



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

A CONSERVATION DIARY

ABOUT EMIRATES WILDLIFE SOCIETY – WWF

Emirates Wildlife Society is the leading environmental NGO in the UAE, established in 2001 under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler's representative in the western region and Chairman of Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi. Emirates Wildlife Society works in association with WWF, one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with offices in 100 countries. The association is commonly known as EWS-WWF.

Our vision is to build a future where humans live in harmony with nature.

Our mission is to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to the environment. We work with people and institutions in the UAE and region, to implement conservation solutions through science, research, policy, education and awareness.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN HE MOHAMMED AL BOWARDI

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HE Mohammed Ahmed Al Bowardi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of EWS-WWF

15 years ago, Emirates Wildlife Society in association with WWF was established. It brought together an inspiring determination to protect the UAE's natural wealth and the years of experience from a credible international organisation.

Throughout its journey, EWS-WWF has stayed committed to its key founding principles, and as a result has gained the trust of its partners and the hearts of its supporters. EWS-WWF has continued to work closely with institutions and organisations, drawing from their support and at the same time, lending its own expertise to facilitate the development of long-term, well-rounded solutions to environmental challenges.

By striving to achieve shared goals in protecting nature and underpinning a sustainable future for the country, EWS-WWF has also been working in the community to elevate environmental consciousness and empower all UAE residents to become part of the solution.

Through capacity building, furthering environmental education and local scientific research, a solid long-term foundation is being set for the country to continue its efforts in environmental actions in the decades to come.

In the face of growing environmental challenges, EWS-WWF aspires to continue on this path – maintaining its passion towards helping to create a sustainable future for the UAE and the region, while contributing to global efforts to help us pass on a living planet to our future generations.

FOREWORD FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR HE RAZAN KHALIFA AL MUBARAK

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HE Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak, Managing Director and Treasurer of the Board of Directors, EWS-WWF

Over the last 15 years, I have had the honour of watching EWS-WWF grow, mature and bloom. During this time, I have witnessed the organisation gain strength and credibility in order to achieve countless significant wins for our natural world and indeed our society here in the UAE.

It has grown from the simple intention to protect local biodiversity, into the widely respected organisation it is today; advocating for environmental and sustainable change in the region.

One of the most remarkable moments in its history was the way in which EWS-WWF opened the conversation about the country's Ecological Footprint in 2006. This seemingly small step unlocked the door for future collaborative efforts which continue to influence key change today. Federal adoption of the Energy Efficiency Lighting Standard, saving the country 94,000 tons of CO₂ annually and development of a Vehicle Fuel Economy Standard, with potential for further reductions of CO₂ are evidence of this collaborative legacy. Such calibre of achievement simply would not be possible without extensive teamwork and collaboration.

Partnerships and collaboration are akin to water and sunlight; they are pivotal to producing fruitful results. The exponential growth of our Marine Programme, which started life as a forum in 2006, is further testament to this winning combination. Today it is a multi-partner, multi-country programme that is grounded in scientific research. Its goal is to uncover the secrets of our regional marine life, how it needs our support so that the optimal solutions to protect and preserve it can be found.

With the wholehearted cooperation of our partners, we have been able to achieve so much across all of our programmes throughout the last 15 years. I sincerely wish to see this approach root even further in the next 15 years. Especially now as we enter the next chapter of our story in the same year that the UAE government ratified the Paris Climate Change Agreement. It is clear that we must strengthen our partnerships more than ever.

With your ongoing commitment, let us together take purposeful strides to better understand the renewable energy potential of the UAE and develop answers that help turn our shared dreams of a flourishing, sustainable future into reality.

FOREWORD FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL IDA TILLISCH



Ida Tillisch, Director General of EWS-WWF

In November 2016 I found myself walking at night through the Abu Dhabi desert, with close friends and colleagues on the Caracal Challenge.

Named after the large wildcat that lives in the mountains of the Northern Emirates, the Caracal Challenge was a 15km hike organised with our partners to raise awareness – and funds – for the strategic initiatives of EWS-WWF. It was also a special occasion: celebrating our 15-year anniversary.

As we walked together over countless sand dunes, I was reminded of the uniqueness of our natural environment. Although the desert appears to be devoid of life, we all know that upon closer inspection its biodiversity is rich. Sand fish, Sand boas, Sand cats, Desert eagle owls, Desert hare, Ghaf trees, jerboas and scorpions are always nearby. Even the date palm plantations, fodder crops and livestock remind us of the groundwater below our feet, plentiful enough to sustain life.

For me the Caracal Challenge was in many ways symbolic of EWS-WWF. It was not only a journey to reconnect with nature, but also an exercise in teamwork and partnership. We helped each other climb the dunes, pulling, tugging, pushing and encouraging each other as we hiked.

Not only was I hiking with my colleagues, I was also hiking with a community of people who love nature, understand its value, and believe in the mission of EWS-WWF. Representatives from the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, HSBC Middle East Ltd, Linklaters, Hadeef and Partner, and GulfTainer (to mention a few), joined us to celebrate the success of our partnerships, as well as to commit to future ones.

Equally I was reminded of the challenges ahead. The desert is being developed: fences, villas, plantations, roads, pipelines, labour camps. All are a reflection of habitat destruction and the need for Protected Areas – both on land and at sea.

Now with the 15 kilometres and 15 years behind us, we can look forward to our future journey – a journey that will be filled with obstacles and challenges, ups and downs, but also an exciting journey. One that will require even greater effort, yet yield even greater results.

This journey is not something we can do alone – or even want to do alone. We want to walk hand-in-hand through the next decades with you. Together, we can meet the environmental challenges with collective action, proud that we are accomplishing something that no one could achieve alone.

I am honoured to present to you the EWS-WWF 2016 Annual Report. This, too, is a time for reflection on our achievements and an opportunity to plan for the future. **EWS-WWF continues its mission to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to the environment.**

We work with people and institutions in the UAE and across the region, to implement conservation solutions through science, research, policy, education and awareness.

2016 was another successful year for EWS-WWF. I am particularly proud of everything the team has achieved through our different programmes and projects. The success of the Water Research & Learning Programme at Wadi Wurayah, was again rated the best of its kind. We fixed satellite tags to several Green Turtles and these are generating vital data about foraging and nesting areas. Additionally, our engagement with the private sector to reduce energy and water consumption inspires hope in me for our future.

I trust you will enjoy reading this report.

EWS-WWF'S 15th ANNIVERSARY

YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW - TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING IT POSSIBLE!

Established under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler's Representative in the Western Region of Abu Dhabi, EWS-WWF has been at the forefront of regional environmental conservation for over 15 years.

During this time we've been lucky enough to share our interests, goals and vision with a multitude of partners and stakeholders, inspiring people around the UAE to reconnect with nature, and achieving a variety of incredibly weighty wins for our natural heritage and UAE society overall.

These wins simply wouldn't have been possible without the ardent backing of our valued partners, sponsors and volunteers. They have helped to bring our vision to life and we are eternally grateful for their unwavering support.

As we celebrate 15 years of conservation success in the UAE we feel it only appropriate to tell our success story, the big and small wins, through the memories of those who helped us achieve them.

We truly hope you will be inspired by their words and, as a result, deepen your connection to our natural world.

MEMORIES

1.

