BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT POLICY

هـيـئـة الـبـيـئـة - أبـوظـبـي
Environment Agency - ABU DHABI

The Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) is a government body established in 1996, committed to protecting the terrestrial and marine biodiversity and enhancing the quality of the environment of Abu Dhabi Emirate through strategic partnerships with the public and private sectors on both local and international levels. Furthermore, EAD adopts the best international and local practices, encourages innovation and hard work towards applying preventive measures and effective policies to protect the environment. EAD seeks to promote environmental awareness and sustainable development and to ensure the continued inclusion of environmental issues among the most important priorities in the national agenda.

Purpose

The policy aims at emphasising the commitment of EAD's leadership in ensuring the agency's ability to continue its vital activities during emergencies, crises, and disasters, or due to a sudden interruption of institutional business. It also aims to enable the agency in reducing the interruption duration of vital activities to an acceptable performance level, within acceptable time frames and predetermined capabilities.

Through this policy we aim at:
- Developing and implementing the BCM system to ensure institutional resilience, continuity of vital activities, and restoration of business continuity, to secure the restoration of fundamental and vital services within a specific time. It strives to preserve the agency's gains and the interest of the strategic partners at the same time.
- Securing the fundamental resources to ensure an effective and integrated management of the agency's BCM system.
- Establishing the abilities and raise the efficiency of the institutional performance to ensure the readiness of the agency during emergencies, crises, and disasters.
- Managing the crises effectively to minimize the negative impact on people, services, operations, the environment, properties, and corporate reputation.

Framework

The framework of implementing BCM in EAD complies with the requirements and specifications mentioned in the national standard AE / SCNS / NCEMA 7000: 2021 and the international standard ISO 22301: 2019 and their updates. It is also based on determining the levels of risks included in the existing and certified risk assessment methodology.

Scope

This policy is applicable to all organizational units, main operations, activities, jobs and vital functions, including projects, procedures, and work teams in EAD.

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Our Vision

"A healthy, well-protected and sustainable environment that enhances quality of life."

Our Mission

To protect the environment and promote sustainability, through innovative environmental management, and impact-oriented policies and regulations, in collaboration with our partners and the broader community.

Our Strategic Priority Areas

1. Secure the resilience of Abu Dhabi through mitigation from and adaptation to climate change, and protection of our air and marine water.
2. Sustainably manage our groundwater.
3. Empower optimized waste management and encourage circular economy principles.
4. Ensure the conservation, protection, and enhancement of our rich biodiversity.
5. Drive integrated environmental policy and regulation instruments.
6. Establish evidence-based environmental enforcement, rigorous permitting and compliance.
7. Leverage advanced data analytics and lead environmental R&D and outreach activities.

Our Policy & Commitment

We commit to implement the following principles:

- Effectively manage EAD BCM system and implement all local, federal, international, contractual legislations and legal requirements. Also, follow-up their implementation within the scope of work.
- Prepare BCM system frameworks of developing, implementing and following-up of related goals and performance indicators. In addition, provide necessary resources to achieve relevant goals and objectives.
- Determine risks resulting from the operations, institutional work, activities and vital functions carried out by the agency, and set necessary procedures and programs to ensure EAD's ability to continue its vital activities during emergencies, crises and disasters.
- Develop related work procedures for organizational resilience and BCM system in the agency and define roles and responsibilities with partners to ensure effective and optimal implementation.
- Raise efficiency of cadres and capacity building by providing specialized training programs in aspects related to management of institutional resilience and business continuity.
- Enhance awareness of EAD business continuity system procedures to enable employees, customers, service providers, visitors and relevant partners to contribute to the implementation of business continuity system.
- Implement drills and exercises and provide necessary support to ensure effective implementation of business continuity plan in the agency during emergencies, crises and disasters.
- Make comparisons and standard approaches to apply best practices of corporate resilience and BCM systems.
- Document, implement and conduct periodic administrative review and ensure continuous improvement of EAD BCM system.
- Share this policy with all internal and external stakeholders through available means and ensure periodic reviews of this policy.

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Secretary General