

December 2023

Saudi Green Initiative

SGI TALKS PROGRAM

[GREENINITIATIVES.GOV.SA](https://greeninitiatives.gov.sa)

SGITalks 2023



I Fireside Chat Everyday at 3:00 – 3:30pm

30 Nov

From Ambition to Action – Saudi Green Initiative

This session will offer an overview of the SGI journey since its launch as well as insights into what has been achieved so far: over 40 million trees have been planted across Saudi Arabia, 150,000 homes are already powered by clean energy, and last year 1,200 endangered animals were rewilded in 15 locations across the Kingdom.

Moderated by: Rawan Radwan, Journalist and Moderator, Arab News

- Dr. Abdullah Alsubaie, Advisor, Ministry of Energy, Saudi Arabia
- Wael Bushah, General Manager of Environmental Awareness, Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Saudi Arabia

1 Dec

From Desert to Oasis: 10bn Trees

Saudi Arabia's ambitious tree-planting initiative, which is focused on growing 10 billion trees, exemplifies a visionary commitment to combat desertification, reduce carbon emissions, and restore ecosystems. What steps is Saudi Arabia taking to ensure it reaches its target and what are the challenges it faces? What is the potential impact that this initiative could have on the Middle East and beyond?

Moderated by: Rawan Radwan, Journalist and Moderator, Arab News

- Dr. Peiyong Hong, Professor of Environmental Science and Engineering KAUST, Saudi Arabia
- Eng. Ahmad Alenzi, National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification

2 Dec

Mental Health and Environment in the MENA Region

In today's world, people are increasingly mindful of the potential effects of climate change and the uncertainties surrounding its impact on their future. This heightened awareness has led to a common experience called climate anxiety, which can have a significant impact on individuals' mental well-being. How can taking action help reduce anxiety? And what are examples of community engagement activities that individuals could take part in to alleviate climate anxiety?

Moderated by: Rawan Radwan, Journalist and Moderator, Arab News

- Munira AlHazani, Founder & President, Saudi Arabian Botanical Society, Saudi Arabia
- Raghad Fathaddin, Founder & CEO, Sangha Estidama Hub, Saudi Arabia

3 Dec

The Role of Philanthropy in Promoting Green Jobs

The transition to global environmental sustainability holds immense promise, not only for the planet but also for job creation on an unprecedented scale. Yet, achieving a green economy is a multifaceted endeavor. What innovative approaches can NGOs employ to not only champion green jobs but also connect workers with opportunities in the expanding green sector?

Moderated by: Rawan Radwan, Journalist and Moderator, Arab News

- H.H. Princess Nouf bint Muhammad Al Saud, CEO, King Khalid Foundation, Saudi Arabia

5 Dec

Circular Carbon Economy - Reducing the Cost of Closing the Loop

By systematically closing the carbon loop, CCE aims to minimize carbon emissions and maximize resource efficiency, transitioning into a model that continually reuses, recycles, and repurposes carbon. Saudi Arabia's pioneering innovations, policy initiatives, and collaborative endeavors position the country at the forefront of circular carbon research, contributing to a transformative approach in the fight against climate change and establishing a model for global carbon stewardship.

Moderated by: Najla AlSudairy, Policy and Awareness Supervisor, Oil Sustainability Program

- Eng. Fahad Alajlan, President, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC), Saudi Arabia
- Dr. Bassam Fattouh, Director, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies (OIES), United Kingdom
- Faisal Al-Musa, General Manager, Clean Hydrocarbon Technologies Support Department, Ministry of Energy, Saudi Arabia



