الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية الإجتماعية للمؤسسات
Arabia CSR Network©



Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards

- 19th CYCLE 2026 -

WINNERS BOOKLET

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About the Network 04
Foreword 05
Evolution of the Awards 06
Participation by Country & Sector 07
Trends and Analysis 2026 08

LARGE PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY

Dubai Water and Electricity Authority (DEWA) 11

MEDIUM PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY

Sharjah Housing Department 13

SMALL PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY

Fujairah Environment Authority 15
Sharjah Self Defense Sports Club 16
Ajman Statistics Center 17

LARGE BUSINESS CATEGORY

Schneider Electric 19
Tristar Group 20
Arabian Gulf Steel Industries (AGSI) 21

MEDIUM BUSINESS SECTOR CATEGORY

Atyab Group 23
CANPACK Middle East One Person Company LLC 24
Lucy Middle East FZE 25
OQ Base Industries 26

SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY

Transworld 28
Labotel Workers Village 29
Kharayf Altomour 30

FINANCIAL SERVICES CATEGORY

First Abu Dhabi Bank 32

HOSPITALITY SERVICES CATEGORY

FIVE HOTELS 34
FIVE HOTEL - FZE 35
Movenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach 36
Dubai World Trade Centre DWTC 37
FIVE HOTEL JUMERIAH VILLAGE LLC 38
Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina 39
FIVE LUXE HOTEL LLC 40

HEALTHCARE SECTOR CATEGORY

Aster DM Healthcare 42
Al Hussein Society Jordan Center for Traning and Inclusion 43

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY

Innovo ____ 45
Dutco Construction Group (DCG) ____ 46
NMDC Group ____ 47
China State Construction Engineering Corporation (Middle East) (L.L.C) ____ 48

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY CATEGORY

Galadari Brothers ____ 50
Al Shirawi Equipment Company ____ 51

ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY

Saudi Aramco - Western Region Distribution Department ____ 53
Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC) - L.L.C ____ 54
Emirates District Cooling (EMICOOL) LLC ____ 55
National Central Cooling Company Tabreed ____ 56

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY

The Friends of Football Players Charity Association ____ 58
Savola World Foundation ____ 59
Palestine for Development Foundation - PsDF ____ 60
Sfanah Charity Organisation for Health Services ____ 61

EDUCATION SECTOR CATEGORY

Hebron University ____ 63
Heriot-Watt University ____ 64

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION CATEGORY

Dubai Municipality ____ 66
Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club ____ 67
The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association ____ 68
Emerge Limited ____ 69
Les Eaux Minérales d'Oulmès ____ 70
Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina ____ 71
Sfanah Charity Organisation for Health Services ____ 72
Farnek Services LLC. ____ 73

PROFILE OF SPONSORS

McDonald's UAE ____ 75
China State Construction Engineering Corporation (Middle East) (L.L.C) ____ 75

CONCLUSION

____ 76

About the Network

الشبكة العربية للمسؤولية الإجتماعية للمؤسسات
Arabia CSR Network©

The Arabia Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Network (ACSRN) is a multi-stakeholder participatory platform through which a range of activities are offered to organisations, to build knowledge, awareness and capacity for the deployment of ESG strategies, policies and practices.

Originating in 2004, the Arabia CSR Network was the first entity in the Arab Region to establish a network of sustainability minded organisations, public and private alike. Starting with the GCC countries, it soon spread to the entire Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

Among the earliest activities designed by the Network was the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards, which was launched in 2008. It was followed by the Arabia CSR Forum in 2010, which has since become the meeting point of sustainability leaders, experts and practitioners from across the entire globe.

ACSRN also publishes the annual Arabia CSR & Sustainability Best Practice Case Studies, a rich and informative resource book that features organisations that have distinguished themselves as winners and finalists of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards.

ACSRN offers advisory services in sustainability vision, mission & values, strategy review and formulation, gap and SWOT analysis, and sustainability reporting. ACSRN is also recognised as a third-party assurance provider for sustainability reports.

ACSRN has been one of the pioneers in developing locally based knowledge content on social responsibility and sustainability. In recognition of its expertise, ACSRN was the first entity on the GCC Region to officially become a local training partner of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and went on to offer the only GRI certified training in both English & Arabic language for a full decade in the Arabic Speaking Middle East countries. ACSRN also developed and offers other CSR trainings in collaboration with the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) in the Philippines. ACSRN currently offers a selection of trainings and workshops, focused on various stages and aspects of implementation of CSR, ESG and Sustainability.

Focus Areas



Foreword



Dr. Habiba Al Mar'ashi
Founder & CEO

The successful completion of the 2026 Arabia CSR and Sustainability Awards marked the conclusion of the 19th cycle of the globally acknowledged award initiative. The booklet presents a synoptic overview of the 2026 Awards, highlighting milestones and showcasing the year's best entrants.

In the overall, the nineteenth cycle saw a relative dip, compared to the previous one. It can be explained by the destabilising geo-political environment, in particular the conflict in the region and its implications for local economies. Given the exigencies of the situation, it is commendable that seventy applications were selected for jury evaluation this year, out of which 44.5% were new entrants to the Arabia CSR and Sustainability Awards. It goes to show that the Awards continue to attract business and non-business players from the GCC, Levant and North Africa, offering them a preferred platform to share their experiences and expertise.

A brief history of the Awards and a look at trends and patterns enables a better reading of the corporate sustainability landscape in the extended Arab region of Middle East Asia and North Africa. The Awards have been effective in not only spotlighting the leaders in corporate sustainability across the Arabic speaking region, but also in facilitating regional benchmarks and best practices, based on the rigorous criteria developed through the amalgamation of leading global standards, frameworks and guidelines. It includes the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM), the UN Global Compact Ten Principles on Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-corruption; the GRI Standards of Sustainability Reporting, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance.

The organisations that were identified as the top performers of the year have been profiled in the booklet, covering the different award categories that they applied to.

The profiles reflect the issues and concerns relative to specific countries, sectors and organisations. However, they also bring out commonalities and currents that create a broader chain of uniform ideals, ambitions and achievements.

The Conclusion chapter brings these insights together, highlighting the cumulative outcomes, key developments and emerging trends from this 19th cycle. It provides a broader perspective on the evolving direction of sustainability practice across the region, reflecting both the progress achieved and the areas where greater ambition, innovation and collective action will continue to be required.

We, at Arabia CSR Network applaud all participants of the 19th cycle, who are champions in their own right, irrespective of the results. Their continued commitment to responsible business and sustainable growth, particularly amid a challenging operating environment, demonstrates the growing importance of sustainability as an integral part of long-term organisational success.

The 19th cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards owes much to our Patron, sponsors, strategic partners, supporting organisations and participants, whose collective commitment continues to strengthen this regional platform. We remain committed to providing organisations with the opportunity to benchmark, excel and be recognised for sustainability leadership. I invite you to explore the inspiring journeys captured in this booklet and, with great pleasure, present the winners and finalists of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards 2026.

Evolution of the Awards

The Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards, a flagship initiative of the Arabia CSR Network (ACSRN), were launched in 2008 to recognise organisations demonstrating responsible leadership and meaningful contributions to sustainable development. Over 19 cycles, the Awards have evolved into a rigorous and respected benchmark for sustainability excellence across the Arab world.

The foundations were laid in 2006, when ACSRN conducted a survey to understand the state of CSR and sustainability among its members. At the time, CSR in the region was largely associated with philanthropy, charitable giving and community activities. There was a clear opportunity to encourage organisations to integrate environmental, social and governance considerations more systematically into their strategies and operations.

The Awards were created in response to this need. Beginning with only three categories, they expanded alongside the region's sustainability journey. Today, the Awards feature 16 categories based on organisational size and sector, enabling organisations with different structures and resources to participate within appropriate peer groups. The assessment criteria have similarly evolved, drawing on leading international standards and frameworks while addressing strategy, governance, leadership, stakeholder engagement, environmental management, human capital, community impact, innovation and organisational performance.

Reflecting the diversity of the Arab region, applications are accepted in Arabic, English and French and assessed by a trilingual panel of independent local and international experts. Every cycle undergoes a rigorous review to ensure the criteria remain relevant to evolving sustainability priorities.

Innovation has remained central to this evolution. The Awards became fully electronic in 2010, digitalising the process from registration and application to assessment. An annual Awards Clinic supports applicants in understanding the criteria and requirements, while every participant receives jury scores and detailed feedback. This makes participation more than a competition; it provides organisations with a valuable self-assessment, benchmarking and organisational learning exercise, helping them identify strengths, gaps and opportunities for continuous improvement.

The 19th Cycle in 2026 arrives at a defining moment for the region. The Arab world is navigating an increasingly complex landscape shaped by geopolitical uncertainty, economic pressures, conflicts, shifting trade relationships, energy security concerns, supply-chain disruptions and intensifying climate impacts.

In such circumstances, we need to understand that sustainability cannot be considered a priority only for stable and prosperous times. It is precisely during periods of uncertainty and challenges that responsible leadership, resilience and long-term thinking matter most. The organisations participating in the 2026 cycle have demonstrated this determination by continuing to invest in their people, communities, governance, environmental and social performance despite challenging operating conditions.

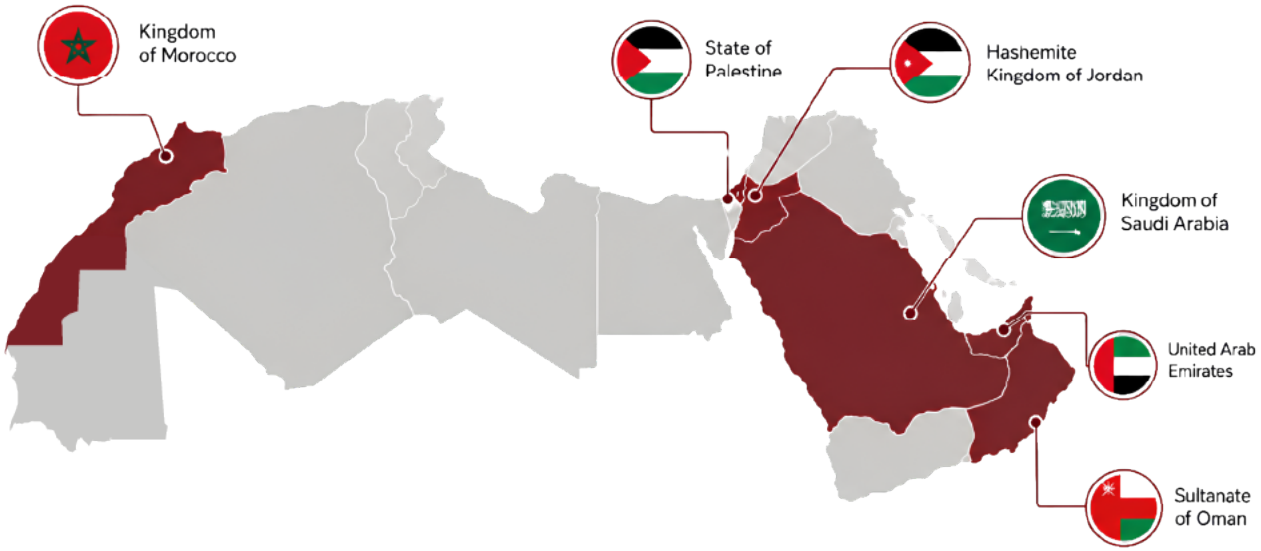
The calibre of this year's applications was particularly encouraging, with exceptionally close scores among several leading organisations during the final jury deliberations. This reflects how sustainability practices across the region continue to mature and reinforces ACSRN's belief that every organisation willing to undergo rigorous assessment, reflection and improvement gains meaningful value from embarking on this journey.

From three categories in 2008 to 16 categories in 2026, the evolution of the Awards mirrors the wider transformation of CSR and sustainability across the Arab world. The Awards continue to evolve while remaining true to their purpose: encouraging organisations to measure, learn, improve and continuously raise the bar.

Nineteen cycles later, the "Green Oscars of the Arab Region" remain a celebration of excellence, resilience, ambition and determination driving sustainable development across the region.



Participation by Country



Participation by Sector

- Automotive
- Banking & Financial Services
- Catering & Food Services
- Construction
- Construction & Engineering
- Diversified Conglomerate
- Education
- Electrical Equipment & Energy Technology
- Energy
- Energy Management & Idustrial Technology
- Engineering, Construction & Energy Infrastructure
- Engineering, Construction & Marine Infrastructure
- Environmental & Marine Engineering
- Events, Exhibitions & Hospitality
- Facilities Management
- Food & Agriculture
- Food & Beverage – Bottled Water
- Food & Beverage Manufacturing
- Government / Public Service
- Healthcare
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Industrial Equipment & Engineering
- Logistics & Energy Supply Chain
- Logistics & Supply Chain
- Manufacturing
- Non-Profit / NGO
- Oil & Gas / Drilling
- Real Estate Development
- Recycling & Metals
- Relocation & Mobility Services
- Renewable Energy / Solar Energy
- Social Enterprise
- Sports
- Technology
- Travel & Leisure
- Utilities – District Cooling
- Utilities – Electricity & Water
- Waste Management & Environmental Services



2025

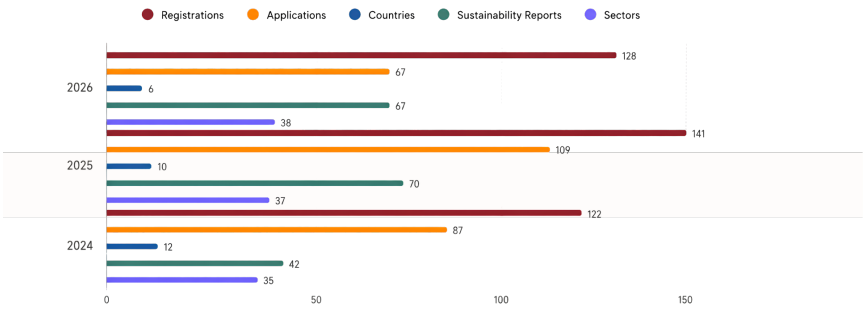


2026

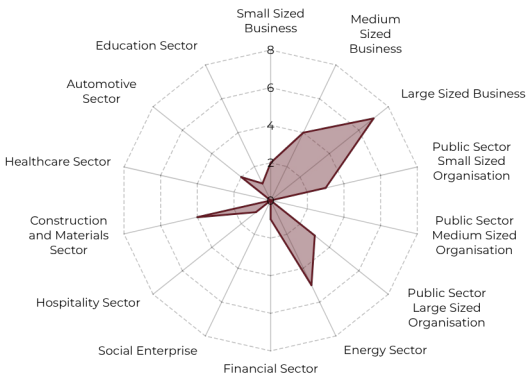
Trends Analysis

The 19th Cycle of the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards unfolded against a challenging regional landscape shaped by geopolitical instability, economic uncertainty and operational pressures. These conditions inevitably influenced participation in 2026. Nevertheless, the cycle demonstrated remarkable resilience, with organisations continuing to invest in benchmarking, transparency and responsible business practices despite the external challenges.

The 2026 cycle recorded 128 registrations and 70 completed applications, compared with 141 registrations and 109 applications in 2025. Geographic representation also narrowed from 10 countries in 2025 to 6 countries in 2026, reflecting the difficult circumstances affecting several parts of the Arab region. Encouragingly, 44.5% of participants were new entrants, demonstrating the Awards' continued ability to attract organisations seeking to assess and advance their sustainability journey.



Sectoral diversity continued to expand, reaching 38 sectors in 2026, compared with 37 in 2025 and 35 in 2024. This represents the highest sectoral representation across the three-year period and demonstrates that sustainability practices continue to extend beyond traditional ESG-focused industries into a broader range of economic activities.



Another particularly encouraging development was the quality of submissions received in 2026. Jury assessments indicated that overall scores were higher than in the previous cycle, reflecting stronger applications and greater maturity in the sustainability practices presented. Competition was particularly intense within the Hospitality Sector, where the scores of the leading applicants were exceptionally close. This demonstrated not only the competitiveness of the category but also the growing sophistication with which hospitality organisations in the region are approaching sustainability.

The results therefore reveal an important distinction between quantity and quality. Although geopolitical circumstances contributed to lower registrations, applications and geographic participation, the organisations that participated demonstrated determination to continue progressing. Notably, the majority of Sustainability Reports submitted came from organisations in the Large Business category followed by the Energy Sector Category, signalling that formal sustainability reporting is becoming increasingly embedded within the governance, accountability and strategic practices of larger organisations and other sector specific categories. The combination of higher scores, sustained levels of sustainability reporting, greater sectoral diversity and a substantial proportion of new entrants provides a strong indication that sustainability remains a strategic priority even during periods of uncertainty.

The 2026 results therefore tell an important story. While geopolitical circumstances affected participation and geographic reach, they did not diminish the determination of participating organisations to progress. Higher assessment scores, 38 represented sectors, 33 Sustainability Reports and a strong proportion of new entrants demonstrate continued commitment to sustainability despite a difficult operating environment.



19th Cycle Finalists

LARGE PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER

LARGE PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA)

United Arab Emirates

هيئة كهرباء ومياه دبي
Dubai Electricity & Water Authority

"A globally leading sustainable innovative corporation committed to achieving Net-Zero by 2050." That vision has guided Dubai Electricity & Water Authority since its founding in 1959, and it took on new weight when DEWA became a publicly listed company in April 2022. Its Strategy Map translates this ambition into 19 corporate objectives across environmental, social and governance dimensions, prioritising SDGs #6, #7, #8, #9, #12 & #13 in line with the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050.

The Group Risk & Resilience Committee, chaired by the MD & CEO, oversees DEWA's risk management approach, which follows ISO 31000, ISO 22301 & BS 11200 standards and is monitored in real time through the SAP GRC platform. This sits alongside Board-level oversight of the Climate Change & Sustainability Department, which leads enterprise-wide data governance for the annual Sustainability Report, reinforced by ISO 37301 and ISO 37001 certifications. Executive performance is tracked through the Employee Performance Management System, with Executive Vice Presidents assessed against divisional KPIs covering emissions reduction, energy efficiency and renewable energy integration, cascaded down to individual SMART objectives linked to DEWA's Triple Bottom Line strategy map.

Environmental performance centres on the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, which reached 3,860 MW in 2025, representing 21.5% of DEWA's total capacity, with a target of exceeding 8,000 MW by 2030. DEWA's 2025 results show a 49.26% efficiency improvement against a 2006 baseline, reducing 13.10 million tonnes of CO_2, alongside carbon intensity of 0.3833 tCO_2e/MWh and green hydrogen production exceeding 100 tonnes. Electricity transmission and distribution losses stand at 2% and water losses at 4.4%, among the lowest in the world, saving 39.9 billion gallons of water between 2013 and 2025.

DEWA's Circular Economy Strategy, developed in 2023 as one of the first in the region, covers five pillars including circular design, asset optimisation through predictive maintenance, and SF6 gas recycling. Its Carbon Footprint Report has been independently verified under ISO 14064-3 since establishing its Monitoring, Reporting and Verification framework in 2012.

Labour and safety practices run through an Integrated Management System certified to ISO 45001, ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 39001, supported by SAP S/4HANA EHSM modules for real-time incident management. In 2025, DEWA received the British Safety Council's Sword of Honour for the 18th time, with a 5-Star health and safety audit score of 96.16%. Employee grievances are reviewed through a formal Grievance Committee, with 32 cases recorded in 2025, while whistleblowing runs through a dedicated Ethics Hotline and Smart Application.

Happiness among Employees of Determination reached 100% for the fourth consecutive year, supported by the "Empowering Minds" initiative and accessibility tools including Braille smart displays and tactile Dot Pads.

Community investment follows a prioritisation matrix based on social needs and government directives, exemplified by the "For Generations to Come" initiative, which distributed 2,500 school bags to low-income students in 2024, up from 1,700 in 2023. DEWA's Sustainability Culture Indicator reached 92.67% among employees in 2025, supported by 36 Sustainability Connect sessions reaching 3,891 participants and a mangrove planting programme that engaged 381 volunteers across 762 hours.

Innovation runs through an 'Imagine, Design, Execute', framework linking idea generation to DEWA's Net Zero 2050 agenda, with initiatives including AI-driven power generation optimisation and 3D-printed spare parts.

As Dubai works toward 100% clean energy by 2050, DEWA's next decade will be measured against the same independently verified numbers it has built its track record on so far. Its Sustainability Report has been externally assured annually since 2016 under ISAE 3000 by DNV, prepared against GRI Standards and aligned with the UN Global Compact.

> "The UAE's 2026 Year of the Family, under the slogan 'Growing in Unity', reflects a vision for a cohesive society. DEWA supports this vision through social responsibility, clean energy, resource efficiency, community empowerment and service innovation. From 2013 to 2025, DEWA launched 496 community initiatives, with employees contributing 470,270 volunteer hours. Guided by a clear institutional framework, DEWA balances economic, social and environmental priorities across all its operations, while community happiness reached 95% last year."
>
> **H.E. Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer**
> MD & CEO

MEDIUM PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

MEDIUM PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



Sharjah Housing Department

United Arab Emirates

Green concrete sits at the centre of the Sharjah Housing Department's approach to sustainable construction, replacing part of the Portland cement used in its housing projects with lower-impact materials such as iron slag granules, fly ash and silica fume, while maintaining structural requirements and building safety. The approach is intended to reduce reliance on conventional cement, lower the energy consumption and carbon emissions associated with its production, and improve the structural and environmental characteristics of government housing. Established in 2010, the Department frames this initiative as a direct expression of its mission to strengthen family stability through sustainable, innovative housing services.

The Department's strategic priorities, family stability, sustainable housing provision, innovation, partnerships and institutional performance, are aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and translated into operational plans and initiatives at the local and national level. It monitors economic and social trends affecting the housing sector, including developments in low-emission construction materials and sustainable building techniques, to inform its future strategies and projects. Environmental, social and governance risks are integrated into its enterprise risk management and business continuity planning, covering emissions and resource consumption, beneficiary safety and housing quality, and compliance with specifications, contracts and supplier management.

Sustainability and institutional responsibility are reported to senior management through periodic performance reviews that include environmental and social indicators, compliance levels, financial and construction results. Responsibility for ESG matters is distributed across specialised departments, with implementation tracked through the administrative reporting chain and periodic reports submitted to senior leadership.

Multiple stakeholder groups, including citizens, government entities, contractors, consultants, suppliers, employees and strategic partners, are engaged through surveys, customer councils, coordination meetings, workshops and joint committees. Communication channels extend to the Department's website, call centre, social media platforms and weekly direct meetings, while complaints and suggestions are received and processed through official channels, with customer satisfaction measured periodically and results used to inform service development.

Employees are covered by UAE labour legislation and Sharjah government regulations guaranteeing equal opportunity, non-discrimination and a safe working environment, supported by confidential grievance channels through HR, an electronic complaints system and direct management contact. The Department applies a zero tolerance policy toward corruption, bribery, abuse of power and conflicts of interest, backed by reporting channels, internal oversight and a code of conduct communicated to staff. Occupational health and safety requirements, periodic risk assessments and emergency response plans extend the same protections to contractors and suppliers working on Department projects.

Innovation is applied through digital services, streamlined customer processes and construction improvements including the green concrete initiative, with results measured against indicators such as service quality, time and resource savings as well as customer satisfaction. The Department has not yet adopted an independent GHG emissions reporting system, an ISO 14001 environmental management system, or GRI aligned sustainability reporting, but describes these as areas under active development rather than completed practice.

Community investment is directed toward family stability and quality of life, with initiatives selected against certain criteria; including community impact, beneficiary need and potential for sustained partnership with government and private entities. Partnerships are also prioritised where they empower youth and women through training and knowledge transfer.

The Sharjah Housing Department's sustainability journey has been shaped so far by practical innovation rather than formal international frameworks, laying solid groundwork for the structured environmental disclosure and management systems that it is now well placed to pursue.

> "At Sharjah Housing Department, sustainability is embedded in the way we plan, deliver, and improve our services. We are committed to providing innovative and sustainable housing solutions that enhance family stability while promoting governance, environmental responsibility, and social value. Through innovation, strategic partnerships, and continuous improvement, we strive to create lasting positive impact and contribute to Sharjah's vision of building a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable community for future generations."
>
> **Dr. Ahmed Rashid Al Naqbi**
> Director of Government Communication

SMALL PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER (TIE)

SMALL PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



Fujairah Environment Authority

United Arab Emirates

هيئـــة الفجـــيرة للبيئـة
FUJAIRAH ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

Fujairah Environment Authority's Board is chaired by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of Fujairah, reflecting direct leadership backing for the Emirate's environmental agenda. Established in 2018, the Authority's stated vision, "a sustainable environment for a better life," runs through initiatives spanning air quality monitoring, marine conservation and the management of the Wadi Al-Wurayah Protected Area under the Ramsar Convention, positioning the Authority as the Emirate's central body for environmental oversight.

Vehicle fleet emissions of approximately 259,683 kg of CO_2 from 112,417 litres of fuel were recorded in 2024, with the Authority working toward replacing its fleet with hybrid or electric vehicles as part of a wider plan for a full carbon footprint report. It oversaw the treatment of 16,513 tonnes of hazardous waste, of which 12,243 tonnes, more than 74%, went through recycling and reuse rather than incineration. An air quality monitoring network of seven stations targets a 20% reduction in exceedances by 2026, and the Authority operates a Reverse Vending Machine programme that collects plastic and metal packaging from schools and malls through an incentivised points system rewarding participants for sorting at source.

ISO 14001, ISO 45001 & ISO 31000 certifications, held alongside ISO 26000 principles, are all subject to periodic independent audit. The Authority's sustainability reporting follows GRI Standards, with reports issued for 2022 and 2024 and annual publication planned going forward, financial data independently audited by the Financial Management Office at the Ruler's Court. A materiality assessment under GRI guidance identifies priority topics, and specialised committees for each ESG pillar report directly to the Director General or Board.

Women constitute 43.75% of the workforce and hold four of six senior supervisory positions, with full pay equity for the same role. The Environmental Ambassadors Programme reaches more than 30 schools, and awareness campaigns are conducted in Arabic, English and Urdu to reach migrant workers and residents alike. An anti-corruption policy is in its final approval stage, and grievance channels, including a dedicated online complaints portal, commit to investigating and responding to concerns within a set timeframe.

