



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: April 2022

To: March 2024

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

27 March 2024

Dear Stakeholders,

I am pleased to reaffirm the support of the Al-Attiyah Foundation to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. As Managing Director of the Al-Attiyah Foundation, I present this Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact, that describes the actions that our organization has taken, in the past couple of years, in advancing the UN Global Compact Principles.

The growing stature of the Foundation on the international stage was perhaps best highlighted by our pavilion within the vaunted Blue Zone at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The important role of natural gas and hydrogen in the energy transition was underscored by industry leaders and global experts during impactful dialogue sessions and presentations throughout our month at the prestigious conference.

Our Chairman, His Excellency Al-Attiyah had the pleasure of hosting our annual flagship event - the Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attiyah International Energy Awards for Lifetime Achievement - in October 2022 and October 2023. More than 300 dignitaries attended the prestigious events where six exceptional individuals were recognized for lifetime achievements in their fields of work and policy. The winners were leaders of the highest calibre and have been inducted into the Foundation's Alumni. Furthermore, our commitment to fostering innovation and collaboration has led to several new partnerships and initiatives aimed at addressing pressing global challenges.

The information shared in this Communication on Engagement is also contained in our 2022 and 2023 Annual Reports, and we welcome our esteemed stakeholders to read the full Annual Reports on our website: www.abhafoundation.org

Yours sincerely,

Reda Ibrahim Ali
Managing Director
Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah International Foundation
For Energy and Sustainable Development

Part II. Description of Actions

The next four boxes below, summarise the relevant actions and activities that were undertaken by the Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah International Foundation, in support of the Global Compact.

In furtherance of its vision and mission, the programs and activities of the Foundation continued to be focused on three main categories: Publications; Events; and Partnership, support, and outreach. Our activities in all these three categories are related to the specific activities suggested for non-governmental and not-for-profit organizations within the UN Global Compact.

The highlights of our outputs over the reporting period are summarized below:

Publications

- Published twenty-four in-depth research papers on sustainability themes, under the following titles:
 - Jan 22 - Policy & Politics: The EU's Green Taxonomy
 - Feb 22 - Carbon Markets after COP26: A Price on Carbon
 - Mar 22 - The Role of the World's Forests in the Fight Against Climate Change
 - Apr 22 - The 2030 SDGs Voluntary National Reviews: Are They Enough?
 - May 22 - Invisible Menace: What Will it Take to Implement the Global Methane Pledge?
 - Jun 22 - Affordable & Clean Energy for All: The Energy Mix under SDG7
 - Jul 22 - Drying Up: Climate Change & Water Scarcity
 - Aug 22 - The Role of the Middle East in Global Climate Diplomacy
 - Sep 22 - Mind the Gap: Enhancing NDCs before COP27
 - Oct 22 - Technology and Climate Change
 - Nov 22 - The Just Transition To A World Powered By Sustainable Energy
 - Dec 22 - COP27: Taking Stock
 - Jan 23 - The Impact of High Interest Rates on Sustainable Investments
 - Feb 23 - Agri-Pv: Harvesting Agriculture and Solar Energy for a Sustainable Future
 - Mar 23 - The Implications of Cross-Border Carbon Taxes on Geopolitics and International Trade
 - Apr 23 - Renewable Energy Investments in Times of Geopolitical Crisis
 - May 23 - Green Hydrogen Opportunities for the Gulf Region
 - Jun 23 - Energy Efficiency in High-Rise Buildings in Desert Climates
 - Jul 23 - The Role of Natural Gas – Transition Fuel or Part of the Long-Term Global Energy Mix?
 - Aug 23 - Compliance and Voluntary Carbon Markets – What Are the Fault Lines?
 - Sep 23 - Strategic Approach to the Implementation of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement in the MENA Region
 - Oct 23 - The Importance of Regional Cooperation for Climate Change Adaptation and Building Resilience
 - Nov 23 - What Will the Second UNFCCC COP in the Gulf Region Deliver?
 - Dec 23 - COP28 Unpacked: Assessing Outcomes and Shaping the Climate Policy Agenda
- Published in-depth research papers on energy themes. The titles of the monthly publications related to renewable energy were:
 - Charging Up: E-Mobility and The Future of ICE Vehicles
 - Emissions Reporting of International Oil Companies
 - The Future of Offshore Renewables
 - GCC SWFs as Enablers of the Energy Transition

