



مجموعة أبوظبي للإستدامة
ABU DHABI SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

SUSTAINABILITY JOURNAL

Quarter 1, 2019

**Interview With Her Excellency
Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri,
Acting Secretary General,
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi**

Banking For the Future, an Interview With
Gulf International Bank's Head of Strategy
Venetia Bell

This issue features the programme for
the Abu Dhabi Sustainable Business
Leadership Forum 2019

ABU DHABI SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FORUM **2019**

THE FULL FORUM PROGRAMME IN THIS ISSUE

Abu Dhabi Sustainable Business Leadership Forum 2019

Business Leadership in a Sustainable Economy

The Abu Dhabi Sustainable Business Leadership Forum's theme for 2019 is: "Business Leadership in a Sustainable Economy". The Forum will help articulate a vision for how organisations can deal with issues such as long-term access to natural resources with ever increasing environmental and eco-system degradation, how they can mitigate those risks to build a more sustainable future and the role of investors within that context.

With global consumption rates and demands on natural resources rising rapidly there is pressure to move away from the traditional linear economic model to a more circular economy model where we only extract new resources from the Earth when necessary and in such a manner that allows for our natural resources to be replenished and with minimum impact on our natural environment. This circular approach focuses on ensuring products and materials are used for as long as possible by minimising waste and conserving resources.

The Forum will encourage attendees to think about what change is needed in order to achieve sustainable growth and secure a sustainable future for business and the environment. The sessions will provide an exciting opportunity to share ideas and challenge our current business thinking with aim of supporting organisations to make the much-needed changes towards becoming viable and sustainable businesses of tomorrow's economy. With this forum, the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group (ADSG) hopes to not only promote sustainability across the region but also encourage and support organisations in taking the initiative to adopt and implement sustainable practices.

Delegates

The Forum attracts leadership including CEOs of the ADSG member organisations, sustainability professionals from private corporations, governmental organisations, academic institutions, NGO's and the media who are interested in learning and engaging with the current trends and opportunities in CSR and sustainability. Approximately 200 delegates attend the event, many of those are from ADSG member organisations as well as further afield from Dubai, other Emirates and a few from the region.



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Editor's Note

Dear sustainability reader,

Working alongside the team on bringing together this issue of the ADSG Sustainability eJournal has been thoroughly enjoyable. It is an honour and privilege to bring to you the interview with Her Excellency Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri, Acting Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi where she shares with us her priorities and focus areas. I am also thrilled to present an interview with Venetia Bell, Head of Strategy at the Gulf International Bank, the interview showcases how the bank is dealing with their biggest sustainability challenges and highlights the work they are doing on supporting youth development. Of course, this issue also provides all the information you need to make

the most of your participation in the Abu Dhabi Sustainable Business Leadership Forum 2019. I hope you will find this issue useful and that it will spark inspiration and excitement towards your area of sustainability work.

I look forward to see you at the #ADSGForum2019 and anticipate your feedback and comments for future issues of the ADSG Sustainability eJournal.

With best wishes,

Sandra Anani
Sustainability & Communications Consultant



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The opinions and views expressed in the ADSG Sustainability eJournal do not necessarily reflect the ADSG's policy or position. Special thanks to the members of ADSG for providing information, pictures and support in the production of this Journal.

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Special thanks to Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi for their support.



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ADSG SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARDS 2019

BEST SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

BEST SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

BEST SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR

SUSTAINABILITY LEADER OF THE YEAR

BEST ENERGY MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE

RECOGNISING SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP IN THE REGION

#ADSGAwards2019



مجموعة أبو ظبي للإستدامة
ABU DHABI SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

Dear ADSG Members and Partners,

It is a privilege and a pleasure to personally welcome all members and partners to the ADSG Sustainable Business Leadership Forum 2019, with support of the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi. This is the fifth year we have held this event which provides an innovative platform for sharing best practice and learning across the broad spectrum of public, not-for-profit and corporate enterprise represented in the Forum.

I would like to give a special thank you to our members and Forum sponsors Dolphin Energy and Etihad Airways for making the forum such a success over the last five years.

Our theme this year focuses on articulating a vision of how organisations can deal with business issues such as long-term access to natural resources with ever increasing environmental and eco-system degradation and how they can mitigate those real business risks to build a more sustainable future and economy.

With the support and leadership of the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, the ADSG remains committed to our goal to promote sustainability management, innovation, and responsible business growth in Abu Dhabi.

We are proud to showcase our interview with HE Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri, Acting Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi in this issue of the eJournal and to learn valuable insights from her. I hope you will find it as informative as I have and that you will learn even more from her when attend Plenary 1 on 17th April.

Our Forum and the rich topics that the gathering brings for debate, offers all of us a unique networking and knowledge-sharing platform and an opportunity for us to share ideas on how we can accelerate our sustainability journey, and to debate topics and issues that are vital to achieving this, benefiting greatly from your active and direct engagement and participation.

Comment from ADSG Director

We are pleased to provide an excellent line up of keynote speakers and panel discussions to keep you engaged and inspired and to help drive your sustainability efforts to the next level. Our sessions aim to cover the key challenges that are defining the biggest business risks we face; achieving sustainable growth; diversifying the economy whilst reducing demand on natural resources.

Building partnerships and collaboration with stakeholders and partners is always the key to success. Therefore, we are very proud of where we are today and excited about where we are heading. Our partners, many of whom are with us at the Forum, have helped us to deliver this quality programme - we thank the Business in the Community team, Abu Dhabi Global Markets, the Natural Capital Coalition, Emirates Nature - WWF, the Energy Institute, the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and Gulf International Bank.

A special thanks goes to Jason Lewis, FRSGS, award-winning author and sustainability campaigner for his contribution and support throughout the event.

Finally, a BIG thank you goes to you, our members and partners, for bringing your energy and expertise to our forum. The accomplishments of the ADSG are based on your achievements and the support you provide, so I know that together we can find ways for businesses to incorporate more sustainable practices and awareness at the top of the agenda.

I wish you a successful and enjoyable Forum.

Huda Al Houqani,
ADSG Director



ADSG interview With Her Excellency Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri,
Acting Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi

1. Your Excellency, since coming into this role can you tell us what have been your top priorities for the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi and why?

While there are a myriad of local environmental issues that require our attention, the quality of our marine water and the state of our fisheries have appeared the most pertinent for the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) to immediately address.

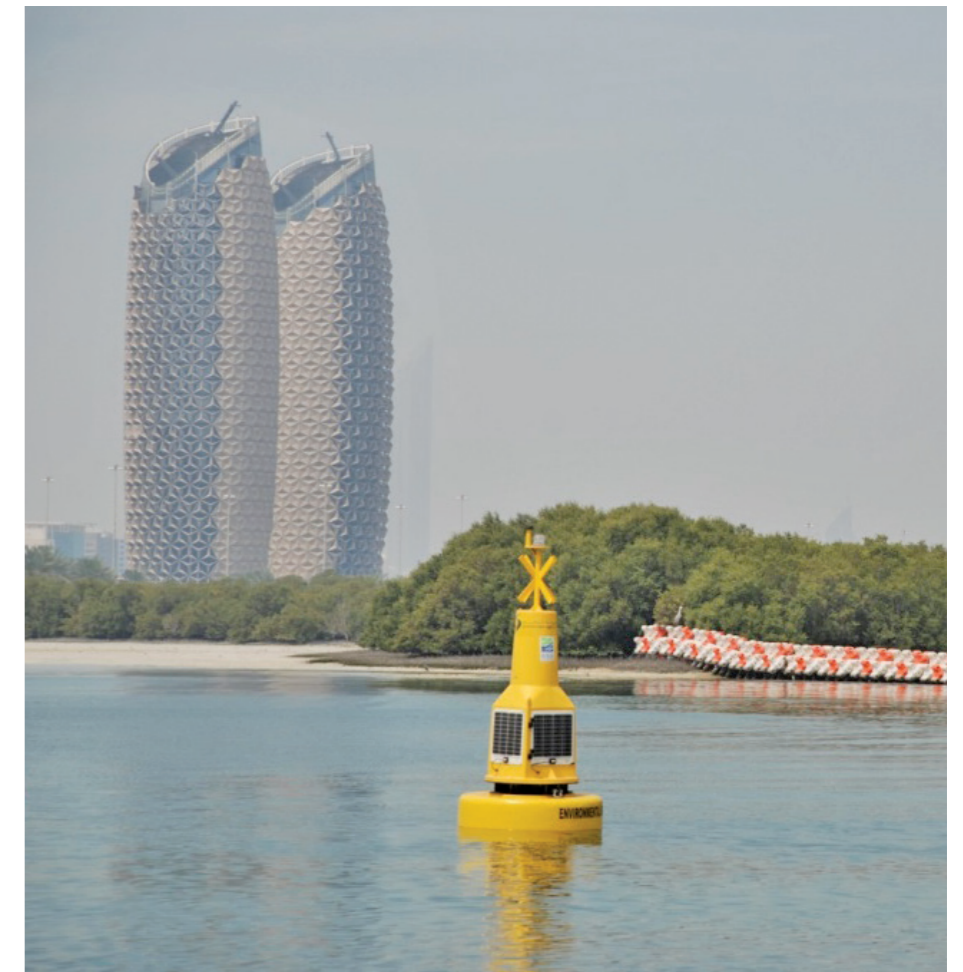
The emirate of Abu Dhabi gives special importance to enhancing marine water quality because it is the source of potable water from desalination, as well as an important contributor to the national economy and international trading. Enhanced marine water quality in the emirate of Abu Dhabi is vital in promoting a sustainable marine environment, which is an important pillar of support for economic and tourism activities in the emirate, as well as public health.

