

GREEN HOPE



OUR 3RD NEWSLETTER

Issue date : 6th July, 2013



EDITOR'S NOTE

The second quarter of 2013 was filled with several activities and projects covering various aspects of sustainability. Our third and most successful environment academy saw us reach out to a hundred participants and capped a very successful WED 2013 campaign.

We were greatly motivated by the recognitions bestowed upon us by Dubai Municipality and UNEP. Our WED2013 Think.Eat.Save campaign featured on UNEP's website as did our tree planting activities. It was matter of great pride for us when our "Save Water" campaign was chosen as the Project Earth World Environment Day 2013 Winner for the UAE.

I attended two RIMs (UN Regional Implementation Meetings)on Rio+20 outcomes at Bangkok and Dubai respectively. During a recent visit to Bonn, I spoke at a press conference at the Bonn City Hall and reiterated the need for institutionalised Ombudspersons for protecting the rights of future generations. I visited Seychelles on invitation and interacted with students of their eco-schools and had a meeting with their Environment ministry.

We welcomed several new members into our fold and their enthusiasm has added greater fillip to our march towards sustainable development.

.....Kehkashan



Member Articles

J'adore l'environnement

C'est ma passion,

À travailler à sauver le monde et les animaux,

Sans oublier les gens.



Le monde est béni avec les ressources naturelles

Nous devons droit de les détruire – c'est cruelle,

Beaucoup de gens ne se soucient pas

Mais quand ils nous voient, ils crient

"Green Hope UAE" est là!

KEHKASHAN BASU



GIVE A GHAF

TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME



As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, “The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.” I would like to say that the initiative of a single individual can create a huge impact. We all keep saying that we should save the environment. But how many of us actually follow what we say? The Ghaf tree grows in the desert regions of south-eastern Arabia, and is able to withstand prolonged drought. For centuries, it has been an essential source of food, fuel, shelter and medicine, but mounting pressures from development and a growing population are contributing to the tree’s decline as Ghaf woodlands are being cleared and groundwater over extracted; depriving the trees of the little water they need to survive. Therefore, to solve this problem, we thought about taking out a few hours from our **BUSY LIVES** to save these trees. We started off by collecting dry Ghaf seed pods. After that, we went on with extracting the seeds from the pods. The seeds which we collected would be then stored till the planting season.

NEHA RATHI

GHAFF TREE

You are our Nation's pride

We want you to be our side

You take less water

And give us great shelter

Your seeds germinate one out of five thousand

This is our great concern

BUVANESWARI JAYASHANKAR

Your leaves used as medicine

Still people cut you for no reason

Though you have many hopes

Best amongst is our Green hope.

MANGROVE CLEANUP PROJECT

The day started very early at 4.15 am for members of Green Hope UAE , a youth organization that believes in carrying forward the Rio+20 legacy of sustainable development , as we set out to do our bit for biodiversity conservation .

Mangroves form a very important part of our ecosystem but they , too , are under threat due to pollution and loss of habitat. The sun was just breaking on the horizon when we reached the mangrove belts outside Abu Dhabi . The mangrove belt was quite a distance from the shore and we had to kayak our way to them. For many of us it was our first experience at Kayaking and it was fun getting to know the ropes. Sometimes the kayaks veered suddenly causing us to lose balance , but we managed to reach the mangroves without mishap. It took a lot of effort to move the kayak initially but as time went on, we found it easier.

We had a very enjoyable journey from the shore to the mangrove swamp. As soon as we stepped out of the kayaks, we were all surprised to see the amount of waste deposited daily by the tides even 2 m away from the shore. We spent several hours amongst the mangroves and collected non bio degradable wastes like thermocol, cans, plastic bottles, chips wrappers and even a metal plaque with Farsi markings. We saw lots of crabs, herons and even a couple of dolphins in the distance. The mangroves breath through their roots which stick out of the ground. The plastic waste tends to cover these roots , thus choking the mangroves. Plastic also kills the birds and fish which choke on them.

We collected several bags of waste and took them back to our base. We loaded them onto the kayaks and sailed back. We all were tired, but felt very happy that we were able to clean the mangroves and contribute towards a better future. Thirty odd members from Green Hope UAE who cleaned the mangroves today once again showed their commitment towards sustainable development.

