



Date: 18th February 2020

H.E. Antonio Guterres

Secretary General
United Nations
New York, NY
USA

Your Excellency,

I am pleased to confirm that we reaffirm our support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. We further emphasize our support of the United Nations' goals and objectives and our efforts towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. Throughout this report, you will find that we have clearly defined strategies and goals aligned with the Ten Principles and the Sustainable Development Goals.

We have set a clear vision for Dubai through the Dubai Plan 2021 which is built on six main pillars including The People, The Society, The Experience, The Place, The Economy and The Government. Each pillar has a strategic developmental aim and targets to measure its performance which are captured in publically available reports.

This Communication on Engagement highlights our key efforts towards achieving sustainable development for Dubai and how we aim to make the city a global hub for prosperity.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Saeed M. Al Tayer
Managing Director & CEO



The City of Dubai
Communication on Engagement

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Introduction on the City of Dubai¹



Dubai is the second largest of the seven United Arab Emirates. In recent decades, Dubai has witnessed a tremendous development and acquired a prestigious global reputation because of the ease and flexibility of its laws and policies, its encouragement for investment and its high standard of living, security and stability. Dubai has now become a hub for major international companies running their businesses in the Middle East, due to the conditions the government have strived to create.

Dubai's population reached 3,192,275 at the end of 2018 as per Dubai Statistics Centre.

The emirate's economy does not depend solely on oil as a major source of income, but rather on boosting an economy that is based on industry, tourism, real estate and hosting events and exhibitions in Dubai World Trade Centre, the region's leading destination for exhibitions, conferences, and events. The emirate also has first-class infrastructure including two international airports: Dubai International Airport, the world's number one airport for international passengers, and Al Maktoum Airport located in the southern part of the city.

¹ <https://tec.gov.ae/en/dubai-government/about-dubai/>

Dubai also features Jebel Ali Port, the world's largest man-made harbour and one of the most important re-export centres in the world. Dubai also owns modern industrial zones, as well as economic free zones including: Jebel Ali Free Zone, Dubai International Financial Centre, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Dubai Airport Free Zone, Dubai Media City, Dubai Internet City, Dubai International Academic City and Knowledge Village, in addition to prestigious local and international universities and institutes attended by students from across the region.

The emirate boasts a first-class health services sector in public and private hospitals, and Dubai Healthcare City, which is a specialised medical city, regarded as a prestigious destination for medical tourism.

Dubai aspires to focus on the development of the tourism sector in the coming years, and is working to build its portfolio of distinctive attractions and exclusive major projects. It is also preparing to host the Expo 2020.

Every year Dubai attracts more than 10 million tourists due to recreational and cultural events and festivals organised annually. Tourists visit Dubai to attend conferences and exhibitions, to go shopping and to explore breath-taking attractions such as the Burj Khalifa - the tallest tower in the world, The Palm Jumeirah - the largest man - made island on Earth, the large number of world-class luxurious hotels and a wide range of more than 50 modern shopping centres and malls. Currently, Dubai is building its scientific and academic institutions, focusing on developing a human capital that is capable of leading the new economic phase, the knowledge-based economy, which the emirate is preparing to enter.

Sustainable Development



Dubai's commitment to protecting the environment and preserving natural resources and sustainable development is in line with the aspirations of the UAE wise leadership. All our strategies and business plans are guided by the vision and directives of HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

Dubai seeks to implement ambitious national strategies and plans, including UAE Centennial 2071, UAE Vision 2021, and Dubai Plan 2021 to position Dubai as a global destination across various fields. We are committed and aligned to Dubai's eight principles of governance and the 50-Year Charter, supporting the UAE's direction to promote sustainability and build a green economy. This will ensure a balance between our social, economic, and environmental needs, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030.

Working towards sustainable development and a green economy, we have turned challenges and risks into promising opportunities.

2.1 Strategies

As part of its global responsibility, the UAE and Dubai in particular, has been at the forefront of the implementation of green strategies to support sustainability, following the visionary leadership of His Highness

Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. The path to a sustainable future relies on green energy, sustainability and innovation, when the UAE has made a series of remarkable achievements based on different strategies and initiatives, including the UAE Vision 2021, UAE Centennial 2071, and the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 among many others.

Federal Strategies

UAE Vision 2021²

Launched by H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in 2010.

