



إكسبو 2020
دبي الإمارات العربية المتحدة
DUBAI UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



المجلس العالمي
WORLD MAJLIS

in collaboration with



Expo 2020 Dubai

WORLD MAJLIS AGENDA

CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY WEEK

3-9 October 2021



EARTH 2.0:

Reengineering Planet Earth

in collaboration with the Maldives

DATE Thursday, 7th October 2021

TIME 4.00 to 6.00 PM UAE

VENUE Terra - The Sustainability Pavilion



THE CONVERSATION TOPIC

EARTH 2.0:

Reengineering Planet Earth Living

The era we live in is referred to as the Anthropocene, a time when humanity has itself become a powerful “force of nature”. From dictating what grows and lives where, to reshaping the Earth’s surface in our quest for resources, our aspirations for a better life have transformed our planet and its natural cycles at greater speed and scale. While many of these activities undeniably continue to make the world a better place for more people, they also come with consequences that are now compromising that very future we worked so hard to build.

Change in our climate and earth systems is taking place faster than our efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, limit global temperature rise and their impacts. The rise in sea levels is one of many examples where solutions are a matter of survival. No region of the world will remain untouched.

But if human activity has the potential to affect nature so drastically, can we also intentionally effect positive change? Innovative ideas abound, from fertilising oceans, to changing the reflectivity of the planet, to capturing and storing CO₂ in what were once fossil fuel reservoirs. What remains unknown and unpredictable is the impact of each solution on our complex earth systems.

Can technology help us maintain or improve our quality of life in a warming world?

Can our engineering skills help reverse climate change or give us ways to adapt?

What are the risks - ecological, geopolitical, or ethical - associated with trying to reengineer planet Earth?

Who should govern the use of these technologies and how do we balance the interests of different stakeholders equitably?


MODERATOR
**AMENA BAKR****Chief Opec Correspondent**

Amena Bakr is Chief Opec Correspondent and Dubai Deputy Bureau Chief, as well as an award-winning correspondent for Energy Intelligence. She covers energy and politics related to Saudi Arabia and other Opec countries. Prior to that, Amena was an Energy Correspondent for Reuters news agency for six years, posted in Dubai, Doha and Riyadh.

Amena holds a BA in business administration from the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport in Egypt, with a major in management information systems.


PARTICIPANTS
**HIS EXCELLENCY MOHAMED NASHEED****Former President of the Maldives (from 2008 to 2012)****Speaker of the People's Majlis (Parliament of the Maldives)**

Mohamed Nasheed was the Maldives' first democratically elected President. He remains a figurehead for the promotion of human rights and democracy in Islamic countries, and an international icon for action against climate change.

President Nasheed is the Speaker of the People's Majlis (Parliament of the Maldives) and President of the ruling Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP). On 6 May 2021, Islamic extremists attempted to assassinate President Nasheed in Male', exploding an IED, hidden in a motorcycle, as he walked past. After four back-to-back lifesaving surgeries, he survived and is currently recuperating in England.

**HIS EXCELLENCY DR. ABDULLA AL MANDOUS****Director General of National Center of Meteorology (NCM), UAE**

Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous is the President of the Regional Association for Asia and the UAE's Permanent Representative to the World Meteorological Organization. He currently serves as Director General of the UAE National Center for Meteorology (NCM).

Globally, he is a member of the Cloud Seeding Expert WMO - Weather Modification Team, and in the Policy Advisory and Technical Coordination Committees of WMO as an Ex-officio Executive Council Member. Dr. Al Mandous is the current Chair of WMO - ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones and is actively engaged in the Permanent Committee for Meteorology of League of Arab States, Gulf Cooperation Council of Meteorology.

Nationally, he is a member at the Crisis and Emergency Management Committee, Union Aviation Council and the Academic Board member in the UAE University and Abu Dhabi Polytechnique.

Dr. Al Mandous led the establishment of the Department of Atmospheric studies, National Center of Meteorology and UAE Research Program for Rain Enhancement Science.



HER EXCELLENCY DR. NAWAL AL-HOSANY

Permanent Representative of the UAE, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), UAE

Her Excellency Dr. Nawal Al-Hosany is the Permanent Representative of the UAE to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) since April 2018. Prior to this, she was the Executive Director of Sustainability at Masdar, Abu Dhabi's renewable energy company, and the Director of the Zayed Future Energy Prize, the UAE's annual global awards for renewable energy and sustainability. She also served as the Deputy Director General of the Emirates Diplomatic Academy (EDA) between 2017-2018.

Apart from her current position and as part of her professional career, Dr. Al-Hosany assumes many positions in various business sectors, government entities and academic institutions in the UAE and internationally. She is also a member of several boards and committees, including the advisory council of National Geographic magazine, in addition to her board membership in many local, regional and international initiatives and organizations, such as the advisory board of the Payne Institute in Colorado School of Mines, the advisory Panel for the Momentum for Change initiative of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and her previous membership in the Board of Trustees of the Khalifa University of Science and Technology (February 2017 – April 2020). Dr. Al-Hosany is also part of Sustainable Energy for All's (SEforALL) Leadership Council, a newly-formed group of globally influential leaders with a shared mission to accelerate action on Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) and the Paris Climate Agreement.

Her professional achievements have been widely acknowledged through prestigious awards. In July 2018, Dr. Al-Hosany was presented the "Doctor of letters Honoris Causa" from Keele University in the UK in recognition for her achievements in the field of sustainability. Dr Al-Hosany also received the "Arab Woman Award" and the "Emirates Business Women Award".

HER EXCELLENCY INÉS DOS SANTOS COSTA