Events

- During the period covered in this report, the Foundation produced and published podcasts, hosted CEO Roundtables, Webinars, and other joint events with partners. Examples of these events are listed below:
 - Podcast with Marc-Antoine Eyl-Mazzega, the Director of the Centre for Energy at the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI).
 - Podcast with Joel Couse, Special Advisor to the International Energy Agency (IEA).
 - Podcast with Joumana Hosri, Board Member of the Fernand Hosri Group.
 - Podcast with Professor Graham Weale, Professor of Energy Economics, the Ruhr University, Bochum.
 - Podcast with Professor Giacomo Luciani, Adjunct Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.
 - Podcast with Professor Fadwa Eljack, Professor Department of Chemical Engineering, Qatar University (QU).
- ◆ CEO Roundtable on Anticipated Energy Scenarios in a Net-Zero World
- ◆ CEO Roundtable on Are Volatile Energy Markets Slowing the Energy Transition?
- ◆ CEO Roundtable on Hydrogen Technology - From Strategy to Delivery
- ◆ CEO Roundtable on The Year That Was – Reflecting on 2023 and Plotting Climate Action in 2024
- ✓ Webinar on Net-Zero Targets Closer Than We Think: Is the Energy Sector on the Right Track?
- ✓ Webinar on LNG Now a Global Fuel in Response to Volatile Markets
- ✓ Webinar on The Hydrogen Rainbow – Looking Beyond the Colours
- ✓ Webinar on COP28 Outcomes: Shaping the Global Energy Landscape for a Sustainable Future
- Co-hosted a climate change prevention and sustainable energy workshop with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Qatar. The two-day function, titled 'Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and Climate Finance Mechanisms' and held in Doha, brought together a diverse assembly of 200 delegates and visitors from around the world to examine the opportunities and challenges surrounding the strategic implementation of Article 6, particularly in the context of the State of Qatar and the MENA Region.
- Acted as Knowledge Partner with Qatar's Gulf Organization for Research and Development, and Birba Energy, for the CCUS Forum, a landmark gathering of world leaders, policymakers, scientists, and industry experts. The Forum, held over three days in Doha in May 2023, focused on fostering international collaboration and accelerating the deployment of Carbon, Capture, Utilisation and Storage to address the urgent challenges posed by climate change.
- Co-hosted an educational workshop on Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) with Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ) in Doha. The one-day event, titled 'Workshop on Building Capacity for ESG in Qatar Free Zones', assembled a diverse cohort of delegates to meticulously explore the opportunities and challenges associated with integrating effective ESG strategies into businesses operating within the free zones in Qatar.
- Hosted impactful dialogue sessions and presentations at the Al-Attiyah Foundation pavilion at the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai. Further details of the activities that took place at the pavilion are provided in the next box below.

Partnership, Support and Outreach

The various events/activities hosted at the Al-Attiyah Foundation Pavilion at COP28, encapsulated the Foundation's commitment to continue to strengthen its partnership, support, and outreach, to stakeholders and organisations with similar vision.

The Foundation's pavilion, located in the Blue Zone, brought together an array of specialists to discuss pertinent energy and sustainability topics for large audiences attending in-person and online. The discussions and presentations were livestreamed on the Foundation's social media channels and focused on the following themes:

- Net-Zero Targets and the Energy Transition
- Deconstructing the Legal Elements of Carbon Credits
- Hydrogen Delivery
- Energy Transition - Connecting Discussion in the GCC and Asia
- What is the key for just transition in Japan? collaboration with ASEAN and GCC
- Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ), Green Finance
- Natural Gas for Sustainable Development
- The Nexus of Climate Change and Water Security
- The Biggest Blindspot in Global Climate Discussions

The important role of natural gas and hydrogen in the energy transition were highlighted by industry leaders and global experts during impactful dialogue sessions and presentations at the Al-Attiyah Foundation pavilion in the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai.