More than 70 partner organisations, locally and internationally, support the Authority's work, including the WWF on coral reef and turtle protection, the Fujairah Research Center on marine monitoring, and cement factories converting non-recyclable waste into alternative fuel. Two staff were nominated by the Ministry of Environment to an advisory committee on the Middle East Green Initiative, and the Authority engages with the Stockholm Water Initiative on reducing plastic leakage into oceans, extending its reach well beyond the Emirate's borders.

The Reverse Vending Machine project and HoloMarine digital awareness platform are piloted, measured against usage and engagement indicators, and scaled once results justify expansion. This year, the Authority is preparing the Emirate's first State of the Environment Report and a Strategic Framework for Climate Neutrality, moving from individual initiatives toward a longer-term emissions reduction pathway aligned with the UAE's 2050 climate neutrality target.

The Authority's leadership has extended this work regionally, contributing to the Arab Biosphere Meeting and supporting the addition of five Arab reserves to the international biosphere reserve network through the "Man and the Biosphere" programme. With the Strategic Framework for Climate Neutrality and the Emirate's first State of the Environment Report both in preparation, the Authority appears well positioned to consolidate its certified management systems and measurable ESG targets into a more structured, long-term programme of environmental governance for Fujairah.

> "At Fujairah Environment Authority, sustainability is a core responsibility and a guiding principle for our work. We are committed to protecting natural resources, strengthening environmental governance, and building effective partnerships that create measurable impact. Through innovation, awareness, and collaboration, we aim to support the UAE's sustainability vision and contribute to a more resilient, responsible, and sustainable future for Fujairah and its community."
>
> **H.E. Aseilah Abdulla Moalla Alhashmi**
> Director General of Fujairah Environment Authority

WINNER (TIE)

SMALL PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club

United Arab Emirates

Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club describes itself as the first specialised sports club in the world to hold an integrated ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 system, a claim made within a stated vision of contributing directly to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Established in 2015, the club's mission extends sports programmes to children, youth, people of determination and seniors within what it describes as a safe, inclusive and sustainable environment, and it reports full alignment with the Emirate of Sharjah's National Agenda.

Three standing committees, Sustainability, Cultural & Community, and Governance, report directly to the Board, with the Sustainability Committee chaired by the Executive Director and standing as a quarterly Board item. The club monitors performance through 19 KPIs reviewed quarterly, with governance ratings from regulatory bodies reaching 95%.

Recycling and resource reuse feature prominently in the club's environmental record: the Green Club and Training Center Free of Harmful Waste initiatives recycled 4,000 plastic bottles with BEEAH and reused 200 sports mats to cover walls, generating savings of over AED 85,000. Average daily electricity consumption was reduced to 28.8 units and water to 18.1 units, while a mass transit programme serving 406 players, approximately 40% of members, is credited with reducing commuting-related emissions by a comparable proportion. Ten solar lighting units were installed and lighting converted fully to LED, with the club targeting a 20% reduction in total emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050.

A total of 147 community initiatives were implemented in 2025, including anti-bullying workshops reaching more than 250 students and a Fitness Gram programme addressing childhood obesity. Eight children from a social care home were integrated into the summer camp, and a dedicated coach was appointed for Para Taekwondo for people of determination, alongside a Parents Council formed to involve families in the club's decision-making. Staff satisfaction stands at 96.5%, and the club reports no cases of child labour, discrimination or serious workplace accidents over the past three years.

A community investment and partnership model, including 13 strategic partners and a recycling agreement with BEEAH, contributed to a financial turnaround from a deficit of AED 2.7 million to a surplus of AED 912,821, alongside annual savings exceeding AED 2 million and 5 training centres opened at zero construction cost with Sharjah City Municipality and the Sharjah Police General Command. A partnership with a local hospital provided free care and rehabilitation to more than 200 young athletes, part of a wider network of 54 relevant parties the club has built since 2023.

More than 220 proposals were submitted to the club's Innovation Center between 2023 and 2025, a number of which were converted into practical projects including virtual and augmented reality training tools and a 2035 foresight study for self-defense sports, described as the first specialised future study of its kind. The club has, to date, registered 12 intellectual property works, among them a governance policy representing the first such registration undertaken by any club in the Emirate.

Awards received nationally and internationally include 4 Stevie Awards, the General Excellence Shield at the 2024 Sustainability Award, and the Sheikha Jawaher Award for Sports Excellence. With its Innovation Center pipeline and 2035 foresight study already setting a longer-term direction, the club appears well placed to build on its certified management systems and its financial turnaround, consolidating its position as a modest organisation with a genuinely global outlook.

> "At Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club, we have redefined sport as a driver of sustainable development by embedding Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles across our operations. Strong institutional governance supports excellence and lasting impact. Beyond winning medals, we develop future generations who embody tolerance, responsibility, and leadership while promoting quality of life. We also foster environmental awareness and a culture of sustainability across our community. We are proud to present a pioneering Emirati and Arab model showing how sport can build healthier communities, protect the environment, and create a brighter future."
>
> **Mr. Mahmoud Lotfi Shaaban**
> CEO

1ST RUNNER UP

SMALL PUBLIC SECTOR CATEGORY



Ajman Statistics Center

United Arab Emirates

Government of Ajman | Statistics Center

Ajman Statistics Center was the lead delivery body behind the Emirate's Platinum ISO 37120 Sustainable Cities certification, awarded for the third consecutive time, alongside ISO 37122 Smart Cities and ISO 37123 Resilient Cities certifications. Ajman is the only emirate to hold all three certifications in a single year, for the 2nd year running, a result the Center, established in 2017 and operating with under 100 employees, attributes to the statistical data infrastructure it has built to support decision makers under its stated vision of leadership in statistical work.

Fifteen further ISO certifications underpin the Center's day-to-day operations, spanning risk management, information security, business continuity, data quality, corporate governance, organisational resilience, project management and partnership management, among others. Its eight institutional values, quality, impartiality, professionalism, reliability, creativity and innovation, confidentiality, transparency and sustainability, were adopted alongside its ESG strategy and are reported to senior leadership through periodic performance reviews discussed directly in leadership meetings.

Responsibility for environmental, social and governance matters is distributed across the IT, Services, Corporate Communication and Statistics departments, with each department's ESG indicators tracked through interactive dashboards and coordinated centrally by a sustainability unit. Senior management and the Board have completed training on ESG risks and opportunities and hold ISO 31000 Risk Management and ISO 37000 Corporate Governance certifications, with governance performance reported quarterly against measurable targets including policy compliance rates, data quality standards and strategic partner satisfaction.

Community programmes delivered during the year included the Young Statistician initiative, the Our Summer of Happiness statistical awareness programme, and the Child Happiness initiative supporting community awareness for children. The Center's participation in the Plant the Emirates afforestation drive and the Iftar3 Ramadan initiative, launched jointly with Abu Dhabi First Bank and Al Ittihad Charity Association, extended its reach into environmental and humanitarian work beyond its core statistical mandate, alongside employee participation in the Olive Children campaign and first aid courses aimed at raising community safety readiness.

Human rights policies at the Center guarantee non discrimination and equal opportunity in recruitment, actively support women's representation across job levels, and provide facilities for people of determination, including adapted walkways, dedicated parking and accessible restrooms designed to universal accessibility standards. A formal zero tolerance policy on corruption is backed by internal and external audit systems and confidential reporting channels, with senior management directly responsible for its implementation and for taking corrective action where violations are confirmed.

A dedicated government initiative valued at AED 100,000 funded a working team including a project manager, sustainability specialist, data analyst and field coordinator to plan, implement and evaluate community programmes, with impact assessed through beneficiary numbers, satisfaction levels and awareness outcomes measured against a final results report.

Innovation is applied through interactive data dashboards and the use of artificial intelligence to improve statistical accuracy, with ideas gathered from employees and partners piloted before being scaled into institutional projects.

The Center's sustainability reporting follows Global Reporting Initiative standards and integrated reporting principles, linking operational performance to strategic impact for stakeholders and disclosing environmental, social and governance indicators to external audiences on a transparent, organised basis. Having translated that same statistical discipline into the Emirate's triple smart, sustainable and resilient city certification, Ajman Statistics Center appears well placed to extend this model further, positioning data-driven governance as a lasting foundation for Ajman's continued progress on sustainability.

> "Ajman Statistics Centre is pleased to participate in the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards, reaffirming its commitment to advancing the UAE's sustainable development priorities through reliable data and informed decision-making. Aligned with Ajman Vision 2030, the Centre applies governance, transparency and innovation to measure development impact, anticipate future needs and enhance quality of life. Through institutional partnerships and community and environmental initiatives, it promotes statistical awareness, supports a culture of sustainability and creates lasting value for Ajman and future generations."
>
> **H.E. Dr Hajar Saeed Al-Habishi**
> Director General

LARGE BUSINESS CATEGORY



WINNER

LARGE BUSINESS CATEGORY



Schneider Electric

United Arab Emirates

Schneider Electric is a global energy technology leader focused on electrification, digitalisation and automation. Its purpose is to enable more efficient, resilient and sustainable use of energy and resources across industries and communities. Sustainability is not a secondary initiative in the company, but a core purpose shaping operational strategy, innovation and value creation. Through its "Impact Company" model, environmental and social priorities directly inform strategic decision-making, capital allocation and corporate growth. This integration is reflected in the fact that 75% of total revenues are classified as Impact Revenues, generated through solutions that advance decarbonisation, electrification and resource efficiency.

Strong governance provides the foundation for translating ambition into measurable performance. The Schneider Sustainability Impact (SSI) framework converts long-term Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) commitments into 11+ quantified transformation programmes. Monitored quarterly and externally disclosed alongside financial results, the framework achieved a performance score of 8.86 out of 10 in 2025. Sustainability accountability extends across the organisation, with performance linked to executive compensation, representing up to 20% of incentives, and incorporated into short-term incentive schemes covering approximately 80,000 employees globally. Board-level oversight, double materiality assessments and climate scenario modelling further strengthen forward-looking risk management.

Climate action extends beyond Schneider Electric's own operations into its wider value chain. Its Net-Zero roadmap, validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), establishes reduction targets across all three emissions scopes. The organisation has achieved an 82% absolute reduction in Scope 1 & 2 operational emissions compared with its 2017 baseline, supported by 99% renewable electricity sourcing across facilities.

Recognising that meaningful decarbonisation requires collaboration across the supply chain, the Zero Carbon Project engages Schneider Electric's top 1,000 suppliers, representing approximately 70% of upstream carbon emissions. Through digital tools, carbon accounting training and technical guidance, the initiative has enabled participating suppliers to achieve an average emissions reduction of 56%. At the customer level, Schneider Electric's energy efficiency and automation technologies have helped avoid 862 million tonnes of CO_2 emissions, demonstrating the wider impact of its solutions.

Circularity and resource efficiency are similarly embedded throughout the product lifecycle. Eco-Design principles and Product Environmental Profiles (PEPs) cover more than 80% of product lines, supporting informed environmental decision-making from design through end-of-life. Guided by an end-to-end "design-use-recover" philosophy, the organisation targets 50% green materials content in products by 2025 and aims to avoid 420,000 metric tonnes of primary resource consumption through refurbishment, retrofitting and take-back services. Its "Waste-to-Resource" programmes further support resource recovery, achieving up to 99% recovery of non-hazardous waste and 100% of hazardous waste globally.

The organisation's sustainability approach also places people and communities at its centre. Health and safety are supported through ISO 45001-aligned frameworks under the C.A.R.E.S. strategy, while ethical conduct is reinforced through the confidential TrustLine reporting mechanism. Since 2009, Schneider Electric has provided access to clean electricity to 61.7 million people, while more than 500 local initiatives across over 50 countries have supported community development.

Programmes such as NESTerra and Youth Education & Entrepreneurship extend this impact by focusing on underserved communities, empowering women in STEM and providing vocational training. Together, these initiatives demonstrate how Schneider Electric connects sustainability with innovation, operational accountability, supply chain transformation and social empowerment to create lasting value and accelerate the global energy transition.

> "We embed sustainability at the core of our strategy, translating ambition into measurable impact across our operations and value chain. Through innovation, digital solutions, and strong partnerships, we accelerate decarbonization while driving resource efficiency and circularity. Our focus remains clear: deliver long-term value for our stakeholders, support our customers' transition journeys, and contribute meaningfully to a resilient, inclusive, and low-carbon future."
>
> **Mr. Farrukh SHAD**
> Head of Sustainability Business, APAC & MEA

1ST RUNNER UP

LARGE BUSINESS CATEGORY



Tristar Group

United Arab Emirates

Tristar Group is a global energy logistics leader operating across 32 countries, focused on fuel transportation, maritime services and warehousing. Operating as a "Business for Purpose", sustainability is embedded into its core operational strategy, Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) and value creation framework rather than treated as a standalone initiative. Guided by its 2024–2029 ESG Strategy, the organisation aligns its commercial agenda with global and regional frameworks, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategy. As a United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Gold Member, Tristar prioritises specific goals, such as Good Health & Well-being (SDG #3), Quality Education (SDG #4), Gender Equality (SDG #5), Affordable & Clean Energy (SDG #7), Responsible Consumption & Production (SDG #12), Climate Action (SDG #13), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG #17), to drive measurable social and environmental performance.

Strong governance provides the foundation for executing these commitments. Governance is anchoured at the highest level of leadership, with the Group CEO chairing a dedicated ESG Steering Committee comprising cross-functional leaders who meet quarterly to monitor progress, evaluate material risks and report directly to the Board of Directors. Sustainability accountability extends across the management structure by embedding specific ESG Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) into executive Balanced Scorecard evaluations. Tristar tracks, quantifies and publicly reports greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across Scope 1, 2 and 3 categories using internationally recognised methodologies, including the GHG Protocol, DEFRA, US EPA and IRENA guidelines. In 2025, total GHG emissions stood at 2,478,737 tCO_2e, with Scope 1 & 2 emissions accounting for 78,565 tCO_2e, and Scope 2 emissions totaling 2,075 tCO_2e.

Climate action and low-carbon innovation drive operational efficiency across Tristar's transport, maritime and facility assets. On-site solar photovoltaic systems generated 1,395 MWh of renewable electricity in 2025, avoiding approximately 575 tCO_2e and achieving a 23% renewable share in total electricity consumption. Road transport operations further reduced carbon intensity by incorporating over 2.1 million litres of biodiesel blends, avoiding an additional 335 tCO_2e. In maritime operations, Tristar deployed the GCC region's first hybrid electric bunker barge, the Tristar Eco Voyager. These environmental practices earned the group an 'A' CDP Supplier Engagement Rating and an EcoVadis Bronze Medal.

Supply chain integrity and ethical conduct are reinforced through a Sustainable Procurement Policy and Supplier Code of Conduct. In 2025, 100% of suppliers awarded new contracts signed the Supplier Code of Conduct, while 62.7% of newly onboarded suppliers underwent formal sustainability assessments. Operations maintain zero tolerance for corruption, supported by confidential whistleblowing mechanisms and verified management systems including ISO 14001, ISO 9001, ISO 39001, and Gulf SQAS accreditations.

Tristar's strategy places equal importance on workforce safety and social impact. Supported by a "Goal Zero" safety culture and ISO 45001 certification, the organisation achieved zero work-related fatalities and reduced high-consequence injuries to zero in 2025. Social development remains an operational pillar, with USD 0.75 million invested in community programmes. Key initiatives include building a boys' dormitory and digital lab at Yapa Secondary School in South Sudan, a partnership maintained since 2009, and partnering with the UAE Road Transport Authority and Dubai Police to deliver road safety training to 10,676 students. Tristar also extended humanitarian aid following Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka, served as the UNGC UAE Gender Patron (2025–2026) and hired Kenya's first female tanker driver, demonstrating its commitment to equitable social empowerment.

> "Sustainability is no longer a future ambition; it is the standard by which our decisions are made; performance measured and our legacy defined. Like any meaningful transformation, it demands the overcoming of an initial threshold, an activation energy that requires intent, investment and resolve. At Tristar, we recognise that progress does not begin when conditions are perfect; it begins when we choose to act, to lead, and to lower the barriers that stand between today's realities and tomorrow's sustainable outcomes."
>
> **Mr. Eugene Mayne**
> Founder & Group CEO

2ND RUNNER UP

LARGE BUSINESS CATEGORY



Arabian Gulf Steel Industries (AGSI)

United Arab Emirates

Arabian Gulf Steel Industries (AGSI) is a UAE-based steel manufacturer delivering sustainable, low-carbon reinforcing steel for the construction and materials sector. Established in 2016, the private sector organisation operates as a large-scale enterprise with over 500 employees, embedding sustainability directly into its core identity and commercial agenda.

AGSI's corporate vision is centred on revolutionising steelmaking through low-carbon solutions, structured across six strategic pillars: Decarbonise to Lead, Close the Loop, Govern with Trust, Empower our Edge, Create Shared Value, and Shape the Ecosystem. Its operational framework aligns with national and global frameworks, including the UAE Net Zero 2050 strategy and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-specifically prioritising SDGs #7, #9, #11, #12, #13 & #17.

Robust governance underpins AGSI's operations, with the Board of Directors and Leadership Team directly overseeing Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategy, risk management and reporting. Operational ownership is assigned across dedicated functional teams, with ESG performance monitored through quarterly management reviews, formal steering committees and function-specific indicators spanning emissions, energy intensity, safety and training. AGSI tracks and quantifies its greenhouse gas emissions using the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and PAS 2060:2014 standards.

Its Scopes 1 & 2 emissions data, alongside its carbon neutrality claims, are independently verified and assured by DNV Business Assurance Group, while the company actively works to establish its Scope 3 baseline. To maintain management system integrity, AGSI undergoes third-party audits for ISO 14001, ISO 50001 and ISO 9001 certifications.

At the operational level, AGSI has pioneered an ultra-low-carbon manufacturing model powered by Electric Induction Furnace technology, which eliminates fossil fuels from core steel processing. The facility manufactures reinforcing steel using a scrap-based route reliant on 100% locally sourced raw materials, with products containing over 99% recycled content. Manufacturing emissions are further minimised by procuring 100% clean electricity through Clean Energy Certificates. These practices are validated by CARES UK through independently verified Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) aligned with ISO 14025 and EN 15804+A2 standards.

Providing developers with transparent product-level Global Warming Potential metrics to reduce embodied carbon in construction.

In maritime operations, Tristar deployed the GCC region's first hybrid electric bunker barge, the Tristar Eco Voyager. These environmental practices earned the group an 'A' CDP Supplier Engagement Rating and an EcoVadis Bronze Medal. Supply chain integrity and ethical conduct are reinforced through a Sustainable Procurement Policy and Supplier Code of Conduct. In 2025, 100% of suppliers awarded new contracts signed the Supplier Code of Conduct, while 62.7% of newly onboarded suppliers underwent formal sustainability assessments.

Operations maintain zero tolerance for corruption, supported by confidential whistleblowing mechanisms and verified management systems including ISO 14001, ISO 9001, ISO 39001, and Gulf SQAS accreditations. Tristar's strategy places equal importance on workforce safety and social impact. Supported by a "Goal Zero" safety culture and ISO 45001 certification, the organisation achieved zero work-related fatalities and reduced high-consequence injuries to zero in 2025.

Social development remains an operational pillar, with USD 0.75 million invested in community programmes. Key initiatives include building a boys' dormitory and digital lab at Yapa Secondary School in South Sudan a partnership maintained since 2009 and partnering with the UAE Road Transport Authority and Dubai Police to deliver road safety training to 10,676 students. Tristar also extended humanitarian aid following Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka, served as the UNGC UAE Gender Patron (2025–2026) and hired Kenya's first female tanker driver, demonstrating its commitment to equitable social empowerment.

> "At AGSI, we go beyond delivering high-quality steel. We help our partners build in a fundamentally better way. The best way to achieve our targets is to help our customers achieve theirs. Net Zero Steel allows our clients to meet their decarbonisation goals, reduce embodied carbon in their projects, and contribute to a sustainable built environment."
>
> **Mr. Asam Hussain**
> Group CEO

MEDIUM BUSINESS CATEGORY



WINNER

MEDIUM BUSINESS CATEGORY



Atyab Group

Sultanate of Oman

Food security has been Atyab Group's business since 1976, turning imported and locally grown grain into a national supply that the Sultanate depends on. Operating as a joint venture between government and private sector partners and publicly listed since 2002, Atyab Group's vision centres on long-term value creation through strategic diversification, guided by core values of Integrity in Business, Commitment to Tasks and Relationships, Focused Diversification and Development of In-house Talent, aligned with Oman Vision 2040. That alignment is not left informal. ESG responsibilities sit with a dedicated Sustainability Department and a cross-functional ESG Champion Framework, with designated Champions in each department coordinating initiatives and feeding progress to senior management.

The Board and senior management have received structured ESG training covering governance responsibilities, enterprise risk management and international frameworks, while sustainability performance is tracked through the Corporate Balanced Scorecard, with executives assessed against GHG emissions reduction, safety performance, local procurement, and governance compliance.

Environmental management runs through an Integrated Management System spanning ISO 14001, ISO 9001, ISO 45001, ISO 22000, HACCP and Halal standards. Atyab Group's ENISCOPE energy management system enables real-time monitoring, supporting an energy optimisation project at B Mill that delivered roughly 11% energy savings alongside reduced operating costs. The company has introduced electric forklifts and an electric prime mover to cut Scope 1 emissions, targets a 20% reduction in Scope 1 GHG emissions, and is developing a decarbonisation roadmap across Scope 1, 2 and relevant Scope 3 emissions, supported by an ongoing Double Materiality Assessment and Climate Gap Analysis.

Circular economy practices extend beyond compliance: offal recovered from the milling process is reused in animal feed, while scrap is segregated into wood, plastic, metal and glass streams for recycling. Labour practices are governed through an Occupational Health and Safety Management System certified to ISO 45001, with policies prohibiting child labour and forced labour while promoting equal opportunity and fair compensation. Employee grievances are logged in a formal Grievance Tracker, with each case investigated, assigned corrective action and monitored through to resolution.

A zero-tolerance approach to corruption, fraud and bribery is enforced through the Company's Code of Conduct, conflict of interest procedures and whistleblowing mechanisms, overseen by the Board and its committees.

Community investment runs through Atyab Group's 2026 CSR Plan, spanning seven programmes including food security, public health, education and environmental awareness, each assessed through pre-evaluation, implementation monitoring and post-evaluation. Its flagship partnership, the Omani Wheat Programme with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, is now in its sixth consecutive year, giving farmers a reliable marketing channel while Atyab Group processes the crop into national food products. The company also maintains an internship partnership with Sultan Qaboos University and has steadily increased female workforce participation over the past five years.

Innovation runs through an AI-powered ESG Innovation Lab, where employees submit sustainability ideas for AI-based assessment against material ESG topics and the SDGs, alongside robotic palletising and warehouse automation supporting Atyab Group's Smart Factory vision.

The Company's Sustainability Report is prepared against MSX ESG Guidelines 2025 and GRI Standards, independently verified through a Limited Assurance engagement by Crowe Mak Ghazali LLC under ISSA 5000, covering governance disclosures, ESG policies and emissions calculations.

By pairing a national food security mandate with certified management systems, an AI-assisted innovation pipeline, and independently assured reporting, Atyab Group has turned a decades-old grain business into one of the Sultanate's more rigorously governed ESG performers.

> "Sustainability is embedded within our corporate strategy and remains a key priority for building resilience and creating long-term value. At Atyab Group, we are committed to integrating sustainability across all aspects of our business, driving continuous improvement, strengthening responsible practices, and responding proactively to future risks and opportunities. Through this approach, we aim to advance sustainable growth while contributing to Oman Vision 2040 and creating shared value for our stakeholders and communities."
>
> **Mr. Haitham bin Mohamed bin Ali Al-Fannah**
> CEO, Atyab Group

1ST RUNNER UP

MEDIUM BUSINESS CATEGORY



CANPACK Middle East One Person Company LLC

United Arab Emirates

Three pillars, Care, Sustainability and Recycle, have guided CANPACK's regional strategy since it established its Dubai operation in 2007, built around the fact that aluminium cans are infinitely recyclable by design. Operating as a wholly owned private sector entity, the company is guided by core values of Respect, Teamwork, Integrity, Quality, Innovation, and Safety, which is aligned with the UN Global Compact Principles.

Governance runs through a quarterly Sustainability Committee led by the CEO and senior leadership, drawing representatives from HR, Legal, Operations, Facilities, Health & Safety, and Administration, with insights shared across all local boards including CANPACK Dubai. In 2024, the company completed its first Double Materiality Assessment ahead of upcoming CSRD requirements, involving 35 employees from nine markets across four working groups, refining an initial 86 potential impacts into 18 confirmed material topics.

Plant managers, including in Dubai, set quarterly-reviewed targets for energy, water, raw material usage, waste reduction and recycling as part of the company's performance management system. Environmental performance is anchoured in 100% renewable electricity across all global operations since 2022, delivering an overall 96% reduction in Scope 2 emissions. CANPACK is targeting a 25% reduction in Scope 1 & 2 emissions and a 12.3% reduction in Scope 3 emissions by 2030 against a 2020 baseline, working toward alignment with the Science Based Targets initiative. Recycled aluminium content has risen from 52% in 2021 to 66%, with targets of 80% for can bodies and 40% for can ends by 2030.

In the UAE, CANPACK co-founded the Aluminium Recycling Coalition alongside bottlers, can manufacturers, waste management companies and Emirates Global Aluminium, responding to a Roland Berger study that found only a 33% recycling rate in the market. LED and solar flood lighting across all sites has cut electricity use and related emissions by 60%, while a proposed solar project at the Dubai site is expected to reduce carbon emissions by 37,370 tonnes annually. Labour practices are governed through a Code of Conduct, Supplier Code, and Human Rights Policy prohibiting forced labour, child labour and discrimination, certified to BS OHSAS 18001:2007, ISO 45001 and ISO 14001. Employees can raise concerns through a confidential Speak-Up system operated by an independent third party and connected directly to the Board, alongside monthly "You Matter" meetings for blue-collar staff. All production staff hold DHA Occupational Health Certification, and every employee is covered by medical, life and workmen's compensation insurance. A zero-tolerance anti-corruption approach is enforced through the Group Anti-Corruption Policy, Trade Compliance Certification and Board-level oversight. Community investment includes the CANPACK Grant Programme, the Cracovia CANPACK Hockey Academy, and the Academy of the Future globally, while in the UAE the company supports the Al Jalila Foundation and hosts an annual employee Iftar.

