

Environmental Emergency and Crises Management Policy

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 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.

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 ensure protecting 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

This policy aims at confirming EAD's top management commitment to implement all legislation and requirements concerning environmental emergency and crises management, that aim at protecting the environment and its elements, as well as, mitigating the impacts of emergencies and crises in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, through an integrated system for emergency and crisis management consisted of risk mitigation strategies, advance planning and preparedness, prevention, and recovery. Thus, EAD has set the following principal objectives to achieve effective management and recovery from emergency or crisis events:

- Protecting lives.
- Protecting the environment and reducing adverse impacts.
- Protecting resources and assets.
- Protecting and maintaining EAD and Abu Dhabi Emirate's reputation.

Framework

EAD environmental emergencies and crises management framework is consistent and in compliance with the following guidelines:

- National Emergency, Crises, and Disaster Management Authority (NCEMA) standards and requirements.
- Abu Dhabi Executive Council requirements.
- Abu Dhabi Local Emergency, Crises, and Disaster Management Team.
- EAD risk management methodology.

Scope

This policy is applicable within the geographic jurisdictions of Abu Dhabi emirate. The scope also includes providing support to relevant authorities in the emirate and assuring effective liaison and coordination via an integrated system of emergency, crises, and disaster management.

Our Policy & Commitment

We commit to care and implement the following principles:

- Implement all local, federal, international, contractual legislations, legal requirements, and any other relevant requirements and follow up their implementation; In order to preserve the environment and ensure integration with local and international standards in terms of planning, preparedness and effective response.
- Effectively manage environmental emergency and crisis management system, in

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coordination with our strategic stakeholders, through advance preparedness, effective emergency response, prevention, and recovery planning, and activating early detection systems, in order to prevent the occurrence of serious threats that may have an impact on the environment in the short or long term.

- Conduct benchmark to apply best practices in environmental emergencies and crises management.
- Identify relevant environmental risks through periodic review, assessment, and evaluation in line with the Abu Dhabi emirate local risk register.
- Develop work-related standard operating procedures for environmental emergencies and crises, that determine the roles and responsibilities with internal stakeholders within EAD and strategic stakeholders at the emirate level.
- Enhance efficiency of cadres and ensure capacity building via providing specialized training and awareness programs and mock exercises related to environmental emergencies and crises and ensure the promotion of environmental emergencies and crisis management system at the emirate level.
- Provide scientific advice to strategic stakeholders and decision-makers regarding environmental emergencies and crises management.
- Ensure that documentation, implementation, management review, and continuous improvement are in place for an effective environmental emergencies and crises management system.
- Ensure the communication of this policy to all EAD employees, strategic stakeholders, and interested parties through various available means, and ensure periodic reviews of this policy.



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