


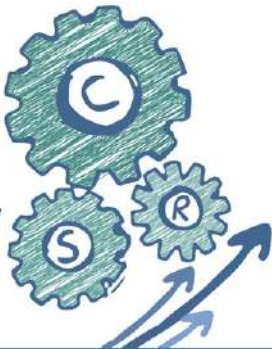
Upcoming Trainings & Workshops



الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية
الاجتماعية للمؤسسات
Arabia CSR Network®

Certified Training on Fundamentals of CSR & Sustainability

Date: 3rd - 4th November 2025




الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية
الاجتماعية للمؤسسات
Arabia CSR Network®

CSR Advanced Certified Training Course

11th - 13th November




الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية
الاجتماعية للمؤسسات
Arabia CSR Network®

Sustainability Reporting Training

22nd - 23rd December 2025



Note from President and CEO 2

ACSRN News 3

Member News 6

Upcoming 8

Feature Article 9

Best Practice 10

Follow us on:      @arabiacsrn



Note from the Founder & CEO

Dear members, partners, valued supporters and well-wishers,

October has been nothing short of remarkable — a month that powerfully reaffirmed the Arabia CSR Network's enduring mission to advance sustainability, foster corporate responsibility, and champion partnerships for societal well-being. It was a period marked by extraordinary engagement, deep reflection and tangible outcomes; a month where our shared purpose came alive through action, dialogue and celebration.

At the very heart of this exceptional month were two landmark events that encapsulated the spirit and vision of our organisation — the **18th Cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards** and the **13th Cycle of the Global Sustainability & CSR Forum**. Together, they represented both a celebration of achievement and a call to renewed ambition.

The **Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards**, now in its eighteenth cycle, continues to stand as the region's most prestigious platform recognising excellence in corporate social responsibility and sustainability. Over the years, it has evolved into a powerful movement — one that unites diverse sectors under a shared goal: to embed sustainability at the heart of strategy, governance and culture.

This year's edition was particularly inspiring. We witnessed an impressive number of first-time participants, forming 41% of applications — a clear signal that more organisations than ever before are embracing sustainability as a pathway to resilience and innovation. The breadth and quality of submissions demonstrated that the Arab region is keeping pace with global sustainability discourse and actively shaping it. From energy and manufacturing to education, healthcare and finance, the incredible stories of transformation and leadership were both humbling and invigorating.

Every winner stood as a beacon of what is possible when purpose aligns with performance. Collectively, they reflected the maturity of a movement that has travelled far beyond compliance, embedding sustainability deeply into business DNA. The Awards ceremony was not only a celebration of success — it was an affirmation that our region's businesses are ready to lead with integrity, creativity and courage towards an inclusive and prosperous tomorrow. Following swiftly on this milestone was the **13th Cycle of the Global Sustainability & CSR Forum**, an event that brought together policymakers, corporate leaders, academics, innovators and civil society voices from around the world. Under the theme "Sustainable Growth: Orchestrating a Global Change," it underscored the critical need for unified, cross-sectoral collaboration to address today's most pressing sustainability challenges — from climate change and food security to water stewardship, circular economy and sustainable finance.

The Forum served as a crucible of ideas — where visionary thinking met practical solutions. What set this year's edition apart was its global reach and perspective. It marked a defining evolution of our platform from a regional dialogue to a **truly international movement**, echoing the UAE's role

as a global leader in sustainability and a bridge between the Global North and South. October's journey did not end there. It was a month rich with engagement, advocacy and thought leadership across multiple fronts. I was delighted to represent the Arabia CSR Network at the **World Green Economy Summit (WGES)**, where global sustainability leaders reaffirmed their collective resolve to accelerate the green transition. It was equally fulfilling to take part in the **Social Innovation and Digital Art Forum in Ras Al Khaimah**, where I spoke on "Driving Impact through Social Innovation: Sustainability as a Catalyst for Change." to reinforce the growing recognition that innovation, creativity and sustainability are deeply intertwined forces shaping our collective future.

The month also saw our participation in several other significant platforms, each reflecting our deep-rooted belief in partnership and collaboration as catalysts for progress.

