



GREEN HOPE UAE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2013



EDITOR'S NOTE



When we started our journey a year ago , little did we imagine that in such a short time span, we would be able to reach out to such a wide audience of stakeholders in civil society.

9th August,2013 will always remain etched in our memory as it was on this day that Green Hope UAE was introduced to over 1000 youth delegates from all across the globe at the General Assembly Hall of the United Nations.

Children and youth have a defining role to play in the sustainable development dialogue and this newsletter encapsulates the passion with which we have worked on numerous ground level , community projects to make a difference within civil society . The Future We Want is no longer a distant dream . It is within our reach . The time to act is “Now” !

Editor : Kehkashan Basu

MEMBER ARTICLES



OUR GREEN ANGELS

There are over 23,000 kinds of trees in the world. They are the heart and soul of our mother earth. Our existence in life is wholly dependent on these feathered green brown pillars.

Carbon Dioxide can prove harmful to our health. Our saviours... trees, can absorb as much 48 pounds of these poisonous gases per year. Many of the things we use in our daily life is made from trees.

Infact, over 5,000 products are made from trees:- rubber, medicine, furniture to name a few.

Oxygen is the most vital need for a human being. One LARGE tree can provide a whole day's supply of oxygen for up to FOUR people.

Everyone adores dinos! But if dinos were here, none of us would actually be where we are today.

Guess what, the beginning and growth of a Tall Woody tree in forests, has played an extremely important role in the extinction of dinosaurs.

Food is a necessity. Through trees, we can obtain fruits, nuts, coffees and even chewing gum!

These heroes are the LARGEST LIVING organisms to exist on planet earth, with the Coastal Redwoods topping the list. This specimen can grow over 360 feet tall!

The Giant Sequoia is the oldest tree, with an EXTRA-ORDINARY age of 2,500 years!

The National Tree of the UAE is the Ghaf Tree, which is still cut for its wood...

Many eco-heroes are making great efforts to retain the pride of this magnificent specimen.

Just a couple of fortnights back, Green Hope UAE had participated in Goumbook's Give A Ghaf Campaign, with us children planting several Ghaf saplings.

Green Hope UAE has pledged to plant a BILLION trees. With the figure already CROSSING the magical number of 600 in a SINGLE YEAR, we are soon to achieve what we want to...

Trees are our best friends and are always there to help us. But sadly, the number of trees at present is coming down like a melting wax candle...

Let us all pledge to plant trees whenever possible, wherever possible, ensuring a green and clean world to exhibit to our future generations!

According to me, "If you plant a Tree, you plant a hope, of a better, brighter and greener mother earth..."

SHASHWIK SHETTY

THE ENVIRONMENT

Environment means the surroundings. Land, water, air, plants, animals, solid wastes and other things that are surrounding us constitute our environment. Man and environment are closely intertwined with each other, to maintain a balance or equilibrium in nature.

Environmental pollution is the biggest menace to the human race on this planet today. It means adding impurity to environment. The environment consists of earth, water, air, plants and animals. If we pollute them, then the existence of man and nature will be hampered.

Two types of environment we may come across. One is the natural environment of the air, water, solid wastes, noise, radiation, soil, timber, wildlife and living space etc. The second one is the man-made environment that deals with work environment, housing, technology, aesthetics, transportation, utilities, settlement, urbanization and so on.

These environmental components are considered as the resources and are mostly exploited and utilized by the men to fulfill their basic physical needs they can be considered as the fellow members of the global eco-system with which men establish emotional, intellectual, or physical relationships and these provide the basis for a sense of purpose of life to them.

The young and the old from all strata can contribute to the saving of the environment. Not everyone needs to make hefty contributions to world environment organizations. The little things, the ones that really matter are things like recycling our waste, using paper and products made of wood discriminately and these can be done by anybody and everybody.

Children can also contribute to this cause by not wasting water, by switching off the lights and fans in the house when not in use. There is something each of us can do to preserve the environment. So let us all pledge to do something, at least one thing, before the next World Environment Day.