The Vision aims to make the UAE among the best countries in the world by the Golden Jubilee of the Union. In order to translate the Vision into reality, its pillars have been mapped into six national priorities, which represent the key focus sectors of government action in the coming years.



UAE Centennial 2071³

² <https://www.vision2021.ae/en>

³ <https://government.ae/en/about-the-uae/strategies-initiatives-and-awards/federal-governments-strategies-and-plans/uae-centennial-2071>

Launched by H. H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, this plan aims at investing in the future generations, by preparing them with the skills and knowledge needed to face rapid changes and to make the UAE the best country in the world by the next centennial in 2071. The UAE Centennial 2071 is based on four pillars as follows:

- Future-focused government
- Excellent education
- A diversified knowledge economy
- A happy and cohesive society

UAE Energy Strategy 2050⁴

In 2017, the UAE launched 'Energy Strategy 2050', which is considered the first unified energy strategy in the country that is based on supply and demand. The strategy aims to increase the contribution of clean energy in the total energy mix from 25 per cent to 50 per cent by 2050 and reduce carbon footprint of power generation by 70 percent, thus saving AED 700 billion by 2050. It also seeks to increase consumption efficiency of individuals and corporates by 40 per cent.

The strategy targets an energy mix that combines renewable, nuclear and clean energy sources to meet the UAE's economic requirements and environmental goals as follows:

- 44 per cent clean energy
- 38 per cent gas
- 12 per cent clean coal
- 6 per cent nuclear.

The UAE government aims to invest AED 600 billion by 2050 to meet the growing energy demand and ensure a sustainable growth for the country's economy.

UAE Green Growth Strategy⁵

Launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in 2012 to build the green economy of the UAE under the slogan 'A Green Economy for Sustainable Development'. Through this initiative, the UAE aims to build an economy that protects the environment as well as an environment that supports the growth of the economy.

⁴ <https://government.ae/en/about-the-uae/strategies-initiatives-and-awards/federal-governments-strategies-and-plans/uae-energy-strategy-2050>

⁵ <https://www.government.ae/en/about-the-uae/economy/green-economy-for-sustainable-development>

The Green Economy initiative includes six major fields, which are:

1. The first field of green energy aims to promote the production and use of renewable energy.
2. The second field includes government policies aimed to encourage investments in green economy and to facilitate the production, import, export and re-export of green products and technologies.
3. The third field relates to developing urban planning policies that preserve the environment and to raise the efficiency of housing and buildings environmentally.
4. The fourth field consists of means for dealing with the effects of climate change, promote organic agriculture, maintain biodiversity and protect the ecological balance.
5. The fifth field aims at rationalising the use of water resources, electricity and natural resources and recycle waste.
6. The sixth field includes development and promotion of green technology.

The UAE Water Security Strategy 2036⁶

The Strategy aims to ensure sustainable access to water during both normal and emergency conditions in line with local regulations, standards of the World Health Organisation, and the UAE's vision to achieve prosperity and sustainability.

The strategy focuses on three main programmes: the Water Demand Management Programme, the Water Supply Management Programme and the Emergency Production and Distribution Programme. The strategy also tackles policy development, legislation, water conservation awareness campaigns, use of advanced technologies, innovation and building national capabilities in the field of water security.

The Water Security Strategy 2036 aims to reduce average consumption per capita by half as well as focus on sustainable practices.

Local Strategies

The 8 Principles of Dubai

The 8 Principles of Dubai were launched by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. The Principles ensure sustainability of economic growth, make Dubai a global hub for creating economic opportunities, and attract the best minds and ideas.

⁶ <https://government.ae/en/about-the-uae/strategies-initiatives-and-awards/federal-governments-strategies-and-plans/the-uae-water-security-strategy-2036>

The 50-Year Charter

The 50-Year Charter marks HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's 50 years of service to the country and includes what will be undertaken to improve the quality of life, develop the community of Dubai and ensure the future of generations to come.

Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050

Launched by H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, In November 2015. Under this strategy, Dubai aims to produce 75 per cent of its energy requirements from clean sources by 2050. The strategy also aims to make Dubai a global centre of clean energy and green economy. It consists of five main pillars: infrastructure, legislation, funding, building capacities and skills, and environment friendly energy mix.

The infrastructure pillar includes initiatives such as Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, which is the largest generator of solar energy in the world from a single location with a capacity to produce 5,000 MW by 2030 and a total investment of AED 50 billion.

