

GLOBAL COUNCILS ON SDGS 2021/23

PROGRESS REPORT

FEBRUARY 2023

Redesigning the Future of Our World:
2030 Principles and Beyond





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Cross-sector and cross-border partnerships, volunteerisms for SDGs, championing efforts and advocating to leave no one behind, are collective actions the world require to accelerate the Decade of Action. The half-way point of the Global Councils on SDGs 2021/2023, highlights the magnitude of accelerating the implementation of the SDGs and their impact – to redesign the future of humanity.

Her Excellency Reem bint Ebrahim Al Hashimy

Minister of State for International Cooperation
Chairwoman of the UAE National Committee on SDGs
President of the Global Councils on SDGs

The Global Councils on Sustainable Development Goals

The Global Councils on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were established during the 2018 World Government Summit held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The Global Councils on Sustainable Development Goals is a unique interdisciplinary network of decision makers from governments, international organizations, academia, charitable organizations, and the private sector, which will work together to oversee innovative projects and discuss creative ideas towards the implementation of the 17 SDGs at national and global levels. The Councils will create global partnerships to build back better in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in line with the Decade of Action. The Councils will each contribute to the SDG Acceleration Actions to inspire action around the world towards promoting the implementation of the SDGs. The Councils will analyze, conceptualize, implement, measure impact, and report on progress, at the World Government Summit - SDGs in Action on an annual basis.

The 'Decade of Action' necessitates transformation. The implementation of a new 'nexus model' that supports the Councils to better interconnect their work programs, will accelerate actions towards achieving the SDGs. In this term, the focus will move to a nexus model ensuring an impact-driven approach that will support the Global Councils to address different Global Goals in a single project, with the exception of a selection of Councils who are continuing first term projects and endeavors.


A soft launch of the Global Councils on SDGs 2021/2023 took place in September 2021. Since the soft launch, Council Chairpersons has been working towards appointing high profile members to their respective Councils. The Councils aim to work on creating new partnerships between countries, organizations, and sustainable development advocates for the implementation of SDGs through the discussion of innovative solutions, and integration of their findings into the United Nations and other global fora on SDGs.


The second term of the Global Councils on SDGs (2021-2023) will have 17 Councils drive impact towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through innovative projects, whitepapers, or initiatives to rebuild sustainably in a post COVID-19 world.

The objective of the progress report is to centralize all efforts from the Global Councils on SDGs 2021/23, whilst providing a high-level mid-term overview of the respective focus areas, objectives, milestones, potential impact and measures.




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 His Excellency **Omar bin Sultan Al Olama**
Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence,
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Director General of the UAE Prime Minister's Office,
Managing Director of the World Government Summit Organization


 His Excellency **Abdulla Nasser Lootah**
Deputy Minister of Cabinet Affairs for Competitiveness
and Experience Exchange,
Chairman of the Competitiveness Council
Vice-President of the Global Councils on SDGs


The Global Councils on SDGs 2021 to 2023 Chairpersons:

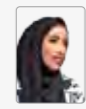
 **HE Suhail bin Mohamed Al Mazrouei**
Minister of Energy and Infrastructure
United Arab Emirates


 **Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin**
Executive Director,
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Co-Chairperson on Global Council SDG 3

 **Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab**
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 **HE Dr. Tariq Al Gurg**
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 **HE Mona Al Marri**
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 **HE Francesco La Camera**
Director General of International
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 **Ibrahim N. Al-Zu'bi**
Senior Vice President
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ADNOC


 **Hon. Rt. Helen Clark**
The 37th Prime Minister of New Zealand,
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Programme


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Corporate and Investment
Banking (SGCIB)


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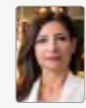
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*Disclaimer: The report is published based on the content developed by the Global Councils on SDGs Chairpersons, in collaboration with the Vice Chairpersons, Youth Members and Members. We thank the Global Councils on SDGs for their continued support and commitment to accelerate the implementation of the Decade of Action.



Global Council on SDG 1



Today we are at critical crossroads as the COVID-19 pandemic has caused major setbacks for achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs). With the SDGs already off-track even prior to the pandemic, the road to recovery is steeper than ever. We are now facing critical diversions as Advanced Economies were in a better position to respond to the pandemic compared to Emerging Market and Developing Economies who were fiscally constrained. To bring the SDGs back on track, national budgets need to include SDGs priorities while, at the same time, consistent and coordinated efforts to foster partnerships to achieve the SDGs should be intensified.

Mahmoud Mohieldin

Executive Director, IMF, and Special Envoy on Financing SDGs, UN

Background of the Council's Work Plan

The Council has been monitoring progress made on SDG 1 and proposing policies and measures for governments and development partners to deal with extreme poverty, while determining the interlinkages between SDG 1 and the rest of the goals. In its second term, the SDG 1 will continue to drive impact around the world and support the Decade of Action in the implementation and acceleration of the SDGs, including in relation to the links between ending poverty and climate change, and ending poverty while maximizing the benefits of digital transformations.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

The Council will aim to produce two succinct policy-oriented notes: one on the "Economic implications of climate change, managing the transition, and ending poverty" and the other on "maximizing the economic benefits of digital transformation to end poverty."

Key Milestones Achieved

- Report: "A Transition Approach to Poverty and Climate Finance: The Missing Link to Implementation". Presented at the COP27 event Applicable Knowledge for Climate and Development, Nov 22, 2022.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

A series of presentations, panels/events and blogs discussing the conclusions of the report: "A Transition Approach to Poverty and Climate Finance: The Missing Link to Implementation" (for example at the OECD-DAC Community of Practice on Poverty and Inequality in March, blog post on OECD DAC Development Matters website, panel at COP28, etc.

Expectations Towards COP 28

Further discussions on the report: "A Transition Approach to Poverty and Climate Finance: The Missing Link to Implementation".

Media engagements

The report: "A Transition Approach to Poverty and Climate Finance: The Missing Link to Implementation" will be disseminated in social media once the final publication adjustments have been made.

Global Council on SDG 3

In collaboration with the Global Councils on SDGs – Finance Advisory Board, with a Health Financing Working Group



The platform enabled a unique space to consider unique progress and challenges for regaining momentum towards SDG3, especially by looking at the structural constraints to scaling innovations. The constraints may not only be finance, but other policy, regulatory, and technical barriers.

Dr Muhammad Pate

Julio Frenk Professor of the Practice of Public Health Leadership, Harvard, co-chairperson of the SDG 3 Global Council



Health is a fundamental human right and Universal Health Coverage is fundamental in achieving that right. Unfortunately, even before COVID19, the world was off track to achieving UHC and SDG 3 overall, which is even more the case today. Strengthening health systems, based on strong PHC with essential public health functions is our main solution for recovery and building forward: to accelerate progress towards UHC; to build resilience for health systems and health security; and to access quality services for health and wellbeing in an integrated way in our everyday environment. The SDG 3 Council will add momentum with global advocacy to these efforts and therefore we are delighted to launch the work plan today for the next 2 years.

Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab

Deputy Director-General of the World Health Organization, co-chairperson of the SDG 3 Global Council

Background of the Council's Work Plan

In this term, the council will focus on expanding the scope and scale of the innovations to reach those left furthest behind to put health and well-being in the hands of communities, evaluating progress, and encouraging course-corrections and promoting policy, regulatory and financial enablers for their adoption at scale. In addition, to share the insights and lessons learned from the work of our council through a white paper at the end of our term.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Global advocacy and building momentum

- Universal Health Coverage, service coverage, quality, and financial protection.
- Resilient health systems based on PHC, with stronger public health functions and improved preparedness.
- Population health (with all the prevention, promotion, protection elements).

Catalyzing the uptake and scale up of innovations

- Relieving structural constraints for governments and public institutions to buy-in and take innovations to scale.
- Adopting & sustaining innovations (Health In Your Hands – HIYH – and beyond).

Knowledge and learning

- Generating insights and sharing knowledge to mobilize political commitment and action in countries.

Key Milestones Achieved

- Working group on identifying and relieving structural constraints (politics, policies, laws and regulations, procurement procedures, financing, or other) to scaling innovations, with the aim to make progress in alignment with the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Action Plan (GAP) and its Accelerators.
- Participated in three international events World Promotion Conference Dec 2021, Dubai Health Form 2022, World Government Summit 2022. The aim is to align Global Council SDG 3 members participation at key events on the roadmap to the United Nations High Level Meetings for Universal Health Coverage 2021–2023.
- Target public and private fora connected with World Global Summit hosted by UAE.
- Assist to make HIYH and other innovations financially sustainable and scaled up.
- Major volume entitled, “Resilient Health: Leveraging Technology and Social Innovations to Transform Healthcare for COVID-19 Recovery and Beyond” – It includes a chapter which is dedicated to the United Arab Emirates: Healthcare innovation and leadership: The case of the United Arab Emirates. (Currently in press with the preeminent publishing house Elsevier).



Contributing Authors/Members from Global Councils on SDG 3:

- Dr. Mohammed Pate, Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab: “State of the World in Health Today”.
- Mariam Claeson et al.: Cities RISE: A transdisciplinary, youth-centered approach to scale social innovations in mental health and well-being locally and globally.
- Roopa Dhatt et al.: Women, Health and Innovation.
- Annie Theriault, co-author: (1) Models to Scale Healthcare Technologies for Low- and Middle-Income Countries and (2) Financing Instruments for Innovators to Scale Health Innovations in Low- and Middle-Income Countries for LMICs.
- Judy Kuriansky: several chapters.
- Pradeep Kakkattil: several chapters.

Impact and Measurements to Date

Hastening the development and expansion of the reach and depth of innovations to increase access and quality of services by those left furthest behind to improve their health and well-being. Southern and Eastern Africa through scaling up the following innovations and more:

- **VILLAGE REACH:** Transforming public health supply chains to remote areas for better PHC services and products: Last mile delivery - Drones for health - Health Centre by phone - Vaccine deliveries - Transitioning to government. (<https://www.villagereach.org/>)
[Impact: Over 46 million people have improved access to healthcare.]
- **LAST MILE HEALTH:** Networks of digitally empowered community and frontline health workers bringing primary health services to people living far from care. (<https://lastmilehealth.org/>)
[Impact: Support, training, information systems and digital tools provided to 8,300 remote frontline primary health workers.]
- **HEALTHY ENTREPRENEURS:** Last mile distribution models for quality medicines and other services through a community health entrepreneurs franchise model. Currently mapping new markets to fit the model. (<https://www.healthyentrepreneurs.nl/>)
[Impact: There are now 5,000 community health entrepreneurs who are reaching 6.2 million people, in remote areas, with primary health care services and products.]

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

- Published book: “Resilient Health: Leveraging Technology and Social Innovations to Transform Healthcare for COVID-19 Recovery and Beyond”.
- Contribution to the Lancet Commission on the Future of Health and Economic Resilience in Africa (FHARA).
- Scaled up innovations in partnership with HIYH innovations. (Examples mentioned above)

Expectations Towards COP 28

The Global Councils on SDG 3 has established a collaboration and is assessing opportunities to build synergies with the WHO-led Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH). The ATACH was established in June 2022 to support the over 60 countries having committed at Minister of Health level to the COP26 Health initiatives on climate resilient and low carbon sustainable health systems.

The ATACH is politically convened by the UK and Egypt as presidents of COP26 and COP27.

The Global Council on SDGs 3, in collaboration with the WHO, is in discussion with the Presidency of COP28. The aim is to agree to host the first Health Day under their Presidency Programme in COP28. In addition, the WHO is seeking UAE’s agreement, to convene the ATACH from July 2023.

Opportunities for collaboration could be around using the ATACH as forum for innovations in resilience, low carbon healthcare (including telemedicine) etc. The work by the Global Councils on SDGs 3 could be showcased within the Health Day at COP28.

Global Council on SDG 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



Sustainable development for people and planet is our only hope as humans to unlock a prosperous future, and this can be achieved through an education ecosystem that is powered by a whole-of-society approach and built on multi-stakeholder partnership - an ecosystem that can play a central role in driving progress across our global priorities and agendas.

The accomplishments of the Global Council on SDG4, including the launch of the Framework for Global Education Transformation at the World Government Summit 2022 and the unveiling of the Rewiring Education for People and Planet report at the United Nations General Assembly 2022, offer a solid roadmap to address the key challenges facing humanity today. As we look ahead, we must continue to recognize the interconnectedness of global crises as an opportunity to deliver collective impact for our current and future generations.

HE Dr. Tariq Al Gurg

Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman of Dubai Cares

Background of the Council's Work Plan

The world today stands before several critical realities. Hundreds of millions of children are dropping out of school, with their numbers continuing to rise especially among those in crisis settings, girls and children with disabilities. Even prior to COVID-19, the world was not on track to achieve SDG4 with 258 million children not in school and 617 million not learning and more than half of all young people not on track to have basic reading and math skills by 2030.

Realizing a prosperous and sustainable future necessitates a complete transformation in how we think about progress for people and planet. Education lies at the heart of this transformation and is a central force in shaping thinking, doing and acting. Yet, for education to reclaim its place as a critical enabler for humanity's future, a complete rewiring of education and its position at the heart of ambitions for people and planet needs to take place. The Global Council on SDG4's workplan has set out to address the need for rewiring education and its global positioning as a driver for global human development, through a continuation of the legacy of RewirEd as a pioneering convener of new and unlikely allies to rethink, disrupt and rewire education.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Building on the legacy of RewirEd as a catalyst for education transformation, the Global Council on SDG4 aims to accelerate progress towards the transformation of education systems in countries and on a global scale through the development and operationalization of the Framework for Global Education Transformation which will catalyze education transformation based on a new system of partnerships and participation of new education actors, so that each community, city or country can adopt, adapt, customize and transform their systems in ways that meet their aspirations. The Framework calls for a transformation of curriculum and pedagogy rooted in a prioritization of children and youth acquiring the four core pillars of life which are: Values, Skills, Knowledge, and Experiences which will be essential in their journey towards becoming humans of the future.



Key Milestones Achieved

To date, the SDG4 council has achieved critical milestones contributing to education transformation for individual countries and at the global level, in collaboration with in-country education stakeholders and through global mechanisms including the Transforming Education Summit.