From the **World Green Building Council's Board Meeting**, the **Africa-UAE Urban Futures Roundtable at the 2025 APCS Summit & Mayors' Forum**, and the **EmiratesGBC Women's Network session** on Women's Leadership and Wellbeing in the Sustainable Built Environment, to engagements with **CSCEC ME's 9th Technical Conference**, and the **GISD Strategy Group Meeting** — each interaction reinforced that sustainability is not confined to boardrooms or policies; it is a living dialogue that connects all sectors and all people. You can read more about these engagements inside this newsletter.

Reflecting on these collective experiences, I am profoundly moved by the progress we have made and the passion that continues to drive our shared mission forward. The Arabia CSR Network has, over the years, evolved into more than just a platform — it has become a **beacon of thought leadership**, a convener of minds and a trusted partner in advancing the sustainability agenda both regionally and globally.

The momentum we are witnessing today is not coincidental — it is the product of years of dedication, partnership and conviction. It reflects the deepening maturity of sustainability across the Arab world and beyond — where businesses, governments and civil society are no longer asking why sustainability matters, but how we can accelerate it meaningfully. As we approach the close of another transformative year, I look forward to building on this momentum — to deepening collaboration, amplifying impact and nurturing the next generation of leaders who will carry this vision forward.

To our valued members, partners and friends — I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support, trust and belief in our mission. Your engagement and contribution have been instrumental in shaping our journey and magnifying our impact. Together, let us continue to lead with purpose, innovate with courage and act with integrity. The sustainability movement is no longer a vision of the future — it is the defining reality of today. And as we stand on this threshold, I am confident that, together, we will continue to chart a path of meaningful change — for our region, our planet and the generations to come.

Because sustainability is not a destination — it is a shared journey, and the time to act is now.

ACSRN News

World Green Economy Summit & Emirates Energy Award 2025

On 1st October, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Founder & CEO of the Arabia CSR Network (ACSRN), attended the World Green Economy Summit (WGES) 2025 and the Emirates Energy Award (EEA) 2025, held under the umbrella of WETEX and the Dubai Solar Show at the Dubai World Trade Centre. Organised under the visionary leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the Summit convened global leaders, policymakers, business innovators and sustainability experts to accelerate the world's transition toward a low-carbon and inclusive green economy.

Mrs. Al Mar'ashi's participation underscored Arabia CSR Network's dedication to advancing sustainable growth, responsible business practices and climate action across the Arab region. Her engagement reaffirmed the Network's commitment to supporting national and international frameworks — including the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategy and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — by promoting collaboration between governments, the private sector, and civil society. The Emirates Energy Award 2025, organised by the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy, recognised outstanding achievements in energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability innovation. ACSRN congratulates all winners and participants whose pioneering efforts are shaping a resilient and sustainable energy future for the UAE and beyond.

The 18th Cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards

Under the esteemed patronage and in the presence of **H.H. Engr. Sheikh Salem bin Sultan bin Saqr Al-Qasimi**, Chairman of the Ras Al Khaimah Civil Aviation Department and Member of the Executive Council of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah, the Arabia CSR Network successfully concluded the **18th Cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards** on **7th October 2025** in Dubai. This landmark event once again celebrated excellence in corporate social responsibility and sustainability, honouring organisations that are redefining responsible and transparent business practices across the Arab Region. In her opening address, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Founder & CEO of the Arabia CSR Network, reflected on the remarkable journey of the Awards since their inception in 2008.

"From a recognition scheme for GCC corporations, the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards have grown into the Arab Region's Sustainability Benchmark — combining recognition, knowledge and capacity-building. Today, 16 diverse categories embrace the entire Arab world, reflecting an expanding commitment to sustainability and responsible business," she noted. Mrs. Al Mar'ashi further highlighted that the Awards have evolved into a rigorous learning platform, with criteria aligned to global sustainability frameworks and independent jury evaluations offering detailed feedback.