Fishing, too, is an important part of our seafaring legacy here in the region and considered a national strategic priority under the UAE National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan. However, consistent with global trends, the UAE's fishery sector, too, is under pressure due to the rising demand for fish triggered by a rapidly growing population, as well as the loss and degradation of key habitats and marine water quality due to coastal development, cumulative desalination activities, pollution and climate change.

As such, we are actively pursuing measures to achieve sustainable fisheries across the waters of the UAE and address the issue of severely exploited local fish stocks. This has also included the recent launch of the UAE National Framework for Sustainable Fisheries - the UAE's first national recovery plan for fisheries - that seeks to curb the effects of overfishing and promote an environmentally sustainable, economically viable, and socially responsible fishing sector across the country.

Implementation of this framework has already commenced, with EAD engaging with the spearfishing sector to discuss daily take and boat limits based on species stock status, with further plans to engage with the wider recreational and commercial fishing community.

"The role of public and private sector collaboration to advance a shared environmental protection and sustainability agenda cannot be overstated. The private sector will be a critical partner in delivering effective action on environmental issues by mobilising investment, resources, knowledge and innovation to address climate change and promote green growth."





2. What have been the recent highlights at the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, can you tell us about the initiatives that you think have had the greatest impact on the sustainability agenda in Abu Dhabi?

The Agency is proud to lead on environmental protection and sustainability initiatives in the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Together with the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development (DED), EAD supported the 2019 World Ocean Summit's first edition in the Middle East, which was hosted by the Abu Dhabi Government. Held just last month, the World Ocean Summit welcomed the participation of more than 700 global experts in marine conservation. It also provided an opportunity for the region to share dialogue on how best to innovate, govern and promote a sustainable blue economy, and explore new ways to mitigate the adverse impacts of human pressures on ocean health.

The event underscored our collective global commitment towards the protection and preservation of local marine biodiversity, governance of coastal activities, and sustainable management of our marine resources through effective policy and regulation at the 2019 Summit. It provided an important platform not only for us to engage and build international collaborations, but also showcase and share best practice and marine research from the region that is crucial in shaping the global

priorities for oceans moving forward. The World Ocean Summit also hosted high-level roundtable sessions to explore sustainable practices towards enhancing and preserving our marine environment. It also marked the occasion at which important announcements were made, including the UAE Sustainable Fisheries Framework and the Ban on Gargour fishing nets as part of a comprehensive plan to ensure the protection and recovery of fisheries in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. The serious issue of single-use plastics in our marine environment and proactive ways to tackle the challenge were also discussed.

Separately, at the World Future Energy Summit in January this year, EAD launched the first-ever Abu Dhabi Groundwater Atlas for the Emirate of Abu Dhabi that incorporates the results of the Groundwater Wells Inventory project involving over 118,000 wells in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. This data will help track and analyse the status, levels and uses of groundwater reserves in the emirate and will assist authorities in improving and promoting the efficient use of water resources in Abu Dhabi. Groundwater has always been considered a precious resource in our nation, and an inherent and essential asset to our survival and progress, and the Agency's work in groundwater aims to reduce the overall abstraction and preserve the nation's natural resources and biodiversity for a sustainable future.



3. How is the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi marking the Year of Tolerance at Environment Agency- Abu Dhabi?

To promote, integrate and encourage efforts in social responsibility and environmental conservation during the UAE Year of Tolerance, EAD will be leading on a series of initiatives that will celebrate the values of tolerance, coexistence and diversity under the theme 'Tolerance with Nature'; and exemplify the role of the Ghaf tree as a historic and cultural symbol of stability and peace in the UAE's desert environment. The Agency will lead the plantation of hundreds of Ghaf trees across the emirate of Abu Dhabi with the support of other partner entities and local community engagement.

EAD's plans for the Year of Tolerance also incorporate other aspects of the nation's diverse natural landscapes and biodiversity. By highlighting and examining increasing violations of the emirate's environmental laws and regulations, EAD intends to carry

out random inspections along Abu Dhabi's coasts, beaches and waters to mitigate any harmful impacts of human activity on marine ecosystems. EAD will tackle the growing issue of 'white pollution' that reflects the accumulation of plastic waste found in wild habitats and desert camping areas. In addition, EAD will also take strict measures on any felling of local trees during the UAE camping season, with special regard for the Acacia and Ghaf trees, which has adverse effects on native biodiversity.

4. Looking towards the future, commentators at the World Economic Forum in Davos called 2020 a 'super year' with major UN meetings scheduled on a number of environmental issues. This could be the moment for transformational change in response to interconnected issues relating to the environment. The feeling among many participants at WEF was that governments and businesses must seize this opportunity to 'step up' both ambition and action and set the planet on a path to recovery. [Source: WEF@Davos] What role should the private sector play in Abu Dhabi? How would the the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi support that?

The role of public and private sector collaboration to advance a shared environmental protection and sustainability agenda cannot be overstated. The private sector will be a critical partner in delivering effective action on environmental issues by mobilising investment, resources, knowledge and innovation to address climate change and promote green growth. If we are to address the sustainability challenges we face and aim to meet the targets outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, we need to step up the pace of change - as leaders, businesses and as global citizens.

Adopting sustainable and eco-friendly practices across the private sector is a natural course of action if we want to balance our growth and development while maintaining and preserving our natural environment. By advocating for clean infrastructure, reducing energy and water use, improving the climate resilience of cities and communities and supporting natural capital, businesses and corporations can create a lasting impact for the future of our planet.

The Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) collaborates with various stakeholders to raise environmental

awareness and encourage sustainable development. We are also now regulating some industries that simply did not exist a few years ago, so it is important that we work with different stakeholders to develop, formulate, and where possible, self-regulate industry for the good of all.

Over the years, EAD has developed a number of tools and guidelines to support the government and business sectors and enlist their help to address the key environmental sustainability challenges facing the Emirate of Abu Dhabi such as water and waste management. These guides provide detailed guidance to businesses to help them address environmental challenges including a wide range of hints, tips and ideas to help organisations along the road to sustainability. The tools and advice are all based on proven, practical, 'real world' experience.

The Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group, set up by EAD in 2008, also promotes sustainability management in Abu Dhabi by providing learning and knowledge sharing opportunities for government, private companies and not-for-profit-organizations.

5. Youth and future business leaders have a key role to play in sustainability and climate change. What messages and actions does the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi wish to impart today to the future business leaders in Abu Dhabi?

