

‘NO PAPER DAY QATAR’ RALLIES VITAL SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN QATAR

Campaign Received Considerable Support from Qatar’s Private Sector Companies

Doha, Qatar, April 10, 2017: Fifty companies and institutions mainly from Qatar’s private sector took part in Qatar Green Building Council’s (QGBC) fifth annual ‘No Paper Day Qatar’ campaign. The campaign was held from April 2 – 6 in Qatar to engage the wider community in environmentally-friendly practices and raise awareness about the importance of sustainability.

As part of the campaign, businesses and individuals endeavored to collect recyclable waste such as newspapers and magazines, office paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, plastic cups and jugs, and aluminium and steel cans. The campaign also called on members of the community to donate old clothes and toys in a drive to help those living in less privileged conditions.

Campaign partners Global Metals and Al-Suwaidi Paper Factory, handled and processed the collected waste within their factories. Another partner, Qatar Charity, managed the donation aspect of the campaign.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the campaign, Engineer Meshal Al Shamari, Director, QGBC, said: “It’s encouraging to see such far-reaching participation from Qatar’s government and private sectors. It’s indicative of the very fact that creating sustainable communities can only be achieved through partnerships and the active role of the country’s public and private sector, which is the backbone of the national economy. The wide-ranging support and enthusiasm exhibited by the fifty or so businesses and institutions over the past week is encouraging for us to take bolder steps towards tackling the sustainability issues we face today, especially waste management in the country.”

Coming from the hospitality, retail, construction and real-estate, education, sports, entrepreneurship, NGO and technology sectors in Qatar, the active role of participating companies was recognized in an appreciation event held at the QGBC Villa last week.

Sheikh Soud Al Thani, Head of Sustainability of ASTAD Project Management, a participant of this year’s campaign, said: “This is the second year that we are taking part in this campaign. It is an ideal opportunity for all of us at ASTAD to reflect on our operations, measure the various types of waste generated in-house and find effective ways to either reduce, or recycle. We would like to make sure the messages received through the campaign are highlighted among members of our team throughout the year to ensure the impact is further maximized.”

Kuruvila Manipadam Personnel and L&D manager of Mövenpick Hotel West Bay Doha, present at the appreciation event, said: “Over the past number of years, our sustainability team has used this campaign as a learning opportunity to develop waste reduction schemes for our hotel.

We have reduced paper consumption within our premises and have employed various electronic means as replacements for paper usage. Also, we used this opportunity to hold sustainability trainings and workshops for our employees to make sure they receive at least the basic education to deal with the waste generated as a result of their work.”

QGBC, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), is working towards creating a sustainable future through sustainability research, outreach and education. To learn more about QGBC and its upcoming events, visit: <http://www.qatargbc.org/>

Image Caption

Image 1: Representatives of companies and institutions that participated in this year’s No Paper Day Campaign were recognized at an appreciation event at Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC) Villa.

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About Qatar Green Building Council:

Qatar Green Building Council (QGBC) is a non-profit, membership-driven organisation providing leadership and encouraging collaboration in conducting environmentally sustainable practices for green building design and development in Qatar. QGBC also aims to support the overall health and sustainability of the environment, the people, and economic security in Qatar for generations to come. The council, a member of Qatar Foundation, was formally established in 2009 by a decree signed by Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser and is helping Qatar on its journey to establish a post-hydrocarbon, knowledge economy and progressive society. Through QGBC, Qatar is part of a network of 80 countries that run active national green building councils under the umbrella of the World Green Building Council.

QGBC’s members include, representatives from government, real estate developers, investors, facilities managers, consultants, constructors, manufacturers & suppliers, oil & gas, professional firms, financial services, telecom/technology, academia, NGOs & media.

QGBC is setting up operations from its HQ, organising awareness events, knowledge seminars, training, forums, and networking sessions with the like-minded. To learn more, please visit www.qatargbc.org.

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