The legislation pillar focuses on the establishment of a legislative structure supporting clean energy policies in two phases.

The funding pillar includes the establishment of Dubai Green Fund worth of AED 100 billion which will contribute through its financial resources easy loans for investors in the clean energy sector in the emirate at reduced interest rates.

The fourth pillar aims to build human resources capabilities through global training programmes in the field of clean energy in cooperation with international organisations and institutes.

The fifth pillar is focused on creating an environment friendly energy mix comprising solar energy (25 per cent), nuclear power (7 per cent), clean coal (7 per cent) and gas (61 per cent) by 2030. The mix will gradually increase the employment of clean energy sources to 75 per cent by 2050, making Dubai the city with the least carbon footprint city in the world.

Dubai Plan 2021⁷

The strategy of the Government in Dubai is formed from the vision of its inspiring leadership, and outlined in Dubai Plan 2021. Launched in December 2014 by H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President

⁷ https://tec.gov.ae/media/6670/170521_dp2021_futureexchanges-2017_full-report_en.pdf

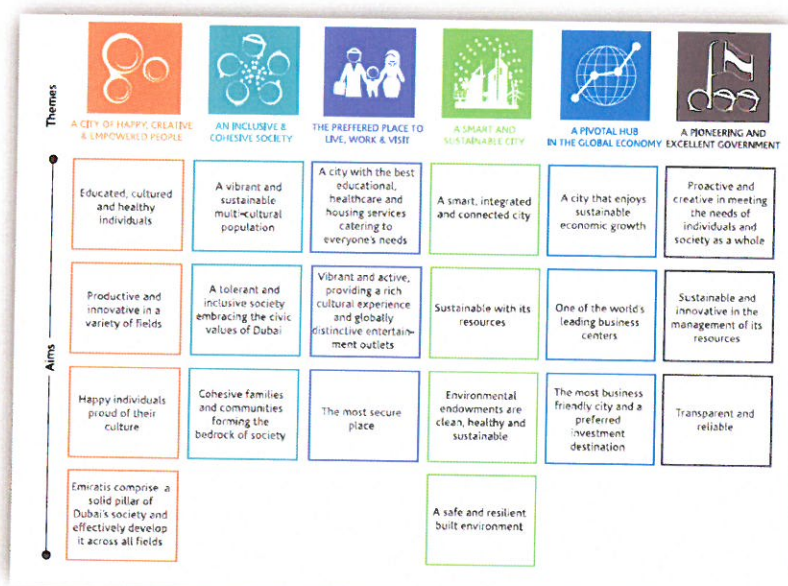
and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, Dubai Plan 2021 aims to reinforce Dubai's position as a global center and destination across a number of fields.

The Dubai Plan 2021 describes the future of Dubai through holistic and complementary perspectives, starting with the people and the society who have always been, and always will be, the bedrock of the city. This aspect describes the characteristics that Dubai's people need to have to deliver on the city's aspirations in all areas, and examines the society needed to support and empower these individuals in achieving their goals.

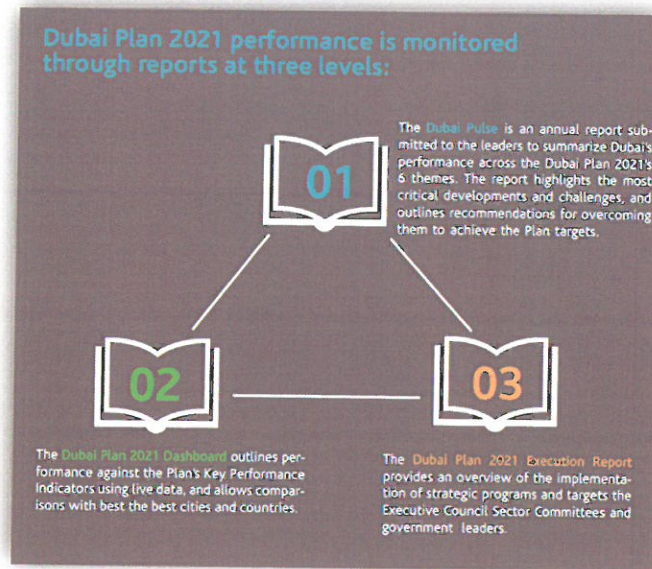
The plan addresses the urban environment including both natural and built assets, means of transportation, sources of energy and many other aspects. It looks at the living experiences of the people of Dubai and its visitors as a result of their interaction with the environment and the economic and social services provided. In addition, the plan also focuses on the future of the city from an economic perspective, which is the city's development engine and the fuel for its march forward.