This year's cycle witnessed a record 41% of new participants among the **141 applications** from **109 entities** across **10 Arab countries**, reflecting the growing maturity of ESG practices in the region. A defining theme of the 2025 Awards was the growing emphasis on net-zero strategies and circular economy models, in line with regional climate ambitions. There was also a marked increase in sustainability reporting, with **70 reports** submitted compared to 42 in 2024 — a **67% rise** — demonstrating an expanding culture of transparency and accountability. The Arabia CSR Network extended heartfelt appreciation to its partners and sponsors, including Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) as Platinum Sponsor, McDonald's UAE, China State Construction Engineering Corporation Middle East, and Farnek, the Carbon Neutrality Partner. Appreciation was also expressed to Emirates Environmental Group (Environmental Partner), Gulf News, Khaleej Times, and other media partners for their steadfast support. To date, the Arabia CSR Awards have recognised **394 winners**, received **1,781 applications**, and covered over **45 sectors** across **14 Arab countries** — cementing their position as the Arab region's longest-running and most trusted platform for sustainability excellence. Mrs. Al Mar'ashi concluded with an inspiring message: "Sustainability is a journey, not a destination. The work does not end here — it begins anew. Together, through innovation, collaboration and perseverance, we can build a region that is prosperous and sustainable for generations to come."

Name of Organisation	Country	Position
LARGE PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY		
Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA)	UAE	Winner
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi	UAE	1 st Runner Up (Tie)
Ministry of Municipalities and Housing	KSA	1 st Runner Up (Tie)
Dubai Customs	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
MEDIUM PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY		
Fujairah Natural Resources Corporation	UAE	Winner
Dubai Civil Aviation Authority	UAE	1 st Runner Up
SMALL PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY		
Fujairah Environment Authority	UAE	Winner
Department of Civil Aviation, RAK	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Department of Finance - Ajman	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
LARGE BUSINESS CATEGORY		
Les Eaux Minérales d'Oulmès	Morocco	Winner
Zain Jo	Jordan	1 st Runner Up
Berkeley Services UAE LLC	UAE	2 nd Runner Up

Name of Organisation	Country	Position
MEDIUM BUSINESS CATEGORY		
Economic Cities & Free Zones Cluster (KEZAD Group)	UAE	Winner (Tie)
Oman Flour Mills S.A.O.G	Oman	Winner (Tie)
Canpack Middle East One Person Company LLC	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Emirates District Cooling (EMICOOL) L.L.C	UAE	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)
OQ Base Industries	Oman	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)
SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY		
Transworld Group	UAE	Winner
Labotel Workers Village	UAE	1 st Runner Up
ISS RELOCATION LLC	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY		
Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina	UAE	Winner
Dubai World Trade Centre	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Movenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
FINANCIAL SERVICES CATEGORY		
Bahrain Development Bank	Bahrain	Special Recognition
HEALTHCARE SECTOR CATEGORY		
Emirates Health Services	UAE	Winner
Fujairah Hospital	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Aster DM Healthcare	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY		
Innovo	UAE	Winner
China State Construction Engineering Cooperation Middle East	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Alec Holdings	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY CATEGORY		
Galadari Brothers Group	UAE	Winner
ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY		
Adnoc Distribution	UAE	Winner
Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC) L.L.C	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries Company (OQ8)	Oman	2 nd Runner Up
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY		
Sfanah Charity Organization for Health Services	KSA	Winner
Palestine for Development Foundation - PsDF (PIF's Foundation)	Palestine	1 st Runner Up

Name of Organisation	Country	Position
EDUCATION SECTOR CATEGORY		
Amman Arab University	Jordan	Winner
GEMS Modern Academy	UAE	1 st Runner Up
Innoventures Education	UAE	2 nd Runner Up
PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION CATEGORY		
Bahrain Ministry of Interior Program	Bahrain	Winner
Palestine for Development Foundation - PsDF (PIF's Foundation)	Palestine	1 st Runner Up (Tie)
Aldar Properties	UAE	1 st Runner Up (Tie)
Dubai Municipality	UAE	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)
Ministry of Municipalities and Housing	KSA	2 nd Runner Up (Tie)
Dubai Women's Association - Sheikhha Latifa bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Childhood Creativity	UAE	Special Recognition