M.N.VIVEKANANDHAN

EARTH

There was a time when our mother earth was blooming
and blossoming with no fear
She let everybody enjoy in her lap
she treated all with care as she held them dear
children played, laughed under the blue azure
as mother earth drifted through the universe
life was bestowed with healthy air and beautiful nature.
awestruck were each and every living being
as mother earth unfolded its marvels and allure
time passed greed prevailed upon human being
technology advanced, skyscrapers mushroomed
mother earth surged towards oblivion,
humans bereft her of her colours
her resources they bludgeon
in their race to be ahead of others
humming birds, chirpy children, dolphins diving
all cry with eyes burning, smoke billowing, nose running
heart renders seeing her plight, need of the hour is to fight
against such vested interest, to save our mother earth dearest
Lets join hands and take the action
not to forget we owe to mother earth our existence
to add she is our only means of life sustenance

MANAV JHA

MANGROVES IN THE UAE



What are the 'Mangroves'? Well, these are small trees which grow in shallow and saline water. These mangroves grow in more than 4 continents and substantially take less oxygen than other plants during the night and take 3 times more CO₂ than other plants in daylight. Mangroves have also housed different species of animals and birds from a long time. They provide secure breeding grounds for several fish species, sea snakes, turtles, shrimp, grunt fish and sea bream. Green Hope went to clean mangroves on 29. 06. 2013 where we saw plastics, bottles, polyester, leather etc. – All very harmful to the biodiversity of the mangrove and marshy areas. All the garbage deposited in the water from Qatar, Bahrain, and UAE etc. comes and collects here blocking the roots of the plants. We, Green Hope, wish to see a cleaner and safer environment for the humans, crabs and of course the mangroves which give us oxygen and help make the world a better place at the same time.

ADITYA RATHI

AN UNFORGETTABLE JOURNEY...

*I was strolling along the banks of a river,
When someone told me not to go,
For if I would, then I would shiver,
At the sight of what the blue beauty would show...*

*I was hesitant,
and did not care what he was to mutter,
Little knowing about what I would face,
Dirt, garbage and even more gutter,
As I sat down, investigating the case.*

*During my journey, I came across a very busy town,
But still nowhere to be seen,
was the quality of beauty,
The dirt, the destruction, let me down,
Which made me think,
"Perhaps I should take up the duty?"*

*A turn of my head, saw children throwing litter,
They innocently regarded it as a celebration,
The very thought of it, made my mind all bitter,
And I felt sad for Mother Earth's sacred creation...*

*I marched forward, and asked them WHY?
The 'innocent sinners' answered, "It makes us all joyful!",
But when I said, that it makes mother earth cry,
Did they start to feel sad and disgraceful...*

*The DEADLY sewage water spread all around,
Is the ONLY source of drink,
for the poor animals stranded on the streets,
They suffer from DISEASES,
which makes them fall FLAT on the ground,
The sight may even make the honest, feel like cheats...*

*In a world,
where every nook and corner is bloated in pollution,
DESTROYING it, is every human's sin,
Let us all put our heads together and find a solution,
To make Mother Earth a better place to live in...*

CUANDO NO SE ESCUCHA LA VOZ DE PUEBLO

OUR FRIEND FROM COLOMBIA

Cuanto dolor puede darme el tener que admitir que en mi país es cierta la frase que dice “el pueblo traiciona a su propio pueblo para poder comer”.

Cuántas personas han dejado hasta el último de sus valores para poder sobrevivir, cuántos han vendado los ojos de su hermano para que sin que éste se dé cuenta, sea comido por los hombres hambrientos de esta sociedad.

Ya pocos saben quiénes son, ya pocos conocen la verdad, ya muy pocos son hombres de verdad. Hace unos días un grupo de jóvenes comenzó a manifestarse pacíficamente en contra de la tala de cientos de árboles en el llamado Túnel Verde de Envigado, una familia de árboles que han decorado la Avenida El Poblado durante muchas décadas, han sido el hogar de la vida y han trabajado son descansar por siempre brindar un mejor aire para respirar.

Todo comienza cuando la empresa de buses articulados, Metroplús, decide talar este túnel para ampliar la avenida y adicionar un carril exclusivo para este nuevo sistema de transporte.

Uno de esos días tuvo que postergarse la tala de los primero árboles debido a que la comunidad se había manifestado inconforme y solicitaban una sesión en el Consejo de Medellín. Así fue, el Consejo convocó a una Sesión Ordinaria un sábado en la mañana para tratar el tema y escuchar las partes.

El Gerente de Metroplús expuso los beneficios que traería el sistema de transporte público a la ciudad de Envigado, aledaña a Medellín. Su discurso cargado de diapositivas y palabras poco convincentes se llevó gran parte del tiempo.