V. VIJAY

OUR VISIT TO THE LABOUR CAMP

On the 18th of July it was Nelson Mandela's 95th birthday. Nelson Mandela is a South African leader who fought for humanity and freedom. He served as a President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. We celebrated his birthday by going to a labour camp to distribute packets of food to the hard working labourers. We wanted to give back to the community. When we reached the labour camp we lined up and made a chain and started distributing the packets to the labourers. They were eager to receive the packets and rushed out since they had been working all day. My feelings can be best described by this famous quote "It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving that matters and gives us joy."

YASH DAVE

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

Peace is not merely a distant goal we seek, but a means by which we are arriving at a goal – Martin Luther King Jr.

World Peace Day is annually celebrated on 21st September each year to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflict and promote peace. The International Day of Peace is also a day of ceasefire – personal or political. It is celebrated to dedicate a day towards world peace. To inaugurate the day, the United Nations Peace Bell is rung at Headquarters. The bell is cast from coins donated by children from all continents except Africa, and was a gift from the United Nations Association of Japan, as "a reminder of the human cost of war"; the inscription on its side reads, "Long live absolute world peace".



NEHA RATHI

EXTINCT IN THE WILD – THE SAHARA ORYX

Extinct in wild, the scimitar Oryx or Sahara Oryx formerly inhabited all of North Africa. It was discovered in 1816 by Lorenz Oken, who named it the Oryx algazel. The scimitar Oryx's died in the wild due to climate change and poor reserve quality. They were shot for their horns and the horns were sold in the black market. Today, it is bred in captivity in special reserves in Tunisia, Morocco and Senegal. Once it breaks a horn, it never grows back. That is why; few believe that the unicorn myth may have originated from sightings of a scimitar Oryx with a broken horn.



ADITYA RATHI

A GREENER TODAY FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

The Green Hope UAE environment academy was a huge, resounding success. It was held on the 26th of October, 2013 . A total of 206 students from various schools in the UAE attended the academy and were inducted as 'Climate Justice Ambassadors'.

Green Hope looks to reduce the use of plastics and to clean the environment creating a better place for us to live in. Green Hope UAE conducts many clean up campaigns all around the UAE, in particular Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

Students like me, who are members of this organization, are encouraged to participate in such environmentally beneficial events that brings an awareness to future generations and promise a better world to live in.

I personally feel this organization imparts immense benefits to our society and help us groom into responsible citizens of our planet Earth.

VIKRAM SATHISH

WATER! WATER! WATER!

Water is the most abundant compound on Earth's surface, covering about 70 percent of the planet in nature. Why is water important for today's world? This is because water is the most precious resource found on this earth and is also the resource which has the most uses. There are people dying due to lack of water in many parts of the world, mostly in developing countries. Shortage of water can cause droughts and can also lead to a number of diseases which are caused due to people drinking dirty and unhealthy water. Water must be conserved to its maximum extent and should not be wasted. We must also help and share the people in this world who are really in need of water. During the summer, Green Hope UAE had distributed water bottles to the labourers working in the hot sun and the smile we brought on their faces satisfied us a lot. Water is like a key to open the door of life as drop of water is worth more than a sack of gold to a thirsty man.