13th Global Sustainability & CSR Forum Drives Sustainable Growth

The **13th Global Sustainability & CSR Forum**, organised by the Arabia CSR Network, concluded its highly impactful two-day gathering on 9th October 2025 at the University of Dubai. Held under the theme "Sustainable Growth: Orchestrating a Global Change", the Forum marked its transformation from the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum into a truly global platform, reflecting the urgency of collective action across borders to address pressing sustainability challenges. Held under the esteemed patronage of the **Ministry of Economy & Tourism** and in Strategic Partnership with Dubai Chambers, the Forum convened ministers, UN officials, business leaders, academia and youth changemakers, offering a dynamic stage for dialogue, innovation and collaboration to advance sustainable development worldwide.

The Forum opened on 8th October with keynote addresses from **H.E. Eng. Sigit Reliantoro**, M.Sc., Deputy Minister for Environmental Governance and Sustainable Natural Resources, Republic of Indonesia; **H.E. Ms. Bérange Boëll**, UN Resident Coordinator for the UAE; and Ms. Sarah Shaw, CEO of Majra – National CSR Fund. The event was further graced by **H.H. Sheikh Eng. Salem bin Sultan bin Saqr Al Qasimi**, Chairman of the Department of Civil Aviation and Ras Al Khaimah International Airport, who emphasised the UAE's leadership in embedding sustainability within its national development agenda and highlighted the need for collective global action. Day 1; featured a fireside chat with **H.E. Dr. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim**, former President of Mauritius and biodiversity scientist, followed by three plenary sessions: "From Waste to Worth: Advancing a Regenerative Model", exploring circular economy solutions; "From Harvest to Home: Rethinking Food Systems", addressing food security and cli-

mate-adaptive agriculture; and “Turning the Tide: Effective Cross-border Collaboration”, focusing on water scarcity and regional cooperation. The day concluded with a Youth Panel, “Shaping Minds, Changing Worlds: The Power of Youth,” showcasing young Emirati leaders driving innovation in climate-tech, social entrepreneurship, and digital equity.

Day 2; featured keynotes from Ms. Maha Al Gargawi, Vice President of Business Advocacy at Dubai Chambers, and Dr. Youssef Al Assaf, President of Rochester Institute of Technology, Dubai. Plenary sessions included “From Resource to Power: Optimisation for Future Prosperity”, highlighting energy efficiency, renewable transitions and carbon management strategies; “Financing the Transition: Unlocking Green Investments”, exploring ESG-driven capital flows and impact investing; and “From the Ground Up: Restructuring Growth”, examining urban sustainability, design innovation and youth empowerment. The Forum also hosted a fireside chat with Mr. Eugene Mayne, Founder & CEO of Tristar Group, sharing insights on leadership and sustainable business transformation. Reflecting on the success of the Forum, Ms. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, Founder & CEO of Arabia CSR Network, said: “Sustainable growth requires the positive orchestration of governments, businesses, academia, NGOs, civil society and youth into a harmonious movement for change. The ideas shared here are blueprints for the future and calls to immediate action.”

The 13th cycle of the Forum was made possible through the generous support of Tristar Group (Exclusive Sponsor), McDonald’s UAE (Strategic Sponsor), Al Sayer Group and Majra – National CSR Fund (Platinum Sponsors). Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) participated as Environmental Partner, actively supporting the Forum’s green initiatives and sustainability agenda.

The Forum was certified carbon neutral, courtesy of Farnek, reflecting its commitment to responsible and environmentally conscious event management. Supporting Entities that include Clean Energy Business Council, Dabur and One Hive; Official Media Partners, Gulf News and Khaleej Times; Media Collaborators, Climate Control and Pan Asian Media; and Media Supporters, Dubai Global News, Biz Today and Green Sustainability. The Global Sustainability & CSR Forum continues to provide a pivotal platform for knowledge exchange, global collaboration and actionable solutions that advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and foster a sustainable future for all.

[READ MORE](#)

Driving Impact Through Social Innovation

On 16th October, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, was invited to join a dynamic panel session titled “Driving Impact Through Social Innovation: Sustainability as a Catalyst for Change.”