6 Dec	<p>Energy Efficiency Powered by New Technologies Energy efficiency is a crucial factor in the oil and gas industry's efforts to reduce its environmental impact and improve sustainability. From production and transportation to processing and refining, there is significant potential for the industry to improve efficiency and lower emissions. Technologies like advanced sensors, artificial intelligence, and digital twins can help optimize operations and reduce waste, while partnerships between industry and government can drive innovation and adoption of energy-saving practices. How can energy efficiency be leveraged to reduce emissions and improve sustainability in the oil and gas industry? What innovative technologies or practices can be implemented to enhance energy efficiency in oil and gas operations?</p> <p>Moderated by: Rawan Radwan, Journalist and Moderator, Arab News</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Hussein Hoteit, Professor of Energy Resources and Petroleum Engineering, KAUST, Saudi Arabia • Dr. Mohammed Muaafa, Director of Technical Services, Tarshid, Saudi Arabia
7 Dec	<p>Mainstreaming Biodiversity across the Economy At the intersection of preserving the Earth's rich biodiversity and fostering economic prosperity, how can economic sectors and businesses be incentivized to incorporate biodiversity into their operations, beyond just sustainability rhetoric? Furthermore, how can policymakers and businesses work together to strike a balance between economic growth and biodiversity conservation, ensuring a harmonious coexistence of nature and commerce?</p> <p>Moderated by: Moderated by: H.H. Prince Mishari T. Al Saud, Chairman and Co Founder, Faseel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Mazen Asiri, Executive Director, Climate Change Center, Saudi Arabia
8 Dec	<p>An Outlook on Saudi Youth Green Ambitions The next generation is vital in driving positive change, forging innovative solutions, and catalyzing transformative action to combat climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainability issues. This session provides a platform for inspiring stories, strategies, and collaborative efforts that empower emerging eco-leaders to take charge.</p> <p>Moderated by: Moderated by: H.H. Prince Mishari T. Al Saud, Chairman and Co Founder, Faseel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Othman Almoamar, Chair, Y20, Saudi Arabia • Najat Alhashim, Environmental Advocate & Environment and Sustainability Graduate, Saudi Arabia • Anwar Gasim, SELA
9 Dec	<p>Reef Resilience: Developing Climate Change Solutions Coral reefs, often referred to as the rainforests of the sea, are facing increasing threats due to the ongoing challenges posed by climate change and human activities. In response to these challenges, the G20 Coral Research & Development Accelerator Platform (CORDAP) has embarked on a mission to develop scalable solutions for the preservation of these vital marine ecosystems. What innovative restoration methods and conservation strategies can be employed to protect these essential marine habitats?</p> <p>Moderated by: H.H. Prince Mishari T. Al-Saud, Chairman and Co-Founder, Faseel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khaled Alshaikh, National Center for Wildlife, Saudi Arabia



10 Dec **Boosting Food Security in the Face of Climate Change**
Food security is considered one of the top socioeconomic challenges our world faces. And climate change doesn't make it any better. Climate change threatens access to nutrient-rich, stable, sufficient, and secure food for all people at all times. How have experts responded to this pressing issue? And what role do individuals play in the fight against food security?

- Dr. Ahmed Ali Alghamdi, National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification, Saudi Arabia

Moderated by: H.H. Prince Mishari T. Al-Saud, Chairman and Co-Founder, Faseel

11 Dec **Greening the Economy through Financing**
At COP28, finance will emerge as a pivotal cross-cutting theme. This multifaceted dimension encompasses critical issues ranging from water and food security to youth empowerment, gender equity, trade dynamics, renewable energy, and resilient relief systems. The mobilization of financial resources and innovative funding mechanisms will play a paramount role in realizing the sustainable transformation needed to combat climate change. Effective financial strategies are key to building a more equitable and resilient world.

- Hawazen Nassief, Head of Sustainability and Stewardship, PIF, Saudi Arabia
- Rasees S. AlSaud, Senior Director, Head of Financial Institutions & Investor, Relations, Global Capital Finance, PIF, Saudi Arabia

Moderated by: Mashael Alshalan, Co-founder, Aeon Collective

12 Dec **Energy-Efficient Buildings - the Promise of New Materials & Technologies**
Released at the latest round of climate talks in Egypt, COP27, the 2022 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction finds that the sector accounted for over 34% of energy demand. What measures can be taken to improve building energy performance, decrease the carbon footprint of building materials, and increase investment in energy efficiency in order to decarbonize the buildings and construction sector by 2060?

- Abdulaziz Alsubaihi, Saudi Energy Efficiency Center

Moderated by: H.H. Prince Mishari T. Al-Saud, Chairman and Co-Founder, Faseel



Thank you