Luego habló la comunidad que mostró su inconformidad y con argumentos claros defendió la no tala del Túnel Verde. Allí me di cuenta del gran sentido de pertenencia de los envigadeños, de los vecinos de éste barrio pintoresco.

El tiempo para ellos era de tres minutos en los cuales se dificultaba presentar cualquier argumento sólido para defender un sentimiento y una necesidad. Así se fue la mañana, pasaron los minutos y las horas y todo continuaba. Después vino el turno de los concejales quienes en su mayoría estaban a favor de evitar la tala de estos árboles, que para muchos era llamado genocidio. Cuando llegamos al concejal animalista, éste comenzó mostrando unas fotos en las que se veía animales siendo torturado, animales partidos en dos, personas bañándose con su sangre... ahí me pregunté como éste “animalista” podía ver éstas fotos sin el menor escrúpulo. Su discurso fue de esos que hacen sentir melancolía, un discurso que mostraba la verdadera cara del interior, entre todas sus palabras dijo: “ustedes se equivocan al decir que esto es un asesinato, un arboricidio, pues está comprobado que los árboles no sienten porque no tienen sistema nervioso central” después la palabra fue del concejal de los escasos cabellos quien respondió “no se si los árboles sientan o no, pero nosotros si lo sentimos”.

Ya pasadas las dos de la tarde se le preguntó al Gerente de Metroplús si podía detener la tala y entrar a estudiar otras alternativas para no tener que destruir el Túnel Verde. Su respuesta muy sencilla fue “los contratos ya están hechos y no tiene marcha atrás, es casi imposible detenerlo”.

Aquí de nuevo los problemas de Colombia, aquí de nuevo la indiferencia, aquí otra vez el poder vestido de oveja.

Pasó una sola noche cuando al día siguiente llegaron los trabajadores con las motosierras, de inmediato se movilizó la comunidad, cientos de personas fueron al lugar, muchas de ellas se aferraron de los árboles pero aquí ya estaba el ESMAD (Escuadrón Móvil Antidisturbios). Los fortachones hombres vestidos de negro manejaban violentamente la situación, niños, jóvenes, ancianas aferrados al árbol, sin ataques violentos eran, muchos de ellos maltratados y hasta golpeados hasta separarlos.

Cuántos gritos, cuántas lágrimas, cuánto dolor, cuánta falta de respeto por el pueblo mismo, falta de respeto por la paz y la armonía, falta de respeto por la naturaleza.

Pasó el día y los primeros 7 árboles fueron talados y uno de ellos aun con la bandera tricolor puesta sobre él. Todos estaban agobiados, cansados, decepcionados, pero ninguno por vencido.

Yo me llené de orgullo, sentí algo que jamás había sentido y era la satisfacción de saber que algo estaba cambiando, algo más estaba cambiando.

MATEO BOTERO

GREEN THE GENE'S THE AQUA REVIVAL **AWARD NOMINATION**

OUR PARTNER FROM INDIA

Green the Gene's unique and internationally acclaimed water recycling project has been recently nominated for the prestigious St. Andrew's Prize for the Environment.

The Aqua Revival, despite of being extremely simple, is a very unique and innovative way to address one of the major problems of the Haryana Region of India scarcity of water. And over the past three years has recycled over 2.5 Million litres of water. As our region is one of those which receives no more than 50 cm of rainfall in a year, making a lot of people suffer from water scarcity, this project has been a boon to many. In this project we are recycling over 850,000 litres of waste swimming pool and RO Water every year, since the past three years.