1. Launch of the Framework for Global Education Transformation at the World Government Summit – March 2022.
2. The Framework for Global Education Transformation published as the only non-UN technical document on the [Transforming Education Summit knowledge hub website](#) – April 2022.
3. The Framework for Global Education Transformation used as a core guiding document in country consultations for the Transforming Education Summit – June – September 2022.
4. Launch of the [Rewiring Education for People and Planet report](#) at the UN Transforming Education Summit (TES), providing a concrete, solutions-focused roadmap for transforming ways of working across sectors and stakeholders to seize win-win opportunities and realize education transformation together with the wider development agenda – September 2022.
5. Design of the Global Education Accelerator: a proposed multi-partner and multi-sectoral mechanism, integrated within the TES follow up structure led by UNESCO, and working to generate country-led, collaborative, and evidence-based solutions to enable agile collective action towards achieving commitments and calls to action made at the Transforming Education Summit– October 2022.
6. The Framework for Global Education Transformation [represented at COP27](#) as an approach for collaborative action to integrate education and climate in national agendas to achieve global education transformation – November 2022.
7. Design of a strategy for leading the education sector in catalyzing action and operationalizing solutions for transforming education and climate change action at COP28, where the Council on SDGs will unite climate and education actors to contribute towards global goals for climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience through rewired education systems – November–December 2022.

Impact and Measurements to Date

- The Framework for Global Education Transformation was endorsed by global education mechanisms, NGOs, and country governments. It served as a core guiding tool for countries during the TES National Consultations, and was extensively referenced across National Consultation Reports outlining individual nation’s planned paths for transforming education. It also informed global discussions and proposed solutions for education transformation through featuring in the Discussion Paper for TES Action Track 2 on “Learning and skills for life, work, and sustainable development”.
- The Rewiring Education for People and Planet report was unveiled by Dubai Cares, in collaboration with the Education Commission, on Solutions Day at the Transforming Education Summit (TES). The Report captures key recommendations for rewiring education extracted from discussion and insights shared during the RewirEd Summit at EXPO 2020, and offers six concrete “win-win” solutions that promote a cross-sectoral ecosystem approach to align thinking and action for transformational education outcomes and to further achieve progress across the SDGs. This report is contributing concrete and immediate actions that can be taken to support the five Action Tracks and broader outcomes of the TES.
- Technical consultations and strategic discussions are currently underway with national leaders to plan for the in-country operationalization of the Framework for Global Education Transformation starting 2023.

In 2022, the Global Council on SDG4 contributed to global education transformation through the launch of critical tools and resources, including the Framework for Global Education Transformation and the Rewiring Education for People and Planet report. Furthermore, strategic speaking engagements and bilateral meetings ensured the uptake of these resources by a diverse set of audiences around the world including:

1. Speaking engagements, meetings, and launch of the Framework for Global Education Transformation at the World Government Summit in Dubai, UAE – March 2022.
2. Speaking engagements, strategic meetings, and uptake of the Framework for Global Education Transformation as a guiding document for country consultations at the TES Pre-Summit in Paris, France – June 2022.
3. Speaking engagements, strategic events, meetings, and launch of the Rewiring Education for People and Planet report at the Transforming Education Summit (TES) and the UN Global Assembly in New York, USA – September 2022.
4. Speaking engagements, strategic events, and meetings during the 2022 Climate Change Conference (COP 27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt – November 2022.



Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

- Operationalization of the Framework for Global Education Transformation underway through in-country implementation.
- Monitoring framework for the operationalization of the Framework for Global Education Transformation developed.
- Solutions for rewiring education for people and planet identified, piloted, and showcased at COP28.
- Education and climate actors united at COP28 through aligning commitments and actions for advancing progress towards global goals for climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience through rewired education systems.

Expectations Towards COP 28

The Global Council on SDG4 plans to host the 2023 edition of RewirEd at COP28.

RewirEd at COP28 will aim to bring together new and unlikely allies to catalyze action and operationalize solutions for transforming education and climate change action, culminating in a vision statement and comprehensive roadmap for collective and collaborative actions to rewire education at the intersection of people and planet for people and planet.

Media Engagements

Rewiring Education for People and Planet report:

- [TES](#) - Dubai Cares' vision for global education transformation takes center stage at 77th United Nations General Assembly and Transforming Education Summit.
- [COP27](#) - Dubai Cares joins COP27 efforts by emphasizing the importance of integrating climate and education to achieve global climate goals.
- [World Conference on ECCE](#) - Dubai Cares' enduring commitment to promoting Early Childhood Development receives global attention at World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education 2022.

Framework for Global Education Transformation:

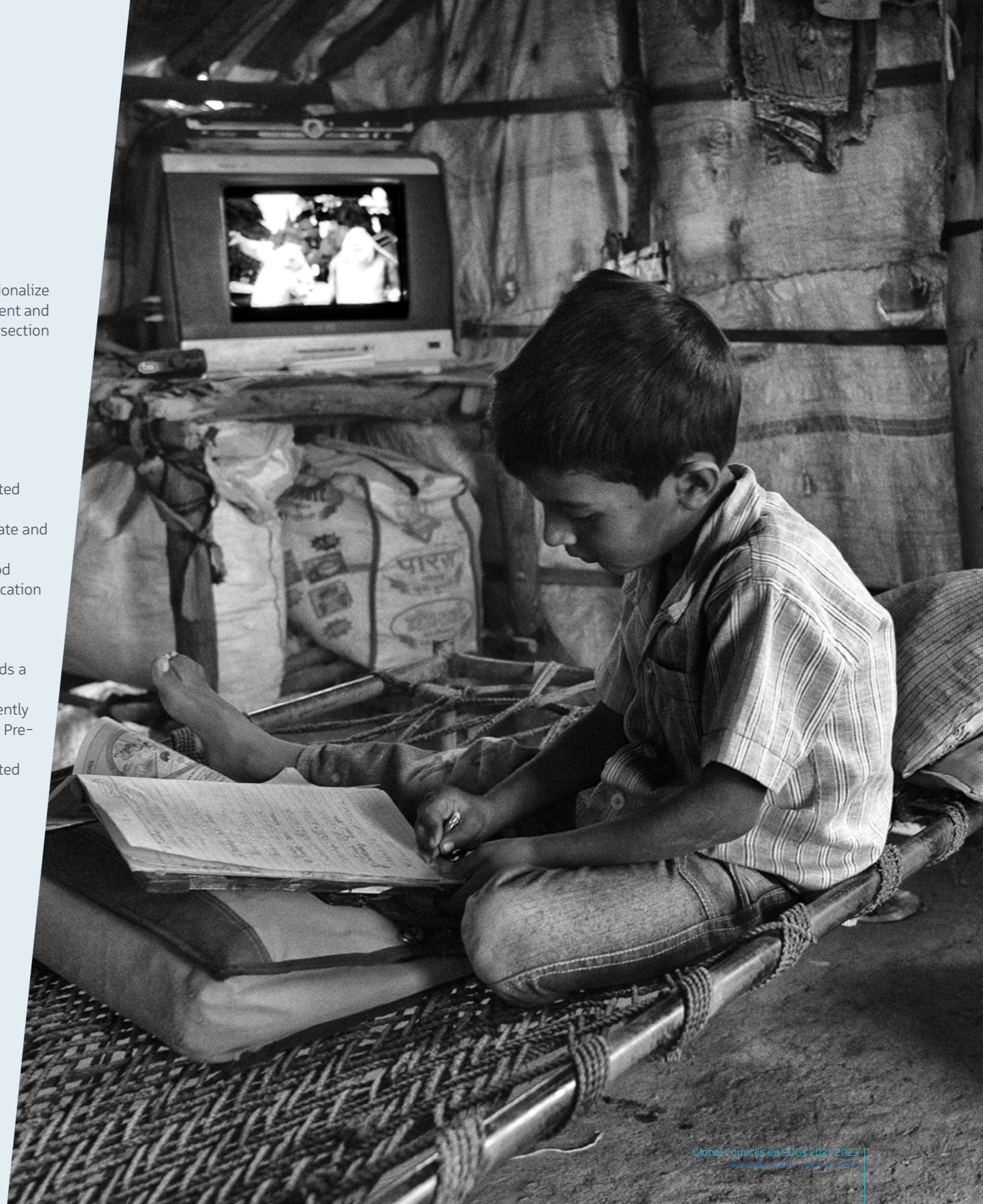
- [World Government Summit](#) - Dubai Cares launches a framework for global education transformation that creates opportunities for all and accelerates human development towards a better and sustainable world.
- [Pre-Summit TES](#) - Dubai Cares inspires governments and education leaders to adopt its recently launched Framework on Global Education Transformation at the UN Transforming Education Pre-Summit in Paris.
- [TES](#) - Dubai Cares' vision for global education transformation takes center stage at 77th United Nations General Assembly and Transforming Education Summit.

Transforming Education Summit:

- [Pre-Summit TES](#) - Dubai Cares inspires governments and education leaders to adopt its recently launched Framework on Global Education Transformation at the UN Transforming Education Pre-Summit in Paris.
- [TES](#) - Dubai Cares' vision for global education transformation takes center stage at 77th United Nations General Assembly and Transforming Education Summit.

Dubai TV - TES: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lrQGY1SMzo8>

Dubai Eye - TES: <https://omny.fm/shows/eye-on-education/do-uae-schools-start-too-early>



Global Council on SDG 5



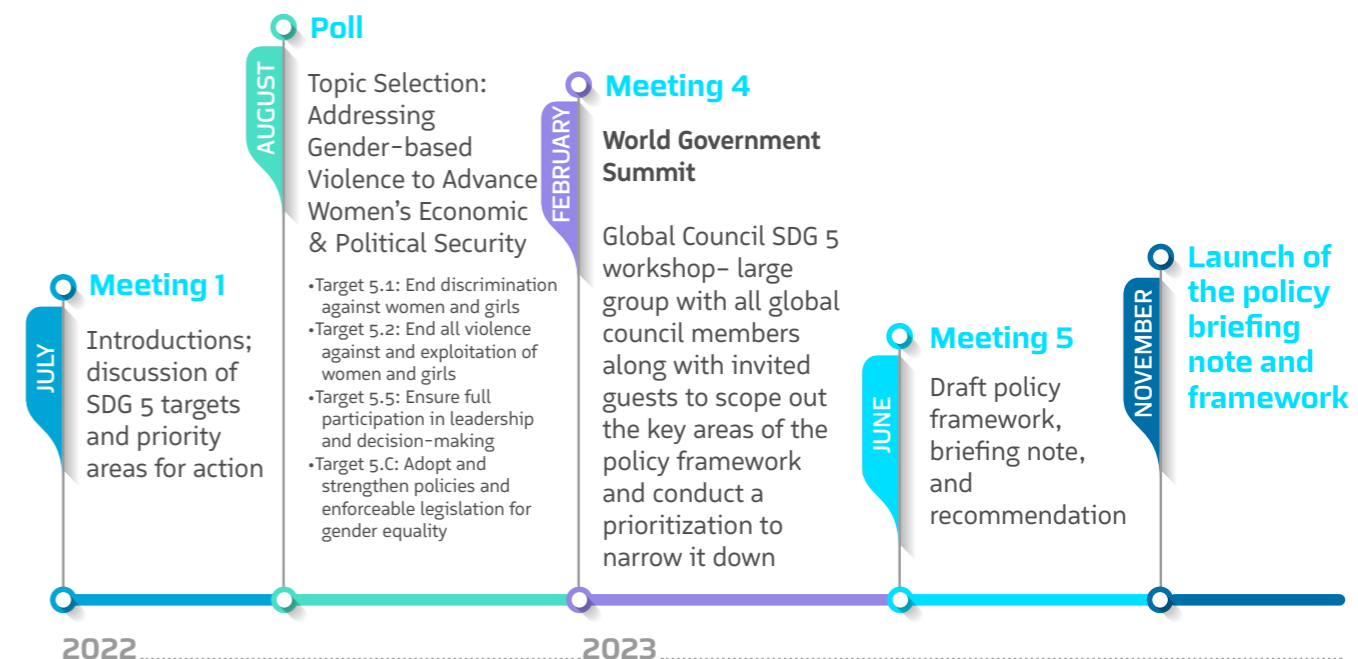
Working alongside dynamic leaders within my Council, and alongside the other Global Councils, is a unique experience. This initiative is truly global in its reach and scope in that members come from around the world, bringing diverse and thoughtful perspectives on how to address complex global challenges through the creation of large- and small-scale innovations.

This year, the Council is going to develop a Policy Note on Preventing and Addressing Gender-based Violence to Advance Women’s Economic and Political Security. A globally-relevant issue, this tool will support governments and private sector organizations in creating more safe and balanced societies, and in advancing women’s rights around the world.

HE Mona al Marri

Vice President, UAE Gender Balance Council

Background of the Council’s Work Plan



Objectives of the Council’s Work Plan

Preventing and Addressing Gender-based Violence (GBV) is a priority area for multiple governments and international organizations. Women face disproportionately more violence across spheres – social, political, and increasingly so online – and creating a guiding resource for minimizing the harmful effects of GBV is vital to creating safer societies. Our workplan is focused on meeting key milestones, including project identification and a global workshop held at the 10th anniversary of the World Government Summit in Dubai, bringing together our Council members and international experts to scope priority areas and the overarching framework of this policy. GBV is a universal challenge and as such requires an international lens on solution design in order to ensure the end product is useful for a diversity of stakeholders. Our objective is to create a resource that governments, international organizations, and private sector entities can use as a guiding framework for understanding the impacts of GBV, how to prevent it, how to support survivors, and ultimately, how to build more safe, secure, and cohesive societies.

Summary

A universal, globally applicable tool focused on reducing incidence of gender-based violence, which in turn supports and advances women's economic and political security. Particular attention will be given to framing what gender-based violence is, including the different types of GBV, how to prevent and reduce incidence, and how to ensure governments and organizations are aware of the signs of GBV in order to address it and build more secure societies. This will be done by creating an overarching policy tool that provides definitional, programmatic, and resource direction in a comprehensive yet concise way. This policy tool will identify resources, challenges, and solutions from a number of jurisdictions to ensure it is applicable in many country contexts.

Benefits

Gender-based violence – in all its forms – is pervasive around the world. Over the course of their lifetimes, 1 in 3 women will experience some form of gender-based violence (WHO). This statistic has remained unchanged for many decades, demonstrating the global and engrained nature of the GBV challenge. By creating a global policy note that focuses not only on existing approaches to responding to GBV but also weaves in resources and ideas on preventing GBV in society, in the economy, and in the political sphere, this resource will serve as a starting point for countries and organizations seeking to understand the complexity of GBV. Additionally, this summary document will scope different challenge areas (e.g. GBV in society, in the political sphere, in the online space) and provide linkages to organizations working in these specific areas.