Our youth are our greatest asset, and the torchbearers of tomorrow who will one day inherit the world we live in. In order to ensure that they are able to benefit from the environment and all our natural resources, it is absolutely vital that the next generation of leaders approach growth and development with a strong regard for our land, biodiversity and ecosystems - that are intrinsic to our survival - and use them sustainably and responsibly. They should be motivated to contribute towards proactive efforts in the protection and preservation of these precious natural resources and continue to build on our collective efforts to instill a profound respect for the environment among all members of society.

It is very encouraging to see that the next generation is already invested in sustainable development and environmental protection. Having grown up in a world defined by new innovations and advanced technologies, young people are increasingly harnessing this opportunity to create innovative and sustainable solutions to address the issues facing the environment. Akira Sakano, CEO of Zero Waste Academy in Japan, at the recent Davos meeting noted that younger generations don't have to stop and think about whether to take action for the environment, 'it just comes naturally, like breathing'. This makes me confident - and hopeful - that the Earth is in safe hands.

Her Excellency Dr. Shaikha Salem Al Dhaheer Acting Secretary General of the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi

H.E. Dr. Shaikha Salem Al Dhaheer is currently the Acting Secretary General of the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), the largest environmental regulator in the Middle East responsible for protecting and preserving our natural resources and promoting sustainable development in the emirate.

She is a member of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee - General Secretariat of the Executive Council of Abu Dhabi, and sits on the Board of Directors of Abu Dhabi Sewerage Services Company, the Board of Al Ain Wildlife Park and Resort, Emirates Nature-WWF and the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of Plan Maritime 2030 at the Department of Urban Planning and Municipalities, and member of the Advisory Board of the College of Food and Agriculture, University of the United Arab Emirates.

In 2016, she was elected as a Regional Adviser to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Western Asia. Dr. Al Dhaheer was also head of the National Biodiversity Committee for the

Convention on Biological Diversity. She also represents the UAE in other global conventions such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Dr. Shaikha Al Dhaheer received the Government Excellence Award medal from the Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council in 2015. She also won the Al Dana Excellence Award in 2014, the Rashid Bin Maktoum Award for Scientific Excellence for PhD degree holders in 2010, and the Rashid Bin Maktoum Award for Scientific Excellence for Masters degree holders in 2005.

Dr. Al Dhaheer holds a PhD degree in Wildlife Conservation and Protection from the University of Aberdeen in the United Kingdom, which makes her the first Emirati woman to earn the accolade. She also holds two Masters degrees: in Environmental Science from UAE University (UAEU) in Al Ain, and another in Biological Conservation from the University of Kent in the United Kingdom. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Environmental Species from UAE University.



Venetia Bell
Head of Strategy, Gulf International Bank

As the leader of Gulf International Bank (UK)'s sustainability work, what steps do you take to ensure the company is maintaining its social and environmental responsibility?

Maintaining social and environmental responsibility is core to our business. It is therefore integrated into the firm's vision, strategic goals, values and everyday activities. As a result, the steps we take are very much part of our day to day business, rather than something isolated.

In what ways does Gulf International Bank (UK) further its mission to become a truly sustainable brand?

Our purpose is to help fulfil clients' needs, and so we align our activities to the best interests of the clients. Some investors tell us that investment in direct support of sustainability, such as those aligned with delivering the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are important to them. For example, GIB's trade finance strategy supports sustainable agriculture in several developing economies. Other investors are more focused on ensuring responsible investment practices are in place. These include Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) data integration, active ownership and integrated sustainability-focused risk assessment (such as those relating to climate risks).

The AD SG met with Venetia Bell, Head of Strategy at the Gulf International Bank to learn about their sustainability focus, strategy and projects. We are pleased to share with you the interview here with much appreciation for Venetia's support and valuable time. We have benefited from the interview answers and hope you will find the insights she shared useful too.

Our firm commitment to contribute to a more sustainable future affects how we organise our business and develop our long term strategy, as well as how we are evolving our responsible investment practices in order to meet client investment needs. We believe in a "deep green" approach – aspiring towards the same high standard as companies in which we would look to invest. We do not hold ourselves up as an example of best practice; rather we have identified areas where we want to seek further improvements, and we are working to make these a reality.

How does Gulf International Bank (UK) help provide a good working environment for employees and the local communities you serve? In particular, how do you support the youth?

One of GIB's strategic goals is to be an employer of choice. Ensuring a good working environment for colleagues is an important part of that.

Whilst we believe that contributing to sustainable development goes well beyond Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, we view CSR activities aligned with our business goals as one part of that wider contribution. Many of our CSR activities have been aligned with the priorities of our local community, in particular through an initiative run by London's Lord Mayor in partnership



Trade Finance helps producers across the world get their goods to market

with city firms.

We have a strong focus on initiatives to support and inspire young people, both in terms of their personal development, but also the role young people play in making our world better. We have a thriving intern and graduate programme at GIB, with outstanding feedback from participants about the level of responsibility entrusted to those individuals and the significant opportunities for learning and growth. We have participated in an initiative to break down the perception that women cannot enter a career in financial services ("She Can Be"). Finally, we are a supporter of One Young World, which identifies, promotes and connects the world's most impactful young leaders to create a better world, with more responsible, more effective leadership.

What are some of the company's biggest sustainability challenges?

One major challenge with responsible investment practices remains the availability and quality of data related to sustainability efforts and performance. In a recent paper, we looked at these issues and proposed possible actions that would help to overcome some of these challenges (see: [ESG Data Indiscretions](#)).

Another area in which we have been focused is how to overcome the challenge of incorporating climate-related risk in decision-making processes. Sound risk management

practices are crucial to our industry, but consideration of climate-related scenarios is typically relatively immature relative to other aspects of risk management. A recent co-authored paper set out some thoughts on how to set up effective corporate governance on boards in relation to these issues.

As a leader in Sustainability, what advice would you offer organisations that are working towards the integration of sustainability into their core business?

The challenge of making the way

we live fully sustainable will require a transformation of our existing economic model. While we as individual businesses have a role in making that happen, the problem is bigger than any one of us. We therefore will need to work together to find solutions and a new way of working. My advice is to find partners who can work with you to tackle the sustainability challenges both in your core business but also in the wider industry and economy. Sustainability is such a complex problem with huge inter-dependencies that we need bold, creative partnerships united to this cause.



Several colleagues attended the One Young World summit in The Hague

Stay in touch with the **ADSG** on the move and keep up to date on the latest news and activities.

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#ADSGForum2019



Abu Dhabi Sustainable Business Leadership Forum

17th - 18th April 2019

Anantara Eastern Mangroves Hotel
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Business Leadership in a Sustainable Economy

Don't miss out on the opportunity to join us in discovering how to tap emerging innovations to successfully scale sustainability now.

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1. Sponsors & Partners

Sponsors



Established in 1996, the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) is committed to protecting and enhancing air quality, groundwater as well as the biodiversity of our desert and marine ecosystem. By partnering with other government entities, the private sector, NGOs and global environmental agencies, we embrace international best practice, innovation and hard work to institute effective policy measures. We seek to raise environmental awareness, facilitate sustainable development and ensure environmental issues remain one of the top priorities of our national agenda.

Since 2008, EAD has been awarded ISO 9001 for Quality, ISO 14001 for Environment, ISO18001 for Health and Safety and ISO 22301 for Business Continuity Management System.



Dolphin Energy Limited was created to develop substantial energy projects throughout the GCC and to create long-term economic wealth and new business opportunities for GCC citizens, far into the future. Dolphin Energy's major strategic initiative, the Dolphin Project, involves the production and processing of natural gas from Qatar's North Field, and transportation of the dry gas by sub-sea export pipeline from Qatar to the UAE, which began in July 2007.

The long term customers for Dolphin gas from Qatar are ADWEC (Abu Dhabi Water & Electricity Company), DUSUP (Dubai Supply Authority) and OOC (Oman Oil Company). Each has signed a gas supply agreement with Dolphin Energy for 25 years.



