

AL SIDRAH



The National Workshop on Fisheries

EPDA organized the National Workshop on Fisheries on Thursday 10/11/2016 at Al Hamra Hilton, attended by the Minister of Climate Change and Environment Dr. Thani Bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi. Representatives of the fishing sector from all other emirates attended the workshop. The workshop also hosted the Head of the delegation of Fisheries and Wildlife Washington USA, Professor Bradley Smith. The workshop started by Dr. Saif Al Ghais Executive Director of the EPDA highlighted the problems facing this vital and important sector along with the latest amendments to the federal and local legislation in Ras Al Khaimah.

He explained during his speech also the importance of these seminars to learn about the problems and concerns of fishermen and work to resolve them in cooperation with federal and local relevant authorities.



ministry's efforts in the same frame. In the panel discussion, which was attended by the Minister of Climate Change and the environment, where it has been debated with the fishermen about the problems and the solutions they deem. His Excellency the Minister has expressed full readiness of his ministry to look into the problems and take the proposals viable after consultation and coordination with all relevant authorities and concerned with the fisheries sector in the state.

Reef Bolls landing and cameras to monitor the marine irregularities as part of an ambitious plan to protect fish resources and create an attractive ideal environment for the proliferation of fish stocks, EPDA began to implement and take down "Fish cave" to the bottom of the sea in Ras Al Khaimah, and each one weighs 3 tons, the reef bolls are constructed from friendly materials to the marine environment and cannot be affected by salts and sea conditions. High quality cameras will be used to observe marine environment irregularities at different depths of the sea. The project includes 900 caves to be launched at a depth of 7 and 10 meters where fishing is prohibited, mainly between Al Maeer fishing port towards Al Rams and Al Marjan. The area will be subjected to strict supervision by EPDA in collaboration with "Coast Guard".



12 fishing violation in Ras Al Khaimah markets

EPDA Environmental inspectors who are responsible for inspecting fishing markets in RAK contravene fisherman for selling fishes under the limit size and age, which is contrary to the law of exploitation, protection and development of living aquatic resources.

Inspectors also found fishing net left by unknown fishermen in Ras Al Khaimah Khor «Al Qurm» area next to "Rak Mall", which is an environmental offense since the area considered as a natural reserve and an incubator for young fish and fishing in such area is prohibited, in order to allow fish to breed, and small ones to grow.



VISION

Protection of the environment & sustainability of resources.

MISSION

Uniqueness in providing, monitoring and environmental awareness services through the application of laws and regulations and investing relationship with partners and conduct studies and research that contribute to the

Ras Al Khaimah Ports Cleaning Campaign

EPDA lunched cleaning campaign of fishing ports in Ras Al Khaimah on Saturday 19/11/2016 under the slogan Blue Ports, the campaign focuses on the preservation of the marine environment from pollution and eliminating waste from the fisheries ports of Ras Al Khaimah.

This campaign held with collaboration with environmental oxygen team, Ras Al Khaimah Police, Customs Department , Department of Public Works and Services , Ras Al Khaimah Cooperative Fishermen Association , Al Jazeera center for diving , Al Nokhitha diving team and Juma Alkabuei Transport.

This campaign aimed to embody the principle of partnership in environmental work and achieve the environmental authority goals and promote environmental responsibility of community.

The first step of the clean-up campaign start at Ghalila port and it will be continual with other ports in Ras Al Khaimah. The campaign also targeted to aware Asian fishermen for the importance of preserving the marine environment and how to maintain the cleanliness of the port and their facilities. About 20 tons of waste including fishing nets, tires, ropes , beverage cans, plastic cans and fiber materials, and 6 boats were recovered at Ghalilah port.



Innovation week

Innovation and creativity considered as the basic requirements in the management and development of business where it is no longer enough to rely on talent, routine and conventional ways in ensuring the sustainability and continuity of organizations in performing their work. Organizations should renovate through completion of the requirements in an innovative and creative ways.

EPDA's participation in the innovation week is a translation of the emirates and governments vision in innovations. EPDA launched during this week a smart Inspector application (Bayrak), which is the first of its kind in terms of efficiency and accuracy. EPDA also launched early warning application (Estidamah) which targets many sectors in society which provides a information about sea conditions such as high waves, wind speed, severity of the current ... etc. The application will significantly contribute in supporting the sustainability of the emirate in an innovative way. EPAD also presented during its participation in the innovation exhibition innovative products of nature, waste and the reading chair with mini library.

In addition, and from nature perspective EPDA also participated at the initiative «creations of nature» where summed up this initiative by using «squash» to produce innovative products used as a decoration.