Key Milestones Achieved

Summer 2022 – Council convenes to deliberate project options

January 2023 – Council identifies project scope

February 2023 – Council hosts global workshop bringing together government leaders, private sector actors, public policy and international organization specialists, and academics to deliberate on the key challenges in preventing and addressing GBV, and how to identify existing and emerging challenges in GBV, to guide development of policy note

Expected outcomes and impact by end of term (targets)

- Policy note to be disseminated to 30+ countries across the GCC & MENA regions; Europe; and East Asia
- 30+ private sector organizations to receive and distribute policy note



Expectations towards COP 28

Launch project at COP28, with a view to profiling it to nations where the disproportionate impacts of climate change are felt by women, particularly in the MENA region.

Media engagements

<https://www.albayan.ae/uae/news/2022-08-02-1.4487593>

Focusing on Enabling Youth Action for SDG7



The world is not on track to realise the SDG 7 target of affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all. We need urgent action and radical solutions.

One of our greatest, yet under-utilised, assets is the ingenuity and drive of young people.

HE Francesco La Camera

Director-General, IRENA

Background of the Council's Work Plan

The Global Council on SDG7 has dedicated its work plan to driving youth action for SDG7.

The intersection of youth and SDG 7 is often overlooked despite the fact that young people under the age of 25 represent around 40% of the world's population. Their future is under threat if we do not achieve the SDGs. At the same time youth are powerful agents for change and with the right support policies and measures in place can play a crucial role in achieving all of the SDGs, particularly when it comes to SDG 7.

Recent years have seen youth play a prominent role in global and local climate and energy agendas. For example, youth-led advocacy has raised awareness of the need for urgent action while youth-led entrepreneurship has contributed to innovations in energy technologies and services. With additional support in place to facilitate youth-led action we can greatly scale-up the contributions of young people towards achieving SDG 7.

With an intergenerational membership, the "Global Council on Youth for SDG7" convenes on a regular basis young leader, government representatives, expert practitioners and delegates from different multilateral institutions and regions to ideate, plan and execute concrete initiatives that drive forward youth-led action on energy access and the just transition to a renewable energy future.

Source: <https://www.irena.org/news/articles/2022/Feb/Global-Council-on-SDG7-Sets-Youth-focused-Agenda>

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

The Global Council on SDG7 is focused on Enabling Youth Action for SDG7, and its work plan, inspired by discussion and demands from the IRENA Youth Forums, is shaped by three main objectives:

- Elevating youth voices within the international energy and climate agenda.
- Increasing youth-led action, innovation, entrepreneurship, and advocacy for SDG7.
- Building renewable energy skills and capacities of youth.

Key Milestones Achieved

1. Intergenerational Capacity Building Workshop during 2022 Sustainable Energy for All Forum

Date: 17 May 2022

Location: Kigali, Rwanda – SEforAll Forum

Theme: “Accelerating Intergenerational-led Energy Transition Solutions”

Description: Members of the Global Council on SDG7 convened an intergenerational capacity building workshop with the aim of strengthening the problem-solving skills of youth delegates at the SEforAll Forum. The aim was to build their capacity to address energy-related problems.

During the Capacity Building Workshop participants were introduced to and used design-thinking and case study simulations to strengthen their problem-solving skills. They practiced finding solutions for energy transition challenges under four themes; (1) Energy Policy, (2) Energy Education, (3) Energy Finance, and (4) Energy Technologies.

The workshop was filled with an intergenerational ambience and the active discussions spurred interesting innovative solutions for inclusive and resilient energy transitions.

2. Climate Finance Workshop

Date: 27 June 2022

Location: Virtual

Theme: “Financing Youth Actions: The Role of Governments in Unlocking Private Finance for Youth Actions on SDG 7”

Description: The Global Council on Youth for SDG 7 held a workshop to demystify private and public climate finance and to explore the role of governments in bridging the gap between climate-energy finance and youth-led actions. The outcomes of the meeting contributed to the 2022 NDC Partnership Youth Engagement Forum.

The workshop featured a capacity-building presentation session to increase participants’ understanding of the different types of private finance, the range of sources, and forms of private finance that could be tapped into for youth-led action on SDG7.

The session also included an intergenerational dialogue focused on exploring key issues including:

- Youth in Action: Progressive youth-led energy innovative initiatives.
- Sustainable Energy Funding: Addressing the financing gap and access inequality challenge.
- Government Interventions: Unlocking private climate-energy finance for youth in SDG7.

Link: <https://www.irena.org/events/2022/Jun/Financing-Youth-Actions-Role-of-governments-in-unlocking-private-finance-for-youth-actions-on-SDG7>



3. COP 27 Workshop on Youth Leadership for the Energy Transition

Date: 9 November 2022

Location: COP 27 Sharm El-Sheikh

Theme: Youth Leadership for the Energy Transition

Description: Intergenerational-dialogues facilitated by members of the Global Council on Youth for SDG 7. The discussions focused on the following topics:

1. Skilling youth for the energy transition. Education and capacity building priorities and good practices.
2. Engaging youth in decision making. Recommendations on how governments can meaningfully engage young people.
3. Youth as innovators. Creating an enabling environment for youth innovation and entrepreneurship.

4. Youth at IRENA 13A and ADSW

Date: 12-18 January 2023

Location: In-person

Theme: “IRENA Youth Forum: The New Generation of Decision Makers – Empowering Youth to Lead an Equitable Energy Transition for a Sustainable Future”

Description: The 2023 edition of the IRENA Youth Forum marked the starting of a new path where members of the Global Council on Youth for SDG7 have worked with the IRENA Youth Engagement Team to lead the creation, design and delivery of this edition of the IRENA Youth Forum.

Thanks to their keen support and motivation, the 2023 edition of the IRENA Youth Forum included a more intense engagement plan where youth delegates had the opportunity to contribute to and be engaged on the below different activities and initiatives:

1. IRENA Youth Forum Pre-Day held on 12 January 2023 at the Abu Dhabi Creative Hub, where youth delegates actively participated to the following capacity building workshops:
 - Financing mechanisms to support youth in the energy space
 - Science, Technology and Innovation
 - Energy access and vulnerable youth (leaving no youth behind)
 - Strategic partnerships, regional and global cooperation
2. IRENA Youth Forum held on 13 January 2023 at the St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort;
3. 13th Session of the IRENA Assembly and related meetings held on 13-15 January 2023 at the St. Regis Saadiyat Island Resort;
4. Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW) held on 16-18 January 2023 at ADNEC, where several youth-led events were organised during the IRENA Youth Day on 18 January 2023 by the members of the IRENA Global Council on Enabling Youth Action for SDG7.

Source: <https://www.irena.org/News/articles/2023/Jan/IRENA-Youth-Events-Give-Voice-to-Next-Generation-of-Decision-Makers>

Impact and Measurements to Date

The Global Council on Youth for SDG 7 has convened a series of intergenerational events and dialogues that have elevated youth voices during key global energy and climate events.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

By the end of the term the Council will build on the convening activities delivered to date by publishing and promoting a set of recommendations advising governments, private sector, and other key stakeholders on how best to support youth action for SDG 7.

Expectations Towards COP 28

The Council is planning to produce a recommendations document to advise governments, private sector, and other key stakeholders on leveraging youth action for achieving SDG 7.

Media Engagements

- Global Council on SDG 7 Sets Youth-focused Agenda
- IRENA Youth Events Give Voice to Next Generation of Decision Makers





SDG 11

Sustainable Cities and Communities, with impact on SDG 7, Affordable and Clean Energy



A year into the journey of the SDG11 Global Council, and as we look to the future, it is clear that the sustainability of our cities and communities will largely depend on the collective efforts of governments, businesses, and civil society. The council has endeavoured to build back better and is making headway in the global drive to build inclusive and resilient sustainable cities and communities. At the beginning of the journey, we called for collective action to accelerate the scaling and deployment of sustainable solutions, and today we stand proud to have established partnerships that will continue to have far-reaching impact across the globe.

HE Suhail bin Mohamed Al Mazrouei

Minister of Energy and Infrastructure,
United Arab Emirates

Background of the Council's Work Plan

The Global Council on SDG11 outlines a clear mission to design and scale pragmatic SDG11 solutions that showcase that the pandemic offers the opportunity to rethink and reimagine future urban areas as hubs of resilient, sustainable, and inclusive growth.

The council endeavored to understand the latest updates on the progress of the SDG11 indicators globally, as outlined by the special report of the UN Secretary General, and reverse engineered some of the transformations that are needed to achieve the sustainable development goals, such as the Digital Revolution for Sustainable Development. This has allowed the council to formulate a roadmap for the council during its 2021-2023 term.

The roadmap proposes a focus on access to finance by collaboratively designing a toolkit that will provide tailor-made recommendations to help better package SDG11 solutions to attract better and more sustainable finance.

It also intends to pioneer thought leadership through policy-driven white papers, case studies and reports.

And finally, it envisions a focus on capacity building, by leveraging local and regional success stories, and through identifying platforms through which the council will facilitate training and awareness sessions.

Through this roadmap the council is able to provide actionable insights, propose policies, develop technological solutions, and mobilize resources to drive progress towards the goal.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Seek innovative solutions for SDG11 implementation. The aim is to provide actionable insights, propose policies, develop technological solutions, and mobilize resources to drive progress towards the goal.

And finally, it envisions a focus on capacity building, by leveraging local and regional success stories, and through identifying platforms through which the council will facilitate training and awareness sessions.

Through this roadmap the council is able to provide actionable insights, propose policies, develop technological solutions, and mobilize resources to drive progress towards the goal.

Key Milestones Achieved

All key milestones can be found on www.sdg11gc.com

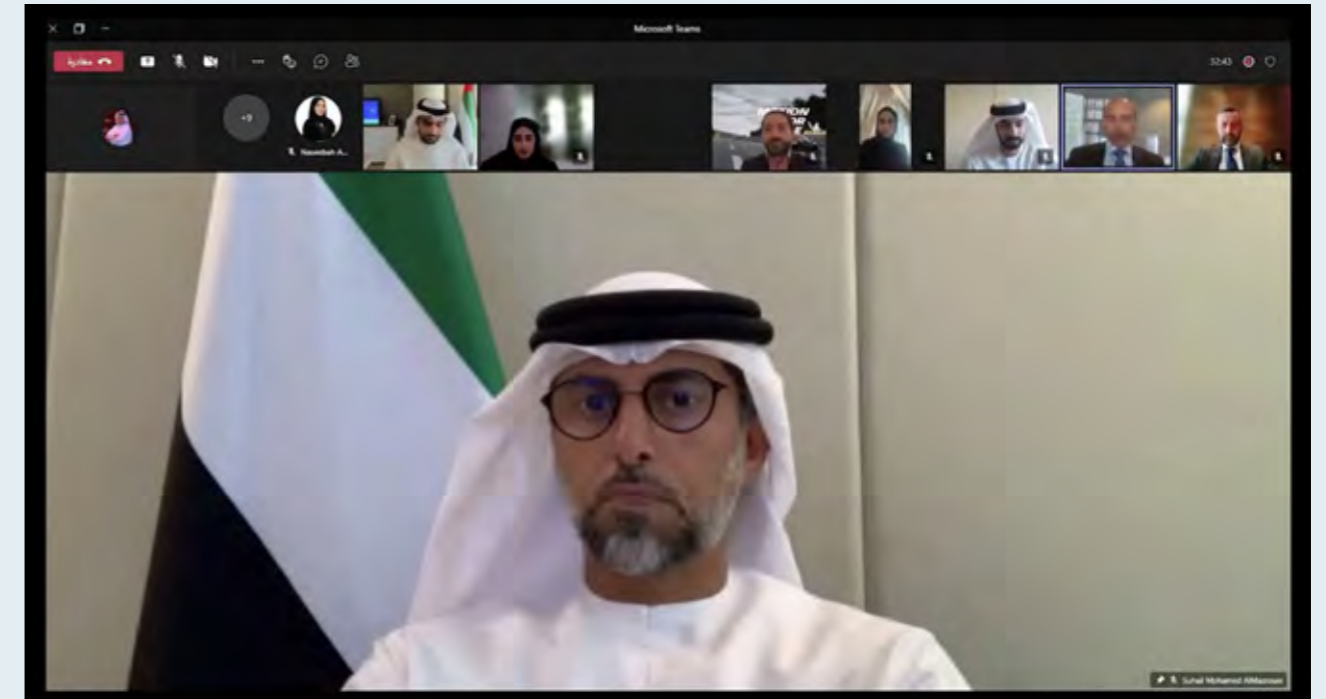
1. Updated the SDG11 High Level Implementation Framework to reflect the impacts of COVID-19 on the future of Sustainable Cities and Communities.
2. Hosted a session during the events of the World Green Economy Organization in Dubai, named, SDG11: Future of Cities.
3. Conducted 2 workshops during The 11th International Envirocities Conference, hosted under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Mohammed Al Sharqi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Fujairah, and directed by H.E. Mariam bint Mohammed Al Mehairi, UAE Minister of Climate Change and the Environment.
4. Hosted a full day training, in collaboration with several partners, to build capacity on key issues related to sustainable cities and communities.
5. Launched a report, during the events of the World Government Summit, that represents a UAE-led effort in showcasing the true potential of disruptive technologies for cities that are at heart of intrinsic global shifts, and hopefully, a driver of change for cities towards SDG11 targets, and voluntary local reviews.
6. Signed a Letter of Intent with UN Habitat, aimed at collaborating to accelerate efforts towards SDG11.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

1. Updated SDG11 High Level Implementation Framework.
2. 7 Workshops/Trainings.
3. 1 University Master's Thesis dedicated to SDG11.
4. 1 Fully Fledged Report on the Future of Sustainable Cities and Communities.
5. 1 Financing Tool Kit.
6. 2 Whitepapers.
7. Participation in 3 Global Platforms to mobilize resources towards SDG11.

Expectations towards COP 28

1. 1x Whitepaper
2. Financing Tool Kit (Initiative - in collaboration with UN Habitat)
3. Green Urban Futures (Initiative - TBC)



Media Engagements

Press Release: H.E. Suhail Al Mazrouei chairs 1st first meeting of Global Council for Sustainable Development Goals

Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure: His Excellency Suhail bin Mohammed Al Mazrouei Chairs the Second Meeting of the Global Councils on Sustainable Development Goals 11 (video)
Expo 2020 - Dubai: UAE adds more councils for UN sustainable development goals target

UNDESA: SDG11 Global Council | Department of Economic and Social Affairs
<https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395303105403>

Global Council on SDG 13



Now more than ever, we need to focus on collaborative efforts to combat climate change. Climate resilience, risk modelling, and capacity building are the building blocks of such collaborations. Through the multi-sector members of the global council on SDG13 on climate action, I am confident that 2023 is the year of positive impact.

