

Climate change



The UAE is classified among the categories of countries with highest rate of vulnerability to the potential impacts of climate change in the world. This will result in warmer weather, less precipitation, droughts, higher sea levels and more storms.



The consequences of these impacts are intense on infrastructure, human health and natural habitat, which affect various development sectors and policies including socio-economic, health and environment.

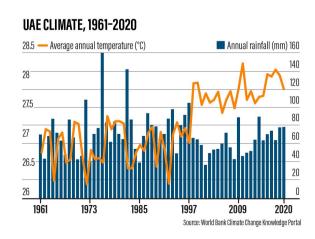
On the other hand, the economic boom and population growth increase the demand on energy, water and natural resources, which indirectly contribute to the levels of carbon dioxide emissions and climate change in general.

The UAE plays a central role in the world's energy economy as a supplier of fossil fuels, which gives the country an important stake in finding solutions to cutting emissions while still providing the world with the energy it needs.

The UAE has engaged in the fight against climate change because it recognizes the risks of inaction and the global responsibility it is committed to.

Impact of climate change:

- Sea levels
- Water resources and natural disasters
- Human health



Animals and plants

UAE net Zero

The UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative is a national drive to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, making the Emirates the first Middle East and North Africa (MENA) nation to do so.

Strategic alignment

The initiative aligns with the Principles of the 50 - the UAE's roadmap for accelerating national economic development to mark the country's golden jubilee year, as the nation enters a new 50-year cycle of growth. The major economic opportunities offered by the path to net zero directly support a vision to develop the Emirates into the most dynamic economy in the world.

The UAE Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative aligns with the Paris Agreement, which calls on countries to prepare long-term strategies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and limit the rise in global temperature to 1.5 C compared to pre-industrial levels.

Coordination of efforts

The Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE) will lead and coordinate efforts to execute the UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative and ensure collaboration at national level to fulfil this objective. Stakeholders in key sectors, such as energy, economy, industry, infrastructure, transport, waste, agriculture, and the environment, will update relevant plans, strategies, and policies, and implement initiatives and projects to achieve net zero by 2050 in line with their needs and growth requirements.

Federal and local government authorities will be responsible for preparing comprehensive studies and developing plans that introduce the measures necessary to reduce emissions while also ensuring economic growth based on principles of sustainability.

Renewable energy

The deployment and use of clean energy solutions is one of the main pillars of the UAE's model of addressing the challenge of climate change and reducing GHG emissions. The country began financing clean energy projects more than 15 years ago, and has invested over 40 billion USD in the sector to date. Current trends predict the production capacity of clean energy, including solar and nuclear, to reach 14 GW by 2030, up from about 100 MW in 2015 and 2.4 GW in 2020.

The UAE supports green infrastructure and clean energy projects worldwide, and has invested in renewable energy ventures worth around 16.8 billion USD in 70 countries with a focus on developing nations. It has also provided more than 400 million USD in aid and soft loans for clean energy projects.

The UAE's history of climate action

The UAE Net Zero by 2050 strategic initiative builds on the country's three decades of climate efforts and represents a strategic target for the next three decades.

{ https://youtu.be/viCiw2vONiY }

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) joined the CCAC in 2019, demonstrating its support for minimizing air pollution and short-lived climate pollutant (SLCP) emissions. The UAE is situated in a region extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as warmer weather, less precipitation, droughts, higher sea levels and increased frequency of dust and sand storms. Therefore, the short-term benefits of reducing SLCP emissions will be increasingly important for the country in the near future.

Her Excellency Mariam bint Mohammed Almheiri, Minister of Climate Change and Environment, said: "The UAE is a keen supporter of global efforts to address climate change. Recognizing the urgent need for multilateral cooperation in this regard, as a proud member of the Climate & Clean Air Coalition, we reaffirm our commitment to cutting down on SLCP emissions across all sectors through domestic policy-making and developing innovative solutions. Reducing the atmospheric presence and effect of these substances will help us slow the rate of climate change."

In December 2020, the UAE submitted its second NDC, which highlighted an enhanced greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target of 23.5% by 2030 compared to the 2030 business-as-usual scenario. The key emissions covered by the revised commitments include emissions from the energy, industrial processes, product use, waste, agriculture, land use and forestry sectors.

September 2022, the UAE updated its second NDC, raising the emission reduction target to 31 per cent, with key contributions from electricity generation, industry, transport, carbon capture, utilization, storage (CCUS), and waste management.

As a Group 2 Article 5 party to the Kigali Amendment, the UAE is scheduled to freeze the consumption and production of HFCs in 2028 and reach 85% reductions from baseline production and consumption by 2047.

At the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in 2021, the UAE and the US jointly announced the launch of the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate) initiative. This initiative aims to increase support for and investments in climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation to enable solutions at the intersection of global hunger and the climate crisis.

Recourses:

- https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zerocoalition#:~:text=Through%20this%20UN%2Dbacked%20campaign,Off%20Air
- https://u.ae/en/information-and-services/environment-and-energy/climate-change/climate-change
- https://www.wam.ae/en/details/1395303098740
- https://www.ccacoalition.org/en/partners/united-arab-emirates