The panel was organised by the Events Standing Committee of Ras Al Khaimah in collaboration with the Social Innovation and Digital Art Forum and held at the Ras Al Khaimah Cultural Development Centre. The session convened experts and thought leaders from various fields to discuss the transformative role of sustainability in shaping innovative solutions for

social progress. Mrs. Habiba was the special guest of a fire-side chat where she shared her insights on how integrating sustainability into business and community strategies can accelerate positive change and build resilience across sectors.

Drawing on the Arabia CSR Network’s extensive experience in promoting responsible business practices in the Arab region, she emphasised the need for collaborative action, innovation and purpose-driven leadership to address pressing environmental and societal challenges. Her participation reaffirmed ACSRN’s mission to champion sustainable development and inspire organisations to embed CSR and sustainability at the heart of their operations, contributing to a more inclusive and impactful future.

Asia Pacific Cities Summit & Mayors Forum

On 27th October, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, participated in an exclusive, closed-door roundtable at the Asia Pacific Cities Summit & Mayors Forum, hosted at Expo City Dubai under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the UAE. The roundtable, “Africa-UAE Urban Futures: Local Leadership in Action,” brought together African mayors, senior city leaders and high-level stakeholders from the UAE to exchange insights and co-create solutions for sustainable urban development. Discussions focused on advancing climate-resilient infrastructure, nature-based solutions, green and affordable housing, inclusive mobility and leveraging digital trade to foster sustainable, future-ready cities.

Mrs. Habiba’s participation reflected her enduring commitment to fostering cross-regional collaboration and her extensive expertise in sustainability and urban development. Representing ACSRN and EGBC, she contributed valuable perspectives on embedding climate-conscious practices into urban planning and governance, inspiring local leaders to take actionable steps toward achieving inclusive, resilient and environmentally responsible urban futures. Her involvement also underscored the vital role of thought leadership and collaboration between UAE and African city leaders, reinforcing the importance of sharing best practices, scaling innovative solutions and strengthening networks to drive measurable impact across regions.

CSCEC ME 9th Technical Conference

On 30th October, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar’ashi, Founder & CEO of the Arabia CSR Network (ACSRN), delivered the VIP keynote address at the 9th China State Construction Engineering Corporation Middle East (CSCEC ME) Technical Conference, held at Al Habtoor Palace, Dubai. The event, organised in collaboration with the Society of Engineers (SOE) and the International Code Council (ICC), has established itself as a premier platform for technical excellence, innovation and collaboration within the engineering and construction sectors. This year’s conference, themed “Unveiling a Revolutionary Modular Construction in Redefining the Future”, brought together industry leaders, experts and innovators to explore cutting-edge advancements in modular construction, sustainable engineering and smart building technologies. Mrs. Habiba’s keynote emphasised the vital role of sustainability and responsible business practices in shaping the future of construction and urban development. She highlighted the

need to integrate environmental stewardship, innovation and resilience into engineering projects, inspiring attendees to take practical steps towards a more sustainable built environment.

ACSRN congratulates CSCEC ME on successfully hosting another impactful conference that continues to elevate industry standards across the region. Her participation reinforced the importance of thought leadership, collaboration, and innovation in driving sustainable development and responsible practices across the construction and engineering sectors.

Strategy Group Meeting of the GISD Alliance

On 30th October, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Founder & CEO of the Arabia CSR Network (ACSRN), participated in the virtual Strategy Group Meeting of the UN Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance in her capacity as a Member of the Board.

The meeting brought together Strategy Group Members and the Co-Chairs of GISD to exchange insights and align on the next phase of the GISD Alliance's roadmap, with a focus on scaling sustainable finance and advancing investment strategies that contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Mrs. Habiba's participation underscored her continued commitment to promoting responsible investment and her active role in global multi-stakeholder dialogues aimed at mobilising private capital towards sustainable development.

EGBC Engagements

1) On **28th October**, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Founder and CEO of the Arabia CSR Network (ACSRN), participated in a virtual interview with the EmiratesGBC Women Network, sharing her perspectives on women's leadership and well-being within the sustainable built environment. The discussion was facilitated by HR Business Partner & Head of Talent Management (Middle East, Türkiye & Africa, Hilti). Mrs. Habiba reflected on her career journey, pivotal experiences and insights into driving sustainability while empowering women in the sector. Her reflections offered practical guidance, inspiring stories and evidence-based learnings, highlighting the impact of women leaders in shaping a greener and more inclusive built environment.