Ibrahim Al-Zu'bi

Senior Vice President of Sustainability & Climate Change, ADNOC

Background of the Council's Work Plan

On the road to COP28 and beyond, the Global Council on SDG 13 aims to become the go-to for net zero and climate resilience matters. The Council is fundamental in supporting governments and businesses build resilience and adapt to the effects of climate change through developing climate plans and science-based goals and raising awareness.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

- Spread awareness and know-how for public and private sectors as they embark on their climate action and net zero journeys.
- Work with the UAE government and other stakeholders on the strategic objective of becoming net zero by 2050.
- Lay the foundation for UAE's climate action efforts .
- Work with the UAE and other stakeholders in addressing the climate crisis and creating investment opportunities before, during, and post COP28.

Key Milestones Achieved

Since inception, the Council has embarked on a number of outcomes and projects, mainly:

- Held monthly Road to COP27 fireside chats with subject matter experts to share best practice and identify collaboration opportunities, accessed [here](#). This was in partnership with Posterity Institute, World Green Building Council, United Nations Global Compact.
- Working with the sustainable finance advisory board on projects to scale up decarbonization and just energy transition.
- Working on a Companies' Sustainability Index.
- Working on a full-fledged net zero course for government employees.
- Finalizing my guidebook on tips for CEOs to reach Net Zero.
- Launched the Nature-based Solutions Whitepaper – accessed [here](#).
- Being present at COP27 in the business pavilion and the buildings pavilion.
- Partnered with PepsiCo and Arab Youth Center to launch the Arab Youth Hackathon at COP27.



Impact and Measurements to Date

Through the 10+ fireside chats held, the Council was able to reach more than 300 people and raise their awareness on topics such as creating impactful strategies, managing green infrastructure, nature-based solutions, sustainable finance and reimagining the oil and gas sector.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

- Deliver on the Companies' Sustainability Index.
- Roll-out the net zero course to all UAE government employees.
- Publish a guidebook on tips for CEOs to reach Net Zero.
- Have great presence in COP28.

Expectations towards COP 28

Above outcomes will be launched towards COP28



Media Engagements

- [Press Release](#) - Arab Youth Center launches Arab Youth Council for Climate Change
- [Press Release](#) - Arab Youth Council on Climate Change collaborates with HSBC to empower youth in climate action
- [Press Release](#) - Arab Youth Center Launches "Youth Climate Action Network"
- [Press Release](#) - Arab Youth Council for Climate Change issues sustainability manual
- [Press Release](#) - PepsiCo and Arab Youth Centre announce the launch of the Arab Youth Hackathon at COP27



With a focus on strong institutions for all sectors, leadership, policies & education



Effective action to promote human development and a healthy environment, biodiversity and climate are interdependent & require cross-sectoral, cross-departmental policies and implementation. We need integral, innovative approaches directed at transformational change. The public sector must lead.

Achieving results, changing systems requires a long-term view, resilience, and a really good understanding of the complexity of government; the need to realize commitments to multi-level governance and to ensure a whole of government approach to achieving the SDGs.

Striving to accelerate progress, it is crucial to look at public sector leadership and its catalyst role to faster progress, and to provide national and local leaders the support needed through impactful programs to ensure that they have the relevant skills, knowledge, confidence, and courage to take decisive action.

This is what our Global Council focuses on.

Right Honorable Helen Clark

The 37th Prime Minister of New Zealand, and Former Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

Background of the Council's Work Plan

Covid aftermath

In 2022, our Global Council formulated and committed to ambitious results, in the expectation that COVID would finish, and the world would refocus on achieving sustainable results on the global agendas. Unfortunately, in quite some parts of the world, we have seen that the restrictions linked to the pandemic stretched into the second semester of 2022.

COVID delivered a terrible blow to human development around the world and negatively affected the most vulnerable and marginalized people everywhere. Apart from the death toll of the pandemic, poverty and hunger have gone up and, in some parts, reached levels not seen since the 1980s, inequalities, including gender inequality, have increased and many people lost their incomes. Already vulnerable health systems collapsed. On top of this, the world witnesses a triple planetary crisis: climate, environment, and biodiversity.

Interdependence: climate agenda - SDGs

There is a strong causality between the achievement of the SDGs and the climate agenda, formally acknowledged by the UN. As the 'wedding cake' clearly shows, we have to urgently acknowledge that isolated solutions don't work and that to achieve a sustainable future we must work on the basics, that is our biosphere, our natural environment. If we do not work within our planetary boundaries, we undermine the essential preconditions for survival of humankind.

We cannot preserve the environment, biodiversity, and our climate by just focusing on them. There is no way to address the triple planetary crisis effectively and sustainably without tackling all other SDGs, among others food production, health systems, energy, and water scarcity. Sustainable and flourishing economies require stability, peace and well-functioning institutions, and a rule of law. Large investors seldom take the risk of investing in environments without a properly functioning judiciary and access to due process.

The interdependence between our biosphere, society and the economy become clear from the visual below by the Stockholm Resilience Center.

SDG 16 and SDG17 crucial to build the enabling environment

Another, albeit a bit messier picture (author unknown), shows the interlinkages between the different SDGs and it makes perfectly clear that integral approaches are essential. This implies working across silos. Transformational change requires cross-sectoral, cross-departmental collaboration. Although a start has been made and there is a broad acknowledgement of the importance thereof, in practice we need much more of it. We need much more partnership for the Global Goals, to engage people: and that's where SDG17 plays an essential role.



The leadership to achieve the right levels of cross-sectoral and cross-departmental engagement and cooperation has to come from the public sector. Civil society and the private sector are necessary to get things done, but it is the public sector, governments and institutions, that must serve as the catalyst and the pillars, underpinning SDG17 by effective, inclusive leadership and good governance as the motor for implementation.

SDG 16 aims to improve people's lives by reducing violence, improving access to justice, and promoting effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions, the fundamental building blocks for sustainable development. The importance of achieving SDG16 – peaceful societies, well-functioning institutions, and independent quality rule of law – as a prerequisite of sustainable realization of the other SDGs, incl. SDG13 on climate change has become even more pressing.

Countries are working to deliver the SDGs against multiple and multi-dimensional challenges and against a backdrop of conflict, the impact of climate change, pandemics, and weakening democracy at all levels of government. The world is also urbanizing very quickly and SDG16 plays a key role in sustainable urban development ensuring that people are at the center of decisions affecting their lives.

We hoped that after Covid, the international community and world leaders would set a definite course to take transformative approaches leading to sustainable, positive systemic change. Without proper leadership and good governance, there is no way to implement the global agendas.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

- A better understanding of the needs of government in leading a whole of government approach to delivering the SDGs
- Capacity building of civil servants and young leaders in UAE's key partnership countries with a view to reinforcing government and governance.
- Elaborate proposal, secure funding and start piloting the Leadership4SDGs initiative, directed at government leadership at national and local levels, through one or two pilots. Goal: proof of concept.
- An initial ecosystem & coordination mechanism in place (a mutually reinforcing group of involved / supporting / implementing organizations) geared towards helping countries to accelerate the interlinked achievement of the SDGs and environment, biodiversity and climate goals.
- Communication strategy directed at awareness building among governments of the importance of achieving SDG16 and SDG17 (partnership) as a precondition for positive peace, and inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development.



Key Milestones Achieved

Training of civil servants and young leaders

The training of civil servants and a first batch of young leaders was delivered and led mainly by the UAE Government Leadership Programme through the Government Experience Exchange Programme. Targeted were the UAE international strategic partners in the government development capacity building pillar. These projects and initiatives aimed to contribute to achieving the objectives of SDG16 as to leadership development for government and governance, and institutional strength.

Main international strategic partners who were part of the 2022 journey: Republic of Uzbekistan, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Senegal, Republic of Iraq, Republic of Serbia. From these countries, in total 4200 civil servants participated throughout the year 2022.

Leadership4SDGs (L4SDGs) program

L4SDGs is an innovative, comprehensive and multi-faceted program:

- Involving top government leaders at all levels
- Directed to boost integral approaches with cross-sectoral and cross-departmental involvement and cooperation
- Focused on long-term, sustained, structured support

Further development, improving the approach and building support has been a continuous process, greatly impeded by Covid and its aftermath. In 2022, we:

- Broadened outreach, confirming promising (such as Commonwealth, Global Leadership Foundation, Club de Madrid, Egon Zehnder) and finding additional partnerships.
- Based on feedback, strengthened the concept. The updated proposal has been submitted to the Advisory Board on Finance, led by Ms. Marie Aimee Boury.
- Improved communication.
- Developed ideas as to potential pilot countries / municipalities-cities, in cooperation with Commonwealth.

Leadership4SDGs requires funding to pilot and get to a proof of concept. Once this has been achieved, interest might quickly grow especially in view of the urgent need to accelerate actions and find transformative pathways to help achieve sustainable and inclusive development. I am fully aware that Leadership4SDGs does not represent a traditional project which can be easily captured in log frames and fixed KPIs, but I am confident it has real potential to contribute to sustained and transformative development. Slide deck and written proposal can be shared on request.

Impact and measurements to date

Outcomes from capacity building of civil servants:

- Increasing attendance and participation from different international strategic partners for government development.
- Good quality of discussion in the online trainings.
- Public servants engagement and knowledge exchange.
- Latest trends in various topics and the best out of networking experienced with the elite leaders across all industries.
- Cross sector engagement, regional and global collaborations, and economic development for strong institutions.

The outcomes from the leadership program:

- Improved quality of people, prepared and ready to lead in government.
- 20 projects ready to be implemented for government development and enhancement of government services.
- First-hand knowledge experienced from meeting experts and decision makers.
- Leading pioneer entities visited as benchmarking experience.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

Linked to goals / objectives described above:

- In UAE key partnership countries: another 4,000 civil servants trained, 2nd batch young leaders trained.
- Coordination and/or cooperation established with other Councils, in particular on SDGs 5, 13 and 17.
- Better understanding needs of government to lead for achievement SDGs, including SDGs 13, 14, and 15.
- Leadership4SDGs: 1st cohort government and local leaders on board, pilot started.
- Initial alliances and partnerships around L4SDGs built, network of 'ambassadors' of the initiative established.
- Announcement of innovative pathway – Leadership4SDGs – to acceleration of sustainable realization SDGs and Climate Agendas.

Expectations towards COP 28

If Leadership4SDGs would be funded and able to start piloting, the aim is to announce this innovative initiative during COP28 with a compelling presentation.



Global Council on SDG 17

Foster multi-stakeholder partnerships to enhance PCSD in SDG implementation



In the spirit of SDG 17, I see policy coherence for sustainable development – PCSD – as a particularly important lever for success. Harnessing synergies and avoiding costly trade-offs, both at home and abroad, will be critical for driving change and accelerating progress on the SDGs.

Tatyana Teplova

Head of Division, Policy Coherence for the SDGs, Senior Counsellor for Gender Equality, Justice and Inclusiveness, Public Governance Directorate, OECD

Background of the Council's Work Plan

Designing, implementing and monitoring policies that are coherent across sectors and levels of government is one of the main challenges facing governments in implementing the SDGs. Ensuring that these policies also align short- and long-term objectives and do not impact negatively beyond national borders or on global public commons, such as the climate and the ocean, amplifies this challenge further. This is why the Global Council on SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals aims at strengthening countries' ability to achieve SDG Target 17.14 Enhance Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD), a key means of implementation for all Goals.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

The Global Council on SDG 17 has five main objectives. Each objective contributes both individually and collectively with the other objectives to enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development:

1. Promoting integrated and coherent solutions to global challenges and ensuring that short-term recovery measures are aligned with long-term sustainability commitments.
2. Identifying areas where innovative solutions can accelerate progress and have the greatest impact not only domestically but also in other countries, particularly in developing countries.
3. Monitoring and evaluation of PCSD and SDG governance linked with SDG implementation outcomes.
4. Building civil service capacity for the SDGs to ensure that governments are equipped with “fit-for-purpose” skills.
5. Building partnerships and digital tools to facilitate peer-learning and policy dialogue, including between the Global Councils.

Key Milestones Achieved

Launch of the OECD Online Knowledge Platform on PCSD during the High-Level Political Forum in New York in July 2022: <https://www.oecd.org/governance/pcsd/toolkit/>

This participatory platform contributes inter alia to implementing the Council's work programme by bringing together relevant knowledge resources on PCSD from all stakeholders, including from governmental and non-governmental national, regional, or international organisations, civil society, academia, and the private sector.

The Council is working towards a Dashboard for SDG 17 Global Council 17, in coordination with the Secretariat of the Global Councils on SDGs, (The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre). The dashboard is intended to serve as a one-stop shop that will provide a visual representation for the performance of the Councils performance through partnerships. It will help monitor, report, and measure the progress and effectiveness of the partnership for the councils. The dashboard should be able to visually display key results by November 2023.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ACTIVITIES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING THE COUNCIL'S OBJECTIVES:

July 2022, Launch of the OECD Online Knowledge Platform on PCSD during the High-Level Political Forum in New York in July 2022: <https://www.oecd.org/governance/pcsd/toolkit/>

This participatory platform contributes inter alia to implementing the Council's work programme by bringing together relevant knowledge resources on PCSD from all stakeholders, including from governmental and non-governmental national, regional, or international organisations, civil society, academia, and the private sector.

Dashboard:

A dashboard for SDG Council 17 is being built, in coordination with the Secretariat of the Global Councils on SDGs, (The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre). The dashboard will serve as a one-stop shop that will provide a visual representation for the performance of the Councils performance through partnerships. It will help monitor, report, and measure the progress and effectiveness of the partnership for the councils. The dashboard should be able to visually display key results by November 2023 through.

On behalf of Council Vice-Chairperson, Khawla Al Mehairi, Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA):

Since 2016, DEWA has been part of the UAE's Climate Change High-Level Delegation, the Preparatory Task Force and the Technical Negotiations Team. DEWA has taken part in COP and pre-COP technical negotiations for 7 years now. It often represents the UAE in discussions/negotiations relating to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Further guided by the aspirations of the UAE's visionary leadership, the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) affirms the importance of sustainability which continues to be an essential part of DEWA's vision, mission and strategy. Its work plans are well aligned with the SDGs overall as well as the objectives of the SDG 17 Global Council to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development. This is further evident by its commitment to the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact as a signatory since 2017.

As a representative of DEWA, I am proud to report that DEWA has been actively supporting the SDGs since the announcement in 2016. It set a strategic approach to the SDGs which includes strategy alignment, capacity building, and reporting on progress. Its approach to the SDGs won the EFQM SDGs Challenges Award in 2021.

DEWA acknowledges the importance and interconnectedness of all global goals. Primary goals reflect core business functionalities, with interlinkages to secondary goals.