Etihad Airways was established by Royal (Amiri) Decree in July 2003. It commenced operations in November 2003 and has developed into one of the fastest growing airlines in the history of commercial aviation. The airline seeks to reflect the best of Arabian hospitality - cultured, considerate, warm and generous - as well as enhance the prestige of Abu Dhabi as a centre of hospitality between East and West. Our goal is to be a truly 21st century, global airline, challenging and changing the established conventions of airline hospitality. We are committed to a strategy of collaborative growth in order to gain the scale we require to be competitive in the global air transport market. Beyond our organic growth, this is being achieved through the development of a strong base of codeshare partnerships, and minority investments in strategically important airlines, which combined, provide access to hundreds of destinations we do not serve with our own aircraft.

Partners



Abu Dhabi Global Market is a broad-based international financial centre for local, regional and international institutions. ADGM's three independent authorities - the Registration Authority, the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) and ADGM Courts - ensure that our business-friendly environment operates in line with international best practice that are recognised by major financial centres across the world. In collaboration with other International Financial Centres, global institutions and regulators, Abu Dhabi Global Market develops and supports member institutions with the regulatory framework, legal jurisdiction and attractive business environment they need for sustainable business growth.



Emirates Nature is a national (UAE) environmental non-governmental organisation established in 2001 under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler's representative in Al Dhafra region and Chairman of Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi. Emirates Nature works in association with WWF, one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with offices in 100 countries. Our vision is to build a future where humans live in harmony with nature. Our mission is to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to the environment. We work with people and institutions in the UAE and region, to implement conservation solutions through science, research, policy, education and awareness. For more information, please visit emiratesnaturewwf.ae



The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment was established in February 2006 as the Ministry of Environment and Water. The ministry acquired its new name following the UAE Cabinet reshuffle in February 2016 and the subsequent integration of the climate change function.

Under its redefined scope, the ministry has taken on a dual mandate. On the national level, the ministry aims to strengthen the UAE's efforts in preserving the environment and promoting food diversity in accordance with the nation's aspiration to emerge as a key benchmark for sustainable development. On the global level, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment will join international stakeholders in combating climate change and profile the UAE's path-breaking achievements in the sector at thought leadership platforms worldwide.



Business in the Community is the oldest and largest business-led membership organisation dedicated to responsible business. We were created nearly 40 years ago by HRH The Prince of Wales to champion responsible business.

We inspire, engage and challenge members and we mobilise that collective strength as a force for good in society to

- Create a skilled, inclusive workforce today and for the future
- Build thriving communities in which to live and work
- Innovate to repair and sustain our planet

2. About ADSG

The Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group (ADSG) is a membership initiative whose mission is to promote sustainability management in Abu Dhabi by providing learning and knowledge sharing opportunities for government, private companies and not for profit organisations in a spirit of cooperation and open dialogue.

The ADSG was established by Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi in June 2008 as a forum of members who have signed the ADSG Declaration, committing to adopt best practices of sustainability management and reporting and to actively participate in ADSG activities. The ADSG is open to new members willing to practice and champion sustainability in Abu Dhabi.

The ADSG is an organisation with far-sighted aspirations with a mission to encourage co-responsibility in Abu Dhabi thereby ensuring government entities, private corporations and not for profit organisations are working towards achieving the goal of economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Additionally, the Group intends to contribute to the strengthening of intercultural dialogue along with mapping global and local sustainability trends that are relevant to the GCC and beyond.

Mission

The ADSG mission is:

"To promote sustainability management in Abu Dhabi by providing learning and knowledge sharing opportunities

for all government, private companies and not for profit organisations who are, or wish to become ADSG members, in a spirit of cooperation and open dialogue".

Networking

A unique network of over 40 leadership organisations in Abu Dhabi that brings public, private and non-profit sectors together to address sustainability challenges through a new cross-cutting institutional platform for collaboration on policy instruments.

Transparency

Promoted transparency by encouraging members to report on their sustainability performance.

Awareness

Raised sustainability awareness across Abu Dhabi through providing a networking platform for government, private and non-profit organisations.

Accountability and Responsibility

ADSG members are increasingly integrating sustainability considerations into their planning and decision-making processes.

International Recognition

Raised Abu Dhabi's international profile as #1 worldwide by having the highest number of government organisations reporting in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) guidelines.

3. Content

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4. Awards Gala Dinner Agenda

Tuesday 16th April 2019: Awards and Gala Dinner (by invitation only)

Time	Event
1900 - 1930	Welcome reception
1930 - 1945	Seating for guests, followed by VIP's seating
1950 - 1955	Awards Welcome Speech Huda Al Houqani, Director, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group Sustainability Leadership Keynote Speaker
1955 - 2000	Opening Speech Her Excellency Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri, Acting Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi
2010 - 2055	Keynote Speaker Jason Lewis, Author, Explorer, Sustainability Campaigner
2100 - 2200	Awards Ceremony and Recognition
2200 - 2230	Post-Ceremony Photography

5. Forum Sessions

Wednesday 17th April 2019: Conference Day One

Time	Event
0900 - 0950	Registration & Coffee (open throughout day)
0950 - 1000	MC Forum Orientation Jason Lewis FRSGS, Award-winning author, explorer and sustainability campaigner
1000 - 1005	Morning Introduction Huda Mohd Al Houqani, Director, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group
1005 - 1030	Opening Keynote Address Her Excellency Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri, Acting Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi Lead Sponsor Welcome Address Obaid Al Dhaheri, CEO, Dolphin Energy

5. Forum Sessions

Wednesday 17th April 2019: Conference Day One

Time	Event
1030 - 1130	<p>Plenary Session 1: Business Leadership In A Sustainable Economy (CEO panel)</p> <p>Looking towards 2030, humanity is facing at least four survival challenges that are defining the biggest business risks we face:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water • Food & Agriculture • Going Circular • Energy & Climate Change <p>Indeed, for the fourth consecutive year, the WEF has named the Climate Crisis as the number one threat to the global economy. This panel discusses the scale and pace of change needed, particularly looking at the private sector, the role that innovation and entrepreneur's need to play to build a sustainable economy. Business leadership on sustainable development is critical to developing the markets and economies of the future. The need for speed: Why we must accelerate climate action now:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How businesses can become co-creators of sustainable wealth • Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: a golden opportunity <p>Speakers Her Excellency Dr Shaikha Al Dhaheri, Acting Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi Laila Mostafa Abdullatif, Director General, EN WWF Helle Bank Jorgensen, CEO, Competent Boards Inc. & President UN Global Compact Canada Katherine Garrett-Cox CBE, MD and CEO, Gulf International Bank (UK) Limited Cinar Deniz Kurra, CEO, Catalyst Madhu Rajesh, Director, International Tourism Partnership, Business in the Community</p> <p>Moderator Sandra Anani, Director, Sustainability to Action</p>
1130-1150	Networking Coffee Break
1150 - 1300	<p>Plenary Session 2: Circular Economy In The UAE</p> <p>Achieving sustainable growth: The Government's approach: Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi policies: The latest news and updates. With an ever growing human population and pressure on natural resources, interest in creating a circular economy, where growth does not require the endless consumption of limited resources, is gaining traction. Instead of throwing away things that have been used and served their purpose, there is ample scope to reuse, recycle or convert into energy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What we can learn from the global debate on plastics? • The role of the Sustainable Development Goals in driving resource efficiency • The need for a move to a circular economy and the role of investors • The power of combining product design with end-of-life thinking • Innovating to drive circularity • Transforming business models to become 100% circular • Gaining buy-in for system change <p>Speakers Reinhard Floh, Operations Manager, Nestlé Nespresso Middle East and Africa Adrian Gane, Director Government & Industry Affairs, Etihad Airways Salman Abdulla - Executive Vice President, EHSSQ & BT, Emirates Global Aluminium Madhu Rajesh, Director, International Tourism Partnership, Business in the Community Eva Ramos, Director - Environmental Analysis and Economics Integrated Environment Policy & Planning, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi Venetia Bell, Head of Strategy, Gulf International Bank (UK) Limited</p> <p>Moderator Jason Lewis FRSGS, Award-winning author, explorer and sustainability campaigner</p>