GREEN THE GENE - AQUA REVIVAL AWARD NOMINATION

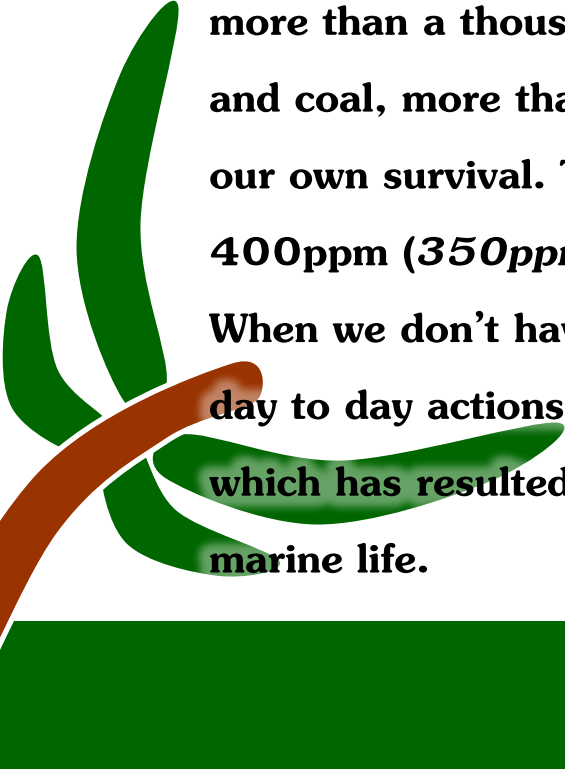
In Eicher school, we have three large swimming pools (With different depths for different age groups) and usually in India, swimming pool water is just sent down the drain and is never recycled.

In homes and schools around the country, tap water is unfit for drinking and so RO systems are used to purify water, and a lot of discharge water is wasted in the process.

Because of the water scarcity in our state (annual rainfall of about 50 cm) and its extensive wastage, people are not able to fulfil their water needs from the water provided by the government and have to boar into the ground for water, which is pulled to the ground using a pump this causes a decrease in the water table and a considerable increase in the electricity consumption.

MADHAV DATT

Will planting trees save our Future?



The answer to this question may lie in our ancient history. When few people and lots of trees existed in our planet. There was a balance in ecosystem, For more than six hundred thousand years the CO₂ concentration never went above 280ppm (parts per million). Just in last hundred years, when the global population and rate of deforestation rose exponentially. It is just our species who chopped more than a thousand billion trees in a century. We have used gasoline and coal, more than on any civilization ever, which is now threatening our own survival. The CO₂ concentration has now increased to 400ppm (*350ppm is maximum concentration for a healthy planet*). When we don't have much trees and still produce lots of CO₂ from our day to day actions, our oceans absorb the CO₂ from the atmosphere which has resulted our oceans to be poisonous and threatened the marine life.

OUR FRIEND FROM NEPAL

Will planting trees save our Future?

Whether it be expanding deserts in Africa or drought in China, these happenings for killing planet earth / climate crisis is directly connected with our behaviors and actions. The summer has been burning hot and winter has turned to be freezing cold. With all these consequences we now have only 560 billion tons of CO₂ to exhaust if we wish to limit the rise in temperature of our planet by 2^o C.

The easiest way for solving all these crisis is by planting trees alongside reducing emissions. A single tree can absorb about 10 kilos of CO₂. If all the people plant 150 trees by 2020, we will soon add a thousand billion trees in planet earth, which will help us limit the rise in earth's temperature to 2^o C. So its all up to us to save our Future. Stop Talking . Start Planting

The writer is World President at Plant for the Planet Youth Global Board

SAGAR ARYAL

GREEN HOPE



OUR

ACTIVITIES





**VISIT TO THE
WORLD'S
LARGEST
FALCON
HOSPITAL**



At the workshop



TREE PLANTING

VISIT TO A WASTE RECYCLING AND SEGREGATION PLANT



VOLUNTEERS AT THE TERRY FOX RUN



**PARTICIPATED IN
DUBAI
MUNICIPALITY'S
"LIFE IN WATER"
EXHIBITION**



PROTECTED RESERVE'S CLEANUP CAMPAIGN



TREE PLANTING ACTIVITY



KHDA
"WHAT WORKS"



WETEX 2013 AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FORUM



**WORLD DAY FOR
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**



**MOSQUE VISIT
FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF
CULTURAL
UNDERSTANDING**



**GREENING THE
LANDFILL WITH
DUBAI
MUNICIPALITY**



**WORLD NO
TOBACCO DAY**



DUBAI MUNICIPALITY'S EXHIBITION FOR WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY



**SAY NO TO
PLASTIC BAGS
CAMPAIGN WITH
DUBAI
MUNICIPALITY**

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

AT THE SCREENING
OF THE MOVIE
"EARTH"



WE PLANTED ON SAPLINGS ON
WED



WE ARE WEARING T-SHIRTS WITH
THE SLOGAN "THINK.EAT.SAVE"