The Foundation was able to bring together an array of specialists to discuss the above pertinent energy and sustainability topics for large audiences attending in-person and online.

During an enlightening discussion on the role of natural gas in combating climate change, distinguished speakers agreed that producers have a pivotal role to play as countries around the world strive to meet net-zero targets. It was noted that natural gas is versatile, serving as an energy source for all sectors, including heating, cooking, and industrial applications, and produces far fewer greenhouse gas emissions than coal, emitting about half the CO₂.

Experts also explained that in the short to medium term, and in conjunction with renewables and carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS), new natural gas developments can complement the decarbonisation of the energy sector. CCUS is a suite of technologies to capture CO₂ from carbon-emitting processes and to store it safely for the long term in underground rock formations or convert it into useful products or stable minerals.

According to a United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) report, CCUS offers a real prospect for natural gas to work with renewable energy sources on decarbonisation, helping to address the problem of how to cope with hard-to-abate emissions from heavy industry, notably steel, cement, and petrochemicals.

On the fourth day four of COP28, the Foundation welcomed experts from Texas A&M University and ERM to share their expert insights on hydrogen and its role in the energy mix in the coming decades. The experts highlighted that, Hydrogen, the lightest and most abundant element in the universe, can be used for a wide range of applications, including power generation, energy storage, and transportation (particularly heavy transportation such as shipping and trucking).

Media Outreach

Insightful articles from the Foundation are regularly published by the major national print and online media, as shown by the following examples of media clippings:

Ukraine war could accelerate adoption of renewable energy

TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK

THE Russia-Ukraine conflict may accelerate the march towards decarbonisation despite concerns the war could put the issue on the back-burner, the Al-Attiah Foundation has said in its latest Energy Industry report titled 'Implications of COP26 on the Fuel Mix'.

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP26), held in Glasgow in late 2021, was badly delayed by a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and expectations for substantive results, such as 'bringing coal to history' and increasing climate finance to support climate action in the least developed countries, were high.

After frenetic last-minute negotiations, diplomats from nearly 200 countries struck a major agreement aimed at intensifying efforts to fight climate change. Pledges which drew the most attention were the phase-down of coal and fossil fuel subsidies, end of international financing for fossil fuels, accord on zero-emissions vehicles, global methane reductions, and the financial alliance for net zero.

However, since Russia launched its "special military operation" in Ukraine on February 24 and the subsequent sanctions by the United States and its allies, fears surrounding energy security and rising oil prices have resurfaced globally.

Soon after the conflict began, one of Europe's largest importers of Russian oil, Germany, from plans for the opening of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline and the US and UK announced it was halting Russian oil. In May further sanctions were announced with the European Union confirming it will



Wind energy and solar turbines are part of the Energiewende in Germany.

phase out imports of Russian oil in six months and refined products by the end of 2022.

The price of crude oil soared from \$80 per barrel on February 23 to \$119 on March 4 and despite some drawdowns in April, the price on May 11 stood at \$115. Gas prices, which are indexed to the global oil price, have also

risks after the conflict began, one of Europe's largest importers of Russian oil, Germany, from plans for the opening of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline and the US and UK announced it was halting Russian oil. In May further sanctions were announced with the European Union confirming it will

they are no longer simply depend on imported fossil fuels, which may drive a shift away from fossil fuels altogether.

The crisis has reinforced Germany's determination to get off fossil fuels entirely, and to accelerate the Energiewende - the clean-energy transition it began some 30 years ago.

Germany's new government has presented what it calls the "biggest energy policy reform in decades" to massively increase the build-out of renewable energies. The legislation includes plans to give up coal entirely by 2030, eight years

earlier than the target set by the previous government. It now aims for Germany to get 60 percent of its electricity from renewable energy by then, up from the previous 48 percent.