“ As partners on the Ecological Footprint Initiative (EFI), Environment Agency- Abu Dhabi and EWS-WWF have worked closely to reduce the UAE's carbon footprint through effective policies, and have verified the ecological footprint data giving us greater confidence in the ranking. The two organisations have, through this unique federal-level partnership, furthered common goals of protecting the environment and promoting shared responsibility. The governance of the EFI, led by a representative Steering Committee that brings together a wide range of energy and environment stakeholders, allows for well-informed, consultative decision-making. Functioning as the Secretariat of the EFI, EWS-WWF has played a pivotal role in coordinating the activities of the partnership and advancing science-based policymaking through them.”

HE Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak, Secretary General of Environment Agency –
Abu Dhabi and Vice-Chair of the Ecological Footprint Initiative

2.

“ EWS-WWF has been one of MoCCaE's stakeholders for many years. We have worked together on several projects which formed a road map for the UAE's biodiversity initiatives. We worked closely developing the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the National Marine Turtles Action Plan, combating illegal trade in wildlife, developing a national framework on implementing Nagoya Protocol in the UAE, in addition to other biodiversity conservation projects in the UAE. EWS-WWF's passion for nature conservation is unmatched, and their input and insight stemming from their experience as a NGO organisation in the UAE, is invaluable.”

Her Excellency Eng. Mariam Mohammed Saeed Hareb Al Mheiri,
Assistant Undersecretary, Environmental Affairs & Nature Conservation at the
Ministry of Climate Change & Environment (MoCCaE)

“ **3.** Nature in the United Arab Emirates is not immediately obvious. You need to look for it. But once you start, it can astound – like nature should. The Great Knot, wading bird, migrates 13,000 kilometres in winter from east Russia to the Umm Al Quwain mangroves. Dragonflies dart through Wadi Wurayah and bats hang in Jebel Hafeet’s caves. EWS-WWF sees nature with eyes wide open. Wander the wadis with their ecologists and a new world is revealed. We support EWS-WWF because they help all of us to see and understand the wonders of UAE’s natural environment.”

Dr Frederic Launay, Acting Secretary General,
Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservati

“ **4.** Heroes of the UAE is one of the most sustainable, useful and informative environmental educational programmes, designed and developed in partnership with EAD. Since its inception, students and teachers have gained essential environmental local knowledge and skills through interesting, interactive online activities. It has contributed to raising our students’ environmental awareness and encouraging them to take positive environmental actions. Heroes of the UAE is an excellent environmental education resource, not only for the teachers and students, but also for parents and the general public. EAD is thankful and proud to partner with EWS-WWF in education for sustainability.”

Fozeya Ibrahim Al Mahmoud, Director,
Environmental Outreach, EAD

“ **5.** As future tenants of Sustainable City, we enjoy a unique relationship with EWS-WWF whereby we can lend support to their Energy and Climate Programme, and also lean on the organisation for knowledge and advice on climate related issues. Our Innovation Centre appreciates and welcomes the distinguished guests and partners that EWS-WWF brings to the community, and we look forward to future and long-term collaborations to promote climate action.”

Karim Al Jisr, Director,
Diamond Developer Innovation Centre

“ **6.** It has been a real pleasure to work with EWS-WWF throughout 2016, extending our working relationship to yet another successful year. The scope of the projects this year has been greater than before, but one that stands out for its progressive and valuable contribution to the regional conservation movement is the assessment of biodiversity targets for the Marine Programme Strategy. This project encapsulates the effective approach employed by EWS-WWF in all their work – a well-balanced mixture of precise science, realistic expectations, solid conservation planning and a refreshingly collaborative approach that is ably facilitated by generous, personable and highly professional staff.”

Rob Baldwin, Managing Director,
Five Oceans Environmental Services LLC

“ **7.** HSBC Bank Middle East has worked with EWS-WWF since 2008 on a variety of innovative conservation and environmental education projects . Through our unique partnership, we have built, delivered and operated the Middle East’s first Water Research and Learning Centre that has housed around 635 HSBC colleagues over the last four years, training them to become Citizen Science Leaders. It has been a pleasure working with EWS-WWF, an organisation that has been leading environmental efforts across the UAE and a key partner in helping HSBC achieve its sustainability targets and ambitions in the Middle East.”

Sabrin Rahman, Head of Corporate Sustainability, MENAT | Regional
Corporate Sustainability, HSBC Bank Middle East Limited

“ **8.** EWS-WWF has been one of our strongest supporters since University of Wollongong Dubai launched the community outreach programme "Envirotalk" back in 2014. It has systematically championed our cause to promote awareness initiatives about sustainable living in the UAE, be it through speakers, judges, experts or arranging eco-trips. We are grateful to EWS-WWF for their continued support in our endeavour towards engaging students in more sustainability awareness programmes.”

Dr Zeenath Reza Khan, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering &
Information Sciences, and Founding Convener, Envirotalk Series

9.

“ Throughout the history of AGEDI, EWS-WWF has been a key stakeholder and partner in multiple projects, including the Ecological Footprint, Blue Carbon and Climate Change programmes. Their openness to engage and provide expert advice has been a critical component towards the success of our projects. Their volunteer network, expertise and commitment towards the environment has helped us carry out our Blue Carbon field work and create an exchange of technical knowledge to help support their policy dialogue.”

Jane Glavan, Partnership Project Manager,
Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative

10.

“ The Ministry of Education thanks EWS-WWF for implementing successful environmental education programmes for the last few years - for example, at Eco-Schools UAE and Beati Watani. This has resulted in improving the general education practices in UAE schools, specifically environmental aspects and education for sustainable development. We are very grateful for EWS-WWF's close cooperation and hard work during this time, and we fully support their continued efforts.”

Bahia Shehab, Environmental Programmes National Operator,
Ministry of Education, UAE

11.

“ Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank has partnered with EWS-WWF since 2012, on a strategic level and as part of our commitment to environmental sustainability within the UAE. EWS-WWF brings a solid reputation complimented by relevant expertise, dynamic relationship management, and innovative engagement solutions that have facilitated our contribution to the preservation of UAE's environment.”

Sonya Santolin, Vice President,
Head of Sustainability/Corporate Governance and Corporate Secretary,
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank

12.

“ Our business philosophy is grounded on sustainability. Collaboration between Pico and EWS-WWF is more than just a strategic partnership, as we are both taking proactive actions and measures to a more sustainable tomorrow. All individuals and business enterprises can be equally green. It is simply a matter of doing it.”

Mr Peter Sng, Regional Head (North America, MENA, CIS),
Pico Group

13.

“ Bridgestone Middle East and Africa has been a corporate member of EWS-WWF for more than six years. Through this partnership, EWS-WWF provided Bridgestone with tools and engagement resources to raise sustainability across our organisation. Bridgestone employees have also had many unique opportunities to volunteer at various places of ecological significance in the UAE, which is aligned with the Bridgestone Group's Global Environmental Mission - to 'help ensure a healthy environment for current and future generations'. We are thankful to EWS-WWF for such unique opportunities.”

Marie-Louise Ek, HR Director,
Bridgestone (MEA)

CLIMATE AND ENERGY PROGRAMME

OUR VISION

By 2020, the UAE will make climate change a national priority and take significant steps towards low-carbon development, increase renewable energy ambition, expand energy efficiency, decrease emissions from road transport and address climate change risks.