AT THE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANT





Plant-for-the-Planet Academy



FIGHT AGAINST DESERTIFICATION – SAVING THE GHAF TREE



**GIVE A GHAF
CAMPAIGN**





**WORLD DAY TO
COMBAT
DESERTIFICATION**



MANGORVE CLEANUP CAMPAIGN

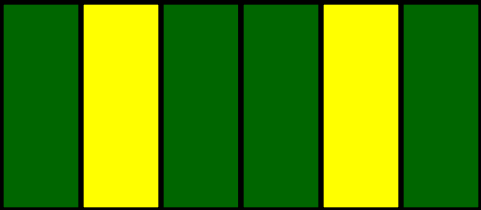
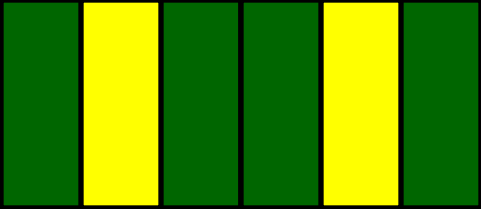




ANISHKA
JHA

BUVANESWARI
JAYASANKAR





PHOTOGRAPHY





NATURE AT ITS BEST - SEYCHELLES

KEHKASHAN BASU





KOMAL MUTHYALU



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



*In Special Recognition for Excellence in
Environmental Project Development and Leadership,
Project Earth and Ecology and Environment, Inc.,
are pleased to award*

Green Hope UAE

Save Water, Share it

United Arab Emirates

Project Earth World Environment Day 2013 Winner

Kevin Neumaier, President and CEO, Ecology and Environment, Inc.



UNEP in West Asia

NEWSLETTER

May-June 2013



Young people from West Asia plant trees in support to UNEP Billion Tree Campaign



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Harmful
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WORLD ENVIRONMENT
DAY 5 JUNE

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What's Being Done to Fight the World's Food Waste Problem?



THINK·EAT·SAVE
WORLD ENVIRONMENT
DAY 5 JUNE

Mrs. S. Oyun
Minister of Nature,
Environment and Green
Development of Mongolia



GREENING THE BLUE
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
PHOTO PRIZE DRAW

CHOOSE A PLEDGE, WRITE IT UP AND SEND US A PHOTO OF YOU WITH YOUR PLEDGE. YOU WILL BE ENTERED INTO A PRIZE DRAW AND COULD WIN A FABULOUS PRIZE!

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SEYCHELLES

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Volunteers make Terry Fox run memorable

Ready to guide, young volunteers from Green Hope make it a smooth-flowing run

By Khaledan Baze, Gulf News reader
Published: 17:13 April 23, 2013

GULF NEWS



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Dubai children plant 100 trees for sustainable future

Mohammed N Al Khan

Jun 9, 2013

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Converting landfills into green zones

Staff Reporter (news@khaleejtimes.com) / 08 May 2013

Dubai Municipality's Waste Management Department held an environmental campaign under the theme of 'Plant for the Planet'. Spearheaded by hazardous waste treatment plant officials at their site in Jebel Ali, the objective is to convert a landfill into a green zone.

Green Hope UAE, a youth environmental group, comprising students from various schools in the UAE are working with the municipality's Waste Management Department on this initiative.



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A day of 'double the green success' for Plant-for-the-Planet academy

Teachers and students participated in various activities and informative presentations to raise awareness about the environment

By Khaledan Baze, Gulf News reader
Published: 17:45 June 18, 2013

Reader comments (1)

GULF NEWS



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UAE groups help to save ghaf trees on UN 'Combat Desertification Day'

7DAYS Follow

Monday, June 17, 2013

Today is United Nations Combat Desertification Day and here in the UAE, groups are playing their part by helping to save ghaf trees - one of the most water-efficient plants on Earth.

The evergreen ghaf, which was declared the UAE's national tree in 2008, was historically used by Bedouins because it provided shelter from the sun, food for them and their camels and goats, fuel for fires and even medicine. Its wood was also used to build shelters.

It is so much part of the UAE's heritage that the late HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan gave it national protection and his own personal patronage.



UAE children collecting ghaf seeds at the weekend

NEWS WEDNESDAY MAY 29, 2013

Eco youngsters spruce up the city

100 young kids have helped to spruce up the city by planting 100 ghaf trees in a park in Dubai. The project was organized by the Green Hope UAE group, which aims to raise awareness about the environment and encourage children to take action to protect the planet.

THINK • EAT • SAVE
PLANT FOR THE PLANET

Nuclear plant under way

CONTACT US

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **LABOUR CAMP
HANDOUTS**



Month						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat

- **TREE PLANTING EVENT**

- **OUR 4TH ACADEMY**

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