design & Planning	Winner	UAE	Masdar			
1 st Runner Up	UAE	Al Dhafra Recycling Industries LLC	1 st Runner Up	Oman	Petroleum Development Oman			
2 nd Runner Up	UAE	Acer	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)	UAE	ENGIE - International Power SA (Dubai Branch)			
Medium Business Category			2 nd Runner Up (Tie)	KSA	Shaybah Producing Department - Saudi Aramco			
Winner	UAE	Emirates Taste Catering Services LLC	Hospitality Sector Category					
1 st Runner Up (Tie)	UAE	CANPACK Middle East	Winner	UAE	Holiday Inn Dubai - Al Barsha			
1 st Runner Up (Tie)	KSA	Farabi Petrochemicals Company	1 st Runner Up	UAE	Four Seasons Resort Dubai at Jumeirah Beach			
2 nd Runner Up	KSA	SEDCO Holding	Financial Services Category					
Large Business Category			Winner	Morocco	Bank of Africa BMCE Group			
Winner	Bahrain	Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC)	1 st Runner Up	UAE	Zurich International Life			
1 st Runner Up	UAE	Tristar Group	2 nd Runner Up	Bahrain	National Bank of Bahrain			
2 nd Runner Up	UAE	Accenture Middle East	Construction Category					
Special Recognition (Tie)	Bahrain	Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco)	Winner	UAE	China State Construction Engineering Corporation Middle East (LLC)			
Special Recognition (Tie)	KSA	Saudi Telecom Company (STC)	Healthcare Sector Category					
Public Sector Category - Large			Winner	UAE	Aster DM Healthcare			
Winner	UAE	Dubai Police	1 st Runner Up	UAE	Mediclinic Middle East			
1 st Runner Up (Tie)	UAE	Dubai Electricity and Water Authority	Automotive Industry Category					
1 st Runner Up (Tie)	UAE	Sharjah Electricity Water and Gas Authority	Winner	Kuwait	Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer & Sons Est.Co.			
2 nd Runner Up (Tie)	UAE	Dubai Health Authority	Partnerships & Collaborations Category					
2 nd Runner Up (Tie)	UAE	Dubai Municipality	Winner	Bahrain	Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC)			
Public Sector Category - Medium			1 st Runner Up	UAE	Ministry of Economy			
Winner	UAE	Community Development Authority	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)	KSA	National Developmental Housing Corporation			
1 st Runner Up	UAE	Ministry of Economy	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)	Jordan	Sanabel Landscape Architecture Urban Design & Planning			
Social Enterprise Category			Special Recognition (Tie)	UAE	ADEEB GROUP			
Winner	UAE	Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services	Special Recognition (Tie)	UAE	Dubai Police			
1 st Runner Up	Sudan	SALAM Social Enterprise						





Member News

Welcomed on Board Al Bayader International

ACSRN is delighted to welcome on board, Al Bayader International, as a new Platinum Member. Al Bayader International's family has grown in number across the GCC to become an international leader in manufacturing and supplying comprehensive food packaging solutions along with wide range of cleaning and hygiene items and food stuff. With a dedicated team of around 900 employees, support of over 400 business partners, 9000 happy business customers and millions of consumers, we deliver added value to the global food and beverage industries and offer an extensive 3000+ product portfolio, which represents the backbone of retail and foodservice sectors. As part of Al Bayader International's constantly expanding business, they currently own and operate three manufacturing facilities with a vast production capacity and 15 industrial and logistic locations.

Know more about Al Bayader International at <https://www.albayader.com/>



AL BAYADER®
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FEATURE ARTICLE

A World-Class World Expo

By Sam Lubell

In a world that has been turned upside down in recent years by a pandemic, unrest and environmental catastrophe, the timely story of Expo 2020 Dubai is about communication, healing and building a better world. "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future" is the official theme, while the event has the equally relevant sub-themes of sustainability, mobility and opportunity. The centerpiece is a dome-covered gathering space, designed by the Chicago architects Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture, called Al Wasl Plaza. (Al Wasl means "the connection" in Arabic).