5. Forum Sessions

Wednesday 17th April 2019: Conference Day One

Time	Event
1300 - 1400	<p>Plenary Session 3: TIP Envirotech - Driving eco-innovation in the UAE and beyond</p> <p>Diversifying the economy with reduced demand on natural resources: TIP Envirotech - A partnership to drive eco-innovation in the UAE. Unsustainable production and consumption patterns are degrading our fragile natural environment. We need to harness innovation to combat pollution and conserve natural resources better, faster and cheaper. This session will bring together policy makers, innovators and technology consultants to discuss how to strengthen the innovation ecosystem required to accelerate the development and commercialisation of emerging eco-innovations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the government's role in sparking innovation? • How can policies and regulations influence the direction of innovation? • How do innovators come up with breakthrough technologies? • How do you bring innovators, end-users and investors together to accelerate the adoption of emerging technologies? <p>Speakers Eva Ramos, Director - Environmental Analysis and Economics Integrated Environment Policy & Planning, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi Faisal Al Hmoudi, Director Innovation and Incubation, Department of Economic Development-Abu Dhabi Peter Millar, Managing Director, Middle East, Isle Utilities Cay Grunau, CEO, Hydrotechnik Environmental services establishment UAE</p> <p>Moderator Ayesha Al Suwaidi, Section Manager, Environment Planning, Integrated Environment Policy, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi</p>
1400-1500	<p>Networking Lunch</p> <p>Learning and Sharing Sessions</p>
1500 - 1600	<p>1- Ask us anything: How Abu Dhabi Global Markets are driving sustainability Location: Ballroom A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocating sustainable finance and investments for the long-term well-being and growth of the UAE's economy • Supporting a sustainable finance industry that enables the UAE to deliver the UN SDGs • Providing a framework that incorporates and fosters green and sustainable investments in Abu Dhabi, the UAE and the wider region • Why there is a need for collaboration with various stakeholders locally, regional and globally. Click here to learn more. <p>Workshop led by: Thomas Hirschi, Executive Director Financial Services Regulatory Authority, ADGM Mercedes Vela Monserrate, International Affairs Senior Manager Financial Services Regulatory Authority, ADGM</p>

5. Forum Sessions

Wednesday 17th April 2019: Conference Day One

Time	Event
1500 - 1615	<p>2- Business in the Community - Water Workshop Location: Ballroom B</p> <p>Discuss and learn about water risk in the region and its impact on business through an interactive series of questions and answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you identified any water risk for your business, currently and in the future? • Are you aware of the ways your activities can impact water resources locally? • What actions have you taken to minimise your impact on water resources? <p>Workshop led by: Madhu Rajesh, Director, International Tourism Partnership, Business in the Community</p>
1500 - 1600	<p>3- Millennials: Learning From The Next Generation Of Business Leaders Location: Ballroom C</p> <p>With the diverse nature of the stakeholders who will be attending, the forum also provides an excellent platform to highlight the challenges faced by the next generation in terms of the state of the natural resources, climate crises and ever increasing global population.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The millennial generation view on business sustainability • Millennials and future business leaders have a key role to play in sustainability and climate change <p>Workshop led by: Abdulla Al Remeithi, Acting Director policy and Regulation, Environment Quality, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi Venetia Bell, Head of Strategy, Gulf International Bank (UK) Limited Mariam Alqubaisi, Sustainability Manager, Etihad Airways Hadif Abdullah Zamzam, Assistant Vice President - Development, Aldar Properties</p>
1600-1615	<p>Closing Comments for Day 1 Huda Mohd Al Houqani, Director, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group</p>
1615-1730	<p>VIP Boat Ride to the Mangroves - By Invitation Only</p> <p>Refreshments will be served</p> <p>Mangroves, Manatees, and Mankind How do organisations manage the natural capital on which their own longterm existence and success depends?</p> <p>Jason and Tammie discuss EAD's pioneering work to protect the mangrove ecosystems around Abu Dhabi, including indigenous dugongs, and the social and business benefits of the initiative. Encouraging audience participation, the pair will open a conversation on the challenges faced by organisations in conforming to environmental, social, and ethical standards. The outcomes of similar programmes around the world will be considered, including those encountered on Jason's expeditions.</p> <p>Themes include workplace diversity and inclusiveness, the role of women in sustainability, and how organisations mitigate natural resource risk to remain profitable longterm.</p>

5. Forum Sessions

Thursday 18th April 2019: Conference Day Two

Time	Event
0800- 0830	Registration (open all day)
0830 - 0925	Light Breakfast and Coffee
0925 - 0930	Welcome to Day 2 Huda Mohd Al Houqani, Director, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group
0930-1030	<p>Plenary Session 7: Sustainability, Risk Management And Natural Capital</p> <p>Organisations impact and rely on natural capital in a manner that yields significant risks and opportunities to business, society and the economy more broadly. Understanding this relationship allows business leaders to make better decisions that can help manage the risks and opportunities that face their business. How can businesses adopt systematic approaches to measure and value natural capital. What tools are available today to help simplify the process and help support key initiatives such as the UN SDGs</p> <p>Speakers Carl Obst, Director, Institute for the Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting Eng. Aisha Al Abdooli, Director, Green Development at Ministry of Climate Change & Environment Mohammed Abdulkareem Al Shamsi, Acting Executive Director of UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia) Chief Officer Climate Change & Sustainability, Dubai Electricity & Water Authority Madhu Rajesh, Director, International Tourism Partnership, Business in the Community</p> <p>Moderator Nivine Issa, Head of Environment & Waste, AESG</p>
1030-1130	<p>Plenary Session 8: Adventures in Sustainability - An Explorer's Tale</p> <p>What can a crocodile attack, a year at sea in a tiny boat, contracting blood poisoning and malaria, and getting hit by a car and left for dead with two broken legs teach us about global sustainability? Touted by the UK Media as "the most remarkable adventurer in the world today," Jason draws insights from his historic circumnavigation of the world using only human power – biking, hiking, and inline skating five continents, and kayaking, swimming, rowing, and pedalling a boat across the oceans – to offer choices we can all make to safeguard a healthy planet for future generations. In addition, Tammie Stevens will talk about their forthcoming expedition to the South Pacific island of Tikopia, where, over the last three millennia, the islanders have evolved a unique formula for sustainability. Their principles for longevity, many of which relate to resource management, promise valuable insights into best practices for stakeholders in market economies with a vested interest in sustainable growth.</p> <p>Speakers Jason Lewis FRSGS, Award-winning author, explorer and sustainability campaigner Tammie Stevens, Director, Lazarus Fund</p>
1130 -1140	<p>Forum Outcomes and Conclusions Sandra Anani, Sustainability to Action</p>
1140 -1500	<p>Networking Brunch</p> <p>Boat Ride to the Mangroves - Registration Required, limited seats available</p> <p>Mangroves, Manatees, and Mankind How do organisations manage the natural capital on which their own longterm existence and success depends?</p> <p>Jason and Tammie discuss EAD's pioneering work to protect the mangrove ecosystems around Abu Dhabi, including indigenous dugongs, and the social and business benefits of the initiative. Encouraging audience participation, the pair will open a conversation on the challenges faced by organisations in conforming to environmental, social, and ethical standards. The outcomes of similar programmes around the world will be considered, including those encountered on Jason's expeditions. Themes include workplace diversity and inclusiveness, the role of women in sustainability, and how organisations mitigate natural resource risk to remain profitable longterm.</p>
1500	Forum Adjourns

6. Speakers



Her Excellency Dr. Shaikha Salem Al Dhaheri
Acting Secretary General
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi



H.E. Dr. Shaikha Salem Al Dhaheri is currently the Acting Secretary General of the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD), the largest environmental regulator in the Middle East responsible for protecting and preserving our natural resources and promoting sustainable development in the emirate.