Finally, the plan addresses the government as the custodian of city development in all aspects.

These perspectives were divided into six themes, each highlighting a group of strategic developmental aims for Dubai, and together forming the city's vision for 2021. They are summarised as follows:



The 6 themes and their 20 aims were detailed by defining more than 600 key performance indicators (KPIs) in various areas and over 600 programs to ensure the effective implementation of Dubai Plan 2021 and the achievement of its ambitious goals.



SMART DUBAI 2021

The Smart Dubai 2021 strategy is the city's answer to the forces of change that continue to shape our city. Continuing to prioritise people's happiness as its ultimate success indicator, Smart Dubai has announced an ambitious roadmap to prepare Dubai to embrace the future and emerge as a world-leading city by 2021, in celebration of the nation's golden jubilee, by promoting technological advances that benefit the city's people; its economy; and its resources. The Smart Dubai initiative structures its end-goals across a carefully crafted set of strategic pillars. These are:



CARBON ABATEMENT STRATEGY 2021

This Strategy sets the course of actions to be adopted by Dubai Government in order to manage Dubai's

GHG emissions until 2021. It aimed to reduce carbon emissions by 16% by 2021, which it has already exceeded with recorded emissions reduced by 19% by the end of 2018.

Dubai Paperless Strategy⁸

The Dubai Paperless Strategy aims to build a perfectly integrated paperless government framework, and an administration that sets solid plans and strategies to secure people's happiness and develop their communities to meet the requirements of the cities of the future. The strategy will eliminate over one billion papers annually used today in Dubai government transactions.

2.2 Awareness /Notable Sustainability Projects

Environmental Awareness⁹

Environmental awareness aims at developing the culture of the society regarding environment and promoting environmental behaviour of individuals, which helps to conserve and properly manage natural resources.

The bodies concerned with the environment protection organise educational campaigns at the emirate or federal level in coordination with the respective federal agency.

In recent years, environmental education has become one of the salient elements in curriculum development in the United Arab Emirates. Accordingly, efforts have been directed to include environmental content in school curricula and textbooks.

Therefore, Ministry of Education has been keen to incorporate the environmental dimension in school curricula of all stages, by addressing the environmental issues that affect student's environment, in order to open the way for discussion on sustainable solutions.

Projects across the UAE, whether at governmental, corporate or private levels, are gaining more and more attention. Having recognised the enormity of the carbon footprint caused by heavy industry and a construction boom, the nation is looking to address the eco-concerns head on.

Notable Initiatives on Smart and Sustainable Cities

DEWA is actively contributing to transform Dubai into the smartest, most sustainable and happiest city in the world.

⁸ <https://government.ae/en/about-the-uae/strategies-initiatives-and-awards/local-governments-strategies-and-plans/dubai-paperless-strategy>

⁹ <https://www.government.ae/en/information-and-services/environment-and-energy/environmental-protection#environmental-awareness>



SHAMS DUBAI

Shams Dubai was launched in 2015 to support the vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to make Dubai the smartest and happiest city in the world.

Shams Dubai encourages household and building owners to install grid connected photovoltaic systems at their premises, to generate green electricity from their solar panels, and feed any excess to the power grid under an attractive net metering scheme. As of 2019 year end 5,620 buildings have been connected under Shams Dubai, with a total installed capacity of 165.2 MW.

SMART APPLICATIONS VIA SMART GRID AND METERS

The Smart Applications through Smart Devices provides various benefits and new features to our customers, enabling them to have detailed information about their current and historical consumption, along with predictive analysis. The data obtained automatically through smart devices will be available for our customers to monitor and compare their actual consumption patterns for specific periods of time that will help them to ensure more sustainable consumption. DEWA has installed 374,216 electricity smart meters and 644,355 water smart meters as of 2018.

THE EV GREEN CHARGER

The Electric Vehicle (EV) Green Charger Initiative was launched in support of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's vision to make Dubai the smartest and happiest city in the world and to promote green transportation in the city.