The science has never been clearer on the need to tackle climate change. 2016 was the hottest year in history, with global natural disasters causing economic losses of US\$210 billion, 21% higher than the 16-year average.¹ Yet despite these dramatic events, positive change is occurring on the international stage. For the first time ever, renewable energy is rivalling fossil fuels as an economically viable, mass-market option. The early entry into force of the Paris Climate Agreement in November now legally commits 197 countries to limit global temperatures during the 21st Century from rising more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Closer to home, our Climate Change and Energy Director joined the WWF International delegation at COP22 in Marrakech to talk about the importance of Arab countries in the climate discourse. Meanwhile the UAE led the GCC in ratifying the Paris Agreement, signifying a shift towards stronger climate action on a global and regional scale.

The UAE is taking further bold, meaningful steps to tackle climate change and lead the region into a post-oil era. Perhaps one of the most telling actions was the renaming of its Ministry of Environment & Water to the Ministry of Climate Change & Environment, as well as announcements that the country aims to develop a new long-term national plan for climate change. These developments are most welcome and a reflection of the country's increased focus on and prioritisation of climate change.

To meet this level of ambition, our Climate and Energy Programme aims to showcase ways that the UAE can deliver and accelerate climate mitigation and adaptation actions. We are confident that the UAE can deliver a range of viable options as we move towards a low carbon, sustainable future.

¹Aon (2017). 2016 Annual Global Climate and Catastrophe Report. Retrieved on 26 February 2017 from <http://thoughtleadership.aonbenfield.com/Documents/20170117-ab-16-annual-climate-catastrophe-report.pdf>



2016 HIGHLIGHTS

EFI steering committee meeting



2017 FOCUS AREAS



ADVANCING ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY IN THE UAE PRIVATE SECTOR

Efficient use of water and energy is key to the global move towards a low-carbon future. In the UAE, the private sector has a major role to play in achieving a more sustainable future. It accounts for 38% of all electricity and 19% of all water consumption. Our latest report, [Harnessing the Invisible Fuel: How to unlock the energy and water efficiency potential of the UAE private sector](#), launched in 2016 and explains the top three barriers to smarter energy and water usage in the UAE private sector. It also outlines seven recommendations for policymakers to help bring about positive change.



THE ROAD TO LOW CARBON TRANSPORT

Under the aegis of the Ecological Footprint Initiative, a technical assessment was undertaken to support the Emirates Authority for Standardisation and Metrology (ESMA) in the development of a UAE vehicle fuel economy standard. Drawing on the results of the study, ESMA will develop the standard in 2017. This is projected to bring significant carbon savings and will help the country meet its emission reduction targets and support its sustainability agenda in line with Vision 2021.



VERIFYING THE FOOTPRINT

Courtesy of verifications undertaken by the Ecological Footprint Initiative, a more accurate calculation of the UAE's footprint has now been achieved. Thanks to this review, conducted in close collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change & Environment and the Global Footprint Network, the UAE's footprint for 2012 registered a 35% reduction – from 12.3 global hectares (gha) per person to 7.9 gha per person. The verified footprint value was reflected in the 2016 Living Planet Report.



UNDERSTANDING THE POTENTIAL OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

With falling renewable energy (RE) costs and more efficient technologies, we will study the feasibility of generating enough RE electricity to meet the country's demand by 2050. The results will support the UAE government to implement its National Energy Plan 2050, requiring close collaboration with the Ministry of Energy. Engaging key players from the private sector will reinforce their critical role in ensuring that the UAE's energy strategy is successful.



PARTNERSHIP WITH DIAMOND DEVELOPERS (DD)

In 2016, we entered a partnership with DD and their new Zero Energy Development, The Sustainable City (TSC) – to tackle climate change, promote renewable energy and reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. The partnership will combine the resources of both public and private sectors in identifying best practices for sustainable living and demonstrating how a low-carbon business model can be transformational for growth and real estate development in the UAE. As DD provides financial support to our Climate & Energy Programme, we support their GHG analysis of TSC.



CURB THE CARBON FOOTPRINT

We will continue our work as the Secretariat in the UAE Ecological Footprint Initiative (EFI), a federal-level partnership geared towards the development of science-based policies that lead to a measurable reduction in the country's carbon footprint. We will likewise continue to support the Emirates Authority for Standardisation and Metrology in technical reviews and stakeholder consultations as the Vehicle Fuel Economy Standard is developed. Additionally we are working with Ecological Footprint Initiative partners and the Steering Committee to identify opportunities to further drive down the country's carbon emissions.

MARINE CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

OUR VISION

By 2050, the UAE and region is home to resilient marine ecosystems where economic progress is complemented with practical actions to safeguard marine biodiversity that is essential to the well-being of future generations.

Our oceans and seas are incredible; they provide food, produce oxygen and regulate the climate, but all too often their health is overlooked. In a world where the global population grows rapidly towards eight billion people, humanity is placing evermore demand on the marine environment. Climate change, urban infrastructure and development, unsustainable fishing practices and pollution are just a few of the threats facing our oceans and seas. If these continue unabated the outlook for our marine world is bleak.

Globally, WWF is working to restore the balance and to generate a new wave of support for sustainable seas. The aim is to show leaders and decision-makers how healthy oceans and seas support economic stability, social well-being and sustainable development opportunities.

To facilitate deeper understanding and increased local investment, our colleagues at WWF International have been working on multiple regional analyses to empower regional decision-makers and conservationists. This type of study is beneficial for our Marine Programme and broader marine conservation efforts across the Gulf as it helps to build a stronger case for the importance of marine biodiversity and ecosystems – and their link to human well-being. This will help all sectors of society to appreciate the value of both the UAE's and the region's marine environments.

Oceans and seas do not have tangible borders and neither do marine species, so safeguarding them must be a collective effort. We are ramping up the level of collaborative conservation and research with like-minded organisations and decision-makers, both through the new Arabian Sea Whale Network and more particularly through our Gulf Green Turtle Conservation. The latter aims to translate the data gathered from tagged turtles into a far greater understanding and sustaining of the regional marine scape.

We are confident that the activities undertaken through our Marine Programme will contribute towards creating a more resilient marine ecosystem, that will support a prosperous economy and the well-being of society.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS



UNDERSTANDING FLAGSHIP SPECIES

To deepen our knowledge of turtle activity we launched the Gulf Green Turtle Conservation Project by tagging 25 Green turtles in 2016. Early data shows interesting movements of turtles nesting in Oman, while those tagged in the UAE offer valuable insights into known and unknown areas at sea that are important for this species. This also helps to signal the health of waters in the Gulf. The project has already gained support from key governmental agencies, conservation research organisations and a number of private sector entities.



CREATING A NETWORK OF RESEARCHERS

The future of the Arabian Sea Humpback Whale is in peril. To address this, we helped to create – and now contribute to – an informal network of regional conservationists and researchers. They are based in multiple countries, including Pakistan, India, Oman, Iran and Sri Lanka. Initial funding has helped to create an infographic that explains the dire state of the species and exchanges information at a regional level that helps strengthen national and local efforts.



PROTECT MARINE AREAS

Thanks to consultation with key experts and stakeholders, we have scoped a new project in line with WWF International's global priorities. This project, to be launch in 2017, will support the UAE's vision:

‘To be a leader in fulfilling international agreements, such as the Convention of Biological Diversity, in ensuring ecosystem resilience through a well-designed network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).’