PRAPTI JAYANAND

设计



M.N. VIVEKANANDHAN



**BUVANESWARI
JAYASHANKAR**

PHOTOGRAPHY





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GREEN HOPE



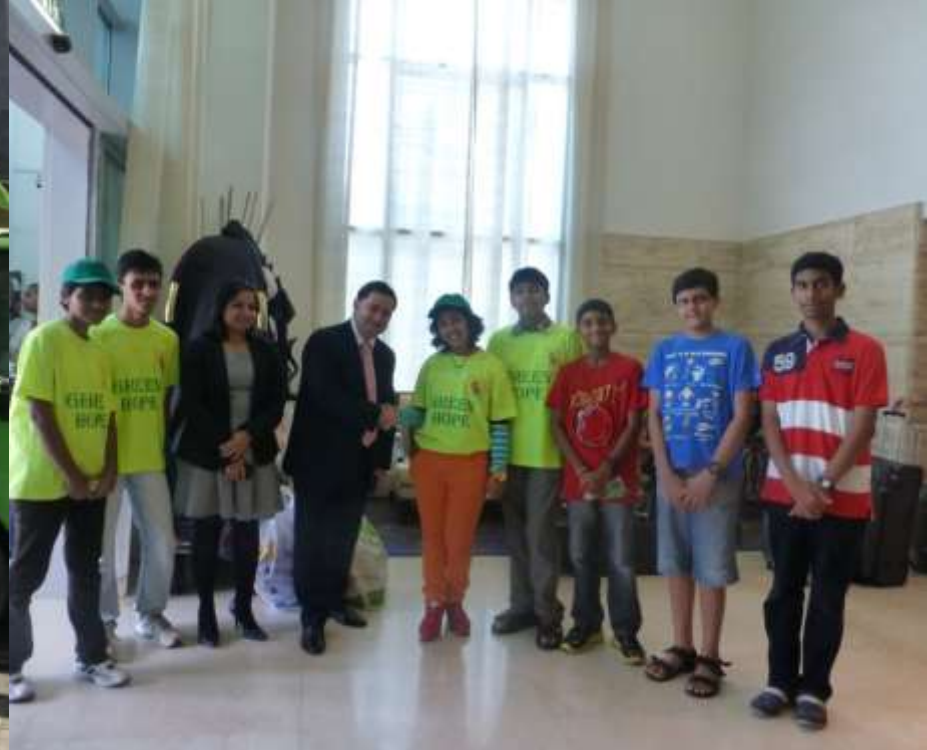
ACTIVITIES



PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION



**ART FROM
WASTE
WORKSHOP**



LABOUR CAMP HANDOUT





LABOUR CAMP HANDOUT



ADOPT-A-CAMP





DU WALKATHON
"EVERY STEP COUNTS"
PROMOTING
SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE



WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY



**GIVING WATER
BOTTLES TO THE
LABOURERS**





**INTERNATIONAL
PEACE DAY**



WHAT WORKS - KHDA



**GHAFAF TREE
PLANTATION**

**= 120 SEEDS
PLANTED**



RAISING MONEY FOR CHARITY





BOX APPEAL INITIATIVE



OUR MDG PLEDGES



OUR JOURNEY FROM THE MDGs to the SDGs



OUR 4TH ACADEMY





BREAST CANCER WALKATHON 2013



PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT WITH RTA



SUPPORTING DUBAI'S EXPO 2020 BID



GREEN
HOPE UAE
SUPPORTS
EXPO 2020!



COMMUNITY AWARENESS ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION



INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

UNEP headquarters, Nairobi



**At Wangari Maathai's organisation
in Nairobi**



At United Nations , New York

IN THE NEWS

The Burjuman Pink Walkathon 2013

The Burjuman Pink Walkathon is aimed at spreading breast cancer awareness and early detection

Sunita Menon | Published 11:20 November 1, 2013

Gulf News Video



MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2013 **KHALEEJ TIMES**



A million trees in their lifetime

Staff reporter

DUBAI — Over 200 green crusaders pledged to plant a million trees in their lifetime at the fourth Environmental Academy held recently at the JSS Private School auditorium.

Anchored on the message, 'Stop Talking, Start Planting', the highlight of the event was the planting of at least 206 saplings with participation of students from a multitude of schools, even from as far as Abu Dhabi. The day-long event attended by children and youth ranging from ages 5 to 18 years, included interactive presentations, group activity, workshops, quiz and role play.

Teachers from several schools attended and were keen to engage in future activities of Green Hope UAE, the organiser of the event.

Kehkashan, Green Hope UAE founder president and Global Coordinator of Children and Youth at UNEP and Global President of the Children's board at Plant-for-the-



Green crusaders from Environmental Academy plant saplings.

Planet, a Germany-based international environment organisation, said she believes in empowering children in the fight for Climate Justice.

She conducted the country's first Plant-for-the-Planet academy a year ago during which the huge turnout and response from youth encouraged her to hold one every quarter since.

Participants stuck their sustainable pledges on a world map which

showed the transition from the millennium development goals to the sustainable development goals. New concepts such as upcycling, as opposed to the more popular 'recycling', were also discussed.