The interview will be incorporated into the EmiratesGBC Women Network White Paper, serving as a curated set of success stories and insights. It aimed to showcase personal journeys and professional achievements through spotlight profiles, offer "Golden Nugget" advice for career growth and leadership, and provide evidence-based learnings to inform recommendations for enhancing women's leadership and wellbeing in the industry. Mrs. Habiba's participation underscored her commitment to nurturing female leadership, advancing sustainability, and inspiring the next generation of change-makers in the built environment.

2) On the afternoon of the same day, she attended the Board Meeting of EmiratesGBC alongside fellow members and key stakeholders to deliberate on the organisation's strategic priorities and forthcoming initiatives. The session commenced

with an opening address by the Chair, followed by comprehensive strategy updates detailing progress on ongoing projects and outlining future sustainability initiatives within the UAE's green building sector. Members subsequently reviewed the organisation's financial position to ensure continued transparency and prudent resource management, while also receiving updates on membership expansion and engagement—reflecting EmiratesGBC's growing influence and impact. The meeting concluded with an open discussion under Any Other Business (AOB), fostering dialogue and alignment on the organisation's strategic direction moving forward.

ACSRN in the Media Eye

On **3rd October**, Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, Founder and CEO of the Arabia CSR Network (ACSRN), was interviewed by Fujairah TV in anticipation of two landmark events—the 18th Cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards and the 13th Global Sustainability and CSR Forum. During the interview, she shared insights on ACSRN's long-standing efforts to promote sustainability, corporate responsibility and climate action across the Arab region. She highlighted how both events embody the Network's mission to inspire responsible business practices, foster multi-stakeholder collaboration and accelerate progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Mrs. Al Mar'ashi also reflected on the evolution of the Awards and Forum over the years, noting how they have grown into premier platforms for recognising excellence and advancing sustainability and CSR dialogues at both regional and global levels. She emphasised that the 2025 editions carry special significance as they call for "orchestrated global change", uniting leaders, innovators and youth under a shared vision of a sustainable future. Continuing her media engagements, Mrs. Al Mar'ashi was the distinguished guest on Dubai Live, a special podcast series produced by Dubai Media, on **14th October**. During the live conversation, she recounted the milestones that shaped her journey and ACSRN's mission over nearly two decades. She discussed the importance of environmental education, community empowerment, corporate responsibility and youth and women's participation in driving sustainability across the Arab region.

Mrs. Al Mar'ashi also emphasised the role of collaboration across sectors, the rise of sustainability consciousness in the Arab world, and ACSRN's ongoing efforts to align regional initiatives with the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategy and the United Nations SDGs. She stated: "Protecting our environment and advancing responsible business practices is not a choice—it is a shared responsibility and a moral duty to future generations."

The story of ACSRN demonstrates what vision, perseverance and collaboration can achieve when driven by purpose." The Dubai Live podcast provided listeners with an inspiring glimpse into ACSRN's evolution from a regional CSR initiative to a leading advocate for sustainability and responsible business practices in the Arab world. Both media appearances underscored ACSRN's commitment to fostering knowledge exchange, collaboration, and action that drive sustainable change across the region.





18th Cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards



13th Global Sustainability & CSR Forum



Member News

Tristar - Patron for Gender Equality in the UAE

ACSRN Member, Tristar Group has taken the role as the 2025-2026 Target Gender Equality (TGE) Patron for the UN Global Compact Network (UN GCN) in the UAE.

As a member of the UN GCN and a signatory of SDG #5 with the UAE Gender Balance Council, Tristar continues to demonstrate that diversity, equity and inclusion are essential drivers of business resilience.

Through its role as TGE Gender Patron, Tristar will collaborate with its cohort of 22 organisations in the UAE to accelerate gender-balanced leadership, strengthen workplace inclusivity and support women's empowerment across industries.