Ultimately it seeks to uncover marine areas plentiful in biodiversity and offers practical solutions that will inspire decision-makers to create a strong MPA network in the UAE.



CONTRIBUTE TO REGIONAL RESEARCH

Through the Arabian Sea Whale Network, we will continue our efforts to share information and invite more crucial stakeholders to join the dialogue. The plan for 2017 is to create an online platform where researchers can store, share and compare data marking a key step towards increased regional dialogue.



GATHER VITAL INSIGHTS

We will launch the second fieldwork season on our Gulf Green Turtle Project. Our experts will be travelling the region to fit satellite transmitters to Green Turtles after they have nested on land or visited their feeding grounds at sea. The information collected will help support the development and implementation of turtle conservation in the UAE and the region.



2017 FOCUS AREAS



TERRESTRIAL CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

OUR VISION

By 2030, threats to the terrestrial environment will have been reduced and the environment preserved through a network of protected areas, while critical areas for biodiversity conservation will have been restored.

Humans need biodiversity – it is the sharing of our planet with nature that makes human life possible. But the latest figures published by WWF’s Living Planet Report 2016 are worrying. Global wildlife could decline by as much as 67% by the end of this decade compared with numbers in 1970. That is a potential decline of two-thirds in just 50 years.

Meanwhile global populations of fish, birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles have already declined by 58% between 1970 and 2012. Our wildlife is quickly disappearing through species extinction and defaunation – the loss of wild animals from increasingly large areas.

The UAE is certainly not exempt from these global trends. To reverse population declines and habitat losses, our Terrestrial Programme is seeking to better understand UAE biodiversity. It is documenting status, abundance, distribution and trends of wildlife populations, as well as studying the ecological requirements of keystone species. Conducted in close partnership with UAE environmental authorities, these studies form the basis of identifying conservation priorities, implementing effective strategies, and ensuring conservation regulation is robust enough.

Our efforts are currently focused on one biodiversity hotspot: the Hajar Mountains. The 600 km mountain range spans the UAE and northern Oman, and is home to a number of rare and endemic species. In collaboration with other organisations and government bodies, we are promoting large-scale monitoring of wildlife and freshwater habitats.

Our programme is already improving the depth of understanding among public. Yet we believe the key to unlocking a sustainable future for wildlife is by preserving significant natural ecosystems from the multitude of environmental threats. Our studies and collaborations will help create a network of protected areas that stretch across the Emirates and into neighbouring countries – giving all wildlife a fighting chance to not only survive, but thrive.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS



THE WATER RESEARCH & LEARNING PROGRAMME, WADI WURAYAH NATIONAL PARK

The third year of research was completed in 2016 in partnership with Fujairah Municipality and sponsored by HSBC Bank Middle East. We designed research activities for volunteers without scientific backgrounds, which could still strongly contribute to our conservation objectives. Understanding the role of environmental variations on population dynamics will greatly enhance our understanding of the ecosystems, and how to prevent future disruption. Our first results have already shown signs of water quality and biodiversity improvement.



PLANT POTENTIAL

'Restoring degraded habitats' is one of the conservation targets identified by the Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD) and ratified by the UAE. This objective has been integrated in the 5-year National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). The Arabian tahr, an endemic ungulate of the Hajar Mountains, was once thriving in UAE mountain ranges, but is now on the verge of local extinction. A reintroduction programme has been initiated in Wadi Wurayah National Park. Our teams have also started a study of plant biomass – discovering how many Tahrs and other herbivores can be sustained in available habitats.



SCIENCE REPORTS

Collating three years of intensive field research, our team published a scientific report of findings to inform the sustainable management of Wadi Wurayah National Park. Conducting this research has provided a greater understanding of the previously uncharted mountain ecosystem in this region. In partnership with Fujairah Municipality and EarthWatch Institute, and with the generous sponsorship from HSBC Bank Middle East, the report also recommends steps to abate threats to wildlife in the area.

2017 FOCUS AREAS



NOCTURNAL HAPPENINGS

An important part of life activity in the mountains occurs at night: possibly as an adaptation to hot weather conditions. Owls and bats are two groups that occupy key positions in the food web, yet until now, knowledge of their status in the UAE has been poor. As part of the Hajar Mountains biodiversity survey, and thanks to a grant from the Mohammed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, we will initiate a study to help provide a clearer picture of their distribution, abundance and diversity within the mountain range.



SINKING CARBON

Climate change is one of the major environmental threats of our time. EWS-WWF will initiate a programme to raise awareness among citizen volunteers and engage them in field research. New research activities will include the study of tree communities in Wadi Wurayah National Park – how they might be impacted by climate change, as well as their contribution to carbon storage. We will also try to understand how tree growth is influenced by changes in rainfall patterns.



TEAMING UP

Biodiversity doesn't stop at borders and the Hajar Mountains extend across a large part of Oman. So in our efforts to help develop a network of Protected Areas, we will continue improving our relationships with Omani authorities and work ever closer with our partners in the UAE and Oman. We further strengthen this cross-country cooperation by supporting partners to increase their staff and resources for this project.

WILDLIFE TRADE PROGRAMME

OUR VISION

To support the UAE in implementing measures that position the country as a global leader in reducing illegal wildlife trade.

Sadly, there is a market for exotic animals that has a hugely detrimental impact on global biodiversity. This trade is so rife that it is the fourth largest illicit global trade after arms, human trafficking and drugs. The role of the UAE in this illegal trade includes trafficking of products and local demand for live species.

Breaking the links in the trade chain are essential to cracking down on illegal wildlife trafficking around the world. Demand and transit countries must work hard to systematically identify and target these links in order to break them down and crush the trade.

This isn't straightforward and requires input from all parties without exception. Government agencies responsible for implementing laws and building capacity must ensure those laws are correctly enforced. Private companies must learn more about the issue, abide by the law and enforce sustainable practices. And civil society must change behaviours and create awareness to stop this globally detrimental issue.

That's why WWF is working at an international and local level to change consumer behaviour, promote new laws and encourage the sustainable practices hand-in-hand with various stakeholders.

EWS-WWF believes that wild animals should remain in their natural habitat. So we are adding our voice and efforts to supporting the UAE in its bid to tackle the illegal trade of wildlife within and through its borders. While the country takes key steps, such as banning exotic animals as pets, we focus on supporting the existing efforts in the public and private sectors. We share our expertise and engage with our partners, particularly in the aviation and transport sectors.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS

2017 FOCUS AREAS



SKY-HIGH CONSERVATION

Engaging with the aviation and transport sectors is critical to stopping the illegal trade of wildlife in the UAE. To support these efforts, workshops aimed at building capacity and upscaling knowledge within the aviation industry were delivered in collaboration with the Ministry of Climate Change & Energy, General Civil Aviation Authority, Etihad and TRAFFIC. The workshops focused on a series of practical issues from basic information on trade routes and smuggling techniques, through to practical sessions on permit checking. A wider understanding of the UAE processes and challenges faced in the country is now helping officials and airline employees to tackle this issue head on.



UNITED FOR WILDLIFE

A collection of UAE-based organisations joined a plethora of international wildlife charities on the United for Wildlife campaign. This global movement for change seeks to deliver measures to reduce destructive trafficking with the ultimate aim of stamping out the illegal wildlife trade.