Innovation runs through CANPACK's R&D Department and Innovators Programme, which has deployed 24 product-mounted quality inspection cameras, 48 microleak testing systems, soundproof machine enclosures, and a Coolant Recovery System that cut coolant usage by 36% on one production line. In May 2025, CANPACK Dubai hosted UAE "Every Can Counts" managers for a three-day factory tour and sustainability sessions, the first such event in the Arab and Asian region.

CANPACK's 2024 Sustainability Report is prepared in line with CSRD requirements ahead of mandatory compliance, with selected data independently verified and disclosures benchmarked through CDP and EcoVadis, where the company achieved a Platinum rating in 2022. As it works toward its 2030 emissions and recycling targets, CANPACK continues to treat measurement as the foundation of improvement, tracking each commitment against the same materiality framework that shaped its priorities from the outset.

CANPACK continues to strengthen its sustainability performance through renewable electricity, recycled aluminium, responsible governance and ongoing innovation, supporting its 2030 targets and a more circular packaging sector.

> "CANPACK's Sustainability Roadmap: A Commitment to People, Planet, and Purpose CANPACK's journey toward sustainability began long ago, rooted in our unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, human rights, and ethical integrity. Our efforts are ongoing and evolving, driven by a vision of a better future for all. Vikram Potdar, Chief Executive Officer India, Regional Director Asia, Middle East and Africa."

Mr. Omar Jaber
Regional Manager Legal & Sustainability

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

MEDIUM BUSINESS CATEGORY



Lucy Middle East FZE

United Arab Emirates

Reliable power distribution depends on equipment few people ever see, and since 1997, Lucy Middle East FZE has manufactured that equipment from its Jebel Ali base, part of the UK-headquartered Lucy Electric group. The company's vision centres on being a leader in sustainable and innovative solutions that enhance the lives of people and communities, guided by values of Caring, Excellence, Trusted, Daring to Differentiate and Working Together. It is structured around a People, Planet, Progress framework aligned with eight prioritised UN SDGs, including good health and wellbeing, quality education, affordable and clean energy and climate action amongst others. Governance runs through direct Board oversight, with sustainability featuring prominently in 2025 Board discussions on strategic priorities, innovation, risk management and investment decisions, supported by quarterly sustainability reviews and a dedicated Sustainability Forum.

Sustainability champions are appointed across Lucy Electric businesses worldwide, reporting directly into senior business leadership. Executive performance indicators span employee education, health and safety, carbon emissions, biodiversity, waste reduction, embodied carbon assessment, human rights and responsible supply chain engagement, tracked centrally and reviewed by senior leadership as part of the wider sustainability governance framework. Environmental performance is certified under ISO 14001, with greenhouse gas data independently verified through the Achilles Carbon Reduce Certification Scheme, delivered with Toitū Envirocare and aligned with ISO 14064-1.

In April 2026, Lucy Group committed to the Science Based Targets initiative, preparing company-wide reduction targets for independent validation. Scope 1 emissions fell 22% since 2024, carbon intensity dropped 24.6% since 2021, waste to landfill fell by 54%, and the company completed 56 biodiversity projects. Its EcoTec product line replaces SF6 gas with synthetic air technology, delivering a zero Global Warming Potential air-insulated switchgear solution, while an on-site sewage treatment plant recycles water for irrigation and sensor-operated taps reduce water use across workshops and offices.

Labour and safety practices are certified to ISO 45001, with a Group-wide health and safety score target of 3.7 achieved at 3.8 in 2025, supported by 2,724 Hazard Identification Tickets logged that year, a 41% increase on 2024, alongside a 24.3% reduction in TRIR and a 32% improvement in Frequency Rate.

Employees can raise concerns through HR, compliance channels, line management and anonymous whistleblowing mechanisms, with UAE labour practices aligned to Federal Decree Law No. 33 of 2021 and JAFZA employment regulations.

Anti-corruption is enforced through a zero-tolerance Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy overseen by the Lucy Group Board, with day-to-day implementation managed by the Executive Director and Company Secretary alongside the Head of Group Legal and Head of Internal Audit.

Community investment follows the People, Planet, Progress framework, with Lucy Group delivering 224 CSR projects globally in 2025, including 68 education initiatives, 100 wellbeing programmes, and at least 15 long-term community partnerships, spanning electrical safety training, engineering apprenticeships and school partnerships.

The company delivered 14,600 hours of employee training during the same year, and equal opportunity policies ensure no employee faces disadvantage on grounds including sex, disability, race, or nationality.

Innovation extends into manufacturing through solar power generation, laser and MIG robotic welding and smart grid technologies, assessed against operational efficiency, safety, environmental impact, and long-term resilience across short, medium and long-term horizons.

Lucy Electric's Sustainability Progress Report is prepared against ISO 26000, ISO 14064-1, the GHG Protocol and ISO 14001, aligned with the UN SDGs, with the company scoring 87% against the ISO 26000 benchmark in 2025 against an 80% baseline target, publicly disclosed alongside its emissions, training and biodiversity data.

> "At Lucy Electric, sustainability is central to our purpose and progress. We are committed to reducing our environmental footprint, advancing energy efficient technologies, and embedding responsible practices across our operations. Through innovation, collaboration, and measurable action, we continue to deliver safer, smarter, and sustainable energy solutions. Our achievements reflect the dedication of our people and our belief that a resilient, low carbon future is both possible and essential."
>
> **Mr. Henry Clark**
> Quality & Sustainability Director

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

MEDIUM BUSINESS CATEGORY



OQ Base Industries (OQBI)

Sultanate of Oman

OQ Base Industries stands as Oman's only integrated producer of methanol, ammonia and LPG, operating from the Salalah Free Zone since 2006 and publicly listed since December 2024. OQBI's vision centres on sustainable solutions through its people, guided by values of Belong, Perform, Collaborate and Care. It is structured around a four-pillar Sustainability Framework, Optimising for a Sustainable Future, Qualifying Our People and Practices, Building Integrity and Operational Resilience, and Investing in Environmental Stewardship, aligned with Oman Vision 2040.

Governance runs through the Board of Directors, supported by a Sustainability Governance and Steering Committee that provides strategic direction and monitors performance, with a dedicated Sustainability Manager coordinating initiatives across the organisation. ESG oversight is reinforced through the Audit and Risk Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee. In Q1 2025, OQBI's Board and Executive Leadership completed Sustainability Practitioner Training, while a 2024 materiality assessment identified 15 priority topics that now inform the company's Enterprise Risk Management framework and KPI monitoring systems.

Environmental management runs through ISO 14001 certification across all OQBI assets, supported by PI Vision for stack emissions tracking, Power BI dashboards for GHG performance, and AAQMS air quality monitoring stations, with a formal Energy Policy guiding progress toward ISO 50001 certification. OQBI has committed to reducing GHG emissions by 25% by 2030 against a 2023 baseline, alongside targets to close 80% of 2024 contractor wellbeing inspection gaps, conduct two Social Return on Investment assessments, and reduce energy intensity by 1 GJ/MT. Scope 1 & 2 emissions are addressed through energy optimisation and process efficiency improvements, while Scope 3 emissions remain under assessment, with boundary definition and supplier engagement underway. Operational optimisation during 2024-2025 delivered measurable fuel gas savings and improved energy intensity.

Labour and safety practices run through structured HSSE programmes embedded in OQBI's HSSE Plan 2025, targeting 100% employee participation in training on hazardous materials handling, emergency response and environmental protection, with observation closure rates targeted to rise from 75% to 95%. Employees can raise concerns through the Ethics & Whistleblowing platform and dedicated reporting channels, with all reports investigated and significant cases escalated to management and governance bodies.

A zero-tolerance Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy prohibits facilitation payments and conflicts of interest, reinforced by mandatory employee training and internal audits. Community investment is guided by alignment with local needs, Oman Vision 2040, and long-term social value, with flagship examples including the Dhalkout Cultural Centre, Salalah Autism Centre and Ittin Oasis Park, addressing cultural preservation, inclusion, health and biodiversity.

OQBI's Springboard Special Ladies Training empowers women with tools for economic independence, and the company targets 2% representation of people with disabilities across its workforce. Innovation runs through digital monitoring, process optimisation and emissions tracking systems, assessed across short, medium and long-term horizons for their contribution to safety, efficiency and environmental performance.

OQBI's Sustainability Report is prepared against GRI Standards, UNGC COP and integrated reporting principles. The report references SASB standards where relevant, with a disclosure gap assessment initiated in 2024 covering GRI, SASB, MSX Metrics and IFRS S1 & S2 requirements alongside Oman Vision 2040 and Oman Net Zero targets.

As OQBI works through its Scope 3 boundary-setting and progresses toward ISO 50001 certification, its 2030 emissions targets and community investment framework offer an early test case for what integrated chemicals manufacturing can look like when built around Oman Vision 2040 from the outset.

OQBI continues to strengthen sustainability through emissions reduction, responsible governance, workforce development and community investment, supporting Oman's transition toward a more resilient and sustainable industrial future.

> "OQ Base Industries (OQBI) is Oman's only integrated producer of methanol, ammonia and LPG products in Dhofar, supplying essential compounds including propane, butane and condensate. The company balances reliable operations with continuous development, aligning its vision with Oman Vision 2040 and Oman's Net Zero 2050 goals. Through social investment and CSR initiatives, OQBI supports culture, education, research, SMEs, tourism and economic development, creating long-term value for communities across Dhofar while strengthening innovation and community wellbeing."
>
> **Eng. Khalid Khalfan Al Asmi**
> CEO

SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY



WINNER

SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY



Transworld

United Arab Emirates

Transworld's commitment to sustainability is deeply embedded across its diversified operations spanning shipping, logistics, aviation, food and people services. Guided by its purpose, "Delivering Prosperity for Humanity", the organisation seeks to create positive environmental and social impact while strengthening responsible business practices. This philosophy is brought to life through its Prosperity Framework, built around three pillars: Preserve, Partner & Progress. Together, these pillars guide environmental stewardship, social responsibility and governance across its business verticals.

Sustainability is supported by a structured governance model with board-level ownership and decentralised accountability across entities. Transworld has integrated ESG Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) into the Balanced Scorecards of its employees, making sustainability part of individual performance and everyday decision-making. This approach ensures that ESG commitments extend beyond strategic discussions and are reflected in organisational culture and operational practices. Environmental awareness is promoted through continuous, structured engagement rather than isolated campaigns. Year-round training covers responsible paper use, water and energy conservation and waste segregation.

In 2025, a sustainable-living webinar attracted more than 100 participants, including employees and community members. A paper-recycling workshop also helped initiate a waste-reduction campaign involving employees and their families. Food-waste segregation, composting and e-waste drives further reinforce responsible resource use across the organisation.

Transworld's community investment strategy is designed around identified needs and measurable impact. Governed through its Corporate Responsibility framework and overseen by the CSR Committee and Board, its initiatives are aligned with business priorities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Projects are selected using criteria including local needs assessments and SDG gap analyses. Its interventions have included vision-health camps and food-security support for blue-collar workers in the UAE, alongside efforts to promote ethical hiring practices and establish healthcare partnerships.

Impact assessment is integrated throughout the community investment lifecycle. Baseline studies inform project design, while workplan indicators guide implementation and evaluation.

This structured approach enables Transworld to monitor whether initiatives are responding effectively to identified needs and national priorities. During 2024–25, its community initiatives benefited 48,826 individuals and generated 2,467 volunteering hours, demonstrating the scale of its social engagement.

Innovation further supports Transworld's sustainability and people-focused approach. The organisation has introduced 'Voicebox', an anonymous feedback platform, and the 'People Pulse' survey to strengthen employee engagement and management responsiveness.

Its digital ESG dashboard tracks more than 20 indicators, connecting sustainability objectives with financial outcomes. Artificial intelligence tools, including Microsoft Copilot and its in-house T-AI, are also being used to improve efficiency and productivity.

Safety and compliance remain integral to responsible operations. Transworld follows ISO 45001 and ISM-Code protocols, supported by risk assessments and incident monitoring. Its reported Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) of 0.85, together with a significant reduction in vessel near-misses, reflects its continued focus on strengthening workplace and operational safety. Through its Prosperity Framework, Transworld demonstrates how sustainability can be integrated across a complex and diversified organisation.

By combining accountable governance, environmental awareness, community investment, innovation and safety, it continues to translate its purpose into practical action. Its approach positions sustainability as an ongoing organisational responsibility, creating value for employees, communities, stakeholders and the wider environment while supporting long-term business performance.

> "You can aspire to be a Great Man, but most important is to be a Good Man and a Channel of Goodness. This is more than a personal mantra; it is the core of our corporate DNA. Our commitment to sustainability isn't an item on a checklist; it is an ongoing journey of progress, a relentless pursuit to align our actions with a sublime, Higher Purpose of 'Delivering Prosperity to Humanity.' As we have expanded from a traditional shipping company to a diversified enterprise spanning Sea, Air, and Land, our responsibility has grown exponentially and we remain committed to our role as stewards of our planet and its people."
>
> **Mr. Ramesh S. Ramakrishnan**
> Chairman

1ST RUNNER UP

SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY



Labotel Workers Village

United Arab Emirates

Labotel
Worker's Village

Established in 2007, Labotel Workers Village, also known as "The Labour Hotel", is a pioneering initiative owned by Al Otaiba Enterprises, providing quality accommodation, hospitality and facility management services for workers in the UAE. Its approach places sustainability, resident welfare and responsible resource management at the heart of its operations, demonstrating how local organisations can create meaningful environmental and social impact.

Since adopting its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategy in 2018, Labotel has progressively embedded sustainability across its operations and long-term objectives. Its vision, mission and values emphasise responsible resource management, employee welfare, ethical business practices and regulatory compliance. Guided by values including Customer Centricity, Empowerment, Teamwork, Excellence, Innovation and Integrity, the organisation seeks to create lasting value for its residents, employees, clients, the environment and wider society. Its sustainability strategy is aligned with UAE Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

To translate these commitments into measurable outcomes, Labotel has established specific ESG targets covering carbon emissions, water consumption, energy use and employee satisfaction. The organisation has set a carbon emission target of 2,100,000 $MTCO_2$ equivalent, a water consumption trend of 650,000 cubic metres, and an energy consumption trend of 565,000 kWh. A staff satisfaction target of 83% further reflects its recognition that social well-being is an essential component of sustainable operations.

Community investment forms another important pillar of Labotel's sustainability approach. Its community investment policy is shaped through stakeholder engagement and community consultations, ensuring that projects respond to identified local and regional needs. The organisation assesses the impact of initiatives throughout their lifecycle, from planning and implementation to completion. Its Training Centre supports education and skills development within the wider community of labour accommodations, while investments in CSR and cultural events strengthen community engagement. New welfare facilities have also been developed to support the health and well-being of residents. Labotel applies a structured impact assessment process to strengthen the effectiveness of its community initiatives. Before projects commence, needs assessments and stakeholder consultations are undertaken to understand priorities and establish baseline conditions.

During implementation, progress is monitored through regular reviews and beneficiary feedback. Following completion, the social, environmental and economic impacts are evaluated, with lessons and opportunities for improvement documented to inform future initiatives.

Innovation has also enabled Labotel to translate its sustainability commitments into practical solutions. A facial recognition-enabled self-cook facility, developed in collaboration with government authorities, enhances residents' living experience while promoting responsible resource management. The organisation has also established a greywater treatment plant, helping to reduce potable water consumption and minimise its environmental impact.

Stakeholder engagement remains central to Labotel's approach to continuous improvement. By actively considering the perspectives of residents, employees and other stakeholders, the organisation is able to identify emerging needs, strengthen existing initiatives and ensure that its sustainability efforts remain relevant. This approach reinforces its commitment to creating practical and lasting value across its operations and communities. Through sustained investment in people, technology and innovation, Labotel Workers Village demonstrates how sustainability can be integrated into workers' accommodation in a way that creates value across environmental, social and operational dimensions.

Its continued focus on responsible resource use, employee welfare, community development, innovation and stakeholder engagement reflects a commitment to making sustainability a continuous journey rather than a standalone initiative. By embedding these principles into everyday operations, Labotel is contributing to a more responsible and sustainable future for the communities it serves.

> "At Labotel Workers Village, sustainability is not a destination, but a responsibility embedded in every decision we make. Our ESG journey reflects our commitment to creating lasting value for our people, our community, and the environment through innovation, collaboration, and continuous improvement. We believe that responsible leadership inspires meaningful change, and by leading with purpose, resilience, and integrity, we are helping shape a more sustainable workers' accommodation industry and a better future for generations to come."
>
> **Mr. Ahmed Abouelyazed**
> General Manager

2ND RUNNER UP

SMALL BUSINESS CATEGORY



Kharayf Altomour

United Arab Emirates

KHARAYF ALTOMOUR

Kharayf Altomour demonstrates how a traditional agricultural product can become the foundation for a modern, responsible and sustainable business model. Its approach brings together economic value creation, environmental responsibility, social impact and responsible governance, with sustainability embedded across sourcing, production, product development, stakeholder engagement and day-to-day decision-making.

At the heart of this approach is a commitment to strengthening the local dates value chain. Local sourcing has reached approximately 70% of total procurement, supporting farmers' livelihoods, strengthening local agricultural supply chains and contributing to economic activity within the UAE's agricultural sector. Regular engagement with farmers and suppliers helps the company understand quality, supply and market requirements, while building stronger and more resilient relationships across the value chain.

Resource efficiency is another important area of impact. Through improved sorting, grading and processing, Kharayf Altomour has reduced food waste to approximately 12%. Lower-grade dates that may otherwise have limited commercial value are redirected into processed food products, turning what could have been waste into an opportunity for innovation and additional value creation.

The company launched five new date-based products in 2025, up from three in 2024, demonstrating how product innovation can support both commercial development and more efficient use of agricultural resources.

The company's circular-economy approach extends beyond food waste. Packaging materials are segregated and suitable materials are recycled, with the recycling rate reaching approximately 30%. Improvements in sorting, processing, storage and packaging also contribute to more efficient use of energy and raw materials. These measures demonstrate a practical application of responsible consumption and production within the agricultural and food-processing sector.

Environmental efficiency has also improved through operational measures. Energy efficiency across storage and cooling facilities increased by 9% during 2025, following improvements to operating and cooling systems. The company is also working to reduce transportation-related impacts through greater local sourcing and to strengthen resource efficiency across its operations.

Looking ahead, its environmental priorities include reducing food waste to below 10%, increasing recyclable packaging, strengthening waste segregation and recycling and continuing to improve energy efficiency.

The social dimension of sustainability is reflected in investment in people and local communities. The workforce grew to 32 employees, creating seven new employment opportunities during 2025. Employees receive training and awareness on food-waste reduction, resource efficiency, waste management, recycling and occupational health and safety.

The company also maintains a respectful and inclusive working environment, with commitments to non-discrimination and the prevention of child and forced labour. Strong governance provides the foundation for these efforts. Senior management oversees ESG and sustainability priorities, while the company maintains transparency in its relationships with suppliers and customers, a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and compliance with applicable quality, food-safety and regulatory requirements.

Its 2025–2026 Sustainability Report is structured with reference to the GRI and UN Sustainable Development Goals, supporting greater transparency and systematic monitoring of its economic, environmental, social and governance performance. Through this integrated approach, Kharayf Altomour shows that sustainability can be a practical driver of innovation, resource efficiency, local economic development and long-term resilience. By creating greater value from dates, supporting local farmers, promoting local sourcing, reducing waste, improving energy performance and strengthening responsible business practices, the company is helping shape a more sustainable future for the UAE's agricultural and food sector.

> "Kharaif Dates has embedded sustainability into its business model, balancing economic growth with social and environmental responsibility. Its strategy focuses on innovation, reducing food loss, improving resource efficiency, expanding date-based products, and strengthening local partnerships. In 2025, the company advanced energy efficiency, local sourcing, stakeholder engagement, and community impact. This nomination reflects its commitment to continuous improvement, responsible growth, and creating lasting value for people, the environment, and future generations."
>
> **Mr. Khaled Mohamed Almazrouei**
> Owner

FINANCIAL SERVICES CATEGORY



WINNER

FINANCIAL SERVICES CATEGORY



First Abu Dhabi Bank

United Arab Emirates

Three pillars guide how First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB) approaches sustainability, supporting the transition to a low-carbon and nature-positive future, enabling a responsible transition for communities and championing best-in-class governance practices. Established in 2017 as a joint venture between government and private sector partners and publicly listed since the same year, FAB has built these pillars into decision-making, risk management, financing activities and community investment, guided by values of accountability, transparency, innovation, collaboration and responsible growth.

The Bank is a signatory to the UN Principles for Responsible Banking and aligns its strategy with SDGs including quality education, gender equality, decent work, reduced inequalities and climate action. That commitment runs through formal governance rather than informal intent. The Board of Directors and senior management oversee ESG matters through established structures, committees, policies and reporting mechanisms, receiving periodic updates on sustainability strategy, ESG risks and climate-related developments.

ESG considerations, including climate risk, social impact and governance practices, are integrated into FAB's Enterprise Risk Management framework, informing credit risk assessments and integrity due diligence across financing activities. Executive performance is tracked against sustainable finance volumes, climate-related risk assessments, operational emissions, diversity and inclusion indicators and community impact metrics, reviewed regularly by senior leadership.

FAB's environmental commitment centres on its Sustainable Finance Framework, which sets measurable targets for mobilising sustainable and transition financing in support of the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategic Initiative. The Bank measures and discloses Scope 1, 2 and relevant Scope 3 emissions, while financing renewable energy, green buildings, sustainable infrastructure and clean transportation projects for its clients. Internally, digital banking solutions, paperless processes, electronic approvals and reduced printing across offices and branches work alongside recycling programmes and sustainable procurement to lower the Bank's own operational footprint.

FAB's Code of Conduct and Human Resources policies govern labour practices, prohibiting forced labour, child labour, harassment and discrimination while promoting equal opportunity, fair remuneration and workplace health and safety. Compliance, Risk Management, and Internal Audit.

Employees have access to dedicated reporting channels, whistleblowing procedures and management escalation processes, protected against retaliation for concerns raised in good faith. A zero-tolerance approach to bribery, corruption, fraud and money laundering is embedded in the Bank's Code of Conduct and Anti-Bribery and Corruption policies, with implementation responsibility spread across the Board.

Financial literacy has become one of FAB's clearest community commitments. Through the 'Zoud' programme, delivered with schools, universities, youth councils and government entities, FAB runs workshops covering budgeting, savings, responsible borrowing, digital banking, entrepreneurship and financial planning. In 2026, that outreach expanded through Global Money Week, branch activations, school visits and the launch of Financial Literacy Ambassadors. Community investment extends further through Aftir Ramadan, Kiswat Eid, senior wellbeing initiatives, and support for People of Determination through partnerships including Special Olympics UAE, with thousands of employees contributing volunteer hours each year.

Innovation at FAB runs through digital transformation and customer-centric solutions, including digital banking platforms that improve financial inclusion and accessibility, alongside sustainable finance products supporting clients' transition to a low-carbon economy.

FAB's sustainability disclosures are prepared against GRI Standards, UN Global Compact principles, TCFD recommendations and the UAE Sustainable Finance Framework, with ESG data subject to internal governance review and independent assurance where applicable. FAB continues to expand its financial literacy and sustainable finance programmes as it works toward its Net Zero 2050 commitments, with ESG performance reviewed annually against its established targets.

> "During the Year of Community, FAB expanded inclusive access to finance, providing AED 5.6 billion in new SME financing to support business growth and job creation. It also renewed its partnership with the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, reaffirming an AED 10 billion commitment to the UAE's industrial sector, including SMEs and startups. FAB also contributed AED 136 million to community initiatives, while colleagues delivered more than 23,000 volunteering hours."
>
> **First Abu Dhabi Bank**

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



FIVE Hotels

United Arab Emirates

FIVE ▶

FIVE Hotels demonstrates how luxury hospitality can be aligned with ambitious environmental, social and governance (ESG) commitments by embedding sustainability into its business strategy, governance structures and day-to-day operations. Guided by its F-I-V-E Sustainability Framework and Sustainability Policy, the organisation integrates environmental stewardship, responsible governance and social value creation across its portfolio.

Sustainability is supported by strong governance and measurable accountability. An independent 'A/Prime' ESG rating from ISS ESG reflects the organisation's approach to responsible business, while its USD 350 million Green Bond, listed on Nasdaq Dubai, directs capital towards eligible green buildings and renewable energy projects.

Oversight is provided through a Board-supervised Sustainability Committee and Green Finance Committee, with General Managers and department heads across properties holding signed targets for energy, water, waste and sustainable purchasing. FIVE's climate strategy is underpinned by quantified 2030 targets against a 2020 baseline: reducing electricity consumption by 40%, water usage by 45%, waste generation per capita by 25%, and carbon use intensity by 85%. In Dubai, 100% of portfolio electricity is covered through 47,295 MWh of DEWA International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-RECs). The impact is reflected in performance benchmarking: carbon footprints per occupied room at FIVE Palm Jumeirah and FIVE Jumeirah Village are 82.8% and 78.7% below the Dubai five-star resort average, respectively.

Environmental performance is further strengthened through certified green buildings and management systems. All three Dubai properties and FIVE Zurich hold LEED Platinum certification, complemented by Dubai Sustainable Tourism stamps and ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, ISO 50001 and ISO 27001 certifications. These systems provide structured frameworks for quality, environmental management, occupational health and safety, energy efficiency and information security.

Circularity is integrated into hotel operations. On-site glass bottling plants reduce reliance on single-use plastics, while waste management systems audited by Veolia diverted more than 277,000 kg of waste in 2025. Used cooking oil is converted into biodiesel, discarded linen is repurposed through the Stray Dogs Center to support more than 1,700 rescued dogs, and employee T-shirts are manufactured using recycled plastic bottles.