When it comes to capacity building and promoting policy some of DEWA's contributions towards SDG 17 include:

- Launching the world's first Business Agility Concept and Framework (PAS 1000:2019) with BSI.
- Launching the first Enterprise Risk & Resilience Management standard for the utility sector (PAS 60518:2020) with BSI.
- DEWA developed a circular economy strategy with the objective to shift away from the traditional linear business approach to a circular economy, our leadership ensures to engage and steer circular activities through circular partnerships and supplier engagement.
- Issuing an internal policy for Climate Change & Sustainability.
- Establishing an award-winning approach to involve the private sector in its strategic projects through the Independent Power Producer (IPP) model. Its approach attracted promising investments to the UAE from the private sector and foreign banks, which led to an increase in cash flow to the economy of Dubai and the UAE. This further supports DEWA's aim to provide 100% of the energy production capacity from clean energy sources by 2050 to achieve the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 and the Dubai Net Zero Carbon Emissions Strategy 2050.
- DEWA organized the 24th edition of the Water, Energy, Technology and Environment Exhibition (WETEX) and Dubai Solar Show, which serves as platforms to display the latest technological advancements and discuss the latest trends related to energy, water conservation, saving natural resources and building a sustainable environment.
- HE Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD & CEO of DEWA is the Chairman of the World Green Economy Organization (WGEO).

DEWA has a robust partnership management approach to build effective partnerships with the government sector, the private sector and civil society including educational institutions and Non-Profit Organizations. It has 100 partners categorized as strategic or main partners. During 2022, DEWA signed 10 new MOUs with companies representing both the public and private sectors.

On behalf of Council Member Louis Meuleman, PSFSD:

Public Strategy for Sustainable Development (PS4SD), our small Brussels-based think tank:

1. Promoting integrated and coherent solutions to global challenges and ensuring that short-term recovery measures are aligned with long-term sustainability commitments:
 - Our project on Peer to Peer for Mainstreaming Sustainability in Regulatory Impact Assessment started with thirteen EU countries and has currently 22 EU countries participating, as well as European Commission and OECD. Through a series of online peer learning workshops we have stimulated countries to integrated the SDGs fully in their ex ante impact assessments of new policies and laws. The project brings together national SDG experts and RIA experts, who in the past have worked in different 'silos'. Preliminary results are available on the project webpage.
 - I was the governance expert of the UNITAR project to assist the Cyprus government in developing an SDG Action Plan.
2. Identifying areas where innovative solutions can accelerate progress and have the greatest impact not only domestically but also in other countries, particularly in developing countries
3. Monitoring and evaluation of PCSD and SDG governance linked with SDG implementation outcomes:
 - Our report 'Management of policy coherence for sustainable development: towards measuring progress', on challenges of applying the PCSD indicator (SDG 17.14.1), with case studies on Finland, Italy and Romania, while linking the OECD and UNEP self-assessment tools, was

published by the European Commission in November 2022. Download the report here.

4. Building civil service capacity for the SDGs to ensure that governments are equipped with “fit-for-purpose” skills
 - In 2022 we were involved in SDG training programmes of Belgium, Cyprus and Romania.

On behalf of Council Member Måns Nilsson, SEI:

- [SDG synergies tool](#) has been launched in spring and is available to use.
- The flagship report for the Stockholm+50 Conference “[Unlocking a better future](#)”, was launched in May, which has a lot about policy coherence.
- The book “[The political impact of the sustainable development goals](#)” (Cambridge University Press), looking at how the 2030 Agenda has affected governance and where I led the chapter on [coherence and integration open access](#).
- A summary of this assessment was published as an article in [Nature Sustainability](#).
- SEI continues to support local government and other subnational actors to carry out analysis of SDG interactions and promote more coherence, through variety of projects.

On behalf of Council Member Waleed Saeed Al Awadhi:

SDGs & DFSA Sustainable Finance activities

- Partnership & Civil Service Capacity Building (extensive collaboration with international and UAE organisations, other regulators and DIFC stakeholders and firms)
 - UAE Guiding Principles on Sustainable Finance (2020)
 - First and Second High Level Statements on progress of work within the UAE Sustainable Finance Working Group (2021, 2022)
 - Collaboration with COP28 team, TEC, MOCCA on carbon markets
- Awareness Raising (staff and stakeholders training, publications, webinars & events)
- Helping Develop Coherent and Internationally-Applicable Regulatory Standards
 - Supervisory guide on climate and environmental risks (2020, 2021, NGFS)
- Developing ESG Financial Products & Investments (e.g., bonds, funds)
 - Markets Briefs on ESG bonds and sukuk (2022), Markets Brief on greenwashing (2023)
- Increasing Transparency (sustainable and climate reporting and disclosures – ISSB standards)
- Knowing and Managing Risks, which may impact on the sustainability of financial firms
 - Publication on Climate and Environmental Risk Management (2022)

On behalf of Council Member Debapriya Bhattacharya, of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh as well as for the Citizen’s Platform for SDGs, Bangladesh

1. At the International Research Conference on the Effectiveness of Development Cooperation research conference (Brussels, 17-18 November 2022) organised by UNU-WIDER and GPEDC, CPD has presented a paper unpacking the concept of “ownership” of development cooperation for improving effectiveness of SDG 17.
2. At the GPEDC Summit 2022 (Geneva, 12 – 14 December 2022), CPD co-organised and led a session titled “The illusive impact of development cooperation: Towards a new understanding of the application of the effectiveness principles”. During the session, CPD has also delivered a keynote presentation based on a multi-country study that examined the application of the GPEDC principles in the context of SDG 17.

3. During the visit of Hon’ble Michelle Bachelet, High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN in Dhaka in August 2022, Dr Deb had a conversation with her and her entourage regarding expanding human-rights based approach to development cooperation in connection to SDG 17.
4. In 2022, CPD as the secretariat of Citizen’s Platform (which was convened by Dr Deb in 2016) has conducted a seven-part series of sub-national dialogues to collate evidence with regard to localised experiences of mainstream development narratives (localisation of SDG 17).
5. Currently we are working on the essential role of international cooperation for sustainable development in promoting and protecting human rights, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr Deb will be speaking at the opening session at a high-level “Asia and the Pacific Regional Seminar” in Bangkok on 13-14 February 2023 convened as per the Human Rights Council Resolution 47/11.

Impact and Measurements to Date

The overall impact of the Global Council on SDG 17 includes: greater application by countries of governance tools for the SDGs together with stronger national mandates, structures and processes for PCSD; improved data accessibility and interpretability to assess policy coherence; strengthened civil service skills for SDG implementation; an increased evidence base; and improved channels for peer-learning on PCSD.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

The expected outcomes and impact of the Global Council on SDG 17 is enhanced policy coherence for sustainable development at both national and global level. This entails increased government capacities to: identify synergistic and integrated policy solutions; align domestic objectives with global sustainability commitments; and avoid negative spillovers on other countries and future generations.

Media Engagements

Web: <https://www.oecd.org/governance/pcsd/toolkit/>

LinkedIn: PCSD OECD

Twitter: @OECD_PCSD

SDG Finance Advisory Board (SDG FinAB)



As Chair of the SDG Finance Advisory Board, I am pleased to gather a group of highly experienced and passionate professionals from different parts of the investing and financing ecosystem to pool our knowledge and networks to maximize funding access for the initiatives launched by the other SDG Global Councils. Financing the SDGs requires collaborative effort from all sectors to create innovative solutions that bridge the SDG financing gaps and achieve Agenda 2030 in this Decade of Action

Marie-Aimee Boury

Head of Impact Based Finance, Societe Generale, Corporate and Investment Banking (SGCIB)

Background of the Council's Work Plan

For any initiative submitted by any of the SDG Councils, the SDG Finance Advisory Board proposes to assess its financing needs and make recommendations in terms of:

- The structuring of the value proposition of the projects to ensure that the key concerns of early-stage finance providers are addressed;
- Identification of potential funding sources including Blended Finance facilities providing catalytic funding from Technical Assistance budgets, Foundations, and/or companies' CSR budgets.
- Identification of relevant precedents in the market, if any, and possible financing structures to optimize investors' appetite;
- Identification of relevant existing collaborative initiatives that could provide support to the proposed project and possibly offer a partnership approach to combine resources and optimize outcomes;
- Introduction to the SDG Fin AB members' wider networks to advise on ways of support to the initiative development and kick start the funding sought.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Our objectives are derived from the requests presented to us by our fellow Global Councils and we have also set our own objectives to share awareness and knowledge around the financing solutions for the SDGs.

Objective #1: Having identified and mapped the resources that can be brought by the SDG FinAB members around 3 pillars of work (technical Assistance and capacity building, knowledge platform, capital connection), we have set an objective to share our knowledge on topics relevant to other SDG Councils in the design and implementation of the funding strategy necessary to support their initiatives.

Objective #2: Reach out to all other SDG Global Councils to offer our assistance by organizing dedicated "task forces" gathering the FinAB members most relevant to support the precise needs expressed by the SDG Councils.

Objective #3: Independently from the request made by other SDG Councils, the SDG FinAB members are invited to share within our group any SDG financing opportunity that they would like to support, and which could benefit from the knowledge and/or network from any of the other SDG FinAB members.

Key Milestones Achieved

Internal milestones within Finance Advisory Board:

- Starting Jan 2022, the Finance Advisory Board successfully conducted over 30 meetings. These meetings were either meetings attended by all SDG FinAB members or preparatory calls attended by the secretariat to discuss the progress and agree on the action plan, as well as “task force” meetings to address a specific SDG Council’s request.
- The SDG FinAB have also presented a questionnaire that was circulated internally to learn more about the areas of expertise within the council, and create focus groups to advise, guide and support the SDG councils in their initiatives. We identified focus areas, resources and desired impact and created focus groups that is matched to the council’s initiatives to accelerate our collaboration. The identification of 3 pillars of work was a key step to decide on our 3 pillars of outcomes.
- The Chairperson of the SDG FinAB participated in the World Government Summit SDGs in Action session, held at EXPO2020 in Dubai March’22 together with 3 other Council members.
- The FinAB Secretariat appointed two youth members as part of their program to support the Secretariat and the FinAB members in their objectives and work plan
- As per Objective #3 above, teasers of impactful investment opportunities were circulated amongst the members of the SDG FinAB. One of them is currently under consideration by one of the members (equity investment in an innovative clean cooking solution for BoP households)

External milestones with other councils and stakeholders:

- Starting Jan 2022, the Finance Advisory Board successfully conducted ca. 30 meetings with the other SDG Global Councils.
- Arranged for one-on-one meetings with 10 out of the 16 SDG Councils. Identified 4 key councils with potentially impactful and viable projects / initiatives that the FinAB can support. Conducted meetings with these councils and currently further exploring the implementation stage, along the 3 pillars of work. Established 2 task forces to date: Health Financing (SDG3) and Education Transformation (SDG4).
- Launched the “Office Hours” Program championed by the SDG FinAB Council members. Conducted two successful and impactful Fireside Chats and published them online:
 - 1- “The Importance of Sustainable Finance and Impact Investing” in collaboration with SDG 13, featuring the Chairs of SDG FinAB and SDG13, and
 - 2- “Measuring Sustainable Development Impact” presented jointly by two SDG FinAB members. The two fireside chats were well attended and socialized on social media channels. All other SDG Councils were invited to attend.
- Youth Member, Mariam AlHebshi participated in COP27 in the Youth Thematic Day at Sharm El Sheikh, by sharing a video on the role of youth in promoting ESG.
- SDG FinAB Member, Dr. Shariha Khalid participated in COP27 on the invitation of the High Level Climate Champion and also Chair of SDG1 Global Council, Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin as an Impact Champion, and actively participated in bilateral discussions on financing and opportunities to connect COP27 to COP28. The discussion is ongoing with SDG13 Chair, Ibrahim Al-Zubi.
- SDG FinAB Member, Dr. Shariha Khalid contributed a chapter to the upcoming Elsevier publication: “Resilient Health: Leveraging Technology and Social Innovations to Transform Healthcare for COVID-19 Recovery and Beyond” with the role of the private sector and illustrated the SDG Finance Advisory Board as an example of multi-stakeholder collaboration.

Impact and Measurements to Date

The SDG FinAB council has chosen 3 KPIs to set targets and monitor output and outcomes, and where possible impacts, resulting from our actions:

1. Education and Awareness

- Number of events (3), number of attendees and speakers (100+), number of viewers of replays (output).
- Number of likes/re-post /re-tweets on social Media (output).
- Feedback received / actions taken as a result of the event (outcome).

2. Capital Connection:

- Number of connections made and quality of the connection (output).
- Amount of capital raised thanks to our connections (outcome).
- Identification of funding needs thanks to intervention (output).

3. Technical Assistance:

- Number of calls and meetings (ca 30) with other SDG Councils (output).
- Feedback received / actions taken as a result our support (outcome).
- Survey to measure the progress in projects we contributed to (outcome/impact).

A more detailed monitoring of outcomes will be done as our collaboration progresses with other Councils and as we intensify the sharing of SDG financing opportunities.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

As explained above the outcomes and impacts from our actions significantly depends on the targets set by the other SDG Councils we support. However, we have set ourselves targets to hold at least 6 “office hours” during the term and to have at least one impactful project funded as a result of the capital connection made via the FinAB.

Expectations Towards COP 28

The SDG FinAB Council is looking forward to supporting the SDG13 Council in joint projects that could be presented at COP28.

We are also counting on the SDG FinAB members to identify high impact climate mitigation or adaption project to collaborate on before COP28.

Media Engagements

LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:6982645665956802560/>

Post: Youth thematic day at COP 27.

Post: How can Sustainable Finance be a Catalyst to achieve the SDGs?



SDG Nexus – Noor Dubai Foundations Comprehensive Eye Care Program in Katsina State, Nigeria West Africa

(a nexus model for SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5 and 17)
 Cataract and refractive error are the two major causes of blindness and visual impairment globally responsible for vision loss in over 2.2 billion people in the world.



In 2019, Noor Dubai launched a comprehensive, sustainable, 4-year eye care program in the Katsina state of Nigeria responding to the urgent need of eye services and eye health resources with an estimated 4 million people who suffer from blindness and visual impairment in Nigeria.

The program aims to improve the quality of life and the socioeconomic status of the people of Katsina state. So far, the program has achieved impactful outcome on the wellbeing of the beneficiaries, 79% of beneficiaries had monetary value gain above the UN poverty line, 96.2% of them reported increase productivity.