United for Wildlife was created by The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. It unites the world's leading wildlife charities under a common purpose. In the UAE, DPWorld, Dubai Customs World, Emirates and Etihad, with support from MOCCA and EWS-WWF, form part of its transportation task force committed to undertaking vital actions.



EMERGING TRADE TRENDS

Thanks to the aviation and transport workshops, officials working within the sector are now poised to share information on emerging techniques being used by wildlife smugglers as they are uncovered. This collaborative sharing of information is another critical piece as we endeavour to complete the puzzle and finally crack the destructive illegal trade of wildlife in and through the UAE.



SUPPORTING CHANGE

Throughout the coming year we will continue to support ongoing efforts that combat the illicit trade of wildlife. In particular we will support the Ministry of Climate Change & Environment as it seeks to develop a national plan of action on sharks. By sharing our expertise, and drawing on the wealth of specialised experience within the WWF network, we will provide critical inputs as the UAE strides towards stamping out this trade within and through its borders.



WILD LIVES

Attitudes and perceptions are changing around the need to keep animals in the wild. This shift in thinking is thanks to a series of high profile campaigns and news stories that have shaped and heightened public understanding of the negative impacts of the illegal wildlife trade and keeping exotic animals as pets. Our efforts to engage with the aviation and transport sector are proving fruitful in combatting the issue. Meanwhile we have been part of a coalition to implement measures that will reduce the trade in the UAE, ultimately helping wildlife stay where it belongs – in the wild.

COMMUNICATIONS OUR VISION

To establish EWS-WWF as a credible NGO partner to drive the conservation and environmental agenda in the UAE.

The UAE is a small but rapidly developing society which has a vast and complex communications landscape. This is primarily because of the diversity of its audiences, the speed of developments in technology and communications, and the sheer volume of communications channels and touchpoints, sharing millions of messages daily.

The dawn of digital has undeniably made it easier for organisations like EWS-WWF to share facts, knowledge and insight with the masses. However, the flip side of this is the amount of clutter that has been created by brands, for profit and not for profit, each competing for their audiences' attention and mindshare.

At EWS-WWF we wholeheartedly recognise that our audiences are one of our most valuable assets. That's why we will continue developing our communications strategies to more effectively engage with them and find ways to create content that resonates – delivering our message to the right audience, at the right time, through the right channel and in the right language.

Ultimately, we aim to build more rewarding, deeper, mutually beneficial relationships with a range of key audiences, enabling both our and their long term success in achieving sustainability goals.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS



CREATING AWARENESS OF CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES, PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

In 2016, we focused on raising awareness of two key programmes – Climate Change and Energy & Marine programme. This required communicating to a variety of audiences, both on climate change issues and the challenges faced by the marine environment – specifically the launch of Gulf Green Turtle Conservation 2016. Both campaigns gained considerable exposure through mainstream media and more targeted channels, building our credibility and awareness of our work within key stakeholder groups in the UAE.



DEVELOPING DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

To best respond to the needs of our audiences, we have developed and implemented the first phase of an integrated digital communications strategy. This included an update of our social media channels in 2016 and the planning for our website update in 2017.



SUCCESSFUL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE THE CARACAL CHALLENGE

In addition to raising awareness of the environmental challenges we face in the UAE, we also raised awareness of EWS-WWF's need for likeminded partners to support our work. The Caracal Challenge fundraising initiative saw more than 400 people from across the GCC navigate 15kms of the Abu Dhabi desert, under the night skies. The challenge was a great opportunity to re-connect participants to nature and raise their environmental awareness while supporting the funding of our terrestrial biodiversity programme.

2017 FOCUS AREAS



EFFECTIVELY ENGAGE WITH AND INSPIRE OUR AUDIENCES

Audience understanding will continue to be at the heart of our communications throughout 2017. We will carry on developing our strategies to powerfully engage with key stakeholder groups and keep on developing and improving the most relevant communications channels to reach these audiences.



DRIVE IMPACTFUL CONSERVATION COMMUNICATIONS

In 2017 we will continue to support conservation impact by delivering effective communication strategies for a number of vital topics including climate change, renewable energy, Gulf Green Turtle Conservation, broader marine planning and management, and our flagship campaign Earth Hour. Earth Hour is our longest running communications activity. For the past decade it has inspired UAE society to join hands locally and globally to stand up against climate change.