Building developments incorporate integrated photovoltaic facades, greywater recycling and smart utility systems, while GIS-based biodiversity screening supports informed environmental management across the Dubai portfolio. Social impact remains equally central to FIVE's sustainability approach. Recognised as a Great Place to Work and ranked first in the Best Workplaces in Hospitality in the Middle East for 2026, the organisation places emphasis on employee well-being, equal opportunity and fair labour standards. Since 2017, more than USD 3 million has been directed towards community programmes through corporate treasury funding and structured partnerships.

This investment has generated tangible outcomes, including funding 596 corrective surgeries through Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and New Face Charitable Trust, supporting literacy and life-skills initiatives through the Room to Read Foundation, and providing shared meals to nearly 4,000 workers through the Construction Community Meals Programme. Employees have also contributed 1,872 volunteer hours to tree planting, clean-up campaigns and food-waste reduction initiatives with Ne'ma.

FIVE's Supplier Code of Conduct and ESG assessment process address environmental responsibility, human rights, labour practices, health and safety, business ethics and responsible sourcing, with due diligence and supplier audits supporting continual improvement. Responsible business practices are further reinforced through whistleblowing and anti-corruption frameworks. FIVE also promotes sustainability through collaboration with employees, communities and external partners. By combining stakeholder participation with performance monitoring and certified systems, the organisation continues to identify opportunities to strengthen resource efficiency, responsible operations and positive social outcomes across its hospitality portfolio.

> "At FIVE, we believe the future of luxury hospitality is built on one principle: Do More with Less. By integrating ESG into every aspect of our business, we drive innovation, maximise resource efficiency and deliver measurable environmental and commercial value. Sustainability is not a standalone initiative, it is fundamental to how we create exceptional guest experiences and long-term value for all our stakeholders"
>
> **Mr. Jaydeep Anand**
> Chief Sustainability Officer & Chief Development Officer

1ST RUNNER UP (TIE)

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



FIVE HOTEL – FZE

United Arab Emirates

FIVE ▶ PALM JUMEIRAH

Established in 2017, FIVE HOTEL - FZE has developed a distinctive approach to sustainable hospitality, integrating environmental stewardship, responsible resource management, employee engagement and community participation into its operations. With a workforce of more than 500 employees, the hotel places sustainability at the heart of its business strategy, supported by annual sustainability reporting that promotes transparency, accountability and continuous improvement.

A key demonstration of this commitment is the hotel's achievement of LEED Platinum certification, reflecting its focus on environmentally responsible building practices and operations. Sustainability considerations are also embedded into facility design and renovation. During the conversion of its 14th -floor banquet hall into premium guest rooms, the hotel incorporated energy-efficient LED lighting and an advanced Guest Room Management System. By automatically adjusting lighting and air conditioning according to occupancy, the system helps optimise energy use while maintaining guest comfort.

Resource efficiency extends to water and transportation. FIVE HOTEL operates an in-house water bottling plant with a capacity of 2,000 of 750 ml bottles per day, helping reduce reliance on single-use plastic packaging. The installation of 6 electric vehicle charging stations further supports lower-emission transportation and encourages guests to consider more sustainable mobility options. The hotel recognises that lasting sustainability requires participation across its organisation and value chain. Regular training and workshops build employee and stakeholder awareness, while a structured stakeholder engagement approach identifies and addresses the priorities of guests, employees, suppliers, communities, regulators and other key groups.

FIVE HOTEL also requires suppliers to comply with its Supplier Code of Conduct, supported by ESG assessments covering environmental management, human rights, labour practices, health and safety, ethics and responsible sourcing. Due diligence, documentation reviews and risk-based audits further promote responsible procurement and continual improvement across the supply chain.

Waste reduction and circularity are central to the hotel's environmental practices. Across its operations, FIVE HOTEL focuses on food waste prevention, recycling and responsible disposal. Kitchen apply sustainable procurement, efficient menu planning and portion control to reduce avoidable food waste.

Initiatives such as "No Bin Day" reinforce efforts to minimise waste generation, while used cooking oil is recycled into biofuel through approved contractors. Old towels are donated to local shelters, giving materials a renewed purpose while supporting community needs. Partnerships with certified recycling companies further ensure responsible disposal and maximise material recovery.

FIVE HOTEL's sustainability journey also extends beyond its premises. The hotel participates in clean-up campaigns, volunteers with local charities and supports food security initiatives by collaborating with the UAE Food Bank. The hotel also works with local organisations to promote disability inclusion and support health initiatives, demonstrating an understanding of sustainability that encompasses social wellbeing alongside environmental responsibility.

Strong standards and independent recognition reinforce these efforts. FIVE HOTEL holds an 'A/Prime' ESG rating from ISS ESG, placing it among the few hospitality companies globally to achieve this distinction.

Its sustainability efforts have also been independently validated by Nasdaq Dubai and Forbes Middle East in connection with its USD 350 million Green Bond listing. Multiple certifications, including ISO 9001, 14001, 45001, 50001 & 27001, alongside the Dubai Municipality Food Safety "A" Gold certification, further reflect its commitment to robust management and operational standards. Through innovation, resource efficiency, circular practices, employee capacity building and meaningful community engagement, FIVE HOTEL - FZE demonstrates how sustainable hospitality can be integrated into everyday operations while creating environmental and social value. Its continued focus on responsible growth provides a strong foundation for advancing sustainability across the hospitality sector.

> "At FIVE, we believe the future of luxury hospitality is built on one principle: Do More with Less. By integrating ESG into every aspect of our business, we drive innovation, maximise resource efficiency and deliver measurable environmental and commercial value. Sustainability is not a standalone initiative, it is fundamental to how we create exceptional guest experiences and long-term value for all our stakeholders"
>
> **Mr. Jaydeep Anand**
> Chief Sustainability Officer & Chief Development Officer

1ST RUNNER UP (TIE)

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



Mövenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach

United Arab Emirates

MÖVENPICK
HOTEL JUMEIRAH BEACH

Mövenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach demonstrates how sustainability can be embedded into the everyday operations of a modern hospitality business, creating value for the environment, employees, guests, suppliers and the wider community. Its approach brings together measurable environmental performance, responsible procurement, digital innovation, employee engagement and social responsibility, reflecting a long-term commitment to more sustainable hospitality.

Sustainability is integrated across the hotel's operations and supported by a data-driven approach through Accor's GAIA platform. Key indicators covering energy, water, waste and carbon emissions are monitored and reported monthly, enabling departments to identify areas for improvement, track progress and strengthen accountability. This structured approach has contributed to the hotel maintaining Green Globe Platinum certification for 13 consecutive years, reflecting sustained performance against internationally recognised sustainability criteria.

Innovation plays an important role in translating sustainability ambitions into practical action. Through Winnow Smart Food Waste Monitoring, the hotel measures and analyses food waste to identify opportunities for reduction and improve resource efficiency. Klimato's menu carbon tracking provides greater visibility of the carbon footprint associated with food choices, enabling more informed and responsible dining decisions. The hotel has also introduced in-house water bottling, reducing dependence on single-use plastic bottles while supporting more sustainable guest services.

Digitalisation further supports resource efficiency. Tools such as FutureLog enable paperless procurement approvals, while ONEX supports digital operational processes. Together, these systems reduce paper consumption, streamline workflows and demonstrate how technology can contribute to both environmental performance and operational efficiency.

The hotel's sustainability journey extends beyond environmental management. Social responsibility is reflected in its commitment to diversity and equal opportunity, with women holding approximately 40% of management positions. Employee engagement is strengthened through regular training, workshops and awareness initiatives. The "Welcome to Accor" induction programme introduces new employees to sustainability principles and responsible hospitality practices from the outset, while focused initiatives such as "Water Awareness Week" encourage teams across departments to participate actively in conservation efforts.

Engagement also extends to guests, suppliers and partners. The hotel communicates its sustainability performance and ESG indicators to relevant stakeholders, promoting transparency and shared responsibility. External Green Globe audits and certification assessments provide independent verification of its progress and encourage continuous improvement.

Responsible procurement is another important element of the hotel's approach. Suppliers are encouraged to use returnable boxes, reusable pallets and minimal packaging, while preference is given to eco-friendly, recyclable and responsibly sourced products. Greater emphasis on local and regional sourcing helps reduce transportation-related emissions while supporting businesses within the surrounding economy.

Through this integrated approach, Mövenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach demonstrates that sustainability is not a standalone initiative but an operational principle that can shape how a hotel manages resources, engages people and delivers experiences. By combining measurable performance with innovation, employee participation, responsible procurement and stakeholder engagement, the hotel continues to strengthen its environmental and social impact while building a more resilient and responsible model for hospitality.

The impact is reinforced by a culture of continuous improvement, where sustainability is treated as a shared responsibility rather than that of a single department. Regular awareness activities help employees understand how everyday decisions influence resource consumption and environmental performance. Transparent communication with stakeholders encourages collective action and strengthens trust. Recognition through the Dubai Sustainable Tourism Stamp further reflects its commitment to responsible tourism practices within the UAE and to contributing to a more sustainable future.

> "At Mövenpick Hotel Jumeirah Beach, our vision is to deliver responsible hospitality that creates lasting value for people, communities and the planet. Guided by continuous improvement, we focus on resource efficiency, waste reduction, ethical operations and community engagement. Our achievements include 13 consecutive years of Green Globe certification, maintaining Platinum status, recognition as a Dubai Sustainable Tourism Silver Award winner for two consecutive years and being awarded 2nd Runner-Up in the Hospitality Sector at the Arabia CSR Awards 2025."
>
> **Mr. Michael Goetz**
> Cluster General Manager

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



Dubai World Trade Centre

United Arab Emirates

مركز دبي التجاري العالمي
DUBAI WORLD TRADE CENTRE

For Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC), sustainability is increasingly embedded in the way it operates, grows and creates value across its wider ecosystem. Guided by a vision to advance Dubai as a leading global destination, DWTC connects transparency, excellence, innovation and teamwork with a strategy aligned with the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategy and Dubai's D33 Economic Agenda. This provides a foundation for integrating environmental, social and governance priorities into long-term decisions.

A defining feature of DWTC's approach is the integration of ESG considerations into strategic planning and decision-making. Sustainability-related risks and opportunities are considered within its Enterprise Risk Management framework, covering climate change, regulatory developments, cybersecurity, data protection and operational resilience. Oversight is supported by the Board, CEO, ESG Steering Committee, Head of ESG, ESG Core Team and ESG Ambassadors, creating clear responsibilities for implementation and accountability. ESG capability is also being strengthened through leadership training, employee awareness initiatives and a mandatory ESG training programme from 2026.

DWTC's sustainability strategy is informed by recognised global and sector frameworks, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals, GHG Protocol, Green Globe Certification, the Event Industry Council Sustainable Events Standard, the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative and the UAE Green Agenda 2030.

Its sustainability reporting adheres to the GRI Universal Standards 2021, covering operated venues and facilities, flagship and co-organised events, free zone operations, and real estate and hospitality assets within the DWTC campus and Dubai Exhibition Centre.

DWTC's Sustainability Report follows the GRI Universal Standards 2021 and is supported by robust internal validation processes that strengthen data accuracy, consistency and alignment with its sustainability reporting commitments. The organisation's environmental performance is demonstrated through progress in resource efficiency and circularity. In 2025, DWTC increased its waste diversion rate from 54% to 61%, while 275 tonnes of food waste were composted and more than 369 tonnes were diverted through donation and composting. More than 30.7 tonnes of surplus food were donated through Gulfood Manufacturing with the UAE Food Bank.

Water efficiency has also improved, with Dubai Exhibition Centre reducing water consumption by 20% through leak rectification, efficient fixtures and greater use of treated sewage effluent and air-conditioning condensate. Across its estate, 21 buildings hold LEED certification. DWTC uses a custom-built carbon emissions calculator aligned with the GHG Protocol to track Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions, while Klimato, a food carbon footprint calculator, enables catering teams to assess menu emissions and make lower-carbon ingredient choices.

DXB Live incorporates modular exhibition solutions using recycled and recyclable materials, while B20 biofuel, smart metering, AI-enabled building management systems and digital monitoring are being deployed to improve efficiency. DWTC has set a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030 against a 2022 baseline. Equally important is the social value generated through DWTC's operations and partnerships. Its policies promote non-discrimination, fair compensation, employee wellbeing, health and safety and inclusion of People of Determination.

In 2025, community initiatives included 10,000 Ramadan meals, support for 195 children and 116 blood donation drives, alongside programmes supporting youth development, SMEs, entrepreneurship and skills development. Partnerships with government, communities, environmental NGOs, suppliers and sustainability specialists extend this impact. Through accountable governance, measurable environmental action, inclusive practices, responsible procurement, innovation and community engagement, DWTC demonstrates how a major business events destination can connect operational performance with broader economic, environmental and social priorities. Its approach reflects an ongoing journey in which sustainability is increasingly integrated into the systems, partnerships and decisions shaping the organisation and communities it serves.

> "At DWTC, we believe sustainability and growth go hand in hand. By embedding ESG principles across every aspect of our business we are turning ambition into measurable action. As one of the region's leading business events destinations, we have a unique opportunity to drive positive impact at scale, influencing our employees, partners, suppliers, exhibitors and millions of visitors. We are committed to demonstrating that economic growth, innovation and sustainability can advance together, while supporting the UAE's long-term sustainability ambitions."
>
> **Mr. Mahir Julfar**
> Executive Vice President

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



Five Hotel Jumeirah Village LLC

United Arab Emirates

FIVE ▶ JUMEIRAH VILLAGE

FIVE Hotel Jumeirah Village LLC is redefining sustainable luxury in hospitality, demonstrating that exceptional guest experiences can co-exist with environmental stewardship and social responsibility. Since its inception in 2019, the hotel has embedded sustainability into its business strategy through its "Sustainable Indulgence" approach, integrating environmental performance, responsible resource management, employee wellbeing, community impact and responsible governance across its operations. This strategy is supported by measurable targets, management oversight, stakeholder engagement and continuous performance monitoring.

A key pillar of the strategy is resource efficiency and decarbonisation. FIVE Jumeirah Village established targets to reduce electricity consumption by 25% and water consumption by 45% by 2025 against its 2020 baseline, supported by 100% LED lighting, occupancy sensors, smart Guest Room Management Systems and renewable energy. The hotel operates on 100% renewable electricity through I-REC, while its LEED Platinum certification and 3-Star SPIRE Smart Building Rating demonstrate the integration of sustainability into both building design and operations. Its environmental management and energy management systems are also aligned with ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 standards.

The strategy extends beyond energy and water to circular resource management and responsible procurement. FIVE Jumeirah Village uses a Sustainable Purchasing Management Plan and Supplier Code of Conduct covering environmental responsibility, human rights, labour standards, health and safety, ethics and responsible sourcing. Supplier ESG assessments and audits covering the top 80% of supplier spend strengthen accountability across the value chain.

Within operations, multilingual waste-segregation systems, food-waste composting, used cooking oil conversion to biodiesel, reuse of materials and regular "No-Bin Days" encourage resource-conscious behaviour.

Innovation is central to the hotel's sustainability strategy. Its rooftop greenhouse supports locally grown produce and reduced food-mile emissions, while a hydro-turbine contributes to lobby lighting. A greywater treatment system enables treated water to be reused for irrigation, complemented by water-efficient technologies such as Eco Waterjet units installed across 401 rooms. In 2025, the hotel's in-house reverse-osmosis bottling plant eliminated 4,166,700 single-use plastic bottles avoiding an estimated 345 tonnes of CO_2 emissions.

The social dimension of the strategy places people and communities at its centre. A dedicated Green Team supports cross-departmental implementation, while employees receive sustainability and responsible procurement training. The hotel promotes wellbeing through FIVE CARES, supports women's leadership development and provides youth with hospitality internships and sustainability learning opportunities.

Community investment includes Project Udaan, which supports healthcare and education, alongside food and clothing donations, volunteering and environmental campaigns with partners including the UAE Food Bank, Ne'ma, Beit Al Kheir Society and Emirates Environmental Group.

Strong governance provides the framework for delivery, while sustainability performance is reviewed through monthly meetings, executive scorecards, daily utility monitoring and the Dubai Sustainable Tourism Carbon Calculator, with ESG risks incorporated into enterprise risk management and business continuity planning.

GHG emissions have been verified by EY under ISO 14064-1:2018, while selected ESG KPIs are verified by BDO under ISAE 3000. This integrated strategy has delivered measurable progress, including a 60.33% reduction in carbon intensity and 45.39% reduction in water consumption per capita in 2024 against the 2020 baseline. FIVE Jumeirah Village has also retained Dubai Sustainable Tourism Gold recognition, achieving a 93% audit score.

By connecting ambitious targets with innovation, responsible procurement, employee ownership, community investment and robust governance, FIVE Jumeirah Village demonstrates how sustainability can become a driver of resilient, responsible and genuinely sustainable luxury hospitality.

> "At FIVE, we believe the future of luxury hospitality is built on one principle: Do More with Less. By integrating ESG into every aspect of our business, we drive innovation, maximise resource efficiency and deliver measurable environmental and commercial value. Sustainability is not a standalone initiative, it is fundamental to how we create exceptional guest experiences and long-term value for all our stakeholders"
>
> **Mr. Jaydeep Anand**
> Chief Sustainability Officer & Chief Development Officer

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina

United Arab Emirates

Stella Di Mare
Hotels & Resorts
Dubai

The Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina hotel exemplifies a holistic and impactful approach to sustainability and corporate social responsibility, making it a true leader in the hospitality industry. Central to its ethos is a commitment to embedding sustainability into every facet of its operations, ensuring that both guest experiences and environmental stewardship are prioritised equally. At the heart of the hotel's strategy is a comprehensive governance framework that integrates ESG principles into its core management processes. This includes explicit governance structures with direct reporting to senior management and ongoing leadership training in ESG risks and opportunities.

The hotel's performance is regularly monitored through KPIs spanning environmental, social and governance metrics, which are made visible and relevant across all teams. This transparency fosters accountability and active participation, with achievements such as reduced plastic use, successful community events, and audit compliance celebrated during daily briefings and town halls. Such practices reinforce a culture of continuous improvement and shared responsibility.

The hotel's sustainability initiatives are guided by internationally recognised frameworks, including the UNGC COP, GRI and Integrated Reporting standards. Its sustainability report undergoes rigorous verification against standards like ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 22000 and ISO 45001, as well as independent audits by reputable organisations such as Dubai Municipality and Intertek Cristal.

The hotel promotes electric vehicle usage, being the only hotel in Dubai Marina to do so, significantly reducing its carbon footprint. Its on-site Stella Organic Garden supplies fresh produce for farm-to-table dining, exemplifying sustainable sourcing and local engagement.

Additionally, hotel's community investment strategy is equally comprehensive, involving donations to the UAE Food Bank and Dubai Blood Donation Center, volunteering initiatives such as clean-up campaigns and Earth Hour participation, as well as strike strategic partnerships with organisations like Emirates Environmental Group and Veolia.

The scale of the Hotel's sustainability and social impact is reflected in a range of measurable outcomes. In 2025, the hotel recorded 49,597 kg of recycled materials, with 4,936 kg diverted from landfill through its waste segregation and recycling initiatives. Through its partnership with Veolia, a further 22,919 kg of materials were recycled between January and May 2025, strengthening its Zero Food Waste and resource recovery efforts.

Employee engagement is also measurable, with 84.25% participation in sustainability training in 2025, supported by a target to increase participation by a further 10% in 2026. The hotel has contributed 100 meals to the UAE Food Bank and facilitated 50 bags of blood through the Dubai Blood Donation Centre, demonstrating how its sustainability strategy translates into tangible environmental and community outcomes.

Its environmental targets include achieving a 2% annual reduction in energy consumption, water use and carbon emissions, alongside a planned increase in sustainably certified procurement from 1% to 5%, reinforcing its focus on measurable and continuous improvement.

The hotel's impact-driven community initiatives are carefully assessed at every stage, from planning to post-implementation review. For example, its support for the Dubai Center for Special Needs involves evaluating community needs beforehand, monitoring engagement during events and reviewing outcomes based on participant feedback. This ensures that each project creates meaningful value and aligns with the hotel's social responsibility commitments.

Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina's integrated approach to sustainability, community engagement and transparent reporting exemplifies best practice in responsible hospitality. Its innovative initiatives, rigorous standards and unwavering commitment to social and environmental impact positions it as a deserving leader in the industry, continuously striving to deliver exceptional guest experiences while fostering a sustainable future for the community and the planet.

By combining clear governance, measurable environmental targets and active community engagement, Stella Di Mare continues to strengthen the link between responsible operations and guest experience.

> "At Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina, luxury hospitality goes hand in hand with a strong commitment to sustainability. From minimising our environmental footprint to uplifting local communities, every initiative reflects our dedication to a brighter future. We inspire our guests and team members to embrace eco-conscious living through innovation, education, and meaningful action. Together, we're shaping a greener tomorrow, creating exceptional experiences today while leaving a legacy of care for generations to come."
>
> **Mr. Simon Samir**
> CEO - Egypt & UAE

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

HOSPITALITY SECTOR CATEGORY



FIVE Luxe Hotel LLC

United Arab Emirates

FIVE ▶ LUXE JBR

FIVE LUXE HOTEL LLC is a premium hospitality destination in the heart of Dubai, combining distinctive luxury, innovative operations and responsible business practices. Since its inception on 14th July 2021, the hotel has developed an approach that integrates environmental stewardship, social contribution and operational efficiency into its day-to-day activities. Its commitment extends from the design and management of its property to its supply chain, community partnerships and approach to measuring environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance.

A defining achievement is FIVE LUXE's LEED Platinum certification, secured with an exceptional score of 89 points, recognised as a world record for a five-star hotel. This achievement reflects the hotel's commitment to sustainable design and responsible building operations. The hotel has operated on 100% renewable electricity, with 19,500 MWh of electricity covered through International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-RECs) for 2025, reinforcing its efforts to reduce carbon emissions and support a lower-impact model of hospitality.

Innovation and technology are central to translating these commitments into operational performance. FIVE LUXE has implemented energy-efficient building systems, including LED lighting and a Building Management System (BMS) that optimises energy consumption and equipment performance.

Its sustainability strategy includes a 5% reduction target in electricity consumption per capita and carbon intensity by 2025, increasing to 10% by 2027, alongside a 10% reduction in water consumption per capita by 2025 and 15% by 2027. A greywater activation target of 100% further demonstrates its focus on resource efficiency.

Circularity is also embedded within hotel operations. In 2025, FIVE LUXE's waste management programme recorded 94,571 kg of recycled waste. Its on-site reverse-osmosis bottling and glass-bottling system avoided approximately 4.17 million single-use plastic bottles, preventing an estimated 345 tonnes of CO_2 emission.

In addition, 5,400 discarded linen items were upcycled into dusters, wiping cloths and amenity mats, while 8,122 discarded towels, mats and linens were donated to the Umm Al Quwain Dog Shelter. The hotel also repurposed 658.6 kg of used coffee grounds as natural fertiliser for landscaping and supports the conversion of used cooking oil into biodiesel.

The hotel's contribution extends beyond its physical infrastructure through community investment and partnerships. FIVE LUXE supports initiatives addressing education, healthcare, inclusion, food security and environmental stewardship. Through FIVE's wider partnership with Room to Read, literacy programmes for girls in India contribute to education and gender equality.

The hotel also participated in community and environmental activities, including clean-up campaigns, tree planting and volunteering, contributing to 1,872 group volunteer hours and 55 trees through reported initiatives. Responsible practices are embedded within FIVE LUXE's procurement processes. Its Supplier Code of Conduct and ESG Supplier Assessment Checklist establish expectations covering environmental management, human rights, labour practices, health and safety, business ethics and responsible sourcing. The hotel has set a target to conduct ESG supplier audits covering 80% of supplier spend by 2025, rising to 90% by 2027, extending sustainability accountability across its value chain.

A structured ESG measurement and reporting framework provides the foundation for monitoring progress. FIVE LUXE tracks energy, water, waste and carbon performance through monthly utility reporting, Sustainability Committee reviews and its Carbon Calculator, with ESG data incorporated into the Group-wide reporting framework. Its sustainability performance is supported by third-party verification, while the Green Bond Allocation and Impact Report links responsible investment with measurable environmental outcomes.

Through renewable energy, resource-efficient technologies, circular practices, responsible procurement, community investment and robust ESG governance, FIVE LUXE HOTEL LLC demonstrates how environmental performance and social value can be integrated into premium hospitality.

> "At FIVE, we believe the future of luxury hospitality is built on one principle: Do More with Less. By integrating ESG into every aspect of our business, we drive innovation, maximise resource efficiency and deliver measurable environmental and commercial value. Sustainability is not a standalone initiative, it is fundamental to how we create exceptional guest experiences and long-term value for all our stakeholders"
>
> **Mr. Jaydeep Anand**
> Chief Sustainability Officer & Chief Development Officer Officer

HEALTHCARE SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER

HEALTHCARE SECTOR CATEGORY



Aster DM Healthcare

United Arab Emirates

Aster DM Healthcare has emerged as a leading regional healthcare provider, with a presence across seven countries and a network comprising 15 hospitals, 126 clinics and 338 pharmacies in the Middle East alone. Serving millions of patients each year, Aster has positioned sustainability as an integral part of its growth and healthcare philosophy, bringing together clinical excellence, environmental responsibility, social impact and ethical governance. Guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals and national sustainability priorities, ESG considerations are embedded across strategic decision-making, operations, procurement and leadership oversight.

Aster's sustainability journey is underpinned by a governance framework that places accountability at the heart of its ESG agenda. Senior management and the Board receive training on emerging ESG risks and opportunities, while sustainability performance is monitored through defined indicators covering environmental efficiency, clinical quality, patient outcomes, employee engagement, governance and community impact. Its ethical foundation is reinforced through a zero-tolerance position on corruption, supported by the Code of Conduct, Ethics Line, Conflict of Interest Policy and Three Lines of Defence model.

