



القمة العالمية للاقتصاد الأخضر

WORLD GREEN ECONOMY SUMMIT

20– 21 October 2019 ٢٠-٢١ أكتوبر ٢٠١٩

Dubai, United Arab Emirates دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة

ORGANIZED BY

هيئة كهرباء ومياه دبي
Dubai Electricity & Water Authority



WORLD GREEN ECONOMY ORGANIZATION

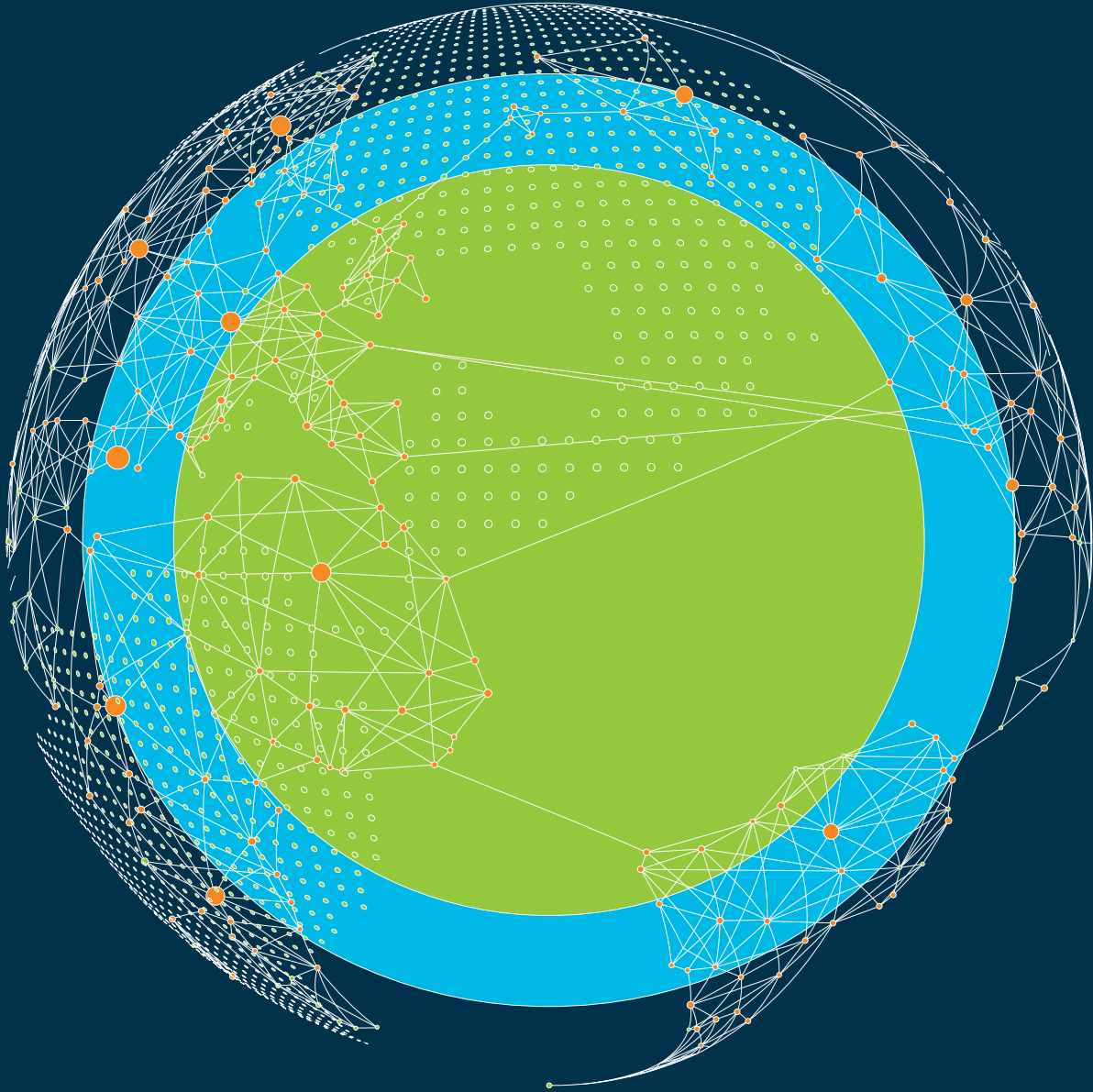
CONCEPT NOTE

20 – 21ST OCTOBER 2019

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

#WGES2019



SUMMIT OVERVIEW

The World Green Economy Summit (WGES) is one of the largest and most anticipated forums on the green economy, bringing together thousands of decision makers from the public and private sectors from around the world. Held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, the annual event serves as a strategic meeting point to establish dialogue, activate partnerships and exchange experiences.

Now in its sixth year, WGES invites policymakers, government officials, international business leaders and world-renowned experts to discuss strategies that can advance sustainability and promote green investments.

More than 9,500 companies have joined UN Global Compact, the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative, voluntarily pledging to adopt sustainable and socially responsible policies, and to report on their implementation. This is up from 8,000 companies in 2018. Additionally, 50 countries have agreed to present voluntary reviews of their progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN's High-Level Political Forum in July 2019, up from 47 countries in 2018.

As the figures show, sustainability is garnering more attention than any point in history. With the decline of natural resources and the rise in social responsibility, consumers are increasingly demanding ethically sourced and environmentally friendly goods. As governments enforce energy and resource efficiency policies, sustainable business practices will have a competitive advantage in the years to come, and with most consumers willing to pay more for sustainable products as several surveys have shown, a green economy is the only viable way forward.