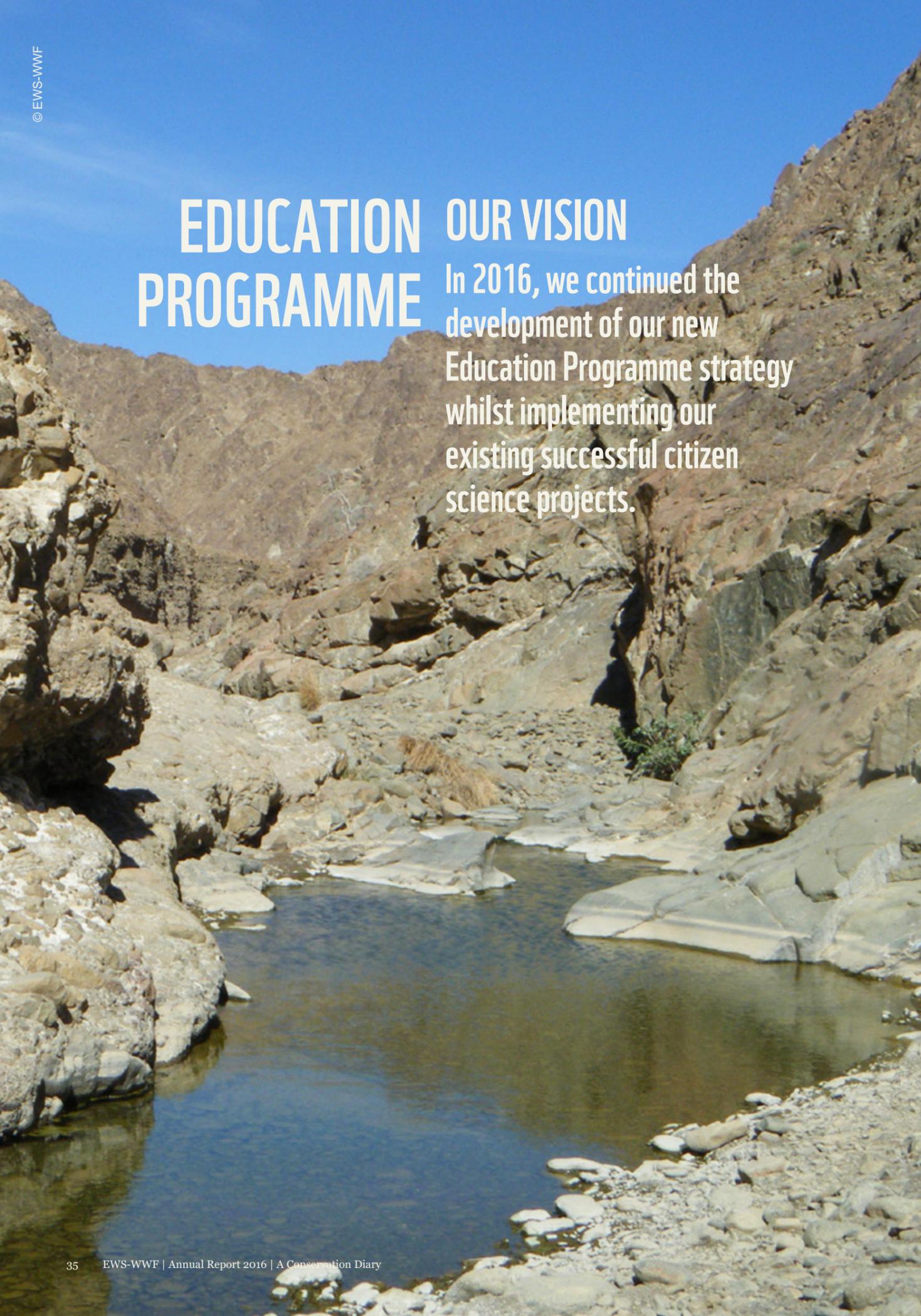
BRAND EVOLUTION

In 2016 we commenced with a brand evolution exercise which heralded the start of an exciting new chapter for EWS-WWF. Our evolved brand will further position EWS-WWF as an NGO partner of choice in the UAE, build a deeper connection with key target audiences and support our broader organisational goals in 2017 and beyond.

EDUCATION PROGRAMME

OUR VISION

In 2016, we continued the development of our new Education Programme strategy whilst implementing our existing successful citizen science projects.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS

235 VOLUNTEERS

ENGAGING EMPLOYEES - CONTRIBUTING TO CONSERVATION

The Water Research and Learning Programme (WRLP), implemented in Wadi Wurayah National Park, is a 4-year programme designed by Earthwatch Institute UK and funded by HSBC Bank Middle East as part of its Global Water Programme. The programme is facilitated and made possible through the strategic partnership and support of Fujairah Municipality.

The WRLP is hosted by the Water Research Centre (WRC), located at the entrance of Wadi Wurayah National Park in Fujairah which hosted 235 HSBC volunteers from 12 countries across the MENA region.

The programme's goal is to educate and raise awareness on freshwater issues and resources, encourage wise use of water resources, provide practical ways for individuals to reduce their water footprint, conduct freshwater ecological research, and develop policies & regulations for the national park, based on relevant scientific knowledge. The WRLP

conducts field research and educational activities that support ongoing conservation activities within Wadi Wurayah National Park, and offers participants an opportunity to contribute to important freshwater & conservation research.

Participants learned about freshwater ecosystems, natural resources and biodiversity at Wurayah National Park as well as conducting research, and contributing significant data that will be used in future conservation work for the Wadi.

In 2016, this Citizen Scientist programme helped tag 131 dragonflies and 28 toads to build a clearer picture of population size and distribution within the range. They recorded 21 Odonata species as well as performed 118 toad point counts and 158 freshwater watch tests. What's more, the Water Research and Learning Programme scored highly on feedback from participants, ranking it one of the highest scoring under HSBC's Global Water Programme.



2016 HIGHLIGHTS



CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH & LEARNING PROGRAMME

In 2016, we built the foundations for the highly anticipated Climate Change Research and Learning Programme, also to be executed in Wadi Wurayah National Park in cooperation with Fujairah Municipality. This Citizen Science Programme will be launched in 2017 with key strategic partners.



2017 FOCUS AREAS



EDUCATION STRATEGY

WWF global has identified Education as a priority across the WWF network. As a result EWS-WWF is playing an active role in the WWF global community of educators, through participation in WWF practice integration and strategy insight. EWS-WWF is also identifying key conservation priorities in developing a comprehensive education strategy to be launched in 2017.



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

EWS-WWF has been active in environmental education for 15 years. We believe environmental education is vital to create the social context to achieve our conservation objectives and to ensure the next generation of decision-makers will consider the environment in parallel with economic and social considerations. We will be launching two new educational projects in 2017. One is the Climate Change Research & Learning Programme in collaboration with DEWA. The other is a new programme for universities with Waha Capital. Both programmes are hosted in the research centre in Wadi Wurayah National Park, Fujairah, and offer the participants a unique learning experience and opportunity to connect with nature.

DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

OUR VISION

By 2020, to be thought of as the leading NGO in the environmental field and the most desirable NGO for the UAE's private sector to partner with.

GOOD FOR THE PLANET AND GOOD FOR BUSINESS

A healthy environment is the foundation for a strong and sustainable economy. The hope global agreements offer in tackling the most pressing environmental issues are important and promising, but the best accords are no more than words on paper if they are not implemented.

This implementation isn't the sole responsibility of governments. It's the shared duty of everyone: government, business and society. Equally however, it's also an opportunity – especially for the business community – to create innovative, smarter, more cost-effective and sustainable ways to succeed in increasingly competitive global markets.

With this in mind, our ultimate aim is to drive conservation impact and promote environmentally sustainable behaviours by directly engaging with businesses. We have built relationships with some of the fastest growing sectors including finance, tourism, retail and real estate to grow our pool of unrestricted funding. In return, we have offered tools to help businesses build their sustainability capacities, engage employees and spread environmental messages to employees, networks and customers.

Business partners can support EWS-WWF through investments in specific conservation projects and these sponsored projects can become an integral part of our conservation work. Such partnerships can also promote environmental awareness and responsible environmental practice among customers, employees, industry leaders and other stakeholders.

We recognise that many of our conservation projects would not be possible without the generous financial and in-kind support of business partners and sponsors. Without this type of backing, our country would be less equipped to build a strong, resilient and sustainable economy that is good for the planet and good for business.





2016 HIGHLIGHTS



PARTNERING ON SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The public-private NGO partnership with Fujairah Municipality, HSBC Bank Middle East Ltd, Earthwatch Institute and EWS-WWF continued in its fourth year to conduct research on water in Wadi Wurayah National Park, Fujairah. Water is the planet's most precious commodity and how we use it more effectively is a global challenge. Initiatives like the Water Research & Learning Programme empower individuals to consider that challenge and take action to preserve water, and the ecosystems dependent on it, for the future. The participants are mostly HSBC employees from the region, participating in a long-term freshwater monitoring programme.



MOVING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Illustrating how environmental strategies can align with business goals, EWS-WWF entered into a partnership with The Sustainable City, the Middle East's first net-zero-energy community. The Sustainable City operates with high environmental performance standards and serves as a model for future carbon-friendly developments. EWS-WWF will support the development's eco-performance through monitoring its greenhouse gas emissions. To ensure we keep our own operations as green as possible, we will also be relocating our Dubai offices to the Sustainable City in 2017.



ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

The Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) confirmed our long-term close partnership by renewing the agreement for another five years to jointly implement environmental conservation and education programmes on three key themes: Biodiversity, the UAE's Ecological Footprint and Climate Change. The partnership also includes capacity building of UAE nationals on environmental leadership and excellence.

SPECIAL 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

THE CARACAL CHALLENGE

In partnership with the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, this night-time endurance challenge, organised by Husaak Adventures, saw more than 400 people from across the GCC navigate 15kms under the stars in the beautiful Protected Area of the Razeen Desert of Abu Dhabi. This was one kilometre for every year EWS-WWF has been driving conservation in the country. The event secured funds for our Terrestrial Conservation Programme, raised public awareness and re-connected participants to nature.

SUPPORTING FIELD WORK

A highlight of support for Marine Conservation came from LUSH Cosmetics. As a sponsor, they cover the investment for field equipment under the Gulf Green Turtle Project such as specialised satellite transmitters and tagging tools. This assistance enables our team to implement cutting-edge research.