In 2015, we developed and installed 100 EV Green Chargers in highly frequented areas across the city, such as government offices, airports, petrol stations, shopping malls, parks, commercial offices, clinics and hospitals,

residential complexes and tourist attractions. In 2018, DEWA doubled the number of charging stations from 100 to 200 stations, due to the successful uptake of electric vehicles in Dubai. To further encourage this shift in mindset, DEWA announced the incentive of free charging for electric vehicle owners registered in the Green Charger Initiative from 1st September 2017 to 31st December 2019.

Green week

Green Week, organised by DEWA on an annual basis, aims to raise awareness and promote a culture of environmental sustainability and conservation amongst various community segments. The Green Week serves as an overarching umbrella for environmental activities and events to promote green practices and instil a culture of conservation to create a better tomorrow for generations to come.

The event includes several key events including WETEX and World Green Economy Summit, and features a series of workshops and seminars. It also features a number of workshops and awareness activities and initiatives for all members of society to raise awareness on the importance of green practices. It will also host youth circles and lectures by international experts. It also features awareness voluntary campaigns, interactive sessions dedicated to People of Determination, meetings for entrepreneurs from both government and private sectors.

The Green Week is based on a vision to promote a culture of sustainability in society, while also instilling a culture of creativity and innovation among the younger generations, who are considered by the UAE's wise leadership as vital for anticipating and shaping the future. Green Week also focuses on developing young talents that will help shape a sustainable future for the energy sector, thereby supporting the national efforts to establish Dubai's and the UAE's leadership in the field of sustainable development.

MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM SOLAR PARK

The utilisation of solar energy constitutes an essential pillar of the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050. The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park is one of the major projects that DEWA implements to achieve this promising strategy, as well as the Shams Dubai initiative.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, is the largest single site solar park (in terms of capacity) in the world, and is based on the Independent Power Producer (IPP) model. The park will combine both photovoltaic and concentrated solar power (CSP) technologies to achieve a total planned capacity of 5,000 MW by 2030. Located in Seih Al Dahal, Dubai, the solar park will reduce over 6.5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions every year starting from 2030. The solar power projects that are currently operational at the Solar Park have a capacity of 713MW which were developed in phases. It has successfully adopted the Independent Power Producer (IPP) model.

The third phase of the solar park, with a capacity of 800MW using photovoltaic solar panels, recorded another world record in the cost of photovoltaic solar power for this phase of the solar park, at a Levelised Cost of Energy (LCOE) of USD 2.99 cents per kilowatt-hour. The first stage of the 800MW has a capacity of 200MW and became operational in May 2018. It uses unique technologies, including over 800,000 solar modules that use robots for cleaning to maintain efficiency. This stage provides more than 60,000 residences with electricity, reducing over 270,000 tonnes of carbon emissions every year. The second stage has a capacity of 300MW and has been operational since mid-August 2019. The third stage is under construction and will be operational by 2020

The fourth phase of the solar park is the largest single-site solar IPP project in the world that combines CSP and photovoltaic technology. This phase will use three technologies to produce 950MW of clean energy which will include a total of 700MW from CSP: 600MW from a parabolic basin complex and 100MW from a solar tower; as well as, 250MW from photovoltaic panels. This phase will provide clean energy for 320,000 residences and will reduce 1.6 million tonnes of carbon emissions a year

Recently, the fifth phase of the solar park was announced with a capacity of 900MW electricity using photovoltaic panels, which will increase the current total capacity under construction to 2,863MW, demonstrating DEWA's intent to reach its 5,000MW capacity target by 2030.

GREEN BUILDING REGULATION OR AL SA'FAT¹⁰

Dubai's Sa'fat is the latest initiative driving sustainable developments in the UAE, making it mandatory to keep "green" practices in mind when constructing new buildings. The Dubai Municipality's 'Green Buildings Specifications' first became mandatory for new government buildings back in 2011. Starting in March 2014 these standards became mandatory for developers for all new buildings. These regulations primarily focus on ensuring that the way buildings are constructed, and how they function after they are built, economizes consumption of resources and encourages the welfare of its inhabitants. The practice of these standards has meant sustainability considerations such as the use of solar reflective materials and the inclusion of 'green' elements such as including indigenous species of plants or living or 'green' walls as eco-friendly architectural elements.

2.3 UNGC UAE Local Network

This section covers the efforts of the previous UNGC UAE LN(2015 – 2018). Starting from April 2019 a new Board of Directors has been reelected relaunching the UNGC UAE LN with an updated strategy and number of initiatives.

