

# EMIRATES NATURE: HISTORY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

## Emirates Nature: A true conservation leader in the UAE and beyond

Since 2001, Emirates Nature has operated at the forefront of efforts to drive positive change in the United Arab Emirates. Here you will find some of its success stories drawn from the past 18 years.



Through the Ecological Footprint Initiative (EFI), Emirates Nature and key senior government partners achieved an **estimated reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 1 million tonnes per year** through the implementation of the Indoor Lighting Standard.



Emirates Nature worked in partnership with the UAE Ministry of Energy and Industry to highlight the innovative policies, incentives and technologies that can accelerate the nation's progress towards **achieving its target of generating 44% of its domestic electricity from renewable sources by 2050**.



Emirates Nature has advised on a range of nature related policies and plans, such as the **development of the UAE National Climate Change Plan** in 2016, energy efficiency policy recommendations, and work in the areas of climate adaptation and greenhouse gas emissions.



Emirates Nature has hosted Earth Hour in the UAE since 2006 and as many as **five million people participated** in Earth Hour 2019.



Heroes of the UAE, delivered in partnership with EAD, provided advice in order to reduce water and energy consumption in households and businesses. It successfully **reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 16% each year** throughout the life of the programme.



Through the Be'ati Watani education programme, **delivered to more than 400,000 students** Emirates Nature sought has motivated young people to learn about the environment and become environmentally responsible citizens. The programme was endorsed by the Ministry of Education and supported by EAD.



Emirates Nature developed the reporting architecture to **accurately quantify and monitor the Sustainable City's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**.



With Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing (DTCM), and the Dubai Sustainable Tourism Initiative (DSTI), Emirates Nature **developed an innovative concept to reduce the consumption of electricity and water**.



Emirates Nature **spearheaded the formation of a Plastics Packaging Recovery Steering Committee** with senior representatives from industry to develop, fund and implement a plastic circular economy proof-of-concept project in Abu Dhabi.



Emirates Nature's **two marine turtle projects** have informed UAE marine management and planning, including the UAE National Plan of Action for Turtles developed by Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA).



The Habitat Map of the Northern Emirates was created by Emirates Nature to assist the UAE Government in **identifying Areas of Particular Importance to Marine Biodiversity (APIMB)** that require official protection. The Map was endorsed by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA).



Emirates Nature has a ten-year legacy in Wadi Wurayah National Park, having been appointed by the Government of Fujairah to **lead the development and oversee the management of Wadi Wurayah as a National Park**.



Emirates Nature has **operated multiple citizen science projects** including its Water Research and Learning Programme in partnership with HSBC and Fujairah Municipality, and the Climate Change Research and Learning Programme in partnership with Dubai Electricity and Water Authority and Fujairah Municipality, which educated thousands of citizen scientists on sustainability issues and solutions.



Emirates Nature **identified 55 freshwater species** from Wadi Wurayah that are new to science and discovered **two new owl species and three new bat species** previously unrecorded in the Hajar mountain range.



Emirates Nature started a freshwater project to restore and secure both national and international recognition for **the protection of traditional falaj irrigation systems** in UAE communities.