Elsewhere, French President Emmanuel Macron, during his election campaign, pledged that France would be "the first major nation to

phase out imports of Russian oil in six months and refined products by the end of 2022. The price of crude oil soared from \$80 per barrel on February 23 to \$119 on March 4 and despite some drawdowns in April, the price on May 11 stood at \$115. Gas prices, which are indexed to the global oil price, have also

they are no longer simply depend on imported fossil fuels, which may drive a shift away from fossil fuels altogether.

The crisis has reinforced Germany's determination to get off fossil fuels entirely, and to accelerate the Energiewende - the clean-energy transition it began some 30 years ago.

Germany's new government has presented what it calls the "biggest energy policy reform in decades" to massively increase the build-out of renewable energies. The legislation includes plans to give up coal entirely by 2030, eight years

10 | BUSINESS

Are electric cars our future?

THE DENVILLE - DENVILLE

One can be forgiven for believing that electric vehicles (EVs) are a new phenomenon, but the story starts long before Tesla's first car hit the streets in 2008. William Morrison, an eccentric chemist from Des Moines, Iowa, tinkered away in a secret basement laboratory he called "the cave" for years and in 1890 showed the result of his self-imposed solitude, the first practical self-powered four-wheeled electric carriage. The six-passenger vehicle was capable of a top speed of 14 miles per hour and was little more than an electrified wagon, but his breakthrough helped usher in the first golden age for EVs.

Over the next few years, electric vehicles from different automakers began popping up across the US.

New York City even had a fleet of more than 60 electric taxis. By 1900, electric cars were at their heyday, accounting for around a third of all vehicles on the road.

However, their slow speed, heavy batteries, and Ford's mass-produced Model T dealt severe blows to the electric car industry. Introduced in 1908, the Model T made petrol-powered cars widely available and affordable. By the 1920s, the US had a better system of road connecting cities and with the discovery of Texas crude oil, petrol became cheap and readily available for rural Americans.

Despite a number of false dawns in the 20th century, including General Motors' impressive yet commercially unviable EVI car in the mid-1990s, public interest in electricity-powered cars didn't



Over the next few years, electric vehicles from different automakers began popping up across the U.S.

return until the early 2000s when concerns over carbon emissions started to intensify and a small Silicon Valley start-up, Tesla Motors, announced they would start producing a luxury electric sports car that could go more than 200 miles on a single charge.

Tesla's subsequent success and the global push to net-zero carbon emissions has changed the motor industry irrevocably. General Motors has said it aims to stop selling new gasoline-powered cars and light trucks by 2035 and will pivot to battery-powered models. In 2021, Volvo said it would move even faster and introduce an all-electric line up by 2030.

But as electric cars and trucks go mainstream once more, they have faced a persistent question: How green are they? Broadly speaking, most electric cars sold today tend to produce significantly fewer planet-warming emissions than cars fuelled with petrol.

However, a lot depends on how much coal is being burned to charge up plug-in vehicles.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are higher for EVs in "year zero" of owning one due to the emissions associated with manufacturing their batteries but the excess carbon debt can be paid off depending on where the break-even point for the carbon debt break-even of an EV compared to a conventional internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle can be predicted by considering a Nissan Leaf EV in the UK, one of the highest efficiency EVs available on the market today, emitting 76 grams of carbon dioxide equivalent (gCO₂e/km), some 36 lower than the lifetime emissions of an average conventional car.

While the production of the battery would result in a carbon debt in "year zero" of owning the Nissan Leaf, it charged with the UK's average electricity carbon intensity over the last two years of 223 gCO₂e/kWh for year zero and gradual improvement towards a 2030 target of 100 gCO₂e/kWh, this

would be paid back after less than two years of driving.

However, in countries with much higher grid carbon intensities, the payback period is much later. For example, in China, which had an average grid carbon intensity of 511 gCO₂e/kWh in 2021, a Nissan Leaf would pay back its excess carbon debt in 7 years.

The good news for EVs is that most countries are now pushing to clean up their electric grids. In the United States, utilities have retired hundreds of coal plants over the last decade and shifted to a mix of lower-emissions natural gas, wind, and solar power. As a result, electric vehicles are getting cleaner like many other batteries, the lithium-ion (Li-ion) cells that power most EVs rely on raw materials such as lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements that have been linked to grave environmental and human rights concerns.