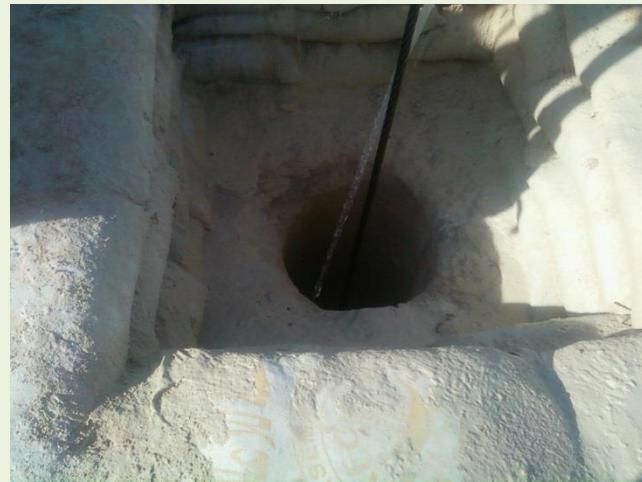


Khalifa issues law on groundwater regulation

Abu Dhabi: His Highness Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and ruler of Abu Dhabi, in his capacity, issued a law on regulating groundwater use in the emirate.

The law stipulates that groundwater in the emirate is a natural asset owned by Abu Dhabi, and its extraction and exploitation is subject to rules and regulations issued by Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi (EAD).

The law also states that the groundwater wells and the water desalination units must be registered and any activities like, extraction of ground water, water transport or installation of water desalination units for non-drinking purposes cannot be practiced without obtaining authorization from EAD. The owners of the groundwater wells are obligated to install water meters to monitor their activities. They should not exceed the limit prescribed for extraction and conduct regular maintenance of wells, pumps, meters and related appliances. They are not entitled to sell groundwater and should adhere to all obligations prescribed by the law. The law streamlines practicing the profession of digging wells in the emirate and obligations applicable to drilling contractors. The law bans contaminating and polluting groundwater. Those who discovered groundwater accidentally must notify EAD. Violators of the law may face imprisonment or a fine up to Dh300,000. The fine may be doubled if the same violation recurs.



Smart building index in UAE

A smart building index was launched across the UAE , setting benchmarks for building designs and encouraging the use of modern construction methods that speed up the construction process.

The index was launched by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. The index encourages the use of modern methods like 3D printing and preparing buildings in national manufacturing plants before they are installed at the site using less workers. He emphasized the UAE's expansive development aspirations require exerting more efforts in

innovation and introducing smart solutions that can help in efficiently achieving the objectives of the National Agenda for UAE Vision 2021.



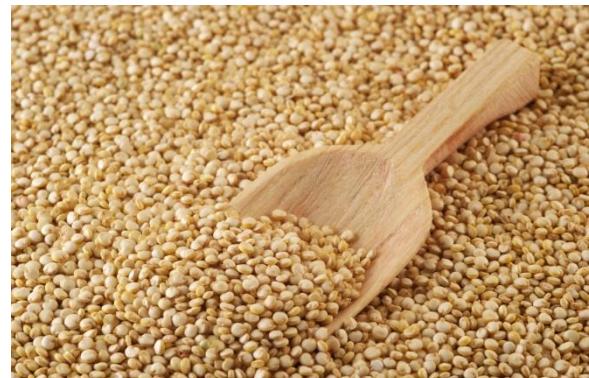
Emirates to Harvest Quinoa in Spring

Agricultural Research Management announced in the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment in the UAE that the production of the local quinoa plant will start in March, pointing to research conducted by the Ministry in collaboration with the International Centre for Cultivation of Salt and other local organizations.

Engineer Salah Mousa Director of the Department, said that the ministry is currently overseeing a technical study of two types of quinoa, which is a substitute for wheat with high nutritional value. They are also introducing new agricultural practices that are suitable for the local climate conditions, for variety of other crops.

He also added: "We moved from the point for providing specialized areas for the cultivation of Quinoa leaf, to the stage of carrying out scientific research aimed at enhancing the quantities produced."

The cultivation of quinoa organically for the first time this season in collaboration with the owners of the organic farmer and Agricultural Innovation Center in the city of Al Dhaid, to raise awareness among farmers, researchers and students of the importance of the cultivation of this plant and its benefits and opportunities for success in the UAE. Moussa also stresses upon the positive health aspects of grain quinoa, especially its gluten-free nature in wheat, which is not suitable for many. Families should encourage their children on including Quinoa into their diets and useful foods, adding that "we should not overlook the fact that this plant can become a tributary of the national economy."



Mauritanian president inaugurates eight solar power plants

Eight new rural solar energy projects have been completed, and are now operational, across the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, in western North Africa, doubling the UAE's total contribution to the country's clean energy capacity to 31.6 megawatts (MW).

New stations meet up to 30 percent of the electricity demand in eight areas, and provide the needs of about 39 thousand homes with clean electricity. It also reduces the communities reliance on diesel operated generators, which is more than 10 million liters of diesel annually, as well as avoiding the emission of about 28 thousand tons of carbon dioxide annually.

Masdar has developed Sheikh Zayed solar power plant with capacity of 15 MW in Nouakchott, which has become largest solar power plant in Africa after its completion in 2013. It is the first solar energy project on the scope of service facilities in Mauritania, and contributes to more than 10 percent of the total national grid energy Output in Nouakchott.