¹⁰ <https://www.bayut.com/mybayut/sustainable-developments-initiatives-uae/>

Through its efforts, LN has increased participation by double and offered multiple capacity building opportunities to participants including COP Writing and methodologies on how to promote the SDGs. In 2017, the UNGC UAE Local Network held the UNGC Pioneer Awards for the first time, where over thirty applicants from across the UAE, put forward details of their commitment to sustainability and for achieving a better world. Other initiatives included the Women Empowerment Program (WEPs), the Youth Ambassador Program as well as the SDGs Pioneers.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a global strategy for achieving economic growth that is consistent with the planet's carrying capacity, society's basic needs and priorities, and the capabilities and stability of the economy. Achieving them will be both a unique opportunity and a profound challenge.

A long-term vision has been set out for the UAE to ensure that the country can achieve a sustainable trajectory in all aspects of its development and expansion. This vision has been encapsulated in a number of documents and plans, such as the UAE Vision 2021, the Dubai Plan 2021, and the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050.

A strong commitment to sustainability was also clearly articulated by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum when he set out his UAE Centennial 2071 plan in early 2017. He noted that: "Establishing a long-term strategy based on a vision for happy future generations will guarantee sustainable development and lasting joy for decades in our country."

3.1 The Approach¹¹

The UAE has played an instrumental role in formulating the UN's Agenda 2030, which outlines the 17 SDGs. We helped ensure that a consensus on the importance of sustainable development was a key outcome of the UN's Rio+20 Summit in 2012 and then worked with the global community for three years to institutionalise the goals for their formal adoption in 2015. Our concerted efforts made the UAE one of the first nations to join the global journey towards human prosperity via sustainability.¹²

In January 2017, UAE's National Committee on SDGs was formed by decree of the UAE Cabinet. Her Excellency Reem bint Ebrahim al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Chairwoman of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority (FCSA) chairs the National Committee. FCSA serves as vice-chair and secretariat for the Committee. The Ministry of Cabinet Affairs and The Future, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and 12 other Federal level government organisations are also members and are responsible for the national implementation for SDGs, monitoring and reporting of progress towards targets and

¹¹ UAE SDGs_Executive Summary_VNR2018

¹² <http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302715626>

stakeholder engagement. Members of the National Committee have a variety of sector specific and cross cutting roles to implement the SDGs.

In 2017, the National Committee's priorities were to map the SDG targets to UAE's federal and local development plans. A prioritization exercise for SDG targets was undertaken and dialogue to incorporate priority SDG targets in Cabinet's decision processes and the UAE government's performance management framework and statistical reporting processes was initiated. A countrywide effort to raise awareness of the SDGs and to engage with a range of stakeholders across federal and local government, the private sector, academia and civil society organizations, was launched.

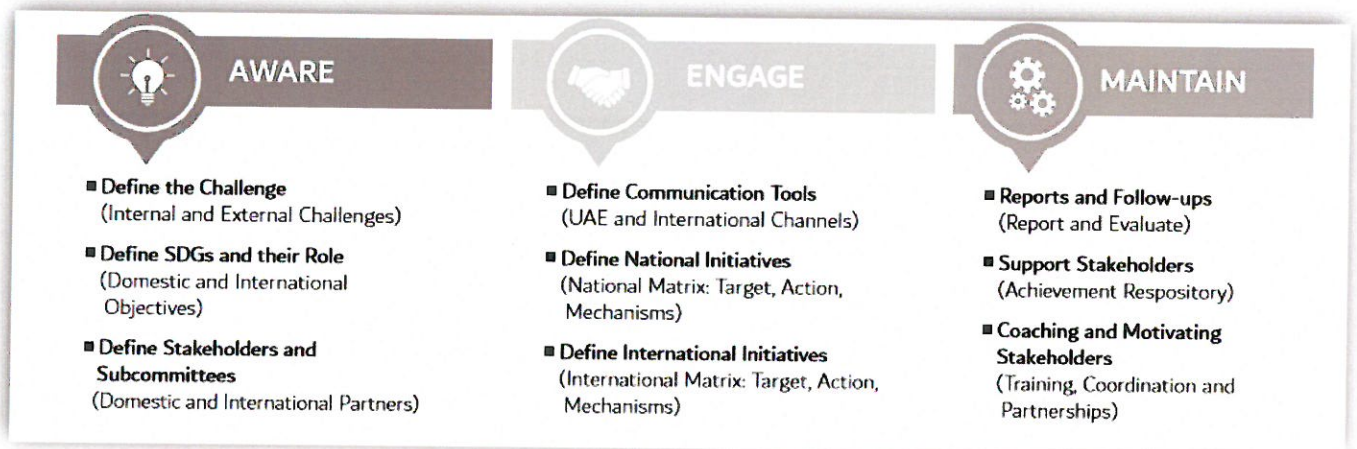
Mandate of the National Committee on SDGs