The UN GCN hosted their 1st in-person session for the TGE 2025 Cohort at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Dubai on 8th October which brought together signatory companies to explore global and regional gender equality trends, key frameworks and their Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Gap Analysis results.

[READ MORE](#)

Upcoming

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Fundamentals of CSR & Sustainability

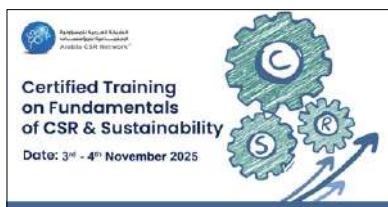
3rd – 4th November

Build a strong foundation in corporate responsibility and sustainability. This two-day introductory course provides participants with a clear understanding of the key principles, frameworks and practices that define responsible business today.

Over two dynamic sessions, participants will:

- Discover the evolution of CSR and its transformation into modern sustainability strategies
- Understand global frameworks, standards and principles that guide ethical and sustainable business conduct
- Explore how organisations can address Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) challenges
- Gain practical insights and tools for embedding sustainability into operations and strategic planning

Perfect for newcomers, early-career professionals or anyone seeking a structured understanding of CSR and sustainability, this course will empower you to play an active role in shaping your organisation's sustainability journey.



CSR Advanced Training

11th – 13th November

Take your CSR expertise further with this intensive three-day programme. Designed for professionals seeking to deepen their knowledge and strategic skills, the course covers:

- Designing and managing CSR projects with measurable impact.
- Using advanced tools for impact assessment and sustainability evaluation.
- Mapping and engaging stakeholders to build trust and partnerships.
- Integrating CSR into governance, strategy, and long-term planning
- Learning global and regional best practices through case studies.

Ideal for experienced CSR managers, sustainability practitioners, and strategy leaders, this training goes beyond compliance, enabling you to create innovative programmes that drive sustainable growth and meaningful impact.



Sustainability Reporting Masterclass

22nd – 23rd December

Communicate your organisation's sustainability journey with credibility and confidence. This comprehensive two-day masterclass equips you with the knowledge and tools to develop transparent, globally aligned sustainability reports that resonate with stakeholders. Throughout the course, participants will:

- Understand key reporting frameworks like GRI, ISSB, and other leading standards
- Integrate ESG metrics into strategy and decision-making
- Craft compelling, authentic sustainability narratives
- Participate in practical exercises with industry experts

Tailored for sustainability officers, ESG professionals and communications specialists, this training ensures you leave equipped to produce insightful, regulation-ready reports that enhance your organisation's reputation and stakeholder trust.

Register now to secure your place in these highly interactive and practice-driven trainings.



[Register Now](#)



Feature Article

Can You Make a Profit and Be Socially Responsible?

Excerpt from Jennifer Dublino

If you grew up equating business people with unrestrained greed, you might wonder if making a profit and doing the right thing are mutually exclusive. After all, businesses must charge more than their costs to make a profit. Is that taking advantage of the customer? And is investing in clean energy, paying a fair wage and supporting social causes too expensive?

The good news is you can make money and be a good corporate citizen. Truthfully, practicing corporate social responsibility (CSR) can positively affect the bottom line.

What is corporate social responsibility?

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is the effort a business makes to take responsibility for its actions. Companies that practice CSR follow a sustainable business model and constantly consider how they impact the environment and society.

Ann Skeet, senior director of leadership ethics at the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University, emphasised that CSR practices reflect a company's values and relationship to society. "[CSR] can encompass activities that are strictly voluntary, such as volunteering and philanthropic efforts, and also areas that are now being lightly regulated, such as those known as ESG, strategies companies deploy to address environmental, social and governance concerns," Skeet explained. "Small businesses should approach corporate social responsibility holistically by engaging in activities that align with their mission and core values and reinforce ethical business practices."

CSR can include various initiatives, including the following:

- Reducing your business's carbon footprint with clean energy solutions
- Being proactive about labour laws and benefits
- Supporting charities locally or globally

Generally, CSR initiatives fall into several broad categories, including the following:

- Environmental responsibility
- Ethical responsibility
- Philanthropic responsibility
- Economic responsibility

Can CSR increase company profits?