She is a member of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee - General Secretariat of the Executive Council of Abu Dhabi, and sits on the Board of Directors of Abu Dhabi Sewerage Services Company, the Board of Al Ain Wildlife Park and Resort, Emirates Nature-WWF and the Abu Dhabi Agriculture and Food Safety Authority. She is also a member of the Executive Committee of Plan Maritime 2030 at the Department of Urban Planning and Municipalities, and member of the Advisory Board of the College of Food and Agriculture, University of the United Arab Emirates.

In 2016, she was elected as a Regional Adviser to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in Western Asia. Dr. Al Dhaheri was also head of the National Biodiversity Committee for the Convention on Biological Diversity. She also represents the UAE in other global conventions such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Dr. Shaikha Al Dhaheri received the Government Excellence Award medal from the Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council in 2015. She also won the Al Dana Excellence Award in 2014, the Rashid Bin Maktoum Award for Scientific Excellence for PhD degree holders in 2010, and the Rashid Bin Maktoum Award for Scientific Excellence for Masters degree holders in 2005.

Dr. Al Dhaheri holds a PhD degree in Wildlife Conservation and Protection from the University of Aberdeen in the United Kingdom, which makes her the first Emirati woman to earn the accolade. She also holds two Masters degrees: in Environmental Science from UAE University in Al Ain, and another in Biological Conservation From the University of Kent in the United Kingdom. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Environmental Species from UAE University.



Obaid Al Dhaheri
Chief Executive Officer
Dolphin Energy Limited



Mr. Obaid Abdulla Al Dhaheri is the Chief Executive Officer of Dolphin Energy Limited. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Al Dhaheri was the company's Chief Financial Officer, responsible for the function of corporate finance, risk, quality and strategy.

Al Dhaheri joined Dolphin Energy in 2004 as a Business Analyst tasked with economic modeling, business planning and corporate reporting. He progressed up the corporate ladder to lead the Strategic & Corporate Planning Division.

Al Dhaheri is a graduate of BSc in Science with concentration in Physics & Electrical Engineering from Portland State University.



Helle Bank Jorgensen
CEO & Founder, Competent Boards
President, UN Global Compact Canada



Helle Bank Jorgensen is an experienced and renowned sustainability, climate change, and ESG advisor with close to 30 years of experience advising global companies and investors on how to turn sustainability into strong financial results. Helle has worked with hundreds of world-leading companies including IKEA, Nike, Shell, Unilever, as well as SMEs and investors.

Helle was the creator of the world's first Green Account as well as the world's first Integrated Report, the first holistic supply chain program, and was the principal organizer for the CEO/Investor-network for Business Ethics and Non-Financial Reporting. She led the Improvement of DJSI and CDP ranking and investor communication for global companies and has worked on Natural Capital Accounting for IFC/World Bank. In 2015, Helle became the first in North America to have received the Certificate of Achievement and passed the GRI G4 Exam.

6. Speakers



Laila Mostafa Abdullatif
Director General
Emirates Nature-WWF



Laila Mostafa Abdullatif has served as Director General at Emirates Nature-WWF (formerly known as EWS-WWF) since May 2017. Her role involves leading the organisation locally and representing WWF regionally. She is also involved in successfully initiating and implementing several conservation and education projects and initiatives across the region. Laila plays an active role in managing the Board of Directors and operations of the organization.

In charge of leading Emirates Nature EWS-WWF in its mission to deliver high-impact, science-based, robust conservation solutions, she forges and nurtures strategic partnerships with a range of stakeholders including the UAE government, private sector and civil society – all of which are fundamental to Emirates Nature's success.



Katherine Garrett-Cox CBE
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer
Gulf International Bank (UK) Ltd



Katherine Garrett-Cox is Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Gulf International Bank (UK) Ltd, (GIB UK) the UK subsidiary of Gulf International Bank B.S.C. Katherine was formerly Chief Executive and Chief Investment Officer of Alliance Trust PLC, one of Europe's largest providers of sustainable and responsible investment funds. She is a Member of the Supervisory Board of Deutsche Bank AG, served as a member of the UK Prime Minister's Business Advisory Group from 2012-2015 and the Scottish Business Board during the same period. Katherine is currently a Trustee of CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project) and a Member of the UK Society of Investment Professionals, CFA Institute. Katherine was nominated a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum in 2006 and was awarded a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2014 New Year Honours List for her services to charity and to the asset management industry.



Cinar Deniz Kurra
Chief Executive Officer
Catalyst



After studying EE in University of Evansville, U.S.A., Cinar Kurra has obtained his MSc. in E.E. and Telecommunication Engineering through Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, by 1997. Worked as a System Integration Engineer in Motorola, continued his career as a Technical Release Manager for Motorola's iDEN Group (Push to Talk over GSM network) until 2004. Being an entrepreneur, he is founder of KES Engineering in Chicago (1997), dBKES Engineering Services (2000) & DEK Technology (2010) in Istanbul, HAWK Technology in Abu Dhabi (2011) and MGT Electronics in Chicago (2007). Catalyst is a true clean technologies seed funding mechanism that he is establishing within Masdar City, having Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company and BP as shareholders.



Salman Dawood Abdulla
Executive Vice President, EGA EHSSQ and
Business Transformation
Emirates Global Aluminium (EGA)



Salman is an electrical engineer by profession and has vast experience in designing, building, operating and maintaining large industrial plants. He played a leading role in developing and executing major power plant expansion projects to support Dubai Aluminium (DUBAL) expansion from 1995 to 2005. 2017 Appointed as the Chairman for S&E Gulf Aluminium Council (GAC). 2016 Appointed to lead Business Transformation and EHSSQ at EGA. The key challenge includes improving safety status, setting up a Sustainability department and managing SPL and Dross. 2015 Mr. Abdulla led the merging of Emirates Aluminium (EMAL) and DUBAL into a single seamless business including close cooperation with peers across technical and commercial dimensions. 2007 Appointed as Chief Operations Officer of EMAL and in 2010 as Vice President, Operations.

6. Speakers



Mohammed Abdulkareem Al Shamsi
Acting Executive Director of UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia)
Chief Officer Climate Change & Sustainability,
Dubai Electricity & Water Authority



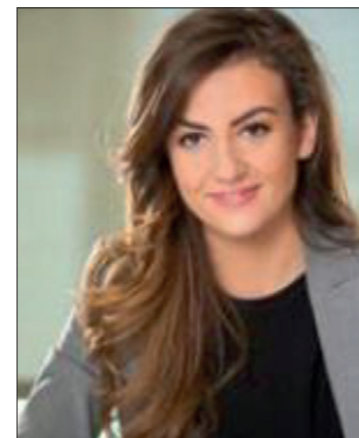
Mohammed is the Acting Executive Director of UAE Water Aid Foundation (Suqia), under the umbrella of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Initiatives Foundation, an organization which has provided clean drinking water to more than 9 million beneficiaries in 34 countries to date. Suqia manages and delivers the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Global Water Award, an international award worth USD 1 million that encourages innovation in the provision of clean drinking water through sustainable technologies that utilize solar energy. Mohammed is also, the Chief Officer of Climate Change & Sustainability at Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA). He is responsible for the development, implementation, and communication of DEWA's Corporate Sustainability Strategy and embedding programs which resulted in updating DEWA's sustainability strategy map and formulating climate change strategies through the carbon emission reduction program, first of its kind across the UAE.



Eng. Aisha Al Abdooli
Director of Green Development & Environment Affairs
Department at the Ministry of Climate Change and
Environment



Aisha Mohamed Abdullah Al Abdooli is the Director of Green Development & Environment Affairs Department at the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. Al Abdooli has extensive experience over 15 years in different fields including: Green Development, Sustainable Development & Green Economy, in addition to her expertise in developing policies, strategies and regulatory framework in Air Quality, Climate Change Adaptation, and Waste & Chemicals Management. Aisha had worked in managing BOOT and PPP projects in Sewerage Infrastructure, Sewage Treatment Plants and Waste Management Projects in addition to managing EPCM firms to ensure that the Construction Environmental and Social Management Plan (CESMP) is implemented in Aluminum Industry and the project construction is executed in compliance with all applicable environmental standards.



