

Manager's Report

Rasha Ali Al Madfai

Manager, Environmentally Sustainable Schools, EAD

Dear Sustainable Schools

Welcome to the new issue of our newsletter Multakana. The Sustainable Schools Initiative has now matured into a programme and is no longer an initiative. The last four years has indeed been very fruitful and a great deal has been achieved.

With this new phase in the project comes new challenges, new dreams and bigger goals. Having just launched the programme for the 2013-2014 session, we are so happy to see our Sustainable Schools family growing. This year we are 115 schools strong and we have many new schools that have joined us and I would like to thank each of them for taking this big step. We can already see the momentum gained from all the recent workshops and trainings conducted with the new schools.

To further help the new schools, we have also introduced the new "Lead School" and "Mentor" format. Through this we hope to see the experienced schools reach out and share their knowledge and resources. Furthermore, we are very excited about our upcoming Eco Summit.

I am also very happy to share the wonderful news about the Sustainable Schools Programme winning the **Best Environmental Awareness and Education Award** at the **Green Middle East Awards 2013**. This award is dedicated to all the schools who supported us at each step and helped us earn it. We couldn't have done it without you.

SSI STATS

2013-2014

- 115 Schools Registered.
- 2 Eco Club workshops with 55 teachers & 2 Green Audit Workshops with 168 teachers.
- 4 TOT workshops with 107 teachers
- Dr. Shepherd Urenje Visits Abu Dhabi for a special Training Session
- GIS Day Celebrations
- Lead Schools, Mentors and the Eco Summit..!

Green Middle East Awards 2013

The Green Middle East Awards for Environmental Excellence organized under the Patronage of H.H Sheikh Dr. Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qassimi and hosted by Bee'ah aimed at recognizing organizations that demonstrated leadership and innovation in sustainability.

Due to the impact of Sustainable Schools, The Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) won this award for "**Best Environmental Awareness & Education**".



At the Green Middle East Awards

Congratulations!



To all our Sustainable Schools!

For joining us on this journey towards the ultimate goal of "Sustainability".

We thank you for your support, dedication and involvement.

Most of all we thank all our dear students for taking on this big responsibility and making an effort.

Training Of Trainer Workshops 2013-2014

We are happy to share some photos from the training conducted for this academic session below.....

A 'Hands On' Approach to Environment Education for the Primary Learner



A 'Hands On' Approach to Environment Education for the Intermediate Learner



Dr. Shepherd Urenje is a Sustainability Expert from the Swedish International Center of Education for Sustainable Development (SWEDES) and he also teaches at Uppsala University in Sweden.

Dr. Shepherd was invited by our team to conduct exclusive two day training on how teachers can teach their children about the concept of Sustainability. His training was received with wonderful feedback. Teachers were very deeply impacted by this phrase from his training.

We are the students of today attending the schools of yesterday being taught by the teachers of the past with methods from the Middle Ages to solve the problems of the future!



A Special External TOT with Dr. Shepherd Urenje – “Educating For Sustainability”!



Discovering the World through GIS, November 20, 2013

The 20th of November is celebrated globally as the World GIS Day. As we have a dedicated GIS team at EAD that assists with data collection, mapping and analysis, we requested for their assistance to organize something special for our schools.

This led to the discovery of the 'Collector App', a smartphone app developed by ESRI that enables the user to collect data which can then be mapped with all the key details and information.

A Special TOT session was conducted for teachers called "Understanding Habitats through Mapping"

We also conducted a special field trip for our Students where they tested out the app!



Our FIRST Evert Story Map!

As a part of the GIS day celebrations 34 young and bright students from the government and private schools in Abu Dhabi joined us for a special field study trip.

To give you a glimpse into the possibilities that GIS can offer, we have prepared a special GIS Story Map for you highlighting our efforts towards training these students on the use of GIS and Smart Application for understanding environmental issues.

Through this you can understand guess the kind of fun that our SSI students had while learning concepts about urban biodiversity.



[Click here to VIEW the Story Map](#)

Implementation and Reports

As you all know we have now announced our **Lead School** and **Mentor Programs**. We have also announced some exciting details about our upcoming **Eco Summit**. We hope you are preparing your students to present at this summit! The dates are now moved to the **29th and 30th** of April 2014 so do hurry and send us your confirmations.

Also if you like to be adopted by a lead school, do let us know so we can plan ahead.

We would like to hear from you!

Write to Us!

Share your *stories, thoughts, suggestions and comments* about our newsletter with us on sustainableschools@ead.ae

Don't Forget.....

To send us an update REPORT in January about your progress with the Green Audit, Eco Club, Field Trip and TOT implementation

Educating Towards Sustainability

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