The continued debate around the green economy will be crucial to determining what kind of actions governments, businesses, and communities should take to achieve the SDGs by 2030. WGES seeks to drive such dialogue amongst industry stakeholders, encouraging international partnerships and showcasing innovative solutions that could be applied across different markets.

Led by a diverse line-up of high-profile speakers, WGES 2019 will explore three key themes: Towards Sustainable Development, International Cooperation Towards a Green Economy System and Adoption of Green Innovative Solutions. The sixth edition will take place at the Dubai International Convention & Exhibition Centre on October 20-21st, 2019.

WGES is organised by the Dubai Electricity & Water Authority and World Green Economy Organisation and is held under the patronage of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President Prime Minister of UAE and The Ruler of Dubai, in cooperation with Dubai Supreme Council of Energy and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

SUMMIT THEME

Under the slogan of **“Innovative Technologies for a Sustainable Economy”**, WGES 2019 will concentrate on the following themes.

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Governments, businesses and societies all over the world have started to mobilize efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Over the next decade, the UN's 193 member states are expected to work towards these benchmarks in a bid to end poverty, fight social inequality and deal with climate change. However, the success of these goals will depend on each country's sustainable development plans and the action they take to monitor progress and collect data.

WGES 2019 will look at the progress made towards achieving the SDGs, especially across the private sector, which is a main partner in sustainable development. Policymakers and sustainability experts will identify the biggest barriers to this transition, while looking at ways to increase clean energy and water access in developing countries.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TOWARDS A GREEN ECONOMY SYSTEM



As humanity's challenges become more complex and interrelated, solving global issues is becoming increasingly dependent on international cooperation and the sharing of knowledge towards a greener eco-system. To accelerate the green economy transition, governments and businesses need to collaborate more efficiently and engage in constructive dialogue. Only through international cooperation can individual nations overcome the interconnected crises of social inequality, environmental degradation and economic instability.

WGES 2019 will discuss the importance of global cooperation in realising the SDGs and the policies that could facilitate such collaborative work. It will explore the ideal international climate that is needed for achieving the SDGs, looking at areas such as promoting sustainable development through trade liberalisation, providing financial resources to developing countries, and dealing with international debt.

ADOPTION OF GREEN INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS



Innovation is critical to the new world of sustainability and helps distinguish between leaders and followers. In the past, the business case for sustainability centred on conventional factors such as cost saving and risk management. Today, leading companies across different industries have realised the opportunities within sustainability challenges to re-invent products and services, to achieve enormous market advantages. The question is, who can generate innovative solutions to solve the world's biggest sustainability challenges? How can we get more companies to adapt and embrace green technologies?

WGES 2019 will look at ways in which businesses can use innovation as a tool to enable sustainable development and realise the SDGs. Environmental experts, technologists and business leaders will share their thoughts on how to spur innovation in the commercial sphere and how to scale existing innovations across industries and markets.

SUMMIT OBJECTIVES

WGES 2019 aims to deliver on its objectives through the following goals:

1

Address the challenges impeding the transition to a green economy and assess the progress made so far on the SDGs

2

Encourage international cooperation and drive dialogue between the public and private sectors

3

Discuss how to accelerate the growth of green ecosystems and smart cities

4

Identify incentives for the production and consumption of eco-friendly products

5

Explore the impact of technology on the green economy and the need for innovation across industries

ACHIEVEMENTS OF WGES

2018

WGES hosted the first WGEO preparatory conference attended by high-profile representatives from at least 60 countries.

The launch of the first “World Green Economy Report – Inspiring Innovations in Business, Finance and Policy” in collaboration with the University of Cambridge and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

WGES hosted the “Silk Road Mayors’ Meeting on South-South Cooperation” in Smart Green Cities and Tourism.

Initiation of the Green Gate Initiatives to encompass all the green programmes that will streamline the sustainable journey.

The launch of the E-Sayyara campaign, a first-of-its-kind initiative in the region that aims to increase awareness on electric vehicles.

2017

DEWA and National Bonds launch the Green Fund, providing initial funding of AED 2.4 billion (654\$ million).

The World Green Economy Organisation (WGEO) launches the ‘Countries Platform’, with South Korea, Italy and the UAE the inaugural country members.

2016

Dubai launches the World Green Economy Organisation (WGEO) in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Dubai establishes a Public-Private Partnership Platform to facilitate and demonstrate innovative projects, partnerships and technology related to the green economy.

2015

The launch of the annual ‘Dubai Green Economy Report’, showcasing Dubai’s green economy projects and initiatives.

The Dubai Supreme Council of Energy and UNIDO sign an MoU to establish a regional R&D centre for sustainable energy.

DUBAI DECLARATION

The Dubai Declaration is a strategic commitment underlying the development of WGES, which aligns with the long-term vision of establishing Dubai as the 'Global Capital of the Green Economy'.

The Dubai Declaration of 2018 include key commitments to:

1

Fast-track green investments into bankable smart city projects with the support of the World Green Economy Organisation (WGEO) and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).

2

Empower the young entrepreneurs who have the potential to generate innovative, sustainable solutions that will contribute to advancing green growth and sustainable development at the local, regional and international levels.

3

Work on the Green Gate Initiatives, to encompass all the green programmes that will streamline the sustainable journey.

4

Increase global cooperation towards sustainability through the World Green Economy Organization.



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