Mercedes Vela Monserrate
International Affairs Senior Manager
Abu Dhabi Global Market



Mercedes supports ADGM in maintaining an active communication and contribution to discussions on fostering global financial stability and shaping international financial regulatory reforms. She is involved in regulatory-related international activities and collaborates with key international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the Financial Stability Board, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, International Association of Insurance Supervisors and the International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) as well as with national regulators. Prior to joining ADGM's FSRA Mercedes worked in the public and private sectors in both Brussels and London for more than nine years. Her professional history includes positions at Morgan Stanley, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) as well as Policy Adviser at the European Parliament.



Faisal Abdullah Saeed AlHmoudi
Director of Innovation and Incubation
Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development



Faisal Abdullah AlHmoudi is first UAE expertise on the area of IP and technology commercialization, dedicated and trustworthy professional with a wealth of experience and knowledge across a range of sectors--widely recognized as an IP leader and innovation expertise AlHmoudi is the current Director of Innovation and Incubators Department at the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development and the founder developer of 'TAKAMUL.' And co-founder of TIP (technology innovation pioneer) program. He is making valuable contributions to the development and implementation of business development strategies, following up the progress of budget planning and financial expenses management, as well as building an innovative business model that meets the requirements of Abu Dhabi to innovate future initiatives in line with the Economic Vision 2030.

6. Speakers

Ayesha Al Suwaidi

Section Manager – Planning at the Integrated Environment Policy and Planning Sector
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi



Ayesha Al Suwaidi has been working with the Environment Agency- Abu Dhabi since 2009. She is section Manager – Planning at the Integrated Environment Policy and planning sector. Her responsibilities include working with stakeholders to promote Abu Dhabi's sustainability leadership nationally and internationally; and ensuring successful development of environmental policy in Abu Dhabi. Ayesha Al Suwaidi received a Master's in public Law from Paris – Descartes University and specialized in sustainable development. Her research focuses on public participation in environmental policy. Her areas of interest are public health, water management, air quality, and climate change.



Thomas Hirschi

Banking & Insurance Executive Director
Abu Dhabi Global Market



Thomas joined the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) of Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) in October 2016. He oversees the admission, authorisation and supervision of a broad-range of banking and insurance firms and related services at FSRA. He is also responsible for spearheading and formulating the tools and techniques for a risk-based approach in the supervision of the banking and insurance firms. Thomas is responsible for aligning FSRA's banking and insurance regulatory framework and standards with global best practices. Prior to ADGM, Thomas was with the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority FINMA holding several senior positions since 2004. In 2014, he was appointed as the Head of Risk Management (Department of Banks) and was responsible for the continued implementation of Basel III in Switzerland. In his career, Thomas was seconded to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for a period of 9 months in 2007/2008. Prior to joining FINMA, he was part of the Business Risk Management team at J.P Morgan Chase in Geneva.



Jason Lewis FRSGS

Award-winning Author, Explorer and Sustainability Campaigner

Jason Lewis is a Guinness World record setting adventurer best known for being the first person to circumnavigate the Earth using only human power: walking, cycling, and rollerblading five continents, and kayaking, swimming, rowing, and pedaling a boat across the rivers, seas, and oceans. Taking thirteen years to complete, the 46,505-mile journey was hailed "the last great first for circumnavigation" by the London Sunday Times. He is also an award winning author and passionate sustainability advocate. As well as corporate presentations on sustainability and leadership, Jason has given hundreds of workshops to schools and universities incorporating the general theme of hard work and perseverance to achieve success and overcome personal obstacles.

A Fellow of London University, the Royal Geographical Society, and The Explorers Club, he has appeared on numerous television and talk shows. Jason is the author of the award winning Expedition trilogy (BillyFish Books,; Dark Waters, The Seed Buried Deep, and To The Brink).



Tammie Stevens

Founder and Director
Lazarus Fund

Tammie Stevens is an accomplished performer who has won several awards for her work using theater to help those who suffer with mental and physical disabilities. She is a powerful speaker with a great desire to help others understand the importance of self belief and the law of attraction. Her talks have inspired myriad women of all ages, especially victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence to realize their own worth and potential.

Tammie founded and still serves as the director of the Colorado based nonprofit animal rescue, The Lazarus Fund. Lobbying for educational and legislative change or working undercover in deplorable conditions, she does whatever it takes to bring awareness to the plight of domestic, wild, and farmed animals from around the world. Tammie's most recent challenge was cofounding Billyfish Books, an independent publishing company in the UK and US. Underpinning all her endeavors is a passion for championing the dreams of others and being a voice for the voiceless.

6. Speakers



Adrian Gane

Director of Industry & International Affairs
Etihad Airways



After graduating from Oxford University, Adrian joined the British Army as an infantry officer and served in a variety of operational roles around the world. He left for civilian life to join John Swire & Sons the UK based trading firm with extensive interests in the Far East, most notably Cathay Pacific Airways, where he spent nearly twenty years in various senior aviation management roles in Hong Kong, Japan, the Middle East and Europe.

In 2007 he left the aviation world to become the CEO of the Country Land & Business Association, a rural lobbying and membership organisation based in London, which he ran for four years. Missing the smell of avgas he joined Etihad Airways based in Abu Dhabi in 2011 where he filled a number of senior commercial roles for airline, before taking over as the airline's Director of Industry & International Affairs dealing amongst other things, with the airline's Government relations and Sustainability strategy.



Huda Mohd Al Houqani

Director
Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group (ADSG)
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi



Huda is currently the Director of Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group. A committed, inspiring and visionary leader, she has held several significant roles where her passion for the environment and sustainability ensured successful outcomes and results. She has helped in issuing several publications such as "The Water Management Challenges Faced by the Various Water Sector Users in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, UAE". In addition, Huda had participated as co-author in publishing a chapter about water resources in Abu Dhabi Emirate, UNESCO published book in addition to other sustainability publications and events.

Huda has B.Sc. in Geology from UAE University as well as a leadership diploma from Cambridge University and Transition to business leadership TBL from IMD business school in Switzerland. In 2018, Huda completed her Post Graduate certificate in Business Administration from University of Wales, UK.



Eva Ramos Perez-Torreblanca

Director, Environmental Analysis and Economics
Integrated Environmental Policy and Planning Sector
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi



Eva Ramos is Director, Environmental Analysis and Economics, Policy and Planning at the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi. She leads policy analysis, strategic planning and stakeholder engagement to develop whole-of-government strategies, policies and projects, to influence sectoral policies to decouple economic growth from its environmental impact, and to advise C-suite decision makers. Her focus areas are eco-innovation, blue economy, climate change, water and energy. She joined EAD in 2009 to help start up the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group, a public-private partnership to champion sustainability management and reporting in the emirate. She has over 20 years of experience working with business, governments, multilateral organizations and private foundations in Europa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East in the field of advocacy and public policy, corporate sustainability, socially responsible investment, international development and infrastructure development.



Venetia Bell

Head of Strategy
Gulf Investment Bank



Venetia joined GIB (UK) in 2018 as Head of Strategy. She is leading the Bank's work to achieve its vision of scaling and mobilising capital in support of sustainable investment strategies. Venetia was formerly Deputy to the Chief Operating Officer at the Bank of England, where she had a leading role in its strategic plan, and a particular focus on how the BoE should engage with developments in financial technology. Prior to that, she had a number of roles within the Monetary Analysis area of the BoE. She was a member of Monetary Policy Committee Secretariat, attending the policy meetings and writing the published minutes, and she ran the team responsible for providing policy makers with an accurate view of the current state of the economy and the near-term prospects for activity. Venetia has an MSc from the London School of Economics and an MA from the University of Cambridge. She was named as one of Management Today's 2017 35 Women Under 35.

6. Speakers



Abdulla Mohammed Al Remeithi
Acting Director of Policy and Regulation
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi



Abdulla is currently working as acting Director of policy and regulation division at the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi. Abdulla graduated with a bachelor in Environmental Engineering from Liverpool John Moores University with Honors in 2007 and Masters Degree in Project Management from British University in Dubai and is passionate about environmental legislation and conservation especially in context of green economy. He continues to work on innovative processes and legislation policies that will set new benchmarks regionally and internationally.