Climate action and environmental stewardship are increasingly embedded across Aster's operations. The organisation is progressing towards its Net Zero ambition through energy efficiency, renewable energy, resource conservation and strengthened emissions measurement. In 2025, Aster achieved an 8% reduction in Scope 2 emissions, supported by energy-efficiency measures and solar PV installations. In 2026, it commenced a comprehensive Scope 3 emissions assessment covering purchased goods and services, capital goods, transportation, waste and business travel, extending its climate action across the wider value chain.

Aster's transition towards resource-efficient healthcare is supported by tangible investments in renewable energy and circularity. Solar PV installations across four facilities generated more than 1,700 MWh of renewable electricity, avoiding approximately 660 tCO_2e.

More than 138,000 kg of waste was recycled through segregation and recycling initiatives, while biomedical waste management achieved 93.33% compliance. IoT-enabled monitoring and centralised ESG dashboards further strengthen the organisation's ability to track energy, water and waste performance and translate data into operational improvements.

Beyond environmental performance, Aster places equitable access to healthcare and community wellbeing at the centre of its sustainability purpose. Through Aster Volunteers and Mobile Medical Services, healthcare professionals and volunteers extend medical care, health awareness, emergency support and essential services to underserved communities.

Its FY2026 ambitions include registering more than 6,000 new Aster Volunteers across the Middle East and Africa, launching a Women Leadership Programme and maintaining 100% retention of People of Determination within its workforce. Community engagement also includes tree and mangrove plantation drives, clean-up drives and initiatives responding to local healthcare and social needs.

Innovation further strengthens Aster's sustainability transformation. Through its Innovation Centre, X-Health platform and partnerships with technology providers, start-ups and academia, Aster is developing solutions that enhance patient access, clinical experiences and operational efficiency.

Digital initiatives have avoided approximately 800 tCO_2e through cloud migration and related measures, while the myAster platform has surpassed one million registered customers, demonstrating how digital healthcare can advance accessibility, efficiency and environmental performance.

Aster DM Healthcare demonstrates that sustainability in healthcare extends beyond the walls of a hospital. By connecting patient outcomes with climate action, resource efficiency, responsible procurement, digital innovation, inclusion and community wellbeing, Aster is helping shape healthcare systems that are more resilient, responsible and sustainable for generations to come.

> "At Aster DM Healthcare, ESG is about creating lasting value - through empowered people, inclusive healthcare, resilient communities and responsible growth. As we look towards Vision 2030 and beyond, our commitment is to ensure that every step of Aster's growth strengthens the wellbeing of our people, our communities and the generations that follow."
>
> **Ms. Alisha Moopen**
> Managing Director and Group CEO

1ST RUNNER UP

HEALTHCARE SECTOR CATEGORY



Al Hussein Society - Jordan Center for Training and Inclusion

Jordan

For more than five decades, Al Hussein Society – Jordan Center for Training and Inclusion (AHS) has advanced a model of healthcare in which inclusion, independence and dignity are integral to sustainable development. Established in 1971 in response to limited rehabilitation, education and inclusion services for children and persons with disabilities in Jordan, AHS has developed into a multi-dimensional organisation integrating rehabilitation, healthcare support, assistive technology, inclusive education, digital innovation, advocacy and community-based development.

AHS's distinctive strength lies in taking rehabilitation beyond institutional care and embedding it within families and communities through its Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID) approach. By combining accessible rehabilitation, training, assistive technologies, education and community interventions, the organisation addresses not only immediate healthcare needs but also the social and environmental barriers that restrict independence and participation. Its programmes are informed by needs assessments, KAP surveys, focus groups and stakeholder consultations, enabling interventions to respond to identified community priorities.

AHS has also played a pioneering role in advancing rehabilitation services in Jordan. It contributed to the introduction of occupational therapy in the country and developed specialised capabilities in environmental adaptation and mobility support. Its assistive technology workshop enables mobility aids to be maintained, modified and adapted to individual needs, while its prosthetics workshop provides solutions that improve mobility and functional independence. Its inclusive school model further connects healthcare, education and participation, demonstrating a holistic understanding of wellbeing.

Digital innovation has become a critical enabler of this model. Through the RAAD Platform, AHS provides a national mechanism for mapping available services, facilitating referrals and connecting persons with disabilities and their families with relevant service providers and stakeholders. Together with the National Comprehensive Services Platform, these systems help address fragmentation in service delivery and make support more accessible and coordinated. The organisation is also demonstrating that sustainable healthcare extends to the environmental performance of healthcare operations. AHS's solar energy system, operational for approximately a decade, currently supplies 60% of its electricity requirements, with further expansion planned.

In parallel, 70% of beneficiary files have been digitised, while monthly reporting is fully electronic, reducing paper consumption and improving administrative efficiency. AHS has additionally explored organic waste management and measures to improve water efficiency in agricultural activities.

Its social impact is defined by equitable access. AHS provides services to persons with disabilities across Jordan regardless of nationality, background, social status or location, including refugees living in camps and host communities. This reach is reinforced through partnerships with government entities, municipalities, universities, civil society organisations, international partners, private-sector actors, families and caregivers, enabling AHS to extend its impact beyond its own facilities and strengthen community resilience.

Underlying this work is a framework of responsible governance encompassing Board and senior management oversight, risk management, safeguarding, financial controls and annual financial audits. A formal zero-tolerance approach to corruption, supported by grievance and feedback mechanisms, reinforces transparency, accountability and responsible stewardship.

AHS also maintains an internal sustainability reporting process that consolidates key environmental, social and governance-related information across its programmes and projects. The process supports performance monitoring, informed decision-making and alignment with the organisation's disability inclusion and community development mandate. The reliability of the report is supported through internal controls, donor reporting requirements, periodic project evaluations and financial audits. AHS demonstrates that sustainable healthcare is not limited to delivering medical or rehabilitation services. It is about removing barriers, enabling independence and creating systems in which people with disabilities can participate fully in society.

> "We sincerely thank Arabia CSR and its Founder, Dr. Habiba Al Marashi, for giving Al Hussein Society this valuable opportunity to assess our sustainability journey. This process enabled us to acknowledge our achievements, reflect on our strengths, and identify gaps for improvement. It reinforces our commitment to upgrading our services, strengthening our impact, and advancing inclusive, equitable, and sustainable development for persons with disabilities in Jordan."
>
> **Ms. Anni Mazagobian Abu Hanna**
> Executive Director

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY



Innovo

United Arab Emirates

An ESG Roadmap running to 2035 sits at the centre of how Innovo, established in the MENA region in 2019 as part of a UK-headquartered private group, treats the relationship between what it builds and what that construction costs the planet. Net Zero commitments and business objectives shape decisions across project delivery, procurement, innovation and people, positioning Innovo not as a construction company that occasionally reports on ESG, but as an organisation where sustainability shapes strategy from the outset.

That commitment is carried through structured governance. The Group ESG Manager reports to the Chair of the Sustainability Committee, a Board member who reports directly to the Group CEO, supported by an ESG function comprising a Coordinator, GHG Specialist, and site-based Environmental Engineers, reinforced by departmental Sustainability Champions across the business.

During FY2025, Innovo delivered 22 ESG awareness and reporting workshops and began implementing a Group-wide Enterprise Risk Management framework with Forvis Mazars, while 10% of annual performance appraisals for executive and senior management are directly linked to Group-level and Business Unit-level ESG KPIs. Innovo tracks its environmental performance through the Karbonwise carbon accounting platform, the i-Energy monitoring system, and Power BI dashboards, underpinned by an ISO 14001-certified Environmental Management System integrated with ISO 9001 and ISO 45001.

A target to reduce Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 47% by 2035 against a FY2025 baseline, aligned with SBTi methodologies and the UAE Net Zero 2050 pathway, sits alongside an 80% waste diversion target, already reaching a 78.17% recycling rate in FY2025. Partnerships extend this ambition outward: an MoU with Siemens on energy-efficient building solutions, collaboration with Saint-Gobain to recycle gypsum waste from construction sites, and a developing MoU with AGSI on lower-carbon steel. Behind every certification sits a workforce Innovo takes visible care to protect. In FY2025, the company completed 424 accommodation and welfare audits, 30 accommodation audits, and 24 food audits, alongside 243,652 training hours delivered to 7,735 workers, achieving an LTIFR of 0.03 of 824 grievances raised that year, every single one was resolved, with zero overdue or late cases, tracked through channels including People Connect, Joint Worker Welfare Committees, and the independent NAVEX whistleblowing platform.

Worker welfare has been recognised through Dubai Municipality Gold A accommodation status and client audit scores reaching 100%. That same sense of responsibility reaches into the communities where Innovo builds. Employees contributed more than 60,000 volunteering hours in FY2025, while the company's flagship education initiative, Egypt's first Innovo Applied Technology School, was developed with government partners to equip young people with skills in AI, cybersecurity and sustainable engineering.

Through the UN Global Compact's Target Gender Equality Accelerator, Innovo has strengthened its approach to women's leadership and the Women's Empowerment Principles, while continuing to support the Al Jalila Foundation and the Edge of Life campaign. Innovation, too, is treated as inseparable from sustainability.

Innovo's investment in Karbonwise, i-Energy, AI-enabled project risk management, and early robotics pilots reflects a belief that lower-carbon, higher-productivity construction cannot be delivered through traditional methods alone. The company's ESG disclosures follow GRI Standards and TCFD-aligned climate reporting under IFRS S2, with Deloitte providing independent assurance of Innovo Holding Limited's Annual Report, and third-party ESG Report assurance planned from FY2026 onward.

As Innovo works toward its 2035 emissions targets, its investment in worker welfare, technology, and community education suggests a company treating sustainability not as a reporting exercise, but as the foundation its long-term growth is being built on.

Innovo continues to strengthen its sustainability approach through lower-carbon construction, employee welfare, technology and community investment, supporting more responsible and resilient growth across its operations.

> "At Innovo, sustainability and social responsibility are integral to how we operate, grow and create long-term value. We are committed to embedding responsible practices across our operations and value chain, using technology to strengthen environmental performance and supporting the people and communities connected to our work. This recognition reflects the collective efforts of our teams to advance our ESG commitments and deliver meaningful environmental and social impact."
>
> **Mr. Bishoy Azmy**
> Group CEO

1ST RUNNER UP

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY



Dutco Construction Group (DCG)

United Arab Emirates

Nearly five decades of contracting work sit behind Dutco Construction Group's approach to sustainability, and the company treats that history less as a legacy to protect than as a foundation to keep building on. Established in 1977 and comprising two entities, DBB Contracting LLC and Dutco Construction Co LLC, DCG's shared vision to be the most preferred contracting company in the region has, since winning this same award back in 2013, evolved into a "Sustainability Vision 2030" built on three pillars: profitable markets, healthy communities and environmental limits.

That vision is carried through a governance structure built specifically for the job. A DCG CSR Committee comprising 25 members across divisions and projects meets monthly to review CSR activities, with minutes shared directly with the Board and Senior Management Team, while a separate ESG Committee, supported by a specialised ESG team, provides strategic direction on environmental, social and governance performance.

Over 7 ESG-focused training sessions were delivered to senior leadership during the reporting period, spanning commercial, HSE, HR, finance and procurement functions, and DCG's new Performance Management System, Mentor, ties measurable sustainability KPIs directly to executive and senior staff evaluations, cascaded across all divisions and projects. DCG's environmental targets, a 5% reduction in diesel consumption by Q4 2026, 20-25% waste diversion from landfill, and 100% project-level carbon reporting by Q3 2026, sit within an Integrated Management System certified by Bureau Veritas to ISO 14001, ISO 45001 and ISO 9001, validated through biannual internal audits and external audits.

Through X-NOOR, DCG has contributed approximately 3.9 MW of installed solar capacity, delivering an estimated 3,270 tonnes of annual CO_2 reductions. On its EMAAR Nara modular villa project, Life Cycle Analysis guided the use of lightweight, recyclable materials, cutting whole-life carbon footprint by 70-75% compared to traditional methods, with units designed for up to 20 reuse cycles and 95% material recovery at end-of-life, alongside a 26% annual energy reduction.

Progress is tracked through Scope 1, 2, and select Scope 3 emissions data covering fuel, electricity, transportation, and embodied carbon in concrete and steel. Ten principles anchor DCG's Worker Welfare Policy, spanning ethical employment, safe accommodation, freedom of movement and accessible grievance resolution.

They were reinforced from January 2026 by a new passport retention policy that returns passports directly to workers along with personal storage boxes. Grievances are raised through Camp Observation Report cards collected weekly across all camps, reviewed by Camp Safety Officers and escalated where needed to the monthly Camp Welfare Committee. Anti-corruption is governed through a Code of Conduct and confidential Ethics Helpline Service, monitored by shareholder representatives and the Compliance Officer. While Community investment runs through a CSR Committee that screens every initiative against four criteria before approval, including community benefit and budget alignment, with completed events reviewed through stakeholder feedback forms and CSR Briefing Sheets.

Examples include the Home Away Sports Festival and tree-planting under the "For Our Emirates We Plant" campaign. DCG's sustainability reporting is currently guided by UN SDG alignment, with a formal transition to GRI Standards planned for its 2026 report, supplemented by external validation through EcoVadis benchmarking.

As DCG works toward its 2030 sustainability vision, its shift from informal environmental tracking to structured, KPI-driven ESG governance marks less a single achievement than a company recalibrating how five decades of contracting experience gets measured going forward. DCG's approach reflects a broader shift toward making sustainability a measurable part of how the business is managed and evaluated. By linking governance, worker welfare, carbon performance, community investment and innovation to defined targets and review mechanisms, the Group is creating a clearer basis for long-term accountability. As these systems continue to mature, they are helping translate DCG's Sustainability Vision 2030 into practical actions across projects and divisions.

> "Dutco Construction Group has been integral to the UAE's growth since 1947, delivering infrastructure and supporting thriving communities. Today, we recognise our responsibility to help shape a more sustainable and inclusive future. Sustainability is embedded across our operations through responsible resource management, innovation, and low-carbon solutions. We are committed to strong governance, ethical practices, and the wellbeing of our people, while creating long-term value aligned with the UAE's vision for sustainable development for future generations globally."
>
> **Mr. Zeyad A. Baker**
> Executive Director

2ND RUNNER UP

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY



NMDC Group

United Arab Emirates

Established in 1973 and publicly listed since 2000, NMDC Group has built its sustainability strategy, "Responsible Stewardship" around five pillars: Energy Transition Enablement, Environmentally Conscious Operations, Health & Safety Ownership, Social Impact, and Governance & Accountability. The pairing is unusual for a company built on dredging fleets, but NMDC positions biodiversity restoration and heavy marine engineering as two sides of the same operation, treating sustainability as core to the business rather than a function bolted on afterward.

That strategy is carried through structured governance built specifically for the job. A dedicated Sustainability Department, led by a Sustainability Director reporting to the Chief Operating Officer, works alongside a cross-functional ESG Committee drawing from HSE, HR, Procurement and Engineering, with performance reported to the Board and Executive Committee quarterly.

A portion of executive and senior management compensation is tied directly to ESG KPIs, including Total Recordable Incident Rate targets and GHG intensity reduction per million AED revenue, embedded within the Group's Balanced Scorecard. Board members and senior leadership have also completed specialised ESG training covering the financial materiality of climate change and evolving regulatory expectations. Environmental performance runs through an Integrated Management System certified to ISO 14001, ISO 50001 and ISO 45001, tracked through Scope 1, 2 and increasingly Scope 3 emissions using the GHG Protocol standard.

Through its Mangrove Restoration Initiative, NMDC has planted more than 350,000 seedlings to enhance coastal biodiversity, while the Group has begun deploying 3D-printed artificial reefs and is investing in offshore wind and hydrogen infrastructure through NMDC Energy.

The company targets a 25-30% reduction in energy consumption by 2027, supported by an AED 8.1 million investment in efficiency upgrades at the Musaffah fabrication yard, alongside 80% construction and demolition waste diversion from landfill and Net Zero emissions by 2050.

Through its Beneficial Use of Dredged Material programme, dredged sand and soil are now repurposed for land reclamation and coastal protection rather than treated as waste, and Life Cycle Analysis has informed a shift toward locally sourced rock in marine works, cutting transport emissions by 15%.

An ISO 45001-certified Worker Welfare Standard covers accommodation, nutritional standards, and mental health support for a workforce exceeding 27,000 employees, reinforced by a strict "Zero Harm" policy and "Stop Work Authority" available to all staff.

Grievances are raised through a 24/7 Whistleblower Hotline and suggestion boxes placed at every labour camp, logged centrally and tracked to resolution under a non-retaliation policy. Anti-corruption is governed through a Code of Business Conduct and Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption policy, with oversight assigned to the Group's Ethics & Compliance Officer and mandatory annual ethics training for all employees.

Community investment runs through the Mangrove and Marine Biodiversity Programme involving local schools, a Sustainability Internship Programme with local universities, and procurement support for Emirati-owned SMEs. Examples include the Graduate Development Programme, prioritising Emirati youth for technical roles, and the Women in Engineering initiative, providing mentorship and career pathways in a traditionally male-dominated sector. Partnerships extend to Masdar on offshore wind development and Abu Dhabi University on a "Mastering ESG Excellence" professional training course.

NMDC's Annual Integrated Report is prepared against GRI Standards and ADX ESG disclosure requirements, with sustainability data verified through third-party assurance covering GHG emissions, safety statistics, and water consumption. As NMDC works toward its 2050 Net Zero target, the Group's shift from dredging-led operations to a broader clean energy and biodiversity portfolio marks less a single milestone than a company recalibrating what heavy industry can be measured against.

> "At NMDC Group, our vision of Responsible Stewardship transforms heavy industry into a force for environmental and social good. By integrating AI-driven efficiency with large scale "Blue Carbon" initiatives including 200,000 mangroves in 2026 and 3D-printed artificial reefs, we are leading the UAE's Net-Zero 2050 journey. Our achievements in decarbonising marine fleets and maximising In Country Value prove that engineering excellence and ecological preservation can thrive together, building a resilient, sustainable future for the communities we serve."
>
> **Dr. Yasser Zaghloul**
> Group CEO

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

CONSTRUCTION SECTOR CATEGORY



China State Construction Engineering Corporation (Middle East) (L.L.C.)

United Arab Emirates

Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC) has grown from a subsidiary of one of the world's largest construction and investment groups into a company that treats sustainability as inseparable from how it builds, across the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman. Its strategy is anchoured to the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategic Initiative and Saudi Vision 2030, with ESG folded into Enterprise Risk Management and reported through Group-level governance.

That commitment shows most visibly in industrialised construction. In 2025, CSCEC ME's modular construction system received formal approval from Dubai Municipality, shaping the theme of its 8th and 9th Technical Conferences. Its Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) system cuts build time by up to 70%, lowers carbon footprint by up to 60%, and reduces solid waste by 75%, while a Data Driven Construction tool measures embodied CO_2 from BIM models before and after concrete casting, quantifying 118.3 tonnes of CO_2 on the Marina Vista project alone. Results include 96.02% construction-waste diversion on the DAMAC BAY 1 project and a Passive House pilot in Baniyas delivering energy savings of up to 68.67% against a conventional villa, verified through PHPP simulation.

Environmental stewardship extends into biodiversity and resource management on major infrastructure works. The Etihad Rail Stage 2 Package A project incorporated Ghaf tree transplantation and desert wildlife protection, while the Dubai Islands Bridge Crossing project used recycled water for dust suppression and structured waste segregation. The company's asphalt batching plant holds Dubai Municipality's highest occupational health and safety certification, and its EMS, aligned with ISO 14001, is validated through internal and external audits, alongside HSE systems aligned with ISO 45001. People remain central to that framework. With more than 9,000 employees across over 20 nationalities, CSCEC ME's labour practices rest on a formal Labour Welfare Policy, No Child and No Forced Labour policies, and an Equality and Diversity Policy, reinforced by the Labour Happiness initiative and welfare audits.

This has been recognised twice by the Dubai Government's Taqdeer Award, in 2021 & 2022, alongside milestones such as 2 million safe man-hours without a lost-time incident on the City Center Residences project. Emiratisation and the UpWeBuild Programme continue building local and youth engineering talent, while an Anti-Corruption Coordination Group, chaired by the Chief Compliance Supervision Officer, oversees a zero-tolerance bribery policy backed by a dedicated reporting hotline and email channel.

中建中东
CSCEC MIDDLE EAST

Emiratisation and the UpWeBuild Programme continue building local and youth engineering talent, while an Anti-Corruption Coordination Group, chaired by the Chief Compliance Supervision Officer, oversees a zero-tolerance bribery policy backed by a dedicated reporting hotline and email channel. Community investment follows the company's "Expanding a Happy Living Environment" mission, from tree-planting and clean-up campaigns with the Emirates Environmental Group to support for the Rashid Center for People of Determination.

Innovation follows the same logic: CSCEC ME runs a dedicated 3D Printing Construction Technology R&D Center in Dubai, delivered the world's first 3D-printed commercial building, and is now collaborating with Shanghai SUS Environment, planning to bring fourth-generation waste-to-energy technology to the UAE, aimed at the Net Zero 2050 and Circular Economy strategies.

CSCEC Middle East reports its ESG performance against GRI Standards and the UN Global Compact's Communication on Progress, validated internally, with selected disclosures already reviewed by independent third-party assurance bodies. Alongside regional recognitions including the Sheikh Khalifa Excellence Award and the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award, it treats sustainability as integral to strategy, operations and culture, continuing to deliver economic, environmental and social value across the region.

CSCEC Middle East continues to strengthen its sustainability approach by combining lower-carbon construction, responsible resource use, employee welfare and innovation. Through measurable targets, advanced building technologies and community engagement, the company is reinforcing a model of construction that supports long-term environmental and social value across the region.

> "At CSCEC Middle East, we measure success through business performance and the positive impact we create. Our commitment to innovation, integrity, and environmental stewardship continues to guide our work across the construction sector. We value Arabia CSR Network's role in recognising excellence, connecting industry leaders, and advancing responsible development across the region. Together with our clients, consultants, partners, and colleagues, we remain committed to collaboration and to building a more sustainable and resilient Middle East."
>
> **Mr. Tian Sanchuan**
> Chairman of CSCEC Middle East

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY CATEGORY



WINNER

AUTOMATIVE INDUSTRY CATEGORY



Galadari Brothers

United Arab Emirates

With roots going back to 1966, Galadari Brothers has grown into a large, diversified group of more than 500 employees, with its Motors Division operating under the group's wider purpose of "Inspiring Pioneers." The group's publicly available vision and values framework embed sustainability into long-term strategy, aligning business growth with ESG principles across its Motors, Heavy Equipment and Engineering divisions. The group's strategy is aligned with 10 UN Sustainable Development Goals, integrated across social responsibility, employee wellbeing, CO_2 reduction, energy management and governance.

That commitment is carried through formal governance. A Sustainability & Strategy Committee, chaired by the Group CEO and comprising business-unit CEOs and CXOs, oversees ESG risks that are integrated into the company's Enterprise Risk Management Framework and reviewed through Audit Committee and Board oversight. A Group Head of Sustainability reports directly to the Group CEO, and ESG performance indicators are tied to sustainability-linked financing agreed with Mashreq Bank, covering sustainable waste management, ESG training and governance, and a carbon reduction roadmap.

On the environmental side, management runs through ISO 14001, ISO 9001 and ISO 45001 certifications, with Scopes 1 & 2 emissions tracked in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and reported annually against GRI Standards.

The Motors Division expanded its hybrid and electric vehicle offering through brands including Lynk & Co and OMODA | JAECOO in 2025, installed EV charging infrastructure across facilities, and aligns with Mazda's Life Cycle Analysis framework where it does not conduct its own.

Additional initiatives included LED lighting upgrades, HVAC optimisation, rooftop solar deployment, and the eco-friendly AllSports facility in Dubai, built with solar panels and water recycling systems to Dubai Municipality's Sa'fat Gold standard.

Labour practices are governed through ISO 45001-certified occupational health and safety systems, a Code of Business Ethics, a Whistleblower Policy, and an Anti-Bribery & Anti-Corruption Policy. In 2025, the group delivered 60,610 training hours on health and safety and 57,468 hours on product and technical training, alongside a Corporate Compliance Form launched to allow confidential reporting of unethical conduct.

The group achieved Great Place to Work certification in 2025, with 91% of employees reporting they understand how their role contributes to the organisation's strategy.

Community investment in 2025 included a AED 10 million contribution to the Fathers' Endowment healthcare initiative, the sponsorship of 10,000 mangrove trees, and beach, desert and wadi clean-up campaigns, alongside women's empowerment initiatives delivered through platforms including SHEROES and We the Women.

The group also supports Emiratisation and local talent development through programmes such as the Ruwad Senior Talent Programme, and introduced a Remote Work Policy in 2025 to support flexible working and employee wellbeing.

Innovation is tied into governance and operational planning rather than treated separately, with 2025 initiatives including an AI Discovery Day held with PwC, cybersecurity and digital responsibility programmes, and the sustainability-linked financing agreement with Mashreq Bank, described as one of the UAE's largest.

Innovation priorities are reviewed through the same governance and performance-monitoring frameworks used for the group's other ESG commitments. The group's Sustainability Report has followed GRI Standards since 2022.

Taken together, the group-wide governance structure, the sustainability-linked financing tied to measurable KPIs, the expansion of hybrid and electric vehicle offerings, and consistent GRI-aligned reporting position Galadari Brothers' Motors Division as a business where sustainability commitments carry financial and operational weight rather than sitting apart from day-to-day operations.

> "Our sincere thanks to the Arabia CSR Network for recognising Galadari Brothers' Motors Division once again for its progress in sustainable mobility, following our 2025 recognition. Sustainability continues to guide how we operate, innovate and serve customers. By expanding EV charging infrastructure, growing our hybrid portfolio, reducing our carbon footprint, strengthening recycling and waste management, and engaging responsible local partners, we are advancing cleaner mobility while creating lasting value for customers, communities and the environment."
>
> **Mr. Axel Dreyer**
> Chief Executive Officer

1ST RUNNER UP

AUTOMATIVE INDUSTRY CATEGORY



Al Shirawi Equipment Company

United Arab Emirates

Founded in 1976, Al Shirawi Equipment Company has grown into a large manufacturer of transport and oil and gas equipment with more than 500 employees. Its stated vision is "carbon-neutral manufacturing of reliable engineering solutions," with a commitment to measure, reduce and fully offset its manufacturing carbon footprint by 2026, and its ASECO values framework ties health, safety, environment and quality directly to sustainability and operational excellence. That vision is backed by formal governance. A Board of Directors reviews ESG performance and risk quarterly, supported by an ESG Steering Committee that sets and monitors sustainability targets, a Lean Centre of Excellence focused on operational efficiency, and an Employee Welfare & CSR Committee.