1. Align the SDGs with UAE's national development priorities and serve as a coordination body to implement the SDGs
2. Undertake regular follow up and review of progress on implementation
3. Manage domestic and international stakeholder engagement
4. Coordinate the collection of official statistics, identify new data sources and assist the National Statistics System to build capacity to monitor and report on SDG indicators
5. Manage adhoc SDG-related projects assigned by Cabinet

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The National Committee has developed an active engagement strategy to involve domestic and international stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs. The Committee's communication strategy is based on three principles: Make Aware, Engage and Maintain. The central idea is that the strategy should guide engagement with cross-sectoral stakeholders over the short-, medium- and long-term to ensure that there is momentum behind their combined efforts to achieve the SDGs.⁴ The National Committee has also been an active participant in international fora on sustainable development by participating or hosting high-profile events on data, policy and global partnerships and providing platforms to enhance global dialogue on the SDGs.

Principles of National Committee's Stakeholder Engagement Strategy



Mapping of SDGs to UAE's National Agenda



Mapping of SDGs to Dubai's development plan



UN World Data Forum 2018¹³

The UN World Data Forum 2018 was held on October 22-24, 2018 at Dubai and was hosted by the Federal Competitiveness and Statistical Authority of the UAE, with support from the Statistics Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

The UN World Data Forum is the most prominent event of its kind in the world with a primary focus on data and statistics. With its specialised discussion panels, the event presents a platform for exploring and enhancing the role of data and statistics in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 – most notably, food security, health and education.

The three-day Forum has been concluded with the launch of a Dubai Declaration to increase financing for better data and statistics for sustainable development.

During the Forum, the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority, FCSA, has announced the launch of the Private Sector Advisory Council, PSAC, a new body that aims to involve the private sector in helping UAE meet its United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs.

¹³ <http://wam.ae/en/details/1395302715626>

The 10 Principles

A great number of local and federal laws and regulations are in place and demonstrate Dubai's efforts and subsequent alignment to the UNGC's ten principles in a broad and all-encompassing manner.

The Executive Council established in 2003 and considered as the main decision-making government entity in Dubai, with regard to maintaining the city's security and order, providing public utilities and achieving economic and social progress in the city.

In 2017, Dubai was certified by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, a leading global network of cities committed to tackling climate change and protecting the planet. This is an acknowledgement of Dubai's strategy to reduce GreenHouse Gas (GHG) emissions that pose a threat to the climate worldwide. In September 2018, H.E Abdulla Al Basti, Secretary General of the Dubai Executive Council, representing Dubai, joined mayors of other cities around the world to take the C40 pledge that their cities will develop inclusive climate action plans by the end of 2020 to limit warming by 1.5 degrees Celsius and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Anti-Corruption

The UAE does not tolerate **corruption** in any way and makes everyone accountable for such deeds, whether in the private or public sector.

Articles 234-239 of the UAE Penal Code set provisions for anti-bribery and corruption and the consequences of the act made by any public officer.

Labour

The Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MOHRE) applies a strategic plan that seeks to transform the job market in the UAE into an empowering attractive market for Emirati talents. In addition, the Ministry seeks to realize its strategic plan that includes: empowering Emirati manpower; protecting the work environment; and enhancing the job market, while reinforcing innovation, and providing excellent services—including all administrative services—according to high standards of quality, efficiency, and transparency.

The Ministry is responsible for fulfilling the following key duties: proposing federal laws that regulate **labour and labour affairs** and supervise their implementation; managing the job market; proposing labour policies well-suited to the UAE.

The organizational structure of the MOHRE comprises of two major divisions: the human resources division that includes the labour affairs department, inspection affairs department and assistive labourers department; while

the second division is the Emiratization Division (Labour law 8-1980¹⁴). In addition, UAE has ratified a number of international labour agreements¹⁵.

Human Rights

Federal Decree Law No. 2 of 2015 on Combating **Discrimination** and Hatred criminalises any acts that promote religious hatred through any form of expression. It makes it illegal to discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of religion, caste, doctrine, race, colour or ethnic origin.