China allocates 174 billion dollar for clean energies

China plans to spend at least \$ 174 billion on infrastructure to generate electricity from water and wind energy in the period between 2016 and 2020. National Energy Administration of China announced that the construction of new wind farms will create about 300 thousand new jobs by the year 2020, the country plans to establish a support system for the wind sector based on market conditions.

Insects threaten 1.4 billion job in the world

A British study has revealed that about 1.4 billion jobs and three quarters of agricultural crops rely on insect pollinators facing a major threat to its existence. It has pointed out that the importance of this issue significant for poor rural communities, 70 percent of whom depend on agriculture as their main source of income. The crops that depend on pollinators are essential in the nutritional balance of the human , including minerals and vitamins, and the loss of pollinators may cause a significant increase in the disease would cause 1.4 million excess deaths annually.

Delhi imposes "emergency" measures to combat hazardous smog

The Delhi government put all construction projects on hold, shut down schools and advised residents of the Indian capital to stay indoors as part of an "emergency" plan to deal with dangerous levels of air pollution.

New Delhi ranks among the world's most polluted cities. In November 2016, a thick layer of smog enveloped the city, with people complaining of irritated eyes, throats and lungs. A combination of smoke from burning farm residue in surrounding states, fireworks for the Hindu festival of Diwali, dust from construction works and vehicle emissions has pushed up levels of the most dangerous particles, known as PM 2.5, to more than 15 times the safe limit.

Hundreds of people, including children, on Sunday staged a protest in New Delhi over the worsening air quality, demanding immediate and effective steps from authorities.

New Delhi's chief minister, Arvind Kejriwal, who has called the city a "gas chamber", said all construction and demolition would remain on hold for five days and schools would be shut for three days.

He also banned the use of all diesel-powered electricity generators for the next 10 days. The local administration will start vacuum cleaning roads and sprinkling them with water, Kejriwal said.

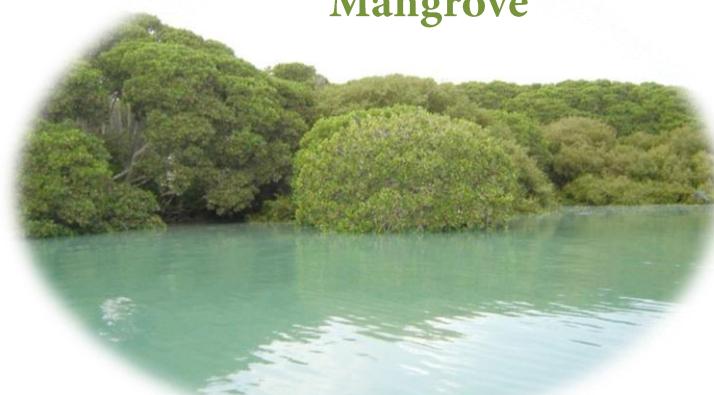


Mangrove

Mangrove is a plants that live in a very unique ecosystem

Mangroves consider halophytes that grow in tropical and subtropical regions group, mangrove usually grow between the areas of the tides. There are several definition of mangroves but this definition includes most of the characteristics of it.

"Mangroves are a group of coastal plants that live according to a unique ecosystem, there are usually located in the protected coastal areas from the impact of the violent currents, namely in tidal areas in tropical and subtropical regions".



Some of the laws related to protecting our environment

1. Prohibits throwing or discharging of oil or any oily mixture into the marine environment .



2. Prohibits discharge of sewage and other wastes into the marine environment .



3. Prohibits dumping or discharging of any harmful substances or waste into the marine environment, directly or indirectly, during transportation of hazardous materials .

4. Prohibits disposal of harmful substances carried in shipping containers or portable tanks or ground tankers into the marine environment .

Subject No. (21) of the Federal Law No. (24) of 1999 concerning the development and protection of the environment

How to preserve the environment

- Preserving the environment starts at home, including the spread of each location; therefore the largest affects on preserving the environment on the proper education and upbringing of the active generations that spread awareness and help them to preserve the environment.
- Maintaining the trees by not commuting unfair ways, increasing the green agricultural areas around the house to add the aesthetic view of the surrounding area.
- Put the waste in places allocated to them, so as to avoid the spread of diseases and epidemics in humans, and to prevent and put them places close to residential areas; because of this damage on the health of the population and the ease of transmission of diseases and germs.
- Avoid waste accumulation inside homes and disposed of properly, and put bags of waste that prevent the issuance of smells in the area.
- Preservation of water areas, and not to throw waste inside them, and compel ship owners to pay large financial penalties for the lack of maintenance of oil tankers which destroys the marine life forever and cause the extinction of all creatures.
- Maintenance necessary for cars to avoid the release of smoke, which causes air pollution , and mitigate the use of chemicals that harm the atmosphere.

تواصلوا معنا:

ت: 23333789. ف: 07. البريد الإلكتروني: info@epda.rak.ae



@EPDA



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