The company's strategy is aligned with eight UN Sustainable Development Goals, and progress is disclosed through a GRI-aligned Sustainability Report and voluntary reporting to the Carbon Disclosure Project. A real-time Net Promoter Score dashboard tracks customer sentiment, with any negative feedback triggering a formal Corrective & Preventive Action report.

Environmentally, the company reports a 75% reduction in operational emissions, supported by a 3.1 MW rooftop solar system covering more than 72% of energy needs and managed to generate 4,797 MWh in 2025. Carbon footprint intensity at its Dubai Industrial City plant improved from 1.04 to 0.86 tCO_2e per 1,000 man-hours during the year. The company recycles around 70% of its steel scrap, and managed to process 3,691 tonnes in 2025 thus saving 5,465 tCO_2e, and converted 75,300 kg of hazardous waste into raw materials for the cement industry. A sewage treatment plant recycles 31 to 33 cubic metres of wastewater daily for onsite reuse.

On the workforce side, labour standards are certified to ISO 45001, with 2,094,092 man-hours worked and 38 injuries recorded in 2025, giving a corporate incident rate of 3.36. Female workforce representation increased by 40% year on year. A 24/7 Ethics Hotline, run through direct managers, HR and an online portal, supports confidential reporting of grievances or misconduct, and the company enforces zero tolerance for child labour, forced labour and discrimination in line with UAE and ILO standards.

Suppliers are held to a Supplier CSR Policy covering environmental protection, human rights and anti-corruption, reinforced through audits and virtual sustainability sessions.

In the community, 2025 initiatives included Clean UAE campaigns run with the Emirates Environmental Group, during which employees also rescued a deer and handed it to local authorities, a tree-planting drive, and a free medical camp at the company's Dubai Industrial City labour accommodation. The company's "Driver's Day" events, held in industrial hubs including Fujairah, gather direct feedback from truck drivers on road safety and operational needs.

Beyond compliance, innovation is applied operationally rather than as a separate initiative: AI-driven predictive maintenance systems flag potential equipment failures, Columbus CAD/CAM software optimises material nesting to reduce scrap, and QR codes on machines have replaced printed manuals.

The company's sustainability reporting follows GRI Standards and ISO 14064 methodology, with its Sustainability Officer holding ISO 14064 Lead Verifier certification. The company's Industry 4.0 progress was recognised with a 4/5 rating in the UAE Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology's Industrial Technology Transformation Index.

Overall, the carbon-neutral manufacturing target, measurable emissions and circularity data, structured governance and community partnerships position Al Shirawi Equipment Company as a nearly 50-year-old heavy equipment manufacturer working to demonstrate that sustainable transformation is achievable in a traditionally hard-to-abate industry. Al Shirawi Equipment Company continues to strengthen its sustainability journey by combining lower-carbon manufacturing, resource efficiency, employee welfare and practical innovation. Its focus on measurable performance, responsible supply chains and community engagement supports a more resilient operating model while advancing sustainability within the heavy equipment sector.

> "At Al Shirawi Equipment, sustainability is not a separate initiative but a practical way of building a stronger, more resilient business. By reducing waste, improving efficiency, investing in renewable energy and innovation, and creating a safe, skilled workplace, we deliver long-term value for customers, employees, and stakeholders. Our progress is driven by continuous improvement, disciplined execution, and a commitment to responsible growth. While challenges remain, we are committed to improving year after year."
>
> **Mr. Sumeet Valrani**
> Director

ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER

ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY



Saudi Aramco, Western Region Distribution Department

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

For more than nine decades, Saudi Aramco has powered daily life across the Kingdom, and its Western Region Distribution Department (WRDD) carries that legacy forward through the Company's downstream network, delivering fuel across Western Saudi Arabia since 1933. Publicly listed since 2019, the Company pursues its vision of being the world's preeminent integrated energy and chemicals company, operating safely and sustainably, with WRDD's strategy structured around 4 sustainability pillars, Climate Change & Energy Transition, Safe Operations & People Development, Minimising Environmental Impact, and Growing Societal Value, aligned with Saudi Vision 2030 and the UN SDGs.

Executive accountability at Saudi Aramco is tied directly to sustainability performance. Eight of the twenty KPIs linked to variable pay cover safety, climate, environment, people and localisation, overseen by the Board's Sustainability, Risk and HSE Committee, which reviews corporate performance, major HSE incidents, and long-term priorities.

WRDD applies the same logic locally, assessing senior staff quarterly against incident rates, spill prevention, fleet emissions, community engagement, safety training, local hiring, compliance and ethics.

WRDD's environmental management is certified under ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 50001:2018, independently validated through periodic surveillance and recertification audits, and supported by a Circular Economy Process that has delivered recycled and warm-mix asphalt, solar-powered facilities, vapor recovery units, retired hose reuse, and reverse engineering of spare parts. Targets spanning the past three years and the next three include 100% wastewater compliance, zero oil spills, wastewater reuse rising from 27.9% to 31.5%, and continuous reduction in energy intensity, already declining through LED lighting upgrades and HVAC optimisation.

Saudi Aramco is targeting net-zero Scopes 1 & 2 GHG emissions across wholly owned operated assets by 2050, with WRDD contributing by distributing cleaner fuels that lower transportation emissions. A Safety Management System aligned with ISO 45001:2018 and the Code of Business Conduct governs labour and safety practices across Saudi Aramco's workforce, drawn from over 95 countries. Employees can raise concerns through the General Auditor Hotline, beginning with mediation and, if unresolved, escalating through a three-level hearing across Division Head, Department Head and General Management.

Anti-corruption is enforced through a zero-tolerance Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy, mandatory training and periodic policy acknowledgements, with EMS coordinators and unit heads responsible for maintaining standards at department level. Community investment centres on a cross-organisational CSR model that WRDD launched in 2025 & 2026 to address a longstanding gap in the Western Region, which had historically seen only one or two corporate CSR events per year.

The model brings multiple Saudi Aramco organisations and government entities together under one coordinated team, pooling budgets rather than funding activities independently, cutting implementation costs by an estimated 25 to 35% and turning isolated events into a structured programme of monthly initiatives benefiting more than 6,500 community members.

The programme is reviewed annually using the Plan, Do, Check, Adjust methodology. Other initiatives include planting more than 12,000 trees over the past three years, sustainable coffee cultivation projects in Jazan and Aseer, and recurring blood donation drives, mangrove planting and beach clean-ups. Saudi Aramco's disclosures are prepared against GRI, SASB, TCFD and IFRS S1/S2 standards, with selected 2025 Sustainability Report data carrying external limited assurance under ISAE 3000.

Innovation is channelled through WRDD's Innovation & Technology Deployment Framework, under which employee-submitted ideas are screened, validated, piloted and tracked until benefits are realised.

Throughout Hajj and Umrah periods, when demand peaks last up to 57 days and daily throughput rises by 30%, WRDD maintained 100% of its fuel supply commitments.

> "In 2025, Aramco grew its digital and AI capabilities, deploying advanced tools to mitigate emissions, enhance safety, and drive efficiency. The Company remains committed to achieving net-zero Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions across its wholly-owned operated assets by 2050."
>
> **Mr. Amin H. Nasser**
> President & CEO

1ST RUNNER UP

ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY



Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC) L.L.C

United Arab Emirates

Established in 1993 as a joint venture between government and private sector partners, Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC) has built its sustainability approach around a single organising principle, "One ENOC, One CSR", embedding CSR into corporate strategy rather than treating it as a standalone initiative. The Sustainability Leadership Committee, chaired by the Group CEO, reports directly to the Board, with ESG performance built into the Group's balanced scorecard through a dedicated Sustainability Index. A refreshed Group Sustainability Strategy is in final sign-off, with science-based emissions-reduction targets to follow from 2027.

Governance runs deep into individual accountability. Executives are assessed against measurable KPIs including thermal and electrical energy consumption, GHG emissions reduction, flare gas reduction, water and waste recycling rates, gender diversity and training per FTE, with a dedicated Community Investment KPI targeting 0.2% of revenue directed to community infrastructure. In FY2025, six ESG briefings covering climate law, carbon markets and Scope 3 results were delivered to leadership.

Environmental management runs through an Integrated Management System spanning ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and ISO 45001 across 335 certified entities and sites, with 58 sites additionally holding ISO 50001 certification, independently audited by Bureau Veritas annually. Renewable and low-carbon energy reached 14.6 GWh across the supply chain in FY2025, including 62 solar-powered service stations generating roughly 7.95 GWh, about 9.2% of service-station electricity needs, while ENOC's Morocco-based HTTSA terminal became the Group's first facility fully powered by locally sourced solar.

Cumulative energy savings under the Energy & Resource Management policy have reached over AED 478 million, avoiding 1.47 million tCO_2e against a 2019 baseline. Scope 1 emissions stood at 1.36 million tCO_2e and Scope 2 at 48,786 tCO_2e in 2025, against a Scope 3 baseline of 65.63 million tCO_2e in 2023, with priority targets including 30% water recycling by 2030, 50% waste recycled, a 16% emissions reduction by 2035 and zero routine flaring by 2030.

Labour and safety practices align with ISO 45001 and UNGC principles, supported by dedicated hotlines and HR-led grievance mechanisms. FY2025 safety performance recorded an LTIFR of 0.06, zero fatalities, and 253,089 hours of group-wide HSE training, alongside 5,238 fire-fighting and 1,165 first aid sessions.

Anti-corruption is governed by a zero-tolerance policy overseen by dedicated compliance and risk functions, which addressed 5 cybersecurity cases, 3 conflicts of interest and 35 fraud cases through structured review in FY2025. ENOC's most distinctive claim this cycle is its emissions disclosure. The company has completed Scope 3 baselining across all 15 GHG Protocol categories, a step it notes places it among the few national oil companies in the region to have done so, and reports to CDP Climate Change without external consultancy support.

That data sits behind a broader community and innovation programme, 17 million UAE dirhams of revenue directed toward Environment, Education and Health & Safety initiatives reaching 1.8 million beneficiaries, measured through Social Return on Investment, alongside a diesel conservation initiative that delivered a 42% per-batch saving at ENOC's Singapore terminal and the development of 10 environmentally acceptable lubricants.This disclosure-led approach extends to ENOC's external footprint.

The company led a USD 250 million Green Sukuk framework, served as environmental lead on the region's first Sustainable Aviation Fuel demonstration flight, and represents the sector on ICAO CAEP, IMO/OCIMF and the UNGC UAE Chapter Board. Its FY2024 Sustainability Performance Report received independent assurance from TUV against the ISAE 3000 standard, covering GHG emissions and energy KPI data. ENOC continues to extend this disclosure model as its refreshed Group Sustainability Strategy moves toward sign-off, with science-based targets due to take effect from 2027. ENOC's continued focus on transparent disclosure, measurable performance and science-based targets reinforces the role of sustainability as a core part of its long-term strategy and operational decision-making.

> "As one of the UAE's leading integrated energy companies, ENOC embeds sustainability into every aspect of its business. From maintaining zero employee fatalities for the fourth consecutive year and generating over 8,500 MWh of clean energy to creating a positive impact for more than 1.4 million people, our actions deliver measurable results. Our continued recognition at the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards reflects this commitment and strengthens our resolve to advance our progress towards Net Zero by 2050."
>
> **H.E. Hussain Sultan Lootah**
> ENOC Group CEO

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY



Emirates District Cooling (EMICOOL) LLC

United Arab Emirates

Cooling is one of the UAE's most energy-intensive needs, and since 2003, Emirates District Cooling (EMICOOL) has built its business around meeting that need more efficiently. Guided by its vision to be recognised as a world-class provider of energy-efficient district cooling, EMICOOL shapes its strategy around resource efficiency, climate resilience and long-term stakeholder value, revisiting objectives every five years.

Sustainability runs through the organisation from the boardroom to the individual employee. A dedicated ESG Committee meets quarterly and reports to executive leadership, tracking performance across energy, emissions, water, health & safety and stakeholder engagement. That same accountability extends to every employee, whose annual review carries a 5% ESG weighting, with staff selecting two ESG-linked goals judged at appraisal. Every three years, a Double Materiality Assessment looks outward, at EMICOOL's impact on people and the environment, and inward, at sustainability risks affecting the business itself.

This discipline shows most clearly in environmental performance. Three certified management systems, ISO 14001 for Environment, ISO 50001 for Energy, and ISO 46001 for Water, anchor operations, independently validated by Bureau Veritas through regular surveillance audits. Through its Emiview platform, EMICOOL tracks energy intensity and plant efficiency in real time, feeding AI-enabled monitoring that lifted renewable energy consumption for domestic use by 9% year-on-year. The company uses treated sewage effluent to ease pressure on desalinated water, while a centralised refrigerant recovery programme, built on a zero-venting policy, moves the business toward lower-GWP alternatives in line with the Montreal Protocol and Kigali Amendment. This feeds a Net Zero Roadmap spanning Scope 1, 2 & relevant Scope 3 emissions, reported annually against the GHG Protocol Corporate Standard.

Behind every certification sits a workforce EMICOOL protects closely. Its ISO 45001-certified OHS Management System tracks incident trends and training completion, while every new employee completes the UAE's mandatory Tawjeeh orientation early on. A confidential NAVEX whistleblowing platform gives employees and stakeholders a safe channel to raise concerns, and a dedicated Chief Compliance and Regulatory Affairs Officer holds anti-bribery oversight, reinforced by ethics training and supplier obligations under the Code of Conduct.

That same responsibility reaches into the wider community. The STEM Scholarship Programme opens doors for students, particularly young women, pursuing STEM education, pairing financial support with mentorship and industry exposure.

EMICOOL employees took part in a desert clean-up with the Emirates Environmental Group, delivered an energy-conservation workshop with the Emirates Green Building Council, and completed LEED v5 training through the US Green Building Council, while an annual Sustainability Week brings leadership, staff and stakeholders together.

Innovation is treated as everyone's responsibility. Through its Ideation Hub, EMICOOL runs company-wide challenges, leadership-led sessions involving the CEO, CFO and CTO, and academic collaborations such as MBA student pilots on renewable energy. In one recent cycle, the top 20 employee-voted ideas were evaluated for feasibility, value creation and potential savings.

EMICOOL's Sustainability Report is developed with reference to GRI Standards, with emissions quantified using the GHG Protocol and disclosures independently assured by third-party providers. The company describes itself as the 1st district cooling operator in the UAE to hold five ISO certifications, and the first in its sector to carry out a Double Materiality Assessment and commit to the UAE Net Zero 2050 initiative.

As the UAE moves deeper into its Net Zero 2050 journey, EMICOOL's model, certified systems, materiality-led strategy and independently verified data, offer the district cooling sector a working example of how energy efficiency can be governed. EMICOOL's approach demonstrates how energy efficiency, strong governance and innovation can work together to support more sustainable cooling.

> "At Emicool, ESG and social responsibility are integral to how we create long-term value. Our focused environmental and community initiatives translate responsible business practices into measurable impact, strengthening resilience, supporting the communities we serve, and contributing to sustainable growth."
>
> **Dr. Adib Moubadder**
> Chief Executive Officer

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

ENERGY SECTOR CATEGORY



National Central Cooling Company Tabreed

United Arab Emirates

Three values, Driven, Dynamic and Dedicated, sit at the core of how National Central Cooling Company, known as Tabreed, has approached sustainability since its founding in 1998. Operating as a joint venture between government and private sector partners from its headquarters in Masdar City, Abu Dhabi, and publicly listed since 2003, Tabreed embeds sustainability into strategic direction and day-to-day decision-making through its internal handbook and governance framework.

The company's ESG Strategy prioritises the UN SDGs most relevant to its business, guiding its materiality assessment, decarbonisation roadmap, water stewardship, community investment and governance, with progress reported annually against GRI Standards.

Governance responsibilities for ESG, compliance, health and safety, ethics and stakeholder engagement are allocated through the company's management structures, with ESG KPIs covering emissions, energy, water, waste, health and safety, diversity, training, and ethics reviewed by management and the ESG Committee. ESG risks, including climate-related physical and transition risks aligned with TCFD and IFRS S2, are integrated into Tabreed's Enterprise Risk Management framework and inform strategic planning, investment decisions and operational resilience.

Tabreed's Integrated Management System, certified under ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 and audited regularly by an external certification body, is where that discipline shows most clearly. It's GHG accounting programme, built on the GHG Protocol, reports emissions across Scope 1, 2 & 3, alongside energy use and renewable consumption, with avoided emissions quantified through a Verra VCS certified project.

Tabreed pushes district cooling's natural efficiency advantage still further through geothermal cooling, solar PV, thermal energy storage and AI-enabled optimisation, while resource efficiency measures, from variable flow drive motors to treated sewage effluent water and a shift from mineral to synthetic oil, run quietly across its facilities.

The company's Net Zero 2050 ambition rests on a decarbonisation roadmap spanning all three scopes, with science-based targets currently under evaluation.

Labour and safety practices are governed through Tier II & Tier III procedures, including risk management standards, working-at-height protocols and lifting operations procedures, delivered through a documented Health and Safety Management System.

A Diversity, Equity & Inclusion committee and policy address non-discrimination and fair treatment, supported by the company's Compliance and Human Capital teams, which monitor implementation and action any discrepancies against policy. Anti-corruption is enforced through a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and unethical conduct, with responsibility for implementation spread across governance, legal, compliance, finance and procurement functions, reinforced by the employee handbook's guidance on conflicts of interest and gifts and hospitality. Community investment initiatives are selected for their relevance to local and regional needs, with impact considered before, during and after implementation, while partnerships are prioritised where they support inclusion, capability-building and opportunities for youth, women and underrepresented groups.

Innovation is embedded across Tabreed's approach to sustainable cooling, operational efficiency, and service reliability, applied through structured, agile processes aimed at addressing sustainability challenges, operational gaps and emerging risks.Tabreed reports its ESG performance through its ESG Report, Annual Report, investor engagement, ESG rating agency submissions and regulatory disclosures, prepared against GRI Standards and the GHG Protocol with progressive alignment to TCFD and IFRS S2, with an independent assurance provider engaged to verify the 2025 ESG Report against the AA1000AS v3 standard.

By pairing certified management systems with a decarbonisation roadmap spanning all three emissions scopes, structured labour protections, and community partnerships built for inclusion, Tabreed is advancing district cooling's inherent efficiency advantage into a fully governed model of sustainable growth, one where independent assurance, not self-reported ambition, defines what the company can claim.

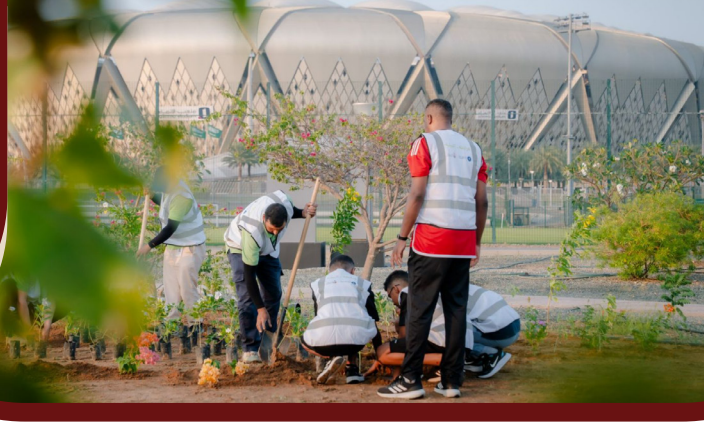
> "At Tabreed, sustainability is embedded in the way we operate, not treated as a separate ambition. As the leading district cooling company, we are fully committed to continuously improving the efficiency of our operations, utilising resources responsibly and embracing innovation to support the development of more resilient cities. Through the dedication of our people and a strong culture of operational excellence, we are turning our environmental priorities into meaningful action and measurable progress."
>
> **Mr. Abdulla Anees AlHashmi**
> HSEQ VP

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY



WINNER

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY



The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association is a sports-focused nonprofit organisation dedicated to supporting former football players and their families while creating sustainable social and economic opportunities. Through a social enterprise approach, the Association combines its social mission with income-generating activities, skills development and employment pathways, enabling beneficiaries to build greater independence while strengthening the organisation's long-term ability to deliver impact.

At the heart of its work is a shift from short-term assistance towards empowerment, self-reliance and sustainable livelihoods. Through career and vocational rehabilitation initiatives, the Association has facilitated employment for 487 former players, created more than 128 job opportunities for players' children, and provided professional development opportunities for 1,024 trainees. These interventions enable beneficiaries to translate their experience and capabilities into new opportunities beyond professional football.

Entrepreneurship is a key component of this model. The "Food Truck" project has enabled 99 families to establish income-generating businesses, providing a practical pathway towards financial independence. Similarly, the "Legends of the Stadiums" initiative has created sustainable income opportunities for 35 former players, allowing them to utilise their sporting knowledge and experience in new professional capacities.

Education further strengthens the Association's approach to long-term empowerment. A total of 569 educational scholarships have been secured at diploma and bachelor's degree levels. Through the "Role Model Player" initiative, 10 current players have also completed higher education, supporting the development of athletes who can combine sporting achievement with academic and professional growth.

The Association's social enterprise model is complemented by programmes addressing the wider well-being of former players and their families. Through the "Appreciation of Former Players" programme, more than 300 individuals have benefited from social, housing and healthcare support. By combining direct support with education, employment and enterprise development, the Association addresses immediate needs while creating pathways towards longer-term resilience.

Income generation also contributes to the sustainability of the organisation itself. The Association operates entities such as the 'Friends Production Lab' and the 'Qudwa Training Centre', which has served more than 1,000 beneficiaries.

Financial surpluses are reinvested into programme development, service expansion and social innovation, creating a cycle in which economic activity contributes directly to the Association's social mission.

Environmental responsibility is integrated into this wider social enterprise model. Through its partnership with the Environment Fund, the Association implemented the "Environmental League" across nine sporting matches, engaging 270 volunteers, planting 5,980 seedlings and 32 trees, and promoting recycling, waste sorting and responsible environmental practices among sports audiences. The initiative demonstrates how the Association can leverage its strong connection with the sports sector to generate wider community and environmental value.

The organisation also incorporates resource efficiency into its operations through environmentally preferable purchasing, digital document management, QR codes and electronic screens, reducing reliance on paper and supporting more efficient administrative practices. Strong governance underpins the sustainability of its activities. The Association maintains policies covering ethics, human resources, anti-money laundering and whistleblowing, supported by board-level oversight and a zero-tolerance approach to corruption. Its commitment to institutional accountability is reflected in a 94% governance score from the National Center for Non-Profit Sector Development.

Through its integrated social enterprise model, the Friends of Football Players Charitable Association demonstrates how social purpose and economic sustainability can reinforce one another. By creating livelihoods, developing skills, supporting entrepreneurship and reinvesting resources into its mission, the Association is building a model in which social impact is not simply delivered through assistance, but sustained through empowerment and opportunity.

> "At The Friends of Football Players Charity Association, we believe that true impact is measured by our ability to empower people, not merely provide support. Guided by this vision, we have transformed sport into a platform for sustainable development by integrating empowerment, innovation, strategic partnerships, and good governance to build a better future for former football players and their families while contributing to Saudi Vision 2030 and creating lasting social impact."
>
> **Ms. Asalah Al-Harbi**
> Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

1ST RUNNER UP (TIE)

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY



Savola World Foundation

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Savola World Foundation exemplifies a pioneering approach to sustainable development through its innovative and targeted programmes that address pressing societal and environmental challenges in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Central to its mission is the commitment to delivering long-term social impact by designing initiatives that are both impactful and scalable, aligning with national and global sustainability goals. One of the foundation's flagship programmes, "Ngaderha", exemplifies this commitment by tackling the deeply rooted societal issue of food waste. Unlike superficial interventions, "Ngaderha" employs a multi-layered behavioural change strategy that engages various segments of society.

At the household level, it raises awareness about responsible consumption, portion planning and leftover recycling through digital content and tools like a Food Portion Calculator. In the hospitality sector, it collaborates with businesses to reduce operational food waste, while educational initiatives such as the 'Qadoor' series use storytelling to instil sustainable habits among children. This comprehensive approach helps raise awareness and also foster long-term behavioural change, contributing to a significant reduction in food waste across the Kingdom.

Complementing this is the 'Yumnak' SME Development Programme, which focuses on established small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that require growth and scaling support. Unlike many initiatives that target early-stage startups, Yumnak supports businesses that are already operational but lack access to structured development opportunities. By providing mentorship, market access and investor connections, this programme enables these SMEs particularly in the food and retail sectors to grow sustainably, generate revenue and create jobs.

The impact is tangible: in its initial cohorts, the programme successfully supported 20 participants, with all completing the final stages in subsequent cohorts, demonstrating its effectiveness in fostering economic development and reducing unemployment.

The foundation's agility and strategic governance underpin its success. Despite being a lean organisation, it leverages Service Level Agreements with the Savola Group to access specialised expertise in HR, legal, IT and finance, ensuring high standards of impact delivery and solid governance structure. Its strategic journey towards greater independence under the National Center for Non-Profit Sector aims to scale its impact further, expand partnerships, and embed itself more deeply within the national sustainability ecosystem.

Impact assessment is integral to the foundation's approach. Short-term impacts are measured through awareness KPIs such as reach, engagement and participation, while long-term impacts focus on behavioural change and environmental sustainability. For example, the Ngaderha programme's long-term impact is reflected in the reduction of food waste, contributing to environmental preservation. Similarly, the Yumnak programme's long-term outcomes include business scalability, revenue growth, and job creation, which bolster economic resilience.