Throughout its history, the UAE has followed the principles of justice and equality, respect for **human rights**, humanitarian aid and relief action in line with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Since its inception, the UAE has ensured the founding of a tolerant and multi-cultural community in which individuals from across the world live in harmony, guaranteeing via its constitution their civil liberties

The UAE Constitution outlines the freedoms and rights of all citizens. It prohibits torture, arbitrary arrest and detention, and protects civil liberties, including freedom of speech and press, peaceful assembly and association, and the practice of religious beliefs. All people, irrespective of their race, nationality, religion and social position, are equal before the law.

Environment

Creating and maintaining a sustainable environment and infrastructure is a pillar of National Agenda in line with Vision 2021 as well as The Fifty-Year Charter.

The UAE Government wants to ensure sustainable development while preserving the environment, and to achieve a perfect balance between economic and social development.

Ministry of Climate Change and Environment is the federal authority for environmental planning and action in UAE. The ministry, in collaboration with the competent local authorities concerned with environment, work on developing environmental programmes and initiatives that aim to contribute to the sustainability of water, enhance food security, raise the rates of bio-security and enhance environmental security. The action plans of the ministry emerge from its vision to ensure sustainable environment for life.

The ministry also launched National Climate Change Plan of the UAE 2017–2050 (PDF) which serves as a roadmap to bolster nationwide actions for climate mitigation. Through this plan, the UAE will further strive to be at the frontline of global efforts to prove that climate action can go hand in hand with continuous economic

¹⁴ <https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/laws-legislation/labour-law.aspx>.

¹⁵ <https://www.mohre.gov.ae/en/laws-legislation/international-agreements.aspx>

development. The document serves as a complementary plan of action that specifically addresses climate change.¹⁶

Among the Emirates, Dubai has the most developed system of environmental regulations, requiring permits from the local municipality for activities relating to water usage (sewage/drainage, liquid waste) and to air pollution. The environmental standards imposed are closely monitored by the local municipality, which has the power to clean up at the polluter's expense, to enforce discontinuance of drainage or to cancel existing permits. Furthermore, the operator of a facility is required to perform monthly tests and to send the results to the municipality.¹⁷

Federal Law No 24 of 1999, for the Protection and Development of the Environment, provides the legislative framework for environmental regulation within the UAE. The key principles behind the law can be summarised as follows;

1. to protect and conserve the quality and natural balance of the environment;
2. to control all forms of pollution and avoid harmful immediate or long term adverse effect resulting from economic, agricultural, industrial, development programs aiming at improving standards of living;
3. to develop natural resources and conserve biological diversity;
4. to protect society and the health of human beings from activities and acts that impose harm to the environment;
5. to protect the UAE environment from the harmful effect of activities undertaken outside the state; and
6. to comply with international and regional conventions ratified or signed by the UAE in respect of the protection of the environment

Environmental Regulators in the Emirate of Dubai

The Environment Department of the Dubai Municipality is the relevant government authority which regulates and enforces the environmental regulations applicable in Dubai. The activities of businesses carrying out projects involving industrial uses, telecommunications, roads construction, well drilling and drainage services are closely monitored and regulated by the Environment Department so as to ensure their compliance with the regulations.

Various free zones within Dubai have their own regulatory arms which deal with environmental issues. For example, Trakhees has a regulatory department for Environment Health and Safety (known as EHS), which regulates and enforces rules and regulations related to environmental protection such as air and water quality,

¹⁶ <https://www.government.ae/en/information-and-services/environment-and-energy/environment-and-government-agenda>

¹⁷ <http://www.infoprod.co.il/country/uae2i.htm>

marine mammals, and 'landscaping' within a number of the free zones including Dubai Multi Commodities Centre, Dubai Media City and the Jebel Ali Free Zone.¹⁸

In Conclusion, the City of Dubai is working to ensure that all activities are transparent and beneficial to the city, the country and the international community. We are constantly monitoring our efforts, communicating on the challenges and achievements and reporting on the most important initiatives and results.¹⁹²⁰

¹⁸ <https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=7ad19d42-ea41-4bd9-9c57-08e2142ba10e>)

¹⁹ <https://www.dubaipulse.gov.ae/>

²⁰ <https://www.vision2021.ae/en/national-agenda-2021>