Dr. Manal Taryam

Chief Executive Officer & Board Member
 Noor Dubai Foundation

Background of the Council’s Work Plan

The Comprehensive Eye Care Program in Katsina State, Nigeria in West Africa is a 4-year program aim to achieve universal health coverage through cataract and refractive error services in Katsina State, Nigeria whilst relating to SDGs, 1, 4, 5 & 17, that will include service provision, infrastructure and equipment development, human resource development, health awareness, education, and system building and partnerships. The program aims to improve refractive error services among school children and increase cataract surgery services by 50%, resulting in positive economic impacts, and gender equality within the Katsina state.

Objectives of the Council’s Work Plan

The Council aims to implement the program with 2 major objectives, increasing cataract surgery coverage and improving refractive error services both by 50% within the Katsina state of Nigeria. To increase cataract surgery coverage, Noor Dubai Foundation will aim to perform 11,000 surgeries ensuring at 80% have optimal/good surgical outcomes whilst ensuring 50% of operated cases are women. To improve refractive error services within the state, Noor Dubai Foundation aims to screen 160,000 elementary school pupils and 3,000 teachers across 160 schools. As well as, providing refractive error services to at least 1,500 pupils and 1,500 teachers. Both objectives include indicators to help the improvement of gender equality, quality of life and education within the state.

Key Milestones Achieved

The program report is available on the Noor Dubai Foundation’s official website. While updates within the year are usually updated on the foundation’s social media channels.

Website

<https://www.noordubai.ae/>

https://noordubai.ae/MediaCenter/en_AnnualReport?csrt=1508190878209372541

Facebook (@noordubaifoundation)

Instagram . Twitter . YouTube. (@noordubai)

Impact and Measurements to Date

Comprehensive Eye Care Program in Katsina State, Nigeria in West Africa



Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

All Noor Dubai programs affect the health/medical, social, educational, and economic aspects of life in the community the programs target both nationally and internationally:

Economic Impacts

- Increased employment
- Increased productivity
- Increased income
- Reduced welfare costs

Health

- Improved quality of life (measured in DALYs averted and QALYs gained)
- Reduced co-morbidities and mortality
- Reduced child mortality
- Reduced adult mortality

Educational

- Achieving universal primary education
- More school attendance
- Increased school academic performance
- Improved teaching by teachers

Social

- Reduced extreme poverty and hunger
- Increased independence
- Increased self-esteem and improved social networks
- Increased gender equality
- Increased community participation
- Less work-related injuries and falls
- Reduced Road traffic accident



Expectations Towards COP 28

One of the main strategic directions of Noor Dubai Foundation is to control and eliminate neglected tropical diseases (NTD) that cause blindness. Research tells us that climate change and environmental conditions impact the control of disease spread, especially communicable diseases that spread through insect vector. Noor Dubai is currently working with ESRI, to launch the GIS Trachoma control platform, an initiative to create a GIS supported database focused on the implementation of SAFE strategy for the control of Trachoma. The objective is to automate and analyze the operational work and outcomes of implementing the SAFE strategy to develop multiple layers of data analytics helping the implementors to plan their programs as per priority and to lower the impact of climate change on the success of achieving the disease eradication. The GIS will also predict scenarios for cost effective impactful processes.

Adapting the GIS Trachoma control platform on a wider global level will not only reduce the risks of climate change on health but will also reduce the impact disease elimination has on the environment. As a result, it will open new opportunities, and methodologies to help control NTD in other endemic countries.

Media Engagements

- <https://www.noordubai.ae/>
- https://noordubai.ae/MediaCenter/en_SocialMediaHub?csrt=1508190878209372541
- https://noordubai.ae/MediaCenter/en_PressRelease?csrt=1508190878209372541

SDG Nexus – Nomu, a new national youth development initiative

(a nexus model for SDGs 4, 8 and 17)



The UAE Global Council for SDGs is making steady progress and collaborating to achieve impact on SDGs 4, 8, and 17 through a Nexus model approach. Our Council members are shaping a sustainable future through exchanging experiences and enhancing collaboration in various sectors. We are very grateful that since the last year, the Council has taken great strides in advancing and accelerating progress on the NOMU flagship initiative pioneered by the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation to realize the SDGs, focusing on the UAE through several programs, including TechUp, Siraj and Project Hama. These learning programs currently have more than 7,500 learners and they aim to increase the competitiveness of the nation's youth through digital, professional, and transferable skills of the future.

Dr Sonia Ben Jaafar

Chief Executive Officer,
Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education

Background of the Council's Work Plan

- The mismatch and gaps between skills and labor market requirements are real.
- Employers in this region are reporting a widespread shortage of crucial skills such as creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication.
- Many of those who receive education often find themselves unequipped with the skills sought after in the labor market, and unable to engage in meaningful and dignified work.
- Supporting data:
 - 28% of the UAE workforce needs reskilling and upskilling (KPMG, 2021).
 - 84% of UAE companies plan to hire new employees with new digital skills (WEF, 2020).
 - 30% of university graduates in the UAE lack 'business relevant' skills, including digital skills (WEF, 2020).
 - Closing the skills gap might result in an additional 43,000 jobs and \$4.3 billion in GDP by 2030 in the UAE (WEF & PwC, 2021).
 - 86% of UAE employers think that strategic vision, creative thinking, and communication skills will be more important in the future (Future of Work in MENA Survey, 2022).
 - 60% of the UAE workforce, which has low digital skill proficiency, would benefit from skills training and more information on in-demand skills. (UAE National Strategy for AI).
 - 24% of UAE Youth's priority is to match curriculums with labor market needs (Arab Youth Priority Survey, 2020).

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Council Objectives:

The Council supports the scaling and advancing of the NOMU initiative pioneered by the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation to advance and accelerate the achievement of SDGs 4, 8 and 17 in the UAE.

NOMU Objectives:

- Nomu will upskill and reskill 25,000 Emirati youth by 2025 to meet the demands of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.
- Nomu shows commitment to Emirati talent development, workplace preparation, and upskilling opportunities in partnership with leading industry actors to increase the competitiveness of the nation's youth.
- Nomu meaning 'growth' is in line with the goals of the 'Projects of the 50' agenda and will support UAE citizens to remain competitive and meet the growing needs of future labor market.

Please refer here to a Spotlight on NOMU.

Key Milestones Achieved

- Launch of 3 Nomu Initiative pathways projects
 - **TechUp:** In partnership with Udacity, this project aims to digitally empower youth in the UAE to become ready for the digital economy through various levels of digital fluency and advanced nano degree specializations.
 - **Siraj:** In partnership with CNN, this project aims to provide youth with WEF transferable skills to prepare them to be competitive candidates in the job market.
 - **Project Hama:** under the leadership of the Prime Minister's Office, this project aims to enhance professional and transferable skills of Emirati female military recruits to improve their employability.
- Partnerships with Hiring Partners:
 - Collaborated with Mashreq bank, as our first hiring partner to offer 7 internships for Techup graduates.
- Engagement
 - **SDG Luncheon:** On Nov 3, 2022, the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation held an SDG networking event under the theme of getting together, building relationships for sustainability, and uniting for better solutions. The aim of the event was to connect council members from the Global Council of SDGs 2021 – 2023 to exchange thoughts and ideas, discuss current SDG projects and how council members can support each other as well as connect with a community of professionals.

Impact and Measurements to Date

Driving progress for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, NOMU will upskill and reskill Emirati youth through pathway programs to improve their employability and career readiness.

By expanding the impact of the NOMU initiative based on reliable data, the SDG Council will be fulfilling its mission to support the implementation of action towards the SDGs. The initiative responds to a call for inclusive and equitable quality education (SDG 4) that leads to improved standards of living (SDG 8), through partnerships (SDG 17).

To date, AGFE have benefitted over 7,000 learners through the different pathway projects, 87% of which are Emiratis.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

- Upskill 25,000 Emirati youth by 2025.
- Create a globally competitive talent pipeline.
- Provide high quality training and work-integrated learning opportunities in UAE priority sectors.

Expectations Towards COP 28

The SDG Council, which includes Environment and Sustainability experts, will be working with the team from Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation to develop a strategy for conducting thought leadership events with relevant stakeholders pertaining to topics or themes of COP 28. Also, the expert members will be advising the AGF team from a technical perspective, to develop a knowledge product that could be presented as part of the wider COP 28 activities.

Media Engagements

TechUP:

- **Press Release** - AGFE, Udacity launch TechUp programme to crack the 'train to hire' code and boost Emirati talent.
- **Press Release** - Zayed University & Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education.
- **LinkedIn** - Since its founding, **TechUp UAE** has been equipping Emirati youth with technological competencies for success in the digital economy.
- **Instagram** - The Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education, in cooperation with Udacity, is hosting TechUp's second kickoff webinar, welcoming learners into the second cohort of TechUp's Nanodegree program phase.
- **Spotlight** - TechUp - Preparing UAE's Digital Leaders for the Future.

Siraj:

- **Press Release** - SDG Young Leaders Program signs MoU with Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education to support initiatives to equip UAE youth with leadership skills.
- **Press Release** - CNN Arabic and the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education embark on storytelling and youth development partnership.
- **LinkedIn** - #Siraj participants recently had the opportunity to engage in an insightful roundtable discussion with H.E. Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair, Chairman of the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education at the Al Jalila Cultural Centre for Children.
- **Instagram** - #Siraj participants recently had the opportunity to engage in an insightful roundtable discussion with H.E. Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair, Chairman of the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation for Education at the Al Jalila Cultural Centre for Children.
- **Instagram** - The 'Siraj' Program is a 6-week inspiring project in partnership with @CNNArabic, focusing on equipping Emirati youth with critical storytelling skills needed for the workplace.
- **Spotlight** - Siraj - Equipping Youth with Tomorrow's Skills.

Project Hama

- **Press Release** - 'Hama' enhances future readiness of female national service recruits.
- **LinkedIn** - Staff Major General Pilot Sheikh Ahmed Bin Tahnoon Al Nahyan, Chief of National Service and Reserve Staff Authority, and Her Excellency Ohood bint Khalfan Al Roumi, Minister of State for Government Development and the Future, launched "Hama" initiative.



Global Council on SDG # 7.3



Over the past year, and via multiple direct conversations with the council's members from around the world, we discussed various aspects on the state of energy efficiency in the world, from awareness to technical readiness. The council has agreed that a spotlight must be shed on some of the areas and sectors that require attention when it comes to energy transformation. A team has been identified to draft a whitepaper that will take a deep dive on to what countries and businesses around the world have done, can do and will do to enhance the state of energy efficiency

Luc Remont

Chairman and CEO, Electricite de France

Background of the Council's Work Plan

To produce a global report on the topic of "Energy Efficiency", embracing the full energy equation and new energy landscape, including renewables and access to energy. The report should support the council's vision in contributing to the promotion and advocacy of energy efficiency in your country and around the world.

The report should cover three key avenues:

- Policy framework Contribution. Policy plays an important role as there is a lack of enabling policy framework in the targeted regions.
- Measure against best practices. Explore business models that are working. (E.g Australia, California).
- Emerging markets focus: the biggest challenge and biggest opportunities are in emerging markets today.

Key Vertical Sectors to Cover:

- Real Estate (Commercial and Industrial Buildings)
- Transport
- Cooling systems
- Industries

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Via this work plan, the council's aim is to:

- Inspire Action: Produce a series of recommendations that will help shape how businesses, governments and societies look towards and adopt energy efficiency initiatives and technologies, with the aim of contributing to energy-related CO2 emission reductions.
- Boost Conversations: Contribute to the necessary required global awareness on the topic that is accessible to the public, to enhance the ongoing dialogue between the market and policy makers and industry experts involved in the SDG 7.3.
- Enhance Measurement: Create a knowledge product that can be used as a basis/mark for various future studies, for the purpose of tracking, documenting, and measuring progress in achieving energy efficiency.

Expectations Towards COP 28

Paper launch date will be during COP 28

**This council consists of 13 experts that hail from industry, government, academia, finance, and the not-for-profit sector. They are coming together to work out how to promote, fund, and proactively regulate for achieving SDG 7.3 on energy efficiency across every major area of our economies and lives.*



SDG Nexus – Energy – Climate – Innovation

(a nexus model for SDGs 7, 9, 13)



Without innovative solutions, deployed at scale, we would be confronted with two pathways: either protect our climate but destroy jobs and livelihoods, or protect jobs and livelihoods but destroy our climate. Fortunately, if we act now, there is still time to avoid such a situation. In fact, if we get things right, we can even create horizons for new industries and new jobs.”

Hana Al Rostamani

Group Chief Executive Officer,
First Abu Dhabi Bank

Background of the Council’s Work Plan

The council has prioritized future fuels and particularly sustainable aviation fuel as the topic of choice to deliver this sought progress towards the SDG nexus. In year one of the council’s term, 2022, a whitepaper was delivered to exploring the enablers of the SAF market in the UAE and globally.

The SDG Council on Future Fuels put out five recommendations to accelerate the development of the SAF market in the UAE and globally:

1. Mobilise SAF “buyers of first resort”.
2. Firm up commitments to achieve 10% SAF by 2030.
3. Use COP28 as an opportunity to put SAF on the map.
4. Catalyse cross-industry collaboration to build the SAF value chain in the UAE.
5. Enable coordination between finance providers, value chain actors and policymakers to develop national policies to incentivise SAF production and use in the UAE.

In year two of the council’s agenda, we will work with stakeholders across sectors to deliver tangible progress against these recommendations.

Objectives of the Council’s Work Plan

The Global Council on Future Fuels was established at the start of 2022. Its remit is to support research, thought leadership and action on developing a Future Fuels economy capable of helping the world make progress on the SDGs – particularly those related to clean energy (SDG 7), climate action (SDG 13) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9).

Key Milestones Achieved

Deliverables:

1. Enabling Lift-Off (Whitepaper)
2. SDG Global Council on Future Fuels (arcgis.com) Storymap

Calendar of Engagements to-date

Disrupt Dubai – The Climate Council

1. Held a roundtable discussion on sustainable aviation fuels industry globally and in the UAE, to understand driving forces behind development of the industry and challenges and opportunities for development.

COP27:

1. Global launch of the council produced whitepaper at FAB hosted Future Fuels reception in Sharam el Sheikh,
2. Panel on Green Hydrogen

Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week:

1. Presentation of whitepaper recommendations opening panel on sustainable aviation hosted by UK-UAE Business Council,
2. UAE launch of the whitepaper,
3. Held workshop with UAE and global aviation sector stakeholders on “What will it take for the UAE to meet ambition of 5% global supply of SAF?”