GREEN PANDA EVENTS

This year we launched Green Panda Events to inspire our partners' employees and families to live more sustainably. Kick-starting the initiative, we hosted a film screening of Bag It. More than 300 people attended the launch, co-organised with LOCO'MOTION and sponsored by Bureau Veritas and our corporate member, Canon Middle East. Later in the year, Beach Rotana selected EWS-WWF as the beneficiary of their annual Make A Difference day, raising support for our Marine Conservation Programme.

VALUABLE GIFTING 'IN-KIND'

On several occasions, our operational needs are covered by donations in-kind – or services by professionals and businesses that wish to contribute to our work, reducing our operational expenses. This includes free media coverage, provision of legal and other consultancy services, graphic design and granting of special equipment. In 2016, we received in-kind gifts and services worth over one million dirhams. Among the generous supporters were Oliver Wyman, McKinsey & Company, New York University, Linklaters, Dentons, Grant Thornton, Canon and Toyota.

INITIATIVES TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2017



ENVIRONMENTAL ENDOWMENT

Launched by the Mohammed bin Rashid Global Centre for Endowment Consultancy, this new Environment Endowment Fund contributes to conservation of the UAE's natural heritage. It seeks to inspire corporate social responsibility, backing sustainability initiatives and research, as well as helping to deepen public awareness on conservation issues. EWS-WWF is the sole benefactor of the Environmental Endowment.

Partners can visit our website uae.panda.org to learn how to join the environmental endowment.



YEAR OF GIVING

We are grateful to His Highness Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates for naming 2017 as the Year of Giving in the UAE. Its overall aim is to enable companies and individuals to increase social responsibility, volunteering and serving the nation. We will help make giving as easy as possible by facilitating new opportunities for organizations and individuals to make a difference throughout 2017.

THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS

Empowering businesses to operate sustainably is a top priority. The corporate membership is our long-term membership club for institutions wishing to make a positive difference to the environment. Activities have included a workshop hosted by ENGAGE Dubai on barriers to energy and water efficiency faced by UAE companies. We held a 'Great Green Race', sponsored by Yas Mall and Khidmah, pitting companies against each other in an obstacle course to raise awareness of marine conservation. Additionally, our corporate members, Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank and National Bank of Fujairah, contributed through ATM-giving. This platform also allowed us to raise awareness of key environmental issues and mobilise consumer action on a daily basis.

| | | | |
|----------|--|--------|---|
| Pearl | Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank | Gold | ACWA Power International |
| Pearl | Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi | Gold | Beach Rotana Abu Dhabi |
| Pearl | HSBC Bank Middle East Limited | Gold | British Orchard Nursery |
| Pearl | The Sustainable City by Diamond Developers | Gold | Canadian Business Council - Dubai and Northern Emirates |
| Pearl | Waha Capital | Gold | Clean Energy Business Council |
| Pearl | Yas Mall | Gold | Commanine |
| Platinum | Al Ain Zoo | Gold | Fairmont Bab Al Bahr |
| Platinum | Bridgestone Middle East & Africa | Gold | GCC Business Council |
| Platinum | Canon Middle East | Gold | GCC Services |
| Platinum | Crescent Enterprises | Gold | Gloria Hotels & Resorts |
| Platinum | Dentons | Gold | Imperial Group |
| Platinum | Emirates Green Building Council | Gold | Index Holding |
| Platinum | Emirates NBD | Gold | Khidmah |
| Platinum | Geant/Geant Easy | Gold | Liquid of Life |
| Platinum | Grant Thornton UAE | Gold | Middle East Solar Industry Association |
| Platinum | Gulftainer | Gold | Noukhada Adventure Company |
| Platinum | Husaak Adventures | Gold | Pico International |
| Platinum | ITP Publishing Group | Gold | Saeed & Mohammed Al Naboodah Holding |
| Platinum | Linklaters | Gold | The Sustainability Platform |
| Platinum | Majid Al Futtaim | Gold | World of Electricals |
| Platinum | Momentum Logistics | Gold | Wouter Kingma Productions |
| Platinum | Oliver Wyman | Silver | Bareen International Hospital (managed by Fakh Medical Centre, Abu Dhabi) |
| Platinum | SAPIN | Silver | Ecorent |
| Platinum | Union National Bank | Silver | Farnek |
| Platinum | Wells Fargo | Silver | Grand Hyatt Dubai |
| | | Silver | Hyatt Regency Dubai & Galleria |
| | | Silver | Swiss Business Council Dubai & Northern Emirates |

OUR THANKS TO PROGRAMME SUPPORTERS

We also extend heartfelt appreciation to organisations who have provided support for specific conservation programmes or projects, helping us deliver impactful and relevant work.

Marine Conservation Programme

UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi
Environment and Protected Areas Authority – Sharjah
Environmental Protection and Development Authority – Ras Al Khaimah
5 Oceans Environmental Services LLC
Environment Society of Oman
Marine Research Foundation
Ministry of Environment & Climate Affairs

Climate & Energy Programme

Diamond Developers
Dubai Electricity & Water Authority
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi
Prime Minister's Office
RTI International
UAE Ministry of Energy
UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment

Ecological Footprint Initiative partners

UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi
Emirates Authority for Standardisation and Metrology
Global Footprint Network

Ecological Footprint Initiative steering committee

UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment
UAE Ministry of Energy
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi
Emirates Authority for Standardisation and Metrology
Department of Municipal Affairs and Transport – Abu Dhabi
Dubai Supreme Council of Energy
Dubai Electricity & Water Authority
Executive Affairs Authority
Federal Electricity & Water Authority
Federal Transport Authority – Land & Maritime
Global Footprint Network
Regulation & Supervision Bureau – Abu Dhabi
Roads & Transport Authority – Dubai

Terrestrial Conservation Programme

Government of Fujairah
Fujairah Municipality
The Mohammed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund
HSBC Bank Middle East Limited
Earthwatch Institute UK
Ministry of Climate Change & Environment

Wildlife Trade Programme

UAE Ministry of Climate Change & Environment
Al Ain Zoo
Central Veterinary Research Labs
Dubai Airports
Dubai Municipality
DP World
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi
Emirates Airlines
Etihad Airways
IFAW

Education partners

Fujairah Municipality
HSBC Bank Middle East Limited
Earthwatch Institute

OTHER SUPPORTERS

We are grateful to a generous network of volunteers, grantors and other contributors, who relentlessly lent their time, expertise and other assistance for our work.

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| &Strom | Madinat Jumeirah Theatre |
| Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority | Marks & Spencer |
| Adventure HQ | Martin Chambers |
| Accenture | Mulebar |
| Al Bareen Hospital | Oasis Water |
| Anas Atieh | Retaish Bharadawaja |
| Anantara Desert Islands Resort & Spa | Ritz-Carlton Bahrain |
| Ané Heyneke | SANID |
| Babar Seddiqui (PointOne Marketing Communications) | Shraddha Laxman Kamath |
| Bureau Veritas | Sima Designz |
| DHL Altitude | Styck App |
| Dima Hatahet | Taiyaba Tariq |
| Ecorent | Tara Mann |
| Elle Runton | The Lime Tree Café |
| Global Green Growth Institute | Tracy Audencial |
| Grundfos Gulf Distribution | Urban Kinetics |
| Gulf International | Vasudha Bhatnagar |
| InkMash | Vishal Rajput |
| Katy Sleta | Waseem Salman |
| LOCO'MOTION – an initiative of Urban Bedou | WBC Group |

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

A new era for EWS-WWF is afoot thanks to the organisation's 2020 Strategy which is now being implemented. This has seen our team focus on the most challenging conservation issues facing the UAE since early 2016.