Research has shown companies that fully integrate CSR into their operations can expect to achieve profitable growth and see sound financial returns on their invest-

ments. Companies committed to CSR can also reduce employee turnover because their practices appeal to high-level talent.

Companies can increase profits by incorporating CSR practices because many customers pay attention to how organisations react to social and political issues. Some may boycott companies with perceived negative values. Companies prioritising CSR promote positive values, ultimately increasing customer traffic and company profit.

Additionally, some socially responsible practices actually cut business costs. For example, investing in solar panels can save businesses significant electricity costs; the cost of buying and installing them is typically paid back in three to five years.

"The businesses that thrive tomorrow will be those that solve society's problems today," noted Abdullah Choudhry, co-founder of Arbor, a B2B carbon accounting platform. "CSR isn't about perfection — it's about making each business decision with both profit and social impact in mind."



[READ MORE](#)

Best Practice

Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments Hospitality Sector Category

Winner

Arabia CSR Awards 2023

A Brief about the Organisation

Established in 2010, Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments has cemented itself as a prominent figure within the hospitality sector. The company's steadfast dedication to sustainable tourism has been integral, weaving eco-friendly practices seamlessly into its operations.

Their commitment extends beyond mere accreditation, focusing on proactive strategies harmonising with global sustainability objectives. Embracing sustainability as a cornerstone of their business strategy yields positive impacts on society, the environment and the company's enduring financial health. Since its inception, Two Seasons Hotel Management LLC has woven sustainable tourism principles into its operations, consistently refining their understanding and periodically enhancing practices to maximise their positive environmental footprint.

Positioned as a trailblazer in green initiatives, Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments proudly holds the esteemed Green Globe certification. Their vision extends beyond the present, aspiring to instill green living and sustainability values in the upcoming generation of travellers. The commitment transcends mere rhetoric, leading to the establishment of resilient, forward-thinking strategies that harmonise with global sustainability objectives. At its core, the hotel embraces sustainability as a pivotal element of its overarching business strategy.

Lessons Learnt and Conclusion

Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments offers invaluable lessons for aspiring organisations looking to embrace sustainability and innovation.

Firstly, they highlight the significance of aligning corporate strategies with recognised global sustainability goals, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), showcasing the potential for meaningful impact.

Secondly, the hotel underscores the importance of a holistic approach, seamlessly weaving sustainability and innovation into their business model. Their integration of technologies, like electric car charging stations and water filtration systems, sets an example for others looking to reduce environmental impact.

Furthermore, Two Seasons demonstrates the value of internal and external stakeholder engagement. They engage employees, guests, suppliers and the local community in their sustainability initiatives, creating a collaborative approach that fosters support and buy-in.

The valuable lessons learned from Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments offer a guiding light to aspiring organisations

seeking to embark on a similar path of CSR and sustainability. By aligning their strategies with recognised global goals, embracing innovation and engaging stakeholders both internally and externally, businesses can truly make a difference in creating a more responsible and eco-conscious world. Overall, the hotel's dedication to measurable Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), transparency and consistent communication are key takeaways for aspiring organisations.

In conclusion, Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments stands as an exemplar of best practices in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and sustainability within the hospitality sector. Through their unwavering commitment to eco-consciousness and innovation, they have woven sustainability into the very fabric of their operations, leaving a profound impact on the environment, society and their long-term profitability. Their strategic alignment with global sustainability goals, particularly the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), reflects their vision to contribute positively to the world.

The hotel's holistic approach to CSR encompasses comprehensive strategies and policies that extend to every facet of their business, from environmental stewardship and social responsibility to governance and anti-corruption efforts. Their commitment to employee well-being, local community development and responsible partnerships showcases their dedication to making a tangible difference in the world.

Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments engages with stakeholders effectively and also emphasizes the importance of transparent measurement, reporting and continuous improvement in their CSR journey. Their culture of innovation, reflected in the seamless integration of technology and eco-friendly practices, highlights the transformative power of sustainable business models.

Two Seasons Hotel & Apartments serves as an inspiration, demonstrating that the pursuit of sustainability is not just a responsibility but a key to long-term success in a rapidly evolving world.