SDG Nexus – Reading for Pleasure Project

(a nexus model for SDGs 4, 10 and 17)



We are thrilled to have secured funding for the Reading for Pleasure Initiative that will allow us to move forward with our plans including the vital research element. Initial work with Dubai Schools resulted in the official inauguration of the new school library by H.E. Aisha Miran; the library now provides a key focal point for students. It was wonderful to see the impact on them, even after such a short time. The teachers told us that their students have been so engaged and excited and think the new library and the author visits have provided the highlights of the term for them. We look forward to embedding a culture and love of reading in our chosen six pilot schools and working closely with parents, teachers, and students to create centres of reading excellence, and a model that can provide the method for educators everywhere.

Isobel Abulhoul

Chief Executive Officer and Trustee of The Emirates Literature Foundation

Background of the Council's Work Plan

Extensive studies have demonstrated the importance of reading amongst children, not only for academic improvement, but for a host of positive physical and mental well-being outcomes. Embedding a culture of reading for pleasure in small children, utilizing the triangle of education – students, parents, and teachers, creates the foundations for a love of reading without the pressure of being tested or examined. The Reading for Pleasure initiative focuses on supporting the key stakeholders in the education triangle with equal focus on providing encouragement and interest for children, development and support for teachers and involvement and inspiration for parents.

Initial ideas developed into a comprehensive plan for a pilot scheme within six primary or kindergarten schools within Dubai, with the aim of creating centres of excellence which can then be scaled upwards in the future. In order to effectively study the impact of the pilot scheme, which will run over five years, the initiative will be supported by research by PhD students of Zayed, UAE and Birmingham universities. The background studies, input from education authorities and ongoing data will guide us to fine tune and enhance the initiative over time.

A selection of relevant research documents found here:

- [2006_11_01_free_research_-_reading_pleasure_2006_MuUyZjh.docx \(live.com\)](#);
- [\(PDF\) Reading for pleasure: A research overview | Naveed Afza - Academia.edu](#);
- [Reading For Pleasure - Reading for Pleasure \(ourfp.org\)](#).

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

1. Embed a culture of reading for pleasure, not testing.
2. Work initially within a pilot scheme spread over 6 primary and kindergarten schools in Dubai, one with 40% children of determination.
3. Pilot scheme to span 5 years.
4. Focus on the triangle of education with three key stakeholder involvement – students, parents, teachers.
5. Work with schools to enhance and create libraries that are inviting, fun, educational and dynamic.
6. Develop in-classroom libraries and schedule time each day for the class to be read to in both Arabic and English.
7. Provide extensive ranges of books in both Arabic and English to enable children to have a choice.
8. Develop comprehensive book lists and guidelines to give structure for librarians to select culturally appropriate books.
9. Actively engage with parents via dedicated feedback and education sessions.
10. Support teachers with focused professional development and feedback sessions.
11. Foster a love of reading and books for children by scheduling author visits, trips to book fairs, cross-curricular activities, and play.
12. Work on three key areas for children – motivation, interest, and attitudes towards reading (ref. Clark and Rumbold, National Literacy Trust UK research paper – as above).
13. Give children the opportunity to make mistakes and develop their own interests by providing a wide range of books on different topics.
14. Collect data via collaborations with leading universities to obtain data demonstrating the effectivity of the pilot schemes.
15. Upscale the Reading for Pleasure initiatives across all of Dubai and UAE.

Key Milestones Achieved

1. Completed a year of initial project within MOE (ESE) schools, reaching 575 MOE schools. All children received six books and this scheme led to our decision to initiate a more focused pilot scheme.
2. Selection and approval of 6 schools for inclusion in pilot scheme – 3 Dubai Schools, 2 ESE schools and one school with 40% children of determination. [Dubai Schools - Nad Al Sheba \(dubaischools-nas.ae\);](http://Dubai Schools - Nad Al Sheba (dubaischools-nas.ae);) [School In Dubai | Dubai Schools Al Barsha \(dubaischools-albarsha.ae\);](http://School In Dubai | Dubai Schools Al Barsha (dubaischools-albarsha.ae);) Best School In Dubai, UAE | [Dubai Schools Mirdif \(dubaischools-mirdif.ae\)](http://Dubai Schools Mirdif (dubaischools-mirdif.ae);)
3. Worked with Dubai Schools Nad Al Sheba to refurbish and decorate the school library, transforming it with age-appropriate furniture, fun and engaging areas decorated to reflect the region and interests of children and encouragement of children's involvement in the decoration of their library. Please see attached before and after images. Library was opened on December 9th 2022 by HE Aisha Miran and Mrs Isobel Abulhoul. The library serves 200 children at present, with an increasing number as the year progresses.
4. Screening of thousands of books to ensure cultural sensitivity, regional relevance, and appropriate language in both Arabic and English. Key focus here is that books should 'provide a mirror and a window', with children seeing themselves and the relevance for their lives within the book, but also sparking their imaginations and leading them to discover new things and in turn, a desire to learn and know more.
5. Visits with librarians to Sharjah Book Fair to help them purchase a wide range of appropriate books in Arabic and English to populate the libraries.
6. Recognizing the need for a comprehensive, government approved framework and guidelines for book selection in Arabic and English to prevent miscommunication or misinterpretation of themes, words and images within the range of childrens books within schools. Requested by HE Aisha Miran to develop these guidelines.
7. Curating book lists for primary students with respect to cultural, age and geographic sensitivity
8. Liaison with Birmingham University UK to develop and expand the plans for the research plan over the five years of the pilot scheme. Discussion centred on PhD students and their research with a special interest in researching the impact of Reading for Pleasure for bilingual children.
9. Acknowledgement of the importance of providing a comprehensive programme of reading in Arabic with the understanding of the need to focus on a mother tongue especially in light of the erosion of Arabic language and the infiltration of English
10. Meeting with parents at DS Nad al Sheba to help understand their position and interest in reading for their children, provide them with options and choice of books and demonstrate the importance of reading with their children, offering practical advice of how to incorporate reading at home into a daily routine.
11. Arranging author visits to schools to bring the stories and reading alive for children. Please see attached images.
12. Leading 'Reading Teachers' workshops at Dubai Schools with an award winning librarian and early years reading specialist to help teachers develop skills to encourage children to read.
13. Sponsor secured.



Impact and Measurements to Date

Without having firm statistical data, the Council have nevertheless noted an incredible amount of anecdotal and positive feedback. Some examples of this are:

1. HE Aisha Miran felt that the DS Nad Al Sheba library was an excellent example of an engaging, fun, and educational library which can act as a blueprint for the other Dubai School libraries and beyond.
2. HE Aisha Miran requested ELF to develop guidelines for school library books.
3. Parental feedback was excellent within our limited time with parents, and they showed marked enthusiasm for the development of the initiative.
4. Teacher feedback from the author visits with statements such as 'this is the most engaged and lively the students have been since the start of the school year'. An increased number of requests for books and more author visits have been noted.
5. Teacher feedback from initial 'Reading Teacher' workshops was very positive, with many teachers thanking us for the tips and further feedback demonstrating how the students are eager each day to hear the next part of the story and sharing their opinions about the stories read to them.
6. Excitement and engagement of students with their new library at Dubai Schools Nad al Sheba.
7. Positive feedback and interest from University of Birmingham with exploration of specific research topics amongst PhD students and an interest in following the impact of the initiative on bilingual children.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

- A body of scientific quantifiable research by independent experts that can be used to then scale up the initiative from pilot scheme to nationwide.
- Positively impact the academic, mental, physical, and social well-being of children.
- Motivate teachers about their essential role in reading for children and beyond.
- Increase parental awareness of their vital part in the journey for their children.

Expectations Towards COP 28

The Council have the intention to produce research for COP 28.



A nexus model for SDGs 4, 5, 6 and 14



As the world's leading trade enabler, it is critical that we become vanguards of the communities we operate in. That's why at DP World, we remain committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and are steadfast in making an impact. As COP28 nears, we are reminded that while individually we may be making great strides in supporting the development of more prosperous communities and people

Maha Al Qattan

Group Chief People & Sustainability Officer, DP World

Background of the Council's Work Plan

As a global logistics leader, DP World makes trade flow to change what's possible for everyone. The 'Our World, Our Future' sustainability strategy guides our approach. The strategy is split into two components which align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals:

For the global councils we are focusing on the second part of the strategy, 'Our Future', which looks at the lasting legacy we will leave on our industry and society. It focuses on three areas where we can make a positive difference for future generations: Education, Women and Water.

The strategy sets out a clear agenda: we will spend the next decade delivering against these goals and leveraging our business to achieve a better, more equal and more sustainable future for all. We are believers that this strategy will be a tool for driving continuous improvement and better business performance. The case studies, partnerships, events and thought leadership initiatives are evidence of our ongoing efforts to implement our sustainability strategy globally, and how these initiatives have both benefited our business and the communities in which we operate.

Objectives of the Council's Work Plan

Education:

- In partnership with Jane Goodall Institute's we expect to directly impact around 30,000 youth and reach around 100,000 through our resources over 3 years.
- The expansion of DP World's partnership with UNICEF to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ethiopia reaching over 33,000 youth over 3 years.
- The partnership with the Maiden Factor aims to reach around 4500 girls over 3 years to engage with STEM subjects and spearhead girls education.

Water:

- To invest in a global water partnership – 200k GBP went to WaterAid to design and implement a comprehensive WASH programme to meet the unique needs of the most vulnerable communities in Mozambique.
- To scale two Earthshot Oceans Finalists' solutions, including laying the foundations for the first-ever commercial land-based coral farm for reef restoration in the Middle East and installing the largest living seawall on the planet to support the native marine life of the region. We committed £1million – £500k to each project.

Women:

- We want to ensure females are a key beneficiary of our community strategy and pledge that 1 million girls and women will be supported by our community investment programmes by 2030.
- To reach 50/50 gender parity in all our education projects.

Key Milestones Achieved

General

In addition to the progress made across our three key legacy areas, we would be remiss if we failed to mention certain corporate sustainability milestones we have achieved over the past year. These include:

- We welcomed [Maha AlQattan](#) as our Group Chief People & Sustainability Officer.
- Launched our first [ESG report](#) to measure our progress and remain accountable to a number of stakeholders that benefit from the impact of our ESG investments and initiatives.
- Established ESG as a Risk into the corporate enterprise risk register as a new measurement framework for 2022.
- Launched the [DP World Foundation](#) on Zayed Humanitarian Day. The Foundation's vision is to aspire to change people's lives and leave a positive, long-lasting impact in the community. Its core values are responsibility, innovation and excellence.

Our Legacy Area: Women | SDG 5 (Gender Equality)

- Our Chairman was announced as the Middle East's first [HeForShe champion by UN Women](#).
- Partnered with [The Maiden Factor](#) to encourage young women and girls' participation in and education across Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects to equip them with the skills to succeed in the transport and logistics sector.
- Launched the DP World's Inclusion & Diversity policy, which provides a clear vision for every business unit on how to approach gender equality and drive progress on a global scale. We also signed a pledge with the UAE Gender Balance Council to increase female representation within our operations' senior management.
- Invested in global initiatives such as [Solar Mamas](#), equipping the first cohort of local Senegalese women with knowledge, skills, and tools to become solar energy and maintenance technicians from a training programme run in partnership with the Barefoot College International (BCI).
- We have been a signatory of UN Women's Empowerment Principles (UNWEP) since 2015, which has led us to improve women's representation across the Group ever since.
- We launched our 'Women on Board' training programme, designed to expand our global Board talent pool pipeline.

Our Legacy Area: Education | SDG 4 (Quality Education)

- Legacy pillar evolution: Youth today are facing an evolving world, with new opportunities but also new challenges. We updated our legacy pillar to make sure no one gets left behind as the world transitions, but also enable youth to contribute positively to this transforming world.
- The Education Platform: Our new platform will engage schools through a range of annual challenges and activities, include all the visuals, messaging and resources for the Global Education programme outreach plans and provide teachers with useful resources and activities for their classes covering STEM, Logistics, Green Skills and Digital Skills.
- FlowLab: We reached over 7000 students at the DP World Flow Pavilion. They participated in our flowlab challenge, pavilion tours, workshops and a hackathon with our partner UNICEF.
- We expanded our partnership with UNICEF in Ethiopia, Bosnia and Herzegovina: Over the next three years we will launch two projects with UNICEF in Bosnia Herzegovina and Ethiopia with the aim to empower youth by equipping them with the skills necessary to transition from education to work.
- Partnership with the [Jane Goodall Institute](#): A three-year agreement to support the Jane Goodall Institute's global humanitarian and environmental youth programme Roots & Shoots.

Our Legacy Area: Water | SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and 14 (Life Below Water)

- Legacy pillar evolution: we updated our [Water legacy pillar](#) from oceans to water to include WASH initiatives and investments that facilitate access to water, sanitation, and hygiene.
- As a company that relies on oceans to make trade flow for everyone, we joined the UN Global Compact Ocean Stewardship Coalition to safeguard the global blue ecosystem and invest in initiatives that deal with ocean restoration.
- Joined the [Maersk McKinney Moller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping](#) as a partner for long-term strategic collaboration on the intensive research and development to find practical ways to decarbonize the maritime industry through several global initiatives, zero carbon technologies, and solutions for the maritime industry.
- Partnered with [WaterAid](#) to deliver Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in 27 countries and under the agreement, DP World will advocate for the private sector to address water and sanitation challenges globally, to ensure access to water and sanitation for all.
- Took on the [Green Shipping Challenge \(GSC\)](#) to invest up to \$500 million across its business to cut CO2 emissions by nearly 700,000 tonnes over the next five years.

Impact and Measurements to Date

DP World Legacy Area: Women | SDG 5 (Gender Equality)

- In 2022 alone, we worked on 49 gender equality community projects, reaching more than 230,000 women in local communities.
- 50% female representation across education projects.
- In 2018, we launched 'MentorHer', a global programme for the career development of female employees. In 2022, 257 mentees and 182 mentors from across the Group participated in the programme.
- Our "Women on Board" initiative was launched in 2022 has supported the elevation of 12 female colleagues to local/regional board positions across our company.
- We have also delivered "Lead Connect: Beating the Bias", sessions that discussed the impact of Unconscious Bias and encouraged leaders to identify opportunities to challenge bias and commit to building a more inclusive workplace. We conducted sessions -for front line supervisors and for managers and saw participation from 120 leaders, representing each of our regions.
- In celebration of Inclusion and Diversity month, delivered 3 cohorts of "One of Us: Harness the Power of a Diverse Workforce" in English and Spanish attended by more 500 employees.