In addition to welcoming guest countries and highlighting worldwide goals, world's fairs have of course always been about promoting the host country and region. Since this is the first one ever held in the Middle East (or in the entire region also containing Africa and South Asia, for that matter), the expo is a chance for the United Arab Emirates to set a carefully crafted image for the world as a place that is modern, tolerant, and full of opportunity. A place that can create magic from nothing, and skillfully balance modernity and heritage. A place that, while known for oil production, is embracing a sustainable model for energy and development. These goals, of course, dovetail with urgent global needs, and the fair has partnered with the United Nations – which has its own pavilion – to highlight its sustainable-development goals. "We've always lived a sustainable life," said Ahmed Al Khatib, the expo's chief development and delivery officer, referring to Emiratis. "The scarcity of water, of food. We've always been about protecting natural resources as much as possible."

And the entire fair – not just its pavilions – is aiming to be sustainable, relying primarily on solar farms and other renewable resources for energy, and recycling much of its water, whether it comes from ground runoff or bathrooms. All buildings that the United Arab Emirates has constructed are at least LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold rated, while during build-out, organizers worked to recycle construction waste whenever possible and to, for example, embed roadway asphalt with a mixture that includes recycled tires. Perhaps more sustainable than any strategy, most of the fair (unlike virtually any World Expo in the past) will be recycled, becoming a new neighborhood located strategically between the city's airports and transit hubs and easily accessible via metro. (Unlike the United Arab Emirates' buildings, most national pavilions will be broken down.)





Best Practices 2020 From The Archives

CANPACK Middle East LLC

Arabia CSR Awards Winner - Medium Business Category

Profile

CANPACK Middle East LLC is a part of the global CANPACK Group that is a manufacturer of beverage and food packaging including cans, glass, metal closures and food & industrial packaging. Beginning its journey in 1992 in Krakow, Poland, CANPACK today is one of the major employers within the packaging industry, employing nearly 8,000 people in 19 countries across four continents.

CANPACK's vision, mission, values and culture is reflective of the company's business and societal aspirations. A signatory of the UN Global Compact (UNGC), the world's largest corporate responsibility initiative, CANPACK's commitment to the ten principles of UNGC aims to "increase economic growth while respecting the environmental and social needs of our generation and beyond."



Summary

CANPACK received the Arabia Corporate Social Responsibility Awards in 2020, chosen for their holistic approach to-wards sustainability and social responsibility. Over the last two years, CANPACK has drawn up an effective sustainability management system within the group, replete with a global sustainability policy that rests on three pillars, namely, CARE (We take care of our employees and our communities). SUS-TAIN (We look after our environment). RECYCLE (We want to be part of the Circular Economy).

The specific issues targeted by the system include safety, en-vironmental protection, saving of resources, accelerating the circular economy and development of local communities. Despite being a global business, CANPACK is keenly aware of its local commitments, which is evidenced by the extensive community work it has undertaken across countries where it operates. As a UNGC signatory, CANPACK applies the ten principles on labour, human rights, environment and anti-corruption, and also tracks its performance against the crite-ria of the EcoVadis sustainability rating. CANPACK has belted a number of awards for its exceptional performance in vari-ous areas of the business and sustainability.

Fundamental in developing a culture in which open com-munication, idea-sharing, and making the most of oppor-tunities enable us to succeed. Quality and Innovation reflect our promise to CANPACK customers to deliver a high-quality product each day. They communicate to our customers the fact that we are not afraid to push the boundaries and to seek innovations that can enable them to win in the market place. Safety is a commitment for all: we look out for each other, and zero tolerance is the rule to ensure everyone is safe in an environment in which we do not compromise in favor of other metrics.

As CANPACK continue to expand and grow regionally and globally, they are committed to grow their CSR and positive social impact. Their commitment to their people, community, and environment is a main focus and a top priority as they make their strategic decisions. CANPACK looks at CSR as a law or a legislation, and take ownership of it and consider it a way of doing business. They believe that they are the future and what they do now depends on it.

Lesson Learnt

A look at CANPACK and its UAE operations would show that the company, both globally as well at localised operations, has successfully embedded sustainability and social responsibility in ways that many others have not been able to. And this is corroborated by the many accolades that have been heaped on CANPACK around the world. Matching high quality and innovation with eco-friendly attributes and social awareness, CANPACK's business certainly delivers more than just shareholder value. What remains to be seen is how deep CANPACK takes its responsibilities across the business' value chain, although it has already embarked upon an ambitious route to achieve integrated sustainability outcomes for now and in the future.