Transparency and accountability are core principles, with the foundation communicating its ESG KPIs through detailed reports, impact assessments and partnerships. Its sustainability reporting aligns with internationally recognised frameworks such as GRI and Integrated Reporting, ensuring transparency, comparability and accountability. Data validation occurs through internal reviews and impact assessments, reinforcing the reliability of its disclosures.

What makes the Savola World Foundation's approach truly unique is its ability to identify underserved societal segments, develop innovative interventions tailoured to their needs, and deliver measurable, scalable impacts that bridge community needs with broader sustainability objectives. Its commitment to long-term societal and environmental progress, combined with strategic agility and strong governance, positions it as a leader in fostering sustainable development in Saudi Arabia.

This holistic and inclusive approach reflects the Foundation's commitment to lasting societal value and environmental resilience. By combining targeted social programmes, measurable outcomes and strong governance, Savola World Foundation is developing scalable solutions that address food waste, SME growth and community development.

> "As Vision 2030 approaching, Savola World Foundation continues to support national development by advancing the non-profit sector's role in sustainable growth. over the recent years, the foundation delivered measurable impact across environmental sustainability, human empowerment, and SME development through programs such as "Negaderha", "Makeen", "Ata'a", and "Yumnak". These efforts achieved wide community reach, empowered beneficiaries, strengthened partnerships, and enabled investment outcomes for beneficiaries that contribute to long-term social and economic value."
>
> **Dr. Bandar Arab**
> Executive Director

1ST RUNNER UP (TIE)

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY



Palestine for Development Foundation

State of Palestine

فلسطين للتنمية
Palestine For Development

PIF Social Investment Subsidiary

Palestine for Development Foundation (PsDF) is a Palestinian non-profit organisation established in 2014 as the social investment and CSR arm of the Palestine Investment Fund (PIF). Its mission is to foster socio-economic impact by supporting marginalised Palestinians and vital sectors through inclusive, strategic and stakeholder-driven interventions. PsDF has developed a distinctive approach that moves beyond traditional donation and sponsorship models towards structured, impact-driven social investment. Its strategic framework, updated after ten years of operation, aligns its work with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), prioritising poverty reduction, quality education, gender equality, affordable and clean energy, decent work and responsible consumption and production. Since 2024, projects have been systematically linked to defined SDGs, strengthening the connection between investment decisions and measurable development priorities.

Strategic leadership provides a strong foundation for this approach. PsDF operates under PIF's governance and oversight, with its Board involving PIF executive management and sister companies. Annual results are reviewed at PIF Board level, which also determines budgets and programmes for the following year, while progress is reported throughout the year to senior management and the PIF Chairman.

Over the past decade, more than USD 50 million in project value has been mobilised through PIF funding and partnerships, demonstrating the organisation's ability to leverage resources for wider social impact. Impact is embedded across PsDF's programmes rather than treated as an end-of-project consideration. Its strategic priorities include empowering vulnerable communities, improving productivity in underserved economic sectors, creating sustainable employment, fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, and strengthening community-based organisations.

Each project incorporates social and environmental considerations, while impact sheets and management dashboards track indicators such as capital invested, jobs supported, women beneficiaries, partnerships and capacity-building activities. The scale of this model is reflected in its outcomes. PsDF has supported more than 8,500 MSMEs through grants and loans, created or sustained over 18,500 jobs, and more than 30,000 students, teachers and professionals have benefited from teaching and capacity-building initiatives. Its programmes have reached underserved communities, including those in Gaza, Jerusalem and refugee communities in Lebanon. More than 80% of supported SMEs are owned by young professionals below the age of 38.

Through the 'Tasdeer' partnership, MSMEs receive technical assistance and market access support, with specific attention to youth- and women-led businesses.

Environmental sustainability is increasingly integrated into this social investment model. The Green Energy Grant Facility supports SMEs in adopting energy-efficient and environmentally friendly solutions, while the organisation launched its first green economy hackathon to engage young people in developing sustainability solutions for their communities.

PsDF also supported the establishment of the Clean Production Unit at Al-Quds University and promotes green technologies, energy efficiency and sustainable practices through its partnerships and programmes.

Innovation further distinguishes PsDF's approach. The organisation introduced Palestine's first Development Impact Bond, linking investor returns to employment outcomes, while its innovation programmes support technology start-ups, co-working spaces and freelancers in Gaza. Its community-centred model incorporates needs assessments, focus groups, interviews and ongoing feedback, ensuring that interventions remain relevant and responsive to local priorities.

PsDF's next phase aims to extend this impact from individual programmes to the wider ecosystem, including improvements to public-private partnership frameworks, policies and strategies, while promoting sustainability and ESG practices across Palestine's business landscape.

Through strategic investment, innovation, partnerships and community engagement, PsDF demonstrates how CSR can become a catalyst for long-term socio-economic transformation rather than remaining limited to short-term philanthropy.

> "At Palestine for Development Foundation, we believe that sustainable development is driven by strategic social investment, innovation, and meaningful partnerships. Since our establishment, we have worked to transform CSR from traditional philanthropy into a catalyst for inclusive growth, resilience, and opportunity. Through collaboration and a shared commitment to impact, we continue to mobilise resources, empower communities, and create lasting value for the people of Palestine and future generations."
>
> **Mr. Ahmed Zidan**
> Director

2ND RUNNER UP

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CATEGORY



Sfanah Charity Organisation for Health Services

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

جمعية سفانة الخيرية للخدمات الصحية بحائل

Established in 2011 as a joint non-profit entity between the public and private sectors, Sfanah Organisation for Health Services in Hail delivers comprehensive and sustainable healthcare solutions. Its approach extends beyond traditional charitable assistance, focusing on improving health outcomes, strengthening community capacity and building systems capable of generating lasting impact. At the centre of Sfanah's approach is a commitment to ensuring that healthcare interventions respond to clearly identified community needs. Through its "Rasd" (Health Monitor) initiative, the organisation uses artificial intelligence and big data analytics to conduct gap analyses and pre-launch assessments.

This enables medical programmes to be designed around quantified needs and provides a stronger basis for directing resources towards priority areas. Its Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system further assesses social, economic and environmental impacts before, during and after project implementation.

Sfanah also places strong emphasis on developing human capital and strengthening community participation. Through the "Kawader" initiative, the organisation provides specialised training and qualification programmes for healthcare personnel, expands volunteer participation and develops targeted support pathways for women, children, chronic patients and individuals with special needs. This focus on skills, inclusion and participation helps strengthen local capacity while supporting more responsive and sustainable healthcare services.

Digital transformation is another important element of Sfanah's service model. Through the "Smart Health" platform, the organisation is advancing the automation of healthcare services to improve beneficiary access, streamline clinical workflows and enhance patient satisfaction. By integrating technology into service delivery, Sfanah is improving operational efficiency while creating a more accessible and responsive experience for beneficiaries. Environmental responsibility is embedded within the organisation's daily operations.

Its Consumption Rationalisation and Energy Saving Policy (SFA-031) establish structured measures to reduce resource consumption and carbon emissions across Scopes 1, 2 & 3. Paper-intensive processes have been replaced with electronic correspondence, digital archiving and automated administrative systems. Energy efficiency is supported through off-hours power protocols, the use of natural lighting, energy-efficient equipment and regular HVAC maintenance. Sfanah extends its environmental commitment through sustainable procurement.

Its Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy (SFA-005) requires suppliers to meet defined ESG expectations while prioritising recyclable and reusable materials and eliminating toxic chemicals. This approach enables environmental considerations to be incorporated into purchasing decisions and the wider supply chain. Strong governance provides the foundation for the organisation's work as it operates under the oversight of its Board of Directors and Senior Management and has achieved a 96.96% governance score from the National Centre for the Development of the Non-Profit Sector.

The institutional framework of Sfanah incorporates ISO 37000:2021 for governance, ISO 30408:2016 for human resources management and ISO 9001:2015 for quality management. Integrity and accountability are reinforced through a zero-tolerance policy towards corruption, money laundering and terrorism financing, supported by independent whistleblowing channels. Employee well-being is also prioritised through its Code of Conduct, Career Succession Policy and Complaints Management Policy, contributing to its Great Place to Work recognition for 2024–2025.

Financial sustainability is integral to Sfanah's long-term model. Rather than distributing dividends beyond initial investments, financial surpluses are reinvested into sustainable investment portfolios, specialised healthcare facilities and revenue-generating projects. Twenty-five per cent of current investment revenues is reinvested into capital growth, supporting financial self-sufficiency and the continuity of healthcare services. Through evidence-based healthcare planning, digital innovation, environmental stewardship, responsible procurement, strong governance and strategic reinvestment, Sfanah demonstrates how a non-profit organisation can create lasting value. Sfanah's model brings together healthcare delivery, technology, environmental responsibility and financial sustainability within one integrated framework.

> "At Sfanah Charity for Health Services, we believe sustainable social impact is built through meaningful partnerships, shared responsibility and a commitment to improving lives. By collaborating with government, private-sector, healthcare and non-profit partners, we transform community health needs into sustainable solutions and measurable outcomes. This recognition in the Partnership & Collaboration and Social Enterprise categories reflects the value of collective action. We remain committed to partnership-led development that strengthens wellbeing and supports a sustainable future."
>
> **Mr. Ahmad Saud Naser Al-Shammari**
> CEO

EDUCATION SECTOR CATEGORY



WINNER

EDUCATION SECTOR CATEGORY



Hebron University

State of Palestine

Founded in 1971 as Palestine's first higher education institution, Hebron University has grown into a community of more than 10,000 students across 13 colleges, women making up 78% of that student body, and graduated more than 40,000 students since its establishment. Operating as a non-profit institution in a context marked by movement restrictions and repeated disruption to education, the University treats sustainability not as a separate initiative but as something embedded across teaching, research, community service and daily campus operations.

That commitment runs through structured governance built around real access barriers. The Intensive Academic Programme, offering Friday and Saturday classes, serves 700 working students, who come from remote areas, and those with family responsibilities, while online learning and academic guidance have supported around 500 students from Gaza since October 2023 whose studies were disrupted. Financial aid reaches 2,086 students, and the Braille Laboratory supports around 35 visually impaired students each semester. The University's international engagement is extensive, spanning 33 signed MoUs, 10 funded international projects, 39 academic staff exchanges and 33 student exchanges across 14 partner universities, including Erasmus+, UNIMED, AUF and FAO.

Environmental performance centres on resource efficiency rather than symbolic gestures. Solar power already covers around 40% of the University's electricity use, backed by a USD 325,000 Solar Energy Project to expand capacity further. Campus water is tested twice weekly, and University laboratories analysed more than 720 community water samples in the past year, supporting public health for local families and farmers. Rainwater harvesting and efficient irrigation reduce water consumption, while digital library services, including more than 400 electronic theses and access to roughly 20,000 e-journals, cut dependence on printed materials. Student research projects on bio-bricks and starch-based biodegradable bioplastic point toward circular-economy thinking beginning at the undergraduate level, and 35% of University land is maintained as green space on a smoke-free campus.

Every undergraduate student completes at least 120 hours of community service, embedding civic responsibility directly into the degree requirement rather than treating it as optional. The Central Legal Clinic operates 12 specialised sub-clinics covering labour law, women's rights, juvenile justice and housing rights, providing free legal support to people with limited access to services. Health colleges run medical days, diabetes and blood pressure screening and breast-cancer awareness campaigns through the University Health Clinic, supported by partnerships with the Palestine Red Crescent Society and Al-Ahli Hospital.

Community investment is measured through concrete outcomes rather than intentions. The FAO Green Jobs Project trained 454 graduates and final-year students and placed 130 of them in paid six-month internships, directly linking sustainability education to employability. Women hold 78.08% of student places and 68.7% of postgraduate positions, while entrepreneurship support has directed USD 403,067 into 102 student business projects.

During the 2025-2026 period, researchers published 180 papers in Q1 & Q2 journals, work reported to stakeholders through the University's website, Public Relations Office and social media channels reaching over 107,000 followers on Facebook alone. Hebron University's sustainability reporting is structured around SDG alignment and the core principles of GRI and UNGC Communication on Progress, with the University positioning this evidence base as groundwork for future independent assurance.

What distinguishes Hebron University's approach is not any single initiative but its consistency under pressure: even as movement restrictions and disrupted education have shaped daily operations, the University has continued expanding access, tracking water quality and placing graduates into paid work, treating sustainability as a discipline rather than a response to crisis.

Hebron University embeds sustainability across education, research, campus operations and community service, expanding access despite ongoing movement restrictions and disruption. Its initiatives combine renewable energy, water stewardship, digital learning, community service, legal and health support, and employability programmes. With strong female participation, international partnerships and growing research output, the University links sustainability with inclusion, resilience and social impact, creating practical value for students, local communities and Palestine's wider development, while building foundations for future assurance.

> "Thank you for the opportunity to present Hebron University's achievements for 2025–2026. Despite operating under profound political and economic constraints, our university has continued to advance excellence in education, research, and community engagement. These accomplishments reflect the resilience, dedication, and talent of our faculty, staff, researchers, and students. We are grateful for your thoughtful consideration of our nomination and for recognising the transformative role of higher education."
>
> **H.E. Ms. Suzanne El Ja'bari**
> Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees

1ST RUNNER UP

EDUCATION SECTOR CATEGORY



Heriot-Watt University

United Arab Emirates

HERIOT WATT UNIVERSITY
UK | DUBAI | MALAYSIA

Founded in Scotland in 1821, Heriot-Watt University established its Dubai campus in 2005, and by 2021 that campus had opened new premises meeting LEED Gold standard, the same year the University set its sights on net-zero operational emissions by 2035. Structured around four strategic pillars, Building Flourishing Communities, Excelling in Research and Enterprise, Pioneering Education, and Being a Globally Connected University. Heriot-Watt has already reduced emissions by more than 35% between 2014/15 and 2022/23, hitting its original 15% reduction target a year early in 2018/19.

Governance for this trajectory sits with a University Committee for Global Environmental Sustainability, chaired by the Deputy Principal for Global Sustainability and reporting directly to the University Executive on ten institutional commitments aligned with the UN SDGs, with working groups established at each campus in 2025. Two general sustainability training sessions for all Dubai staff, held in 2022 and 2024, directly triggered policy changes on single-use plastics, water consumption, and procurement, which led to the creation of a Sustainability Committee alongside a Scientific Platform on Sustainable Packaging now involving more than 20 industry and NGO members. Water-efficient systems, occupancy-sensor lighting and high-efficiency equipment sit behind Heriot-Watt's LEED Gold certification for the Dubai campus, supported by a rooftop solar testing facility for renewable energy research. During fitout, 84.35% of construction and demolition waste was diverted from landfill, LEED-verified, while research laboratories operating under the LEAF framework earned "My Green Lab Gold" certification.

Building management system optimisation, fault detection and diagnostics, and flow regulators on water systems run alongside a waterless urinal trial and HEPA hand dryers replacing paper towels. The University's Climate Hub at COP28 drew 1,450 external visitors across 49 events and 134 speakers, generating 497 media articles with a combined reach of 13.9 million. The "Shield" digital system underpins Heriot-Watt's approach to health, safety and incident reporting, backed by a Safeguarding Team trained in First Aid and Mental Health First Aid and the SafeZone emergency app.

Labour practices align with UAE Federal Decree-Law No. 33 of 2021, with compensation benchmarked to market standards through the Wage Protection System and strict age-verification processes enforcing zero tolerance for child and forced labour. Anti-corruption is governed through a designated Money Laundering Reporting Officer, with all staff required to report suspicious activity and protections in place for good-faith whistleblowers. Community investment centres on the Packaging for Sustainability Programme, launched in 2023 with partners including Dubai Humanitarian, DHL, Accenture and UNHCR, addressing packaging waste across a region generating more than 6.5 million tonnes of waste annually. The University's Packaging Design Student Competition sends winning teams to international platforms, its 2024 cohort presenting at COP29 in Baku. Heriot-Watt is the only university included in the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy's Circular Economy Databank, recognising its contribution to national circular economy research.

Sustainability reporting follows GRI Universal Standards and UN Global Compact Communication on Progress, with the University reporting annually to the Sustainable Scotland Network on energy, water, waste, and chemical use, and factoring its progress into rising positions on the QS Sustainability Rankings. As Heriot-Watt works toward its 2035 net-zero target, its shift from campus-level efficiency gains to region-wide circular economy leadership marks less a single achievement than a university recalibrating what a Dubai campus can contribute beyond its own operations.

Heriot-Watt's approach demonstrates how campus sustainability can extend well beyond operational efficiency to influence research, education, industry collaboration and regional policy. By connecting its 2035 net-zero ambition with circular economy research, sustainable packaging, student engagement and partnerships with industry and humanitarian organisations, the University is translating sustainability into practical action. Its emphasis on measurable performance, international reporting frameworks and cross-campus governance also provides a clear basis for continuous improvement. Through this combination of research, education and applied collaboration, Heriot-Watt continues to strengthen the contribution its Dubai campus can make to sustainability in the UAE and beyond.

> "At Heriot-Watt University Dubai, sustainability is embedded in how we teach, research, and operate, shaping a complete ecosystem that delivers measurable impact. We go beyond traditional environmental management by aligning global commitments with UAE priorities, driving innovation, partnerships, and community engagement. Through leadership in the circular economy and student-driven solutions recognised globally, we are not just promoting sustainability, we are researching, teaching, measuring, and delivering it for the future. for generations to come across region."
>
> **Professor Dame Heather McGregor**
> Provost and Vice Principal

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION CATEGORY



WINNER (TIE)

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Dubai Municipality

United Arab Emirates

Established in 1954, Dubai Municipality (DM) has long been the authority behind the Emirate's essential infrastructure, such as sewerage, stormwater and recycled water networks, tasked with keeping pace with Dubai's rapid urban growth. A recent example of this role in practice is the ongoing sewerage connection project for Madinat Jumeirah Living, through a project connection agreement with Jumeirah Hills Development LLC. The project links new residential development to Dubai's sewerage network via Pump Station S21, with DM contributing the specialised technical expertise the Emirate's sewerage laws require for such connections.

Under the agreement, Jumeirah Hills Development LLC funds all project-related costs, including design, supervision, approvals and construction, while DM manages delivery through its own appointed consultant and contractor, ILF and Al Shirawi respectively. Over the partnership's 12-month duration, the scope covered 1,331 metres of sewerage line, 20 manholes and 934.2 metres of no-dig rehabilitation, work that DM estimates will serve around 25,000 residents, businesses and visitors, while also creating capacity for developments still to come.

The project supports SDG #9 on resilient infrastructure, SDG #11 on sustainable cities, and SDG #17 on effective partnerships between government and private-sector stakeholders, and it sits squarely within Dubai's own planning priorities, aligning with the Dubai Urban Plan 2040, the Dubai Economic Agenda D33 and the Dubai Social Agenda 33. A needs assessment carried out ahead of the agreement helped define the required infrastructure capacity, connectivity requirements and service demands before design work began.

Governance follows a structured pattern familiar to DM's public-private partnerships. Monthly coordination meetings brought together DM, the developer, the consultant and the contractor, backed by weekly progress and EHS reports and bi-weekly technical updates, with milestone-based payment verification tracked through PMO documentation and smart financial systems.

Key Performance Indicators tracked schedule, quality and budget compliance, with a formal Variation Order mechanism allowing design changes to be assessed for cost and schedule impact before they are approved, each supported by consultant recommendations and reflected in official project reports and reviewed by relevant technical teams. Financial oversight ran through DM's internal controls and independent audit processes, keeping cost and budget information available to stakeholders through the project's regular reporting channels.

Coordination extended well beyond the two lead parties. Authorities including Du, Etisalat, DEWA and RTA were engaged to secure the NOCs needed for tie-in works, while representatives from both DM and the developer were appointed specifically to coordinate technical and administrative matters, with progress tracked through official emails, technical reports and documented meeting minutes to keep decisions moving without unnecessary delay.

Delivering the project inside a densely populated urban area brought its own difficulties. With several utility providers and stakeholders involved, permitting and on-site coordination risked slowing individual phases, so DM structured the work into clearly defined stages, each tracked against its own technical and schedule benchmarks. To limit disruption to residents, the team opted for a deep, direct pipeline alignment tying into the main sewer network through Pumping Station S21, rather than a more disruptive shallow route.

Looking ahead, the infrastructure is designed to serve Madinat Jumeirah Living for decades, supporting the area's growth well beyond the project's 12-month build. Anticipated impacts include accelerated infrastructure delivery, more efficient use of public resources, and an improved experience for residents through streamlined service provision. By combining DM's regulatory and technical authority with private-sector financing, the partnership demonstrates how the Emirate can plan and deliver essential infrastructure alongside new development.

This partnership also highlights the value of coordinated planning between public authorities and private developers in supporting Dubai's continued urban growth. By combining technical expertise, structured governance and private-sector funding, the project provides a practical model for delivering resilient infrastructure while reducing disruption and supporting long-term service capacity.

> "This collaboration with Dubai Holding Real Estate represents a practical model of effective public-private partnership, serving the community and supporting Dubai's sustainable development. Through the development and modernisation of the sewerage network in Madinat Jumeirah Living, we aim to provide reliable and sustainable infrastructure that meets current and future community needs, enhances quality of life, and supports urban growth. We believe that integrating partners' expertise and resources is key to creating lasting social impact and enhancing community well-being."
>
> **Eng. Fahed Ahmed AlAwadhi**
> Head of Sewerage and Recycled Water Projects Department

WINNER (TIE)

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club

United Arab Emirates

Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club is committed to developing children and young people through self-defense sports while promoting physical and mental well-being, discipline, respect, tolerance and fair play. Through its "School Collaboration, Student Recruitment and Empowerment Project", the Club has developed a sustainable partnership model with educational institutions, combining sports training with character development, talent identification and community engagement.

The programme brings together the Club, public and private schools, Sharjah Sports Council, educational authorities, parents, sponsors and community stakeholders. Operating throughout the year through school programmes, training centres and seasonal camps, it provides students with continuous opportunities to participate in sport, develop their abilities and progress through a structured sporting pathway.

Accessibility is a central feature of the collaboration. The Club has established six training centres in key residential areas, including Al Nouf, Al Rahmaniya and Al Khan, bringing sports opportunities closer to students and making effective use of existing facilities. Group transportation is also provided for 406 players, representing 40% of members, reducing barriers to participation while supporting more efficient and sustainable mobility.

The programme has directly benefited 1,762 male and female players through sports training, health awareness and life-skills development. A further 682 participants engaged through summer and winter camps, ensuring continuity during school holidays. The Club also promotes inclusion by providing opportunities for 45 orphaned participants in cooperation with Tamkeen Foundation. Beyond sporting ability, the partnership places strong emphasis on character development. Through the "My Sport, My Ethics and Values" initiative, the Club introduced 45 weekly ethics sessions before training, complemented by school activities and tournaments.

These sessions promote discipline, respect, tolerance, sportsmanship and fair play. The Club has also established a Values and Fair Play Ethics Policy, registered as intellectual property, reinforcing the integration of values into sports education. Talent development is another important outcome. Students demonstrating sporting potential are identified through school programmes and linked to the Club's database, creating a structured pathway for further development. This approach has contributed to 8,696 medals in local and international competitions, reflecting the sporting potential developed through sustained engagement with young participants.

The collaboration is supported by structured governance, stakeholder engagement and continuous improvement. Regular meetings with schools, parent surveys, satisfaction assessments, performance indicators and the Club's Smart Management Platform enable progress to be monitored and programmes to be adapted according to stakeholder needs.

Feedback led to the adoption of 15 development proposals, while satisfaction among school administrations reached 95.7% and parent satisfaction reached 94.7%. The Club also reported resolving 100% of complaints and feedback within less than 24 hours, strengthening communication and trust.

Health and safety remain integral to implementation. The programme achieved 100% compliance with health and safety standards with zero injuries, while the Club reported zero medical treatment expenses related to injuries during 2023 and 2024. Its governance framework is further supported by integrated management systems aligned with ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001.

The partnership contributes to SDGs #3, #4, #5, #10, #16 & #17 linking sport with health, quality education, inclusion, equal opportunity, positive social values and effective partnerships.

By connecting schools, families, sporting institutions and the wider community, Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club demonstrates how sustained collaboration can transform sport into a platform for developing healthier, more confident and socially responsible young people. This partnership also shows how sport can become a long-term platform for education, inclusion and community development. By combining structured training, strong school partnerships and continuous stakeholder feedback, the Club is creating wider opportunities for young people to build skills, confidence and positive values both on and off the field.

> "At Sharjah Self-Defense Sports Club, we have redefined sport as a catalyst for sustainable development by integrating Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles into our work. Through strong governance, we promote excellence and lasting impact. Beyond sporting achievements, we develop future generations who embody tolerance, responsibility and leadership, while fostering environmental awareness and community wellbeing. We are proud to present a pioneering Emirati model showing how sport can support healthier communities, a more sustainable environment and a brighter future."
>
> **Mr. Mahmoud Lotfi Shaaban**
> CEO

1ST RUNNER UP

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association is a nonprofit organisation committed to advancing social responsibility and community engagement through the power and reach of sport. With established relationships across the sports ecosystem, including the Ministry of Sports, the Saudi Arabian Football Federation, the Saudi Pro League, sports clubs, former players and volunteers, the Association is well positioned to mobilise communities and deliver initiatives with meaningful social impact.

Building on this network, the Association partnered with the Environment Fund to launch the Environmental League, using sporting events as a platform to raise environmental awareness and encourage sustainable practices among diverse audiences. Implemented over 10 months, the Environmental League was designed around a clear opportunity: using high-attendance sporting events to reach diverse audiences with practical and engaging environmental messages. Rather than treating environmental awareness as a standalone campaign, the partnership integrated awareness and interactive activities directly into the match-day experience.

Fans were encouraged to participate in tree planting, waste sorting and recycling activities, while volunteers, former players and football stars helped communicate the importance of environmental responsibility. The initiative extended across four major sports stadiums – Al-Awwal Park, Kingdom Arena, Prince Abdullah Al-Faisal Sports City and King Abdullah Sports City (Alinma) – and was delivered during nine high-attendance matches, including major local and international competitions. This enabled the partnership to engage audiences from different regions of the Kingdom, as well as international visitors, while media coverage and digital communication further extended the reach of its messages.