DP World Legacy Area: Education | SDG 4 (Quality Education)

- In 2022, we initiated 94 education projects globally and reached around 50,000 students across our areas of operation.
- We have contributed 350,000 USD towards our partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots and Shoots programme that impacts approximately 5,000 children around the world, implementing practical positive change for people, animals and the environment.
- In 2022 we began our three-year commitment with The Maiden Factor, an all female crew led by Tracy Edwards for a three-year sailing tour with the mission to champion girl's education worldwide. We have pledged 4.3 Million USD towards this partnership. This year the maiden made an impact on over 1600 student beneficiaries in 4 countries.

- Over the next three years we have pledged over 2million USD to launch 2 projects with UNICEF in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ethiopia. The aim of projects will be to:
 1. Address the growing digital divide.
 2. Empower youth by equipping them with the skills necessary to transition from education to work.
 3. Building digital and ICT skills, innovation and transferrable skills through boot camps, workshops, online training programmes and working with the government to support internships.
 4. We are expecting to reach over 33,000 youth.

DP World Legacy Area: Water | SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and 14 (Life Below Water)

- We are providing our communities with equitable access to clean, safe drinking water. So far, we've installed clean water harvesting structures for 9,000 people in India. We're also working with the Governor's Office in Sahil to provide clean water to the Port of Berbera community.
- We're also focusing on providing access to hygiene and sanitation and education of the matter. Hygiene products and supplies were distributed in Argentina, Ecuador, Egypt & Mozambique.
- Technical assessment and subsequent construction of sanitation facilities and bio-toilets across 12 communities and their schools in India.
- 54 families equipped with personal-use toilets in India.
- A huge part of this work is sustainable water management within our own operations. In 2022, our targets included the development and roll-out of a water strategy including wastewater. Our waste KPI for 2022 is to show a 4% increase in reclaimed waste from the total generated waste in 2021 across the Group.
- Delivered educational programmes to nine schools in Peru, highlighting the importance of hygiene and sanitation in social and economic development.
- Drain repair following severe flooding in Chucuito, Peru.
- We're also dedicating resources to the restoration of ocean ecosystems biodiversity. This includes extensive mangrove and coral restoration projects around the world.
- Our employees have volunteered nearly 900 hours to the clean ups of beaches and coastal areas around the globe collecting over 2400 kilos of waste.
- Projects we have embarked in so far have included global mangrove restoration projects, with results from across our regions:
 - Americas Region:
 - DP World Pasorja (Ecuador) - 25,000 Red Mangrove seedlings planted (40 hectares).
 - DP World Caucedo (Dominican Republic) - Coral reef restoration, focused on the formation of permanent coral colonies which create habitats for fish and marine invertebrates.
 - Asia Pacific Region: DP World Batangas and Manila (Philippines) - approximately 3,000 mangrove seedlings planted (equivalent to 1 hectare).
 - UAE Region: DP World Karachi (Pakistan) - 30,250 mangroves seedlings planted (2 different mangrove species - Rhizophora mucronata and Avicenna marina) (10 hectares).
 - Middle East Africa Region: DP World Maputo (Mozambique) - invested in the restoration of mangrove forests in the Ponta de Ouro Partial Marine Reserve.
 - Europe Region: DP World Yarimca (Turkey) - coral preservation in the Marmara Sea, via re-planting of coral fragments from the at risk Sivriada region to nearby Balicki Island.



Location Data for Analysis and Mapping

With a global footprint and reach, our initiatives touch every community we operate in and serve. From equipping local women in Senegal with the knowledge necessary to become technical engineers, to mangrove restoration efforts in Karachi, Pakistan for Ocean carbon capture – our reach is truly global.



*Preliminary data. Verified data will be published after the 1st quarter of 2023.

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

DP World Legacy Area: Women | SDG 5 (Gender Equality)

- The aim of the partnership with UN Women, is to increase female representation across the group to 20% by 2025, introduce the requirement for shortlisted candidates (band 4+) to include at least 1 female representative to proceed to the interview stage, invest in getting more women on the board through DP World's internal our 'Women on Board' initiative, and progress across all WEP IBC common metric and report publicly on these, every year.
- DP World's plans and targets include the continued application of the UN Women's Empowerment Gender Gap Analysis Tool to conduct a self-assessment of our performance, to further increase our performance score.
- Continue to apply the UN Women's Empowerment Gender Gap Analysis self-assessment tool to further increase our performance score.
- Continue to apply a gender equality lens to all that we do. Our Sustainability Champions across regions are trained to apply a gender lens to all projects being supported to ensure we have an equal split of males and females benefiting from our programmes.

- Work alongside our partners, including UNICEF, Barefoot College and the Maiden Factor, to promote girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) subjects.
- We want to ensure females are a key beneficiary of our community strategy and pledge that 1 million girls and women will be supported by our community investment programmes by 2030.

DP World Legacy Area: Education | SDG 4 (Quality Education)

- The partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute's objective is to directly impact around 30,000 youth and reach around 100,000 through our resources over 3 years.
- The expansion of DP World's existing partnership with UNICEF to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ethiopia is expected to contribute to reaching over 33,000 youth over 3 years.
- The partnership with the Maiden Factor aims to reach around 4500 girls over 3 years and invite them to engage with STEM subjects and spearhead girls education.

DP World Legacy Area: Water | SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and 14 (Life Below Water)

- DP World have invested GBP 200,000 over the next year to allow WaterAid to design and implement a comprehensive WASH programme to meet the unique needs of the most vulnerable communities in the country. We will begin the project in Mozambique, where an estimated 37% of the population don't have access to safely managed drinking water; 63% don't have access to safely managed sanitation services and 12% of households do not have access to handwashing facilities or soap and water.
- We are signatories to the UN Sustainable Ocean Principles, which provide a framework for responsible business practices across sectors and geographies. They build upon and supplement the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. We, as signatories of these principles, recognize the urgency and global importance of a healthy ocean, and will take action to promote the well-being of the ocean for current and future generations.
- We committed £1million - £500k each - to scale two Earthshot Oceans Finalists' solutions, including laying the foundations for the first-ever commercial land-based coral farm for reef restoration in the Middle East and installing the largest living seawall on the planet to support the native marine life of the region.

Expectations Towards COP 28

COP28 coming to the Middle East is a significant step forward towards recognition of the region's efforts towards advancing the UN's sustainability goals and commitments. Even more significant is that COP28 will be hosted by the United Arab Emirates in Dubai and at Expo City, the purpose-built construction that hosted Expo 2020. The DP World Pavillion, will stage thought leadership events, bilateral meetings, and more - which is an opportunity, and honour, and an incredible responsibility.

While the plan is still in development, we are developing a strategy to mobilise the private sector in support of COP's resolutions by leveraging our existing partnerships with the UN Global Compact, UNICEF, UN Women, The Ocean Stewardship Coalition, HeForShe, and many more, including: The Earthshot Prize, the Maersk McKinney Moeller Centre for Zero Carbon Shipping, United For Wildlife, and the Logistics Emergency Teams.



Media Engagements

- DP World Chairman announced as the Middle East and Africa's first HeForShe Champion: "DP World CEO becomes first Middle East leader to champion UN Women HeForShe alliance" (Arabian Business).
- Maha got featured by World Economic Forum as one of the 7 leaders at Davos 2022 on securing sustainable, resilient supply chains, despite global shocks.
- Maha Al Qattan's op-ed for the World Economic Forum's segment on building sustainable and resilient supply chains: "Understand how our peers work and the challenges they face" (WEF).
- Maha's participation at a panel discussion on Driving a just transition - financing sustainable infrastructure at the World Economic Forum.
- Maha's participation at Emirati Women's Day Diversity Panel on Bloomberg.
- Maha AlQattan's blog on Three Steps to Kickstart Your ESG Reporting Journey.
- Maha Al Qattan's interview on DP World's efforts to support the energy transition in Asia: "UAE port operator DP World warms to more wind, solar, hydropower, biomass and nuclear energy in Asia, in net zero aim" (South China Morning Post).
- Oceans to Water sustainability strategy update announcement: "DP World expands ambitious sustainability strategy" (MSN).
- DP World partners with WaterAid to deliver WASH services (Trade Arabia).



Nexus between SDG 4: Quality Education and the collection of all other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The goal is to provide Education and Instruction worldwide for applying GIS to each individual SDG goal.



We recognize that all goals relate to SDG Goal 4: Quality Education. The focus of our SDG Council will continue to raise awareness about the power and capacity of GIS to support efforts to report on, understand, and achieve the SDGs.

GIS is widely recognized as an essential tool for implementing and tracking progress on the SDGs and their targets and indicators. GIS and location enable people everywhere to track progress in their own countries and homelands at local levels as well as at all other levels of geography worldwide, providing a kind of dashboard to track progress and to share innovative ideas with one another.

Clint Brown

Director, Esri

Background of the Council’s Work Plan

Since the establishment of the SDGs by the UN, Esri has focused on implementing a framework for measuring and supporting GIS-based indicators across all goals by GIS organizations worldwide. Early on, we implemented and organized geographic information in a unified portal. The Federated Information System for the SDGs research exercise (known as [FIS4SDGs](#)) demonstrated the value of an open, GIS-backed, country-owned and country-led, approach to monitoring and reporting on the SDGs.

This effort has now expanded to the [SDG Data Alliance](#) which encourages collaboration and geospatial planning through the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (UN-IGIF), backed by leading GIS technology with a broader goal of accelerating achievement of the SDGs by creating 20 additional SDG Data Hubs across countries in need.

Meanwhile, within the United Arab Emirates, the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC) has recognized that GIS is essential for creating a sustainable, community-based approach for achieving the SDGs. FCSC’s extraordinary work provides compelling examples of multi-stakeholder initiatives that drive progress and offer innovative solutions across the Emirates and the region.

At Esri, we have adopted many lessons learned from these experiences, and have been implementing an SDG framework in countries worldwide to establish GIS as an effective tool for SDG implementation and reporting.

Objectives of the Council’s Work Plan

In the coming months, our Council will develop a number of lessons and tutorials for learning about and addressing progress on the SDGs along with instructions for how the UAE and other countries can contribute to the implementation of the SDGs worldwide. These will be delivered as collections of hands-on tutorials in websites such as: [www.sdg.org](#), [UAE SDGs Data Hub \(arcgis.com\)](#), and [SDG Geospatial Learning Lab \(arcgis.com\)](#) (Complete release: 30-Jan-2023).

Here is a [StoryMap](#) that represents progress on SDGs in the UAE.

Key Milestones Achieved

In November 2022, we launched a [Sustainable Development Goals Solution](#). This delivers a set of capabilities that help governments share progress made on SDGs, encourages community engagement, and combats misinformation.

Next month, we are launching [Storytelling for a Sustainable World](#). This StoryMaps collection includes one story for each of the UN's SDGs, provides sample stories, data sets and applications, and learning resources for getting started with place-based storytelling. Released on 12 February 2023.

On 30 January 2023, we delivered the [SDG Learning Lab](#) that includes a series of tutorials and lessons for achieving the SDGs: [SDG Geospatial Learning Lab](#).

Impact and Measurements to Date

Here is an example of the content in the [SDG Geospatial Learning Lab](#):

SDG 1 – No Poverty

Tutorials: **5**
Related Content: **13**

SDG 2 – Zero Hunger

Tutorials: **3**
Related Content: **13**

SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being

Tutorials: **14**
Related Content: **15**

SDG 4 – Quality Education

Tutorials: **3**
Related Content: **8**

SDG 5 – Gender Equality

Tutorials: **0**
Related Content: **8**

SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Tutorials: **7**
Related Content: **14**

SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Tutorials: **2**
Related Content: **6**

SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth

Tutorials: **3**
Related Content: **5**

SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Tutorials: **8**
Related Content: **7**

SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities

Tutorials: **4**
Related Content: **8**

SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Tutorials: **21**
Related Content: **21**

SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production

Tutorials: **6**
Related Content: **15**

SDG 13 – Climate Action

Tutorials: **11**
Related Content: **11**

SDG 14 – Life Below Water

Tutorials: **8**
Related Content: **12**

SDG 15 – Life on Land

Tutorials: **16**
Related Content: **19**

SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Tutorials: **6**
Related Content: **25**

SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals

Tutorials: **1**
Related Content: **2**

Expected Outcomes and Impact by End of Term (targets)

Broad understanding at both national and local levels of how GIS can be applied to better report, measure and monitor progress on the goals.

Increase in the number of overall SDG portals established.

Adoption of use of learn lessons at local level to teach and inspire action toward achieving the goals.

Expectations Towards COP 28

We currently are working with Esri Council members to define new project around GeoAccounting for the planet which we would like to introduce at COP28.

Media Engagements

[Sustainable Development Goals Solution](#)
www.sdg.org
[UAE SDGs Data Hub \(arcgis.com\)](http://uae.sdg.org)

A special thank you to the chairpersons of the councils, vice chairpersons, members of the councils, and youth members for driving efforts, leading discussions, and mobilizing partnerships to accerlate the implementation of the SDGs.

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The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC) is a government center affiliated with the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs in the United Arab Emirates. FCSC was established according to federal decree number 2020/2, with the aim to develop and enhance the UAE's performance in the areas of global competitiveness, statistics and data, and to support the country's journey in achieving UAE's Centennial Plan 2071. FCSC is actively engaged in building an integrated national statistical system, raising the UAE's competitiveness across various sectors, enhancing the country's position within global competitiveness reports and indicators, and is engaged in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its capacity as the Secretariat of the National Committee for the Sustainable Development Goals. FCSC ideates and recommends policies, strategies, legislations, and plans related to competitiveness and statistics to different stakeholders and decision makers in the UAE.

FCSC is actively involved in raising awareness on the culture of competitiveness and the importance of providing quality and accurate data and statistical information at a national level. FCSC further serve as the Secretariat to the Global Councils on SDGs.



The World Government Summit Organization is a global, neutral, non-profit organization dedicated to shaping the future of governments.

The WGS is the largest global platform dedicated to exploring the future of governments driven by technological advances and evolving citizen expectations, and highlights future trends in government services, leadership, and innovation. The summit brings together over 4,000 leaders, policy makers, academics, and key representatives from international organizations from over 125 countries, thereby creating an exciting opportunity to exchange innovations and experiences, and build strong networks for collaboration.

Following the adoption of the SDGs in 2015 and as part of the UAE's commitment to their implementation, the World Government Summit in its fourth edition in 2016, introduced a special track to focus on the SDGs and their implementation. The inaugural SDGs in Action at the World Government Summit event focused on the role of monitoring & reporting and financing in implementing the SDGs, which later became the platform to launch the Global Councils on SDGs.

GLOBAL COUNCILS ON SDGS 2021/23
PROGRESS REPORT

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