Lithium mining in Chile and Argentina has faced criticism as the element is found in salt deserts called salars.

Al-Attiah Foundation hosts natural gas session at COP27

Global experts examined the future of natural gas in the energy mix during an event hosted by the Al-Attiah Foundation at the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh on Monday.

The session titled 'Natural gas: Does it have a role in the energy transition?' featured panellists Dr Chris Gentile, senior adviser, (Partnerships and New Ventures) at the World Energy Council; Lorna Ritchie, director, Global Counsel; and Dr John Kilani, from the Foundation's Directorate of Sustainability. The lively debate was moderated by broadcast journalist and Reuters Editor-at-Large, Axel Threlfall, and explored how natural gas has been replacing coal in societal functions such as electricity generation and space heating in the western world for decades.

It was highlighted that coal consumption in both the US and the UK has dropped significantly in recent years. Coal use in the US is down by half from 15 years ago; 500 coal power plants have closed or are scheduled to and in 2021 coal consumption amounted to 10.8% of the country's total energy consumption, the lowest amount since 1964.

Most of the lost US coal capacity was replaced by natural gas, with additional contributions from renewables. In the UK, the birthplace of the industrial revolution, coal-fired electricity has almost disappeared and now supplies only 5% of power.



Global experts examined the future of natural gas in the energy mix during an event hosted by the Al-Attiah Foundation at the COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh on Monday.

In both countries, the replacement of coal by natural gas and renewables is reducing both CO₂ emissions and air pollution from particulates, mercury, sulphur, and lead - saving lives as a result.

The panel observed that the implementation of the Paris Agreement is an evolutionary journey, that will involve big and small incremental steps. Increasing ambitions, in terms of the Paris Agreement requires a commitment to transform the way energy is produced, transported, and used globally; and the experts are of the view that natural gas has a major role to play in the push for energy transition. Also because of its versatility, natural gas, as the cleanest fossil fuel, has the best prospect for synergy with renewables, when compared to coal and oil.

Although natural gas produces less CO₂ than coal, it still causes carbon pollution, and therefore slows, but does not solve, the climate problem. During the dialogue it was stressed that to meet targets set in the Paris Agreement, natural gas should be used in conjunction with low carbon technologies and that natural gas plants are carbon capture ready. Electricity plants, of whatever fuel, are probably the best examples of where to install carbon capture. The carbon dioxide generated from electricity plants are usually concentrated in the post combustion phase of burning, making carbon capture feasible. However, the number of such plants utilising carbon capture worldwide, is still relatively small, only in the tens of thousands, and this needs to be addressed.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

The box below contains the most relevant qualitative and/or quantitative indicators that highlight the outcomes achieved for some of the activities described in Part II above.

Highlights of Publications and Events in Numbers

In the 2-year period covered by this report, the Foundation continued to produce industry leading content from in-depth reports, topical articles, podcasts and much more. In total, the following numbers of Foundation's publications were posted on its social channels and sent directly to its members, senior policymakers, and the wider community, in Qatar and globally:

- Approximately 500 editions of Daily News Flash (DNF).
- More than 90 editions of Weekly Energy Market Review (WEMR).
- 50 Articles and Press Releases.
- 24 copies of monthly Energy Report.
- 24 copies of monthly Sustainable Development report.
- 25 Podcasts.
- 8 Webinars.
- 8 White Papers.

Table 1 – Social Media Statistics

Item	Twitter	LinkedIn	YouTube	Cumulative
Posts	250	250	60	560
Total Followers	5,421	19,393	1,242	26,056
New Followers	3,035	11,772	1,051	15,858
Impressions	34,141,372	4,232,588	5,341,786	43,715,746*

*Key Statistics – In the 2-year period (2022-2023) covered in this report, the impressions across all platforms grew by a whopping **40,063,684** as compared to the 2020-2021 period of the previous report.

Figure 1 – Growth in followers across all social media platforms