Mariam Musallam Saeed Abdulla Alqubaisi
Sustainability Manager under Government and
International Affairs
Etihad Aviation Group



Mariam is now serving as Sustainability Manager under Government and International Affairs in Etihad Aviation Group. Before that, she worked as an instructor in the department of Interdisciplinary Studies at Zayed University where she taught Environmental and Natural Sciences. She holds a bachelor of science in Environmental Health from Zayed University and a Masters degree in Engineering for Sustainable Development from the University of Cambridge. Her research interests include water resource management, environmental policy, and innovation and technology management. Mariam co-founded the Arab Innovation Network (AIN) in 2011, a youth initiative focused on inspiring innovative solutions to environmental and health challenges in the Arab region. As a member of AIN, she was actively involved with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in the Middle East. Mariam is part of a monthly reading circle that covers interdisciplinary literature works in philosophy, history, science and current affairs. She is fond of languages, extremely long scenic walks, and occasionally plays the piano.



Carl Obst
Director
Institute for Development of
Environmental-Economic Accounting



Carl is a Director at the Institute for Development of Environmental-Economic Accounting - IDEEA Group. Carl was the lead author and editor of the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) - the international standard for government work on accounting for natural capital.

His current work involves projects on environmental-economic accounting and sustainability measurement within the United Nations system, the Natural Capital Coalition and various companies and governments. Carl is a leading player in closing the gap between government and corporate approaches to natural capital accounting.



Sandra Anani
Sustainability to Action



Sandra Anani is a recognised sustainability and policy expert, with over 20 years' experience. She has dedicated her career to sustainable development and communications. Sandra started her career in 1994 with British Airways, where she managed operations, customer service and sales. In 2003 Sandra joined the British Airports Authority, covering operations and assurance at Heathrow Airport. Her last role with BAA was at corporate level, managing aviation policy covering various elements including aviation environmental taxation, passengers with reduced mobility and airport charges. In May 2009 Sandra joined Abu Dhabi Airports Company to lead the development of corporate responsibility, including carbon management, waste management and communications. More recently, Sandra has worked with the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Group on sustainability communications and events. Sandra is currently preparing a research proposal in application for her PhD on sustainability. Her diverse career has been complemented by her ongoing commitment to academic development, including an MBA in International Business Management from the University of London.

6. Speakers



Madhu Rajesh
Director
Business in the Community
International Tourism Partnership



Madhu Rajesh is Director of the International Tourism Partnership, a non-profit membership organisation which brings together the world's leading international hotel companies to provide a voice for environmental and social responsibility in the industry. ITP is part of Business in the Community, HRH Prince Charles' Responsible Business Network, and is celebrating its 27th anniversary this year. Madhu joined ITP from Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP) - a Skoll-award winning organisation specialising in urban water, sanitation and health across Africa and South Asia, where she was Director of Partnerships & Development. Prior to this, she was Director of Development & Partnerships at The British Asian Trust, a charity founded by HRH The Prince of Wales, for nearly five years, working on a range of development issues including human trafficking, women's empowerment, girls' education, mental health and youth employment across South Asia.



Nivine Issa
Head for Environment and Waste
AESG



Nivine is AESG's Head for Environment and Waste, providing project management and consultancy services on a variety of complex technical and strategic environmental and waste projects. Nivine has almost a decade of experience working on infrastructure, master plan, utilities, oil & gas and industrial projects across the region and is a dynamic strategic business manager with a proven track record of growth and P&L management. Nivine also works on a number of strategic consulting and government advisory projects, developing policies and technical guidelines relating to sustainable development, environmental quality, remote sensing as well as waste management. Prior to joining AESG, Nivine worked for a regional engineering consulting firm and the United Nations Development Program and is a published author in scholarly journals on topics relating to climate change, oil spills, sustainability and flood risk assessments. Nivine currently manages AESG's team of ecologists, environmental engineers, certified environmental auditors, GIS planners and environmental modelling experts.



Reinhard Floh
Operations Manager
Nestlé Nespresso Middle East and Africa



Reinhard has been working with Nestlé Nespresso since 2009 in three different regions, Eastern Europe, Asia and Middle East & African region. Following the company's global Creating Shared Value program he helped to rollout the capsules recycling programs in more than ten countries, which serves as an important part in the Nespresso The Positive Cup strategy, embodying the belief that every cup of coffee can have a positive impact. Before Nestlé Nespresso Reinhard has worked as an aircraft engineer in Austria and as a Project Manager in the construction industry in Germany. He holds a master degree from the University of Applied Science, Technikum Vienna and attended several executive training programs at the Vienna Economical University, as well London Business School and IMD Business School Lausanne. He is an Austrian national, married with two children, and currently living in Dubai, UAE since mid of 2017.



Hadif Abdullah Zamzam
Assistant Vice President - Development
Aldar Properties



Hadif is a specialist in real estate development and asset management, with a strong record in managing retail, residential, commercial, hospitality, and leisure assets. "I believe economies are built on places that allow people to live, work, and play," he says. His ambition within the sector will be to continue working towards creating world-class real estate destinations that anticipate future demand. He graduated with honours from the University of Reading in the United Kingdom, where he received a Bachelors of Science in Real Estate Development and a Masters of Science in Urban Planning. He currently works at Aldar Properties, Abu Dhabi's leading real estate developer.

6. Speakers



Peter Millar
Managing Director
Isle Utilities Middle East



Peter Millar is the Managing Director of Isle Utilities Middle East in Abu Dhabi. Peter has more than 30 years of experience from the advanced technology and water industry in roles ranging from senior group management Business Development and Government Affairs positions in multinational groups, to Program Management for advanced technology and Managing Director positions for local companies in South America and Middle East. The most recent 15 years he has been based in Abu Dhabi responsible for the MENA region in roles including regional Managing Director for a multinational Aerospace group and General Manager for a leading global water technology company. Additional experience includes investment advisory and international business development consultant in the cleantech segment and various board member positions. He is an electronics engineer and USGBC certified LEED Accredited Professional with business economics and MBA studies from Stockholm University, Sweden, and University of Cumbria, UK.



Cay Grunau
CEO
Hydrotechnik Lübeck GMBH



Since 1996 Cay A. Grunau is CEO of HYDROTECHNIK LÜBECK GMBH. The company is active in all types of water throughout Europe for environmental protection. Core areas are the fight against oil spill, underwater noise and flotsam. Cay A. Grunau was born on September 27, 1953 in Lübeck. After his army time with the pioneers, he studied civil engineering in Lübeck with a degree as a graduate engineer. HYDROTECHNIK LÜBECK GMBH was founded by his father and used compressed air as a barrier in the water since the early 1970s. Large docks and entire bays are closed with this technique and thus protected from major damage by oil and flotsam. Since 2010, this technique has been used very efficiently and worldwide to reduce under water noise. Cay A. Grunau is a man of action. If there is a problem, he prefers to solve it more than talk about it. Cay A. Grunau is married, has 3 adult daughters and 3 grandchildren. He lives with his family in Lübeck.

7. Delegate Information

Badges

Delegates and members of the Media are requested to wear their Forum badges at all panels and parts of the event.

ADSG Registration and Information Desk

The registration desk is located near the main Ballroom. It will open on 16 April 2019 at 9:00 am

Presentations

Copies of presentations made at the Abu Dhabi Sustainable Business Leadership Forum 2019 will be made available on www.adsg.ae

Contact

You can reach ADSG team on:
Telephone: +971 (0) 2 6934644
Mobile: +971 (0) 543092276 (this mobile number will only be available during the forum)

Awards Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner

The ADSG Awards and Recognition will be presented during the Awards Gala Dinner. The dinner will take place within the Forum in the Mangroves Ballroom. The Dress Code Formal or national dress only. Please arrive on time and don't forget to bring your invitation card to gain access.