Naturally, to enable our strategy to really deliver what it promises, steady funding and partnerships are more important than ever, especially in light of the increasing urgency to tackle issues such as climate change.

To aid our conservation work, we have invested significant effort into our fundraising capacity, spending 18% of our budget on fundraising in 2016. We expect to reap the rewards of this investment by sourcing sustainable funding for our conservation programmes over the long-term.

While our income and expenditure declined from the previous year, our forecast for the year ahead is optimistic. We anticipate a financial recovery during 2017 as we will be rolling out our education programme.

It is with thanks to our sponsors and a plethora of community initiatives arranged by our corporate partners that we were able to continue delivering weighty outputs.

We are immensely grateful for the commitment to EWS-WWF afforded by our extended family of sponsors, corporate partners, donors and volunteers. It is thanks to you that regional conservation and sustainability solutions are increasingly possible.

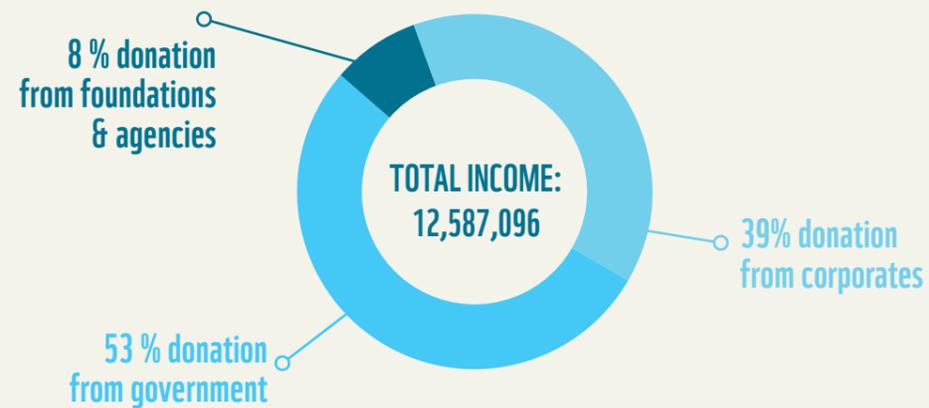


Tammy James,
Operations Director of
EWS-WWF

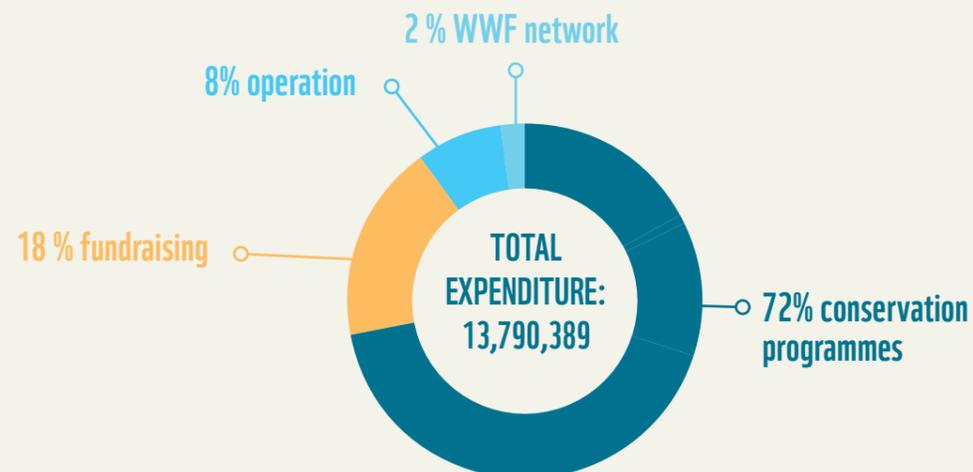
2016

| | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Total Income | 12,587,096 | 15,702,098 | 15,806,581.38 |
| Total Expenditure | 13,790,389 | 14,126,128 | 15,274,479.93 |

WHAT IS THE BREAKDOWN PERCENTAGE OF THAT AMOUNT?



WHAT IS THE PERCENTAGE ALLOCATED TO EACH PROGRAMME?



EWS-WWF TEAM IN 2016

EWS-WWF BOARD IN 2016:

CHAIRMAN

HE Mohammed Ahmed Al Bowardi

Minister of State for Defense Affairs, UAE and the Managing Director and board member of the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

HE Ahmed Ali Al Sayegh

CEO of Dolphin Energy Limited, and the Secretary General of the Executive Council of Abu Dhabi and board member of the Emirates Foundation

MANAGING DIRECTOR & TREASURE OF THE BOARD

HE Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak

Secretary General, Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Major Ali Saqr Sultan Al Suweidi

President, Emirates Marine Environmental Group, Dubai

MEMBERS

HE Majid Al Mansouri

Chairman of the Department of Municipal Affairs, Abu Dhabi

HE Hana Saif Al Suwaidi

Chairman of Environment and Protected Areas Authority, Sharjah

HE Engineer Mohamed Saif Al Afkham

Director General of Fujairah Municipality

HE Helal Al Marri

Director General, Dubai Dept. of Tourism and Commerce Marketing

Dr. Faraj A. Ahneish

Managing Partner, Hadeef & Partners

HE Eng. Hamdan Al Sha'er

Director, Environment Department, Dubai Municipality

HE Saeed Jaber Al Suwaidi

Chairman, Bin Jabr Group, Abu Dhabi

HE Captain Ibrahim Ahmed Al Tunaiji

Former Director of Ras Al Khimah Port Authority

MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Ida Tillisch
Laila Abdullatif
Paola Ferreira
Reem Althawadi
Simone Lawrence
Tammy James
Helena Carless

STAFF LIST:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Agnès Estay-Depardieu | Lisa Perry |
| Ajita Nayar | Manya Russo |
| Alexander Cloke | Marina Antonopoulou |
| Altaf Habib | Mehr Amin |
| Asif Mugloo | Monica Cooney |
| Avan Al Dabbagh | Nadia Rouchdy |
| Christopher Woodey | Noora Luotola |
| Daniell Mateos | Nour Mezher |
| Deepti Mittal | Oliver Kerr |
| Diana Eades | Olivia Medel |
| Dima Najim | Patricia Cabrera |
| Donald Recaña | Passant Selim |
| Elma Costales Supan | Rasha Abu Arshid |
| Ghada Nabil | Rizwan Mahmood |
| Hend Alsinawi | Sara Jallad |
| Huma Mehrzad | Shirine Habash |
| Jacky Judas | Sultan Mollov |
| Jimena Rodriguez | Tamara Withers |
| Khalid Mehmood | Tanzeed Alam |
| Lily Rahnema | Yasmin Baker |



Established in 2001 under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler's Representative in the Western Region, EWS-WWF's mission is to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to the environment by working with people and institutions in the UAE and the region to implement conservation solutions through science, research, policy, education, and awareness.

For more information about EWS-WWF, please visit uae.panda.org