Community participation was central to the Environmental League as 270 volunteers supported the delivery of awareness activities, managed booths, guided spectators and encouraged participation in waste-sorting and environmental activities.

Former players and football stars also played an important role in communicating environmental messages, helping connect sustainability with an audience that might not otherwise engage with conventional environmental campaigns.

The initiative achieved tangible environmental outcomes. More than 5,980 seedlings and 32 trees were planted, while waste-sorting and recycling activities encouraged spectators to adopt more responsible consumption and disposal practices. The initiative reached tens of thousands of spectators through stadium activities, alongside wider audiences through media and digital platforms.

Behind these outcomes was a clearly defined division of responsibilities. The Environment Fund provided financial support, approved implementation and communication materials, and monitored progress against environmental objectives.

The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association led implementation, managing the project, coordinating with the Ministry of Sports, the Saudi Arabian Football Federation, clubs and sports facilities, recruiting and training volunteers, coordinating with former players and overseeing field activities, communications and impact reporting.

The partnership was supported by a structured governance and monitoring framework. Regular coordination meetings, progress reports, field monitoring and performance reviews enabled the partners to identify challenges and make adjustments during implementation.

Operational improvements included refining awareness content, optimising volunteer deployment and improving the positioning of awareness booths and waste-sorting containers. Financial resources were also managed through documented procedures and reporting mechanisms, reinforcing transparency and accountability.

By embedding sustainability within one of society's most influential community platforms, the Environmental League demonstrates the potential of collaboration to create environmental impact at scale. Its experience shows that stadiums can become more than venues for sporting events: they can serve as spaces where awareness is transformed into participation, and where partnerships can inspire communities to adopt more sustainable behaviours. The Environmental League also demonstrates how sport can help make sustainability more visible, accessible and relevant to wider communities.

> "At The Friends of Football Players Charitable Association, we believe that true impact is measured by our ability to empower people, not merely provide support. Guided by this vision, we have transformed sport into a platform for sustainable development by integrating empowerment, innovation, strategic partnerships, and good governance to build a better future for former football players and their families while contributing to Saudi Vision 2030 and creating lasting social impact."
>
> **Ms. Asalah Al-Harbi**
> Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Emerge Limited

United Arab Emirates

emerge
A MASDAR & EDF GROUP JOINT-VENTURE

Emerge, a joint venture between Masdar and EDF Group established in the UAE in April 2021, has built its partnership with ADNOC Distribution around a Solar Power Purchase Agreement that requires no upfront investment from the client. Emerge operates as a government-owned commercial enterprise with fewer than 100 employees. Under the agreement, Emerge finances, designs, installs, operates and maintains rooftop photovoltaic systems across ADNOC Distribution's service station network, taking on the cost and risk of the asset in exchange for the electricity it generates.

The programme has been delivered in phases. A completed Dubai phase covering 28 service stations added 3.9 MWp of installed capacity, generating 6,200 MWh a year and offsetting 2,750 tonnes of CO_2e, while an ongoing Abu Dhabi phase spanning 123 stations, with more than 50 already energised in 2025, is targeting 22 MWp and 35,000 MWh annually. Combined, the programme is expected to deliver approximately 41 GWh of renewable electricity a year and avoid more than 18,500 tonnes of CO_2 emissions annually across more than 150 sites.

Site surveys, structural evaluations and feasibility assessments came first, shaping ADNOC Distribution's decision to bring Emerge on as partner. Emerge was chosen for its Masdar-EDF financial backing, its delivery track record, its digital monitoring platform and its HSE standards. Responsibilities were clearly split: ADNOC Distribution provides sites, operational coordination and strategic direction, while Emerge handles financing, engineering, procurement, construction, commissioning and long-term asset management. TAQA Distribution, Abu Dhabi Municipality and Abu Dhabi Civil Defence support the programme as technical stakeholders on approvals and compliance, alongside equipment manufacturers, engineering consultants and EPC contractors involved in delivery.

Governance is structured and consistently applied. Across every dimension of its own self-assessment; needs analysis, governance structure, objective-setting, stakeholder communication, performance monitoring, reporting and corrective action, financial transparency and outcome assessment, the partnership scored at the top of the scale. Executive steering meetings, weekly engineering coordination, authority engagement sessions and HSE briefings kept stakeholders aligned, and a digital monitoring platform tracks generation data, equipment health and environmental KPIs in real time.

Financial performance sits under contractual governance and internal audit controls, with non-financial audit statements verifying cumulative GHG reductions for bank submissions.

The partnership is aligned with national strategy: the UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategy, the UAE Energy Strategy 2050, ADNOC Distribution's own sustainability strategy and the UAE Green Agenda. It supports SDG #7 through more than 41,000 MWh of annual clean electricity generation, and SDG #13 through 18,500 tonnes of avoided CO_2e a year.

Implementation faced practical challenges, including authority approvals, integration with existing electrical infrastructure, rooftop waterproofing and construction on live, operating service stations. These were addressed through phased implementation, standardised engineering solutions, early regulatory coordination and rigorous HSE planning, with lessons learned, including on heat stress management, carried forward into later phases.

Progress and lessons from each phase were reviewed formally, with feedback from ADNOC Distribution, Emerge, contractors and regulators incorporated into design, construction and maintenance planning for subsequent stages. Beneficiaries extended beyond the two contracting organisations to employees, contractors and customers at the affected service stations, government stakeholders supporting the UAE Net Zero Strategy, and the wider community through improved air quality and reduced emissions.

Taken together, the Solar Power Purchase Agreement model, phased delivery, structured governance and alignment with national decarbonisation targets have positioned this as one of the UAE's larger distributed rooftop solar programmes. The partnership also shows how a long-term commercial model can accelerate renewable energy deployment while reducing financial and operational barriers for the customer. By combining private financing, technical expertise and structured governance, Emerge and ADNOC Distribution are creating a scalable model for distributed solar that can support wider decarbonisation across the UAE.

> "Being recognised among the top three contenders for the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards is a strong reflection of what we set out to achieve at Emerge: turning sustainability commitments into tangible progress. Every solution we deliver is designed to create lasting value for our clients, our communities and the region. This recognition motivates us to keep raising the bar and accelerating the transition toward a more sustainable future."
>
> **Mr. Michel Abi Saab**
> General Manager

2ND RUNNER UP (TIE)

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Les Eaux Minérales d'Oulmès

Morrocco

LES EAUX MINÉRALES D'OULMÈS

Founded in 1933, Les Eaux Minérales d'Oulmès (LEMO) has built a longstanding presence in Morocco's beverage industry, with sustainability, innovation and community engagement embedded in its approach. A strong example is the Morocco Water Race (MWR), launched in 2020 with Enactus Morocco as a national multi-stakeholder platform bringing together diverse capabilities to address Morocco's water sustainability challenges. MWR demonstrates the value of connecting organisations and individuals around a shared environmental priority. Universities, young entrepreneurs, researchers, private-sector experts, public institutions and civil society contribute knowledge, technical expertise, networks and resources to a common platform.

This cross-sector model enables participants to move beyond individual initiatives and collectively develop innovative, locally relevant responses to water management challenges across Morocco's twelve regions. The scale of engagement demonstrates the reach of this approach. MWR has engaged more than 7,500 young people and mobilised 120 higher education institutions, generating 1,145 innovative projects, developing 345 prototypes and supporting 150 research initiatives focused on water resilience and sustainable development. These outcomes reflect the ability of the programme to connect education, research, entrepreneurship and institutional expertise, creating opportunities for ideas to be tested, strengthened and developed.

The programme provides structured mechanisms through which participating stakeholders can contribute to shared outcomes. Capacity building, project incubation, mentoring and innovation boot camps enable young participants to work with experienced mentors and specialists, while research and entrepreneurship pathways create additional opportunities for knowledge exchange. This ecosystem strengthens participants' capabilities while connecting emerging solutions with relevant expertise and institutional perspectives.

MWR's impact is supported by a clear results framework that enables participating stakeholders to understand progress and assess outcomes. Key performance indicators cover youth engagement, ideas generated, prototypes developed and skills enhancement. Dashboards, surveys, technical evaluations, mentor reviews and end-of-cohort assessments provide multiple channels for monitoring performance. Alumni engagement and follow-up mechanisms further support understanding of longer-term outcomes.

Stakeholder feedback is also integrated into programme development. Surveys, mentoring reviews, workshops and debrief sessions provide insights that are analysed by governance committees and used to inform improvements. This process has contributed to the introduction of dedicated entrepreneurship and research pathways. The annual Social Innovation Fest brings together more than 1,000 stakeholders, providing an additional platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing and collective learning.

A structured communication and reporting system supports transparency throughout implementation. Steering committee meetings, progress reports, dashboards, newsletters, workshops and the programme website facilitate regular information sharing among partners, beneficiaries, experts and institutions. Each edition concludes with reporting on activities, financial performance, KPIs and lessons learned, enabling stakeholders and governance bodies to review results and identify areas for improvement.

The selection of participating organisations is guided by ESG considerations, with emphasis on expertise in water sustainability, climate resilience, responsible environmental practices, youth engagement and inclusion. This ensures that different participants bring complementary strengths to the initiative while contributing towards shared objectives.

Through MWR, LEMO has created a platform where diverse stakeholders can combine expertise, engage young innovators and work towards practical solutions for water sustainability. Its structured governance, shared learning and measurable outcomes demonstrate how cross-sector action can generate lasting value, strengthen water resilience while foster innovation and collective responsibility across Morocco. The Morocco Water Race also shows how long-term collaboration can turn shared environmental priorities into practical innovation.

> "At LEMO, sustainability defines our leadership ethos and strategic vision in a rapidly evolving global landscape, shaping how we frame ambition, drive performance, uphold governance, and create long-term value. As the first Moroccan company to achieve Exemplary ISO 26000 recognition and ranked #1 Best Place to Work in Africa, LEMO upholds the highest ESG standards and anticipates global benchmarks, reinforcing a leadership model that unites human progress, societal resilience, and ecological balance toward a shared future of sustainable prosperity."
>
> **Mrs. Miriem Bensalah Chaqroun**
> Vice Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina

United Arab Emirates

Stella Di Mare Hotels & Resorts
Dubai

Stella Di Mare Marina Hotel has made sustainability an integral part of its operations, recognising that meaningful environmental and social impact is strengthened through collaboration with organisations that share a common vision. Through a growing network of partnerships, the hotel has translated its sustainability commitments into practical initiatives that benefit the environment, support communities and engage employees and guests.

A key collaboration with the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) has helped strengthen the hotel's environmental initiatives and awareness programmes. Through this engagement, Stella Di Mare has participated in the UAE Cleanup project, bringing together employees and volunteers to collect tons of waste and contribute to cleaner surroundings. The hotel has also supported the Emirates Recycling Award 2025, reinforced the importance of responsible waste management and encouraging greater participation in recycling activities.

The hotel has also worked with the UAE Food Bank to support community welfare and responsible food distribution. Its contributions have included 100 meals, alongside 50 bags of blood donated to the Dubai Blood Donation Centre. These initiatives have extended the hotel's sustainability efforts beyond its own operations, creating opportunities for employees and guests to participate in activities that address community needs and promote a culture of giving.

Environmental responsibility has been further advanced through collaboration with Veolia under the Zero Food Waste initiative. By working with a specialist partner to address food waste, Stella Di Mare has introduced practices aimed at reducing waste generated through its operations and promoting more responsible consumption. The initiative has supported both environmental objectives and operational efficiency, demonstrating how collaborative approaches can create shared value.

The hotel's community engagement also encompasses inclusion and support for people with special needs. Through its involvement with the Dubai Center for Special Needs, Stella Di Mare has provided first aid kits and food for the centre's Winter Fair. Such initiatives reflect the hotel's broader commitment to contributing to community wellbeing and ensuring that its sustainability efforts create value for diverse groups. These initiatives are supported by a structured sustainability management framework. The Sustainability Management Committee, led by senior management, establishes objectives and key performance indicators to monitor progress and assess the effectiveness of its initiatives.

This governance structure enables the hotel to evaluate its engagements, maintain accountability and identify opportunities for continuous improvement. The results are reflected in stronger participation in recycling programmes, reduced waste directed to landfills and greater environmental awareness among employees. The hotel has also received recognition through the Bronze Tier in the 5-Star DST Stamp for 2024 and 2025, reflecting its continued efforts to embed sustainability within its organisational culture.

Stella Di Mare's experience demonstrates how purposeful collaboration can translate sustainability commitments into meaningful and measurable outcomes. By engaging environmental organisations, community partners, specialist service providers and internal stakeholders, the hotel has developed a connected approach that addresses environmental responsibility alongside community wellbeing and stakeholder engagement.

These collective efforts have supported waste reduction, resource efficiency, environmental awareness and social initiatives, while encouraging employees and guests to participate in positive change. Through continued collaboration, structured monitoring and a commitment to measurable progress, Stella Di Mare is strengthening its sustainability culture and demonstrating how the hospitality sector can contribute to broader environmental and social priorities.

Stella Di Mare's partnership-led approach also shows how collaboration can extend the impact of sustainability beyond hotel operations. By working closely with environmental organisations, community partners and specialist service providers, the hotel is creating practical opportunities for employees and guests to take part in positive change. This collaborative model helps strengthen environmental awareness, support community wellbeing and turn sustainability commitments into actions with wider and more lasting impact.

> "At Stella Di Mare Dubai Marina, luxury hospitality goes hand in hand with a strong commitment to sustainability. From minimising our environmental footprint to uplifting local communities, every initiative reflects our dedication to a brighter future. We inspire our guests and team members to embrace eco-conscious living through innovation, education, and meaningful action. Together, we're shaping a greener tomorrow creating exceptional experiences today while leaving a legacy of care for generations to come."
>
> **Mr. Simon Samir**
> CEO - Egypt & UAE

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Sfanah Charity Organisation for Health Services

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

جمعية سفانة الخيرية
للخدمات الصحية بحائل

In Hail – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sfanah Charity Organisation for Health Services has established itself as a community-focused non-profit entity dedicated to improving healthcare access, easing the challenges faced by patients and strengthening overall community wellbeing. Since its establishment in 2011, the organisation has worked to address evolving health needs while building a strong foundation for sustainable social impact.

Its approach places meaningful collaboration at the heart of its work, recognising that lasting improvements in community health require the combined expertise, resources and commitment of diverse stakeholders. This vision is reflected in its 2025–2029 strategic plan, which places particular emphasis on partnerships and human capital development as key drivers of long-term impact.

A key component of this approach is the "Sharakaat" initiative, established to expand and strengthen relationships across governmental, private-sector and non-profit organisations. Rather than viewing partnerships solely as sources of funding, Sfanah seeks to build relationships that combine financial resources, technical expertise, knowledge, networks and social influence. This enables participating organisations to contribute complementary strengths towards shared health and community objectives. The initiative formalises these relationships through strategic agreements and joint project contracts, creating a clear framework for responsibilities, expectations and shared outcomes. Regular meetings and reporting mechanisms help maintain alignment among stakeholders, monitor progress and identify opportunities for improvement. This structured model supports stronger coordination while encouraging transparency and collective ownership of programme outcomes.

The scale of the association's intended impact demonstrates the value of this approach. In 2025, Sfanah's projects reached 179,155 beneficiaries, including 150,616 individuals through health programmes and 28,539 participants through health awareness and early detection initiatives. Beneficiary numbers are continuously monitored as a key performance indicator, allowing the organisation and its stakeholders to assess reach and progress against its objectives.

Sfanah's approach to selecting partners is equally purposeful. Potential collaborators are assessed according to the value they can contribute, including financial and technical support, specialist expertise, knowledge sharing and the ability to strengthen community engagement. Alignment with transparency, sound governance and sustainability is also considered, helping ensure that relationships contribute meaningfully to the association's mission rather than operating as isolated engagements.

Strong governance mechanisms underpin these efforts. Independent external audits, recognised accounting standards and financial controls support accountability, while regular financial statements and impact updates are shared with donors and regulatory authorities. These practices strengthen confidence among stakeholders and provide a foundation for informed decision-making, responsible resource allocation and continuous improvement.

Sfanah also recognises that sustainable impact depends on the people delivering its services. Through the "Kawader" initiative, the association invests in workforce development and skills enhancement, addressing human capital gaps while strengthening its capacity to deliver effective health services. This complements its external stakeholder engagement by ensuring that internal capabilities evolve alongside the organisation's growing network of partners and programmes.

Through its strategic approach, Sfanah has created an ecosystem in which public institutions, businesses, non-profit organisations, professionals, donors, volunteers and community stakeholders can contribute towards common health priorities.

Its emphasis on formal agreements, complementary expertise, measurable outcomes, transparent governance and continuous engagement demonstrates how purposeful relationships can extend an organisation's reach and strengthen the effectiveness of its social impact.

Sfanah's experience illustrates that lasting community health outcomes are strengthened when organisations work beyond institutional boundaries. By aligning diverse resources and capabilities around shared objectives, the association is building a collaborative model that supports wider access to health services, increases community awareness and creates stronger foundations for sustainable social impact in Hail.

> "At Sfanah Charity for Health Services, we believe sustainable social impact is built through partnerships, shared responsibility and a commitment to improving lives. By collaborating with government, private-sector, healthcare and non-profit partners, we transform health needs into sustainable solutions and measurable outcomes. This recognition in the Partnership & Collaboration and Social Enterprise categories reflects the value of collective action. We remain committed to partnership-led development that strengthens community wellbeing and supports a more sustainable future."
>
> **Mr. Ahmad Saud Naser Al-Shammari**
> CEO

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATIONS CATEGORY



Farnek Services LLC

United Arab Emirates

Established in the UAE in 1980, Farnek Services LLC has grown into a facilities management company with more than 500 employees, and in recent years has built an ongoing partnership with Emirates Environmental Group (EEG). The collaboration, known as the Farnek–EEG Carbon Management and Climate Action Collaboration, sees EEG promote Farnek's carbon services through its stakeholder network and refer interested organisations to Farnek, which then delivers Scope 1, 2 & 3 carbon-footprint assessment, data validation, reporting, hotspot identification and improvement recommendations through its CarbonTek platform, with assessment certificates issued jointly.

The collaboration has developed over several years rather than as a single initiative. In 2019, Farnek supported EEG in delivering a carbon-neutral event by offsetting 5.83 tCO_2e. In November 2022, EEG leadership supported the launch of Farnek's CarbonTek platform.

In May 2023, the collaboration expanded to include a formal carbon-footprint assessment of EEG's 2022 operations, with EEG's network given access to CarbonTek. In September 2025, Farnek launched Emirates Carbon, a Farnek-led delivery initiative offering carbon calculators, verified offsets and UAE-based I-RECs, and in December 2025, Farnek became an approved I-REC provider.

Farnek selected EEG as its partner for its established UAE network of businesses, schools, volunteers and community stakeholders, and for the alignment between EEG's environmental mission and Farnek's carbon-management and climate-action objectives. Roles are clearly divided: Farnek acts as lead implementing and technical partner, providing GHG Protocol-based emissions assessments, data validation, reporting and recommendations, while EEG mobilises its network for outreach, environmental education, tree planting and waste-reduction campaigns. Emirates Carbon operates as a Farnek-led delivery platform supporting carbon calculators, credits and I-RECs rather than as a separate external organisation.

Governance is structured and consistently applied. Across every dimension of its own self-assessment; needs analysis, governance structure, objective-setting, stakeholder communication, performance monitoring, reporting and corrective action, financial transparency and outcome assessment, the collaboration scored at the top of the scale. Farnek is responsible for technical assessments and data validation, while EEG oversees stakeholder engagement and programme outreach, with carbon-related outputs following recognised GHG Protocol principles and supported by documented data sources and digital audit trails through CarbonTek.

Financial transactions, including carbon-credit and I-REC transfers, are managed under Farnek's established finance, procurement and internal audit controls. The collaboration is aligned with the UAE Net Zero 2050 Strategy, the UAE Green Agenda 2030 and the UAE Circular Economy Policy, enabling organisations to measure Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions and address residual emissions through credible carbon solutions and I-RECs. It supports SDG #13 on climate action, SDG #12 on responsible consumption and production, SDG #17 on partnerships, and SDG #4 on quality education through its environmental education and capacity-building activities.

Key challenges included inconsistent emissions data, varying levels of carbon literacy among participating organisations, and sustaining engagement across different stakeholder groups. These were addressed through guided data validation, simplified awareness materials, clearly assigned partner responsibilities and phased implementation, with documented assumptions used where complete data was not yet available rather than delaying participation.

Beneficiaries extend from EEG itself, which received a full carbon-footprint assessment of its own operations, to EEG's corporate members, educational institutions, government bodies and individual volunteers reached through environmental education, waste-reduction awareness and tree-planting activities, alongside businesses and individuals accessing Emirates Carbon's calculators and offset solutions. Taken together, the carbon-assessment services, phased delivery since 2019, structured governance and alignment with national decarbonisation targets have positioned this as one of the UAE's more established carbon-management partnerships, with Emirates Carbon extending its reach further still. The Farnek–EEG partnership demonstrates how technical carbon-management expertise and strong stakeholder engagement can work together to accelerate climate action.

> "At Farnek, sustainability is embedded in how we lead, operate and innovate. We are committed to protecting our people, reducing environmental impacts, strengthening ethical governance and supporting the communities we serve. By combining smart technology, responsible business practices and measurable action, we help our clients improve performance and accelerate decarbonisation. Our ambition is clear: to lead by example and contribute meaningfully to the UAE's net-zero, circular economy and sustainable development goals for future generations."
>
> **Mr. Markus Oberlin**
> Group CEO

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McDonald's UAE

Operating since 1994, Emirates Fast Food Co., the owner and operator of McDonald's restaurants in the UAE prides itself on being a local member of the community and is firmly committed to being a responsible leader in the QSR sector. McDonald's UAE has been a strong supporter of sustainability and environmental preservation, which has been endorsed through its long-standing partnership with Emirates Environmental Group.

This partnership has resulted in many green initiatives such as Planting a Greener Future, Clean Up UAE, and the Can Collection Drive that have made a positive impact on the local environment. McDonald's UAE is also a founding member of the Arabia Corporate Social Responsibility Network. In an ongoing effort to make a positive impact on the environment, McDonald's UAE started its biodiesel programme to reduce its carbon footprint in July 2011.

Through this programme all McDonald's used cooking oil is collected from its outlets across the UAE, converted into 100% biodiesel, and is used to fuel the company's logistic fleet and to date they saved over 30 million kg of CO_2 emissions. Also, McDonald's UAE has implemented eco-friendly packaging across the market - wooden stirrers, wooden cutlery, and paper straws were introduced as sustainable alternatives to plastic.

China State Construction Engineering Corporation (Middle East) (L.L.C.)

CSCEC Middle East, a wholly-owned subsidiary of CSCEC Group, entered the UAE in 2003 and officially registered in Dubai in 2005. Over two decades, it has become the largest international contractor in the Middle East,operating in the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, and Bahrain. Its business spans housing, civil and public infrastructure, MEP, digital and smart infrastructure, steel structures, and investment. The company has secured contracts worth $19.6 billion, achieved $11.5 billion in revenue, and delivered over140 projects, including hotels, hospitals, airports, data centres, bridges, and railways.It has built 17 super high-rises above 200 meters, 4,500 villas, 22,000 apartments, and extensive public infrastructure: 600 km of roads,207 bridges, and 152 km of railways.

CSCEC Middle East has received more than 110 global awards, including the Sheikh Khalifa Excellence Award and Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Business Award, and has won the British Safety Council International Safety Award six years in a row. Through its UpWeBuild programme, it has created 350,000 jobs, earned the Taqdeer Award, and secured Arabia CSR & Sustainability Awards for five years. Actively collaborating with UAE environmental groups, it contributes to sustainable development while driving innovation under its "361 Strategy".

Conclusion

The nineteenth cycle of the Arabia CSR and Sustainability Awards reveals some clear trends that are in tandem with trends witnessed globally. According to the OECD Global Corporate Sustainability Report 2025, the top ESG risks identified globally are:

1) Energy management,
2) Data security,
3) Employee Engagement, Diversity & Inclusion,
4) Product Design & Lifecycle Management, and
5) Business Ethics.

It is not a coincidence that the same issues have been at the top of most sustainability agendas, as seen in the submitted applications.

This is in no small way due to the educative and capacitating nature of the Awards itself. Nearly a half of the total number of applicants in 2026 have participated in one or multiple earlier cycles of the Awards. Applicants have credited the Awards with helping them to understand gaps in practice and areas of core strength. Aspects such as self-assessment and extensive jury comments and recommendations shared with each applicant at the end of a cycle, have elevated the initiative from being merely an awards and recognition programme to a unique and incomparable learning platform.

The overall participation in the nineteenth cycle has been lower than in the previous cycle; attributable to the geo-political tensions in the Region and the military conflict that adversely affected many countries within it. While a lesser number of countries were represented in 2026 compared to 2025, the total number of sectors to which participants belonged to exceeded that of last year's. It bears testimony to the efforts, dedication and resilience of organisations and how seriously they advance the vision of a sustainable and low-carbon development.

The OECD 2025 report also informed that between 2022 and 2024, sustainability-related disclosure expanded from 86% to 91% of global market capitalisation. Even in jurisdictions where sustainability disclosure is not mandatory, a significant number of companies have been reporting on sustainability risks and opportunities, driven by the interest of investors in the impact of environmental and social matters on companies' financial performance. And nowhere is this trend more evident than among the participants of the Awards.

In spite of the reduction in participation, this year again witnessed the submission of a large number of high quality sustainability reports. The bigger proportion of the reports have been created using recognised international, national or sectoral resources like standards, frameworks and codes. Many reporting organisations have gone the extra mile by independently auditing non-financial data disclosed in the reports.

Notwithstanding the current pressures and challenges, the organisations have put their resources and capacities staunchly behind ESG objectives and goals. The same are being leveraged for organisational excellence and long-term societal impact.

In the words of Michael Porter, shared value is not social responsibility, philanthropy, or even sustainability, but a new way to achieve economic success. It is not on the margin of what companies do but at the center. The winners of the Awards have demonstrated that sustainability is not an accessory but an everyday necessity without which long term performance and impact acceleration cannot be achieved.

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