Green Hope UAE has been an active campaigner of UNEP's Think.Eat.Save movement which urges stakeholders to reduce waste by promoting sustainable consumption. — lily@khaaleejtimes.com

The Gulf Today

Young green crusaders make planting pledge

Emirates Post Group, ET in cooperation talks

DUBAI: Emirates Post Group has teamed up with the United Arab Emirates' largest newspaper, the Gulf News, to launch a new initiative aimed at promoting environmental awareness and sustainable development.

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UAE's pride in Culture

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Going green is serious business for UAE youth

UAE youth discuss sustainable concepts at fourth Plant-for-the-Planet Academy

By Janice Ponce de Leon, Staff Reporter

Published: 14:26 October 26, 2013

GULF NEWS

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'Boxes of happiness' from young volunteers

Green Hope UAE, a student-run organisation, makes a difference at The Box Appeal drive

Recently, my friends and I participated in a project called The Box Appeal, a unique and successful event which is now in the sixth year.

The concept is simple yet affecting. As part of the project volunteers were required to pack cardboard boxes with 11 items for daily use. These were then put in construction workers. Each box had the phrase 'Small box, big difference' written on it — it truly encapsulates the message we wanted to send.

My friends and I are members of Green Hope UAE, a non-profit youth organisation that supports environmental causes. We regularly participate in charity drives, especially for construction workers, who work silently and away from the public eye to build the beautiful city of Dubai, which many of us call home.

Green Hope members enthusiastically spent more than two weeks running errands to earn pocket money. We then used it to buy the listed items by visiting various supermarkets and choosing our favourite brands of products. Once the items were collected, we were able to fill several boxes that were then handed over to the Radisson Blu Marina Hotel, which was running The Box Appeal drive.

Community report

By KEHAKASHAN BASU, GNF News reader

It was a very fulfilling experience for all of us as we really wanted the recipients of these boxes to be delighted when they opened them.

Khakshwik, a Green Hope member, said: "These are actually boxes of happiness — we had a lot of fun shopping for the list of items after school. I ensured that I packed items that were long-lasting and of good quality."

Yeha, who manages outreach activities for Green Hope, said: "This is a very noble initiative, since it benefits the less fortunate. Young people must be the most active participants in such endeavours and should actually show the way."

Our next initiative is to hold an environmental academy for students, wherein we hope to raise awareness of climate change, global warming and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. The next UN Climate Change Conference will be held in November in Warsaw, Poland, and it is an appropriate time for us to engage more youth in the process through such events.

Green Hope UAE was founded to provide a networking platform to children and youth on sustainable issues and they can register through our website: www.greenhopeuae.ae or www.greenhopeuae.ae. We can also be contacted through our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GreenHopeUAE.



Joining hands

Volunteers pack cardboard boxes, each containing 11 items for daily use, to be delivered to construction workers.

The reader is a Dubai-based student and founder of Green Hope UAE. As a community reporter, tell us what is happening in your community. Send us your videos and pictures of meaningful activities.

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Thursday, November 14, 2013 | 11:21 p.m.
Last updated 28 minutes ago

and get **AED400** worth

HOME LOCAL MIDEAST ASIA WORLD BUSINESS SPORT OPINION

Giant green steps towards harmony

By Mohan Vadayar

September 23, 2013

Print

Send to Friend



DUBAI: A group of young enthusiasts from Green Hope UAE — an environmental organisation comprising advocates of peace, tolerance and green revolution — commemorated the International Day of Peace on Saturday in Dubai.

The event was commemorated by planting 120 Ghaf tree seeds, the National Tree of the UAE, in the morning, and conducting an art workshop later in the day.

Founder president of Green Hope UAE Kehakashan Basu, a 13-year-old VIIIth Grader of Deira International School, Dubai, said, "We, along with our partners Radisson Blu Residence and Al Tamimi Engineering, had

IN THE NEWS



With Dr Kalam



SPEAKER AT GREEN MIDDLE EAST CONFERENCE



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **CLEAN UP THE WORLD**



Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

- **TREE PLANTING EVENT**

- **OUR 5TH ACADEMY**

OUR SPONSORS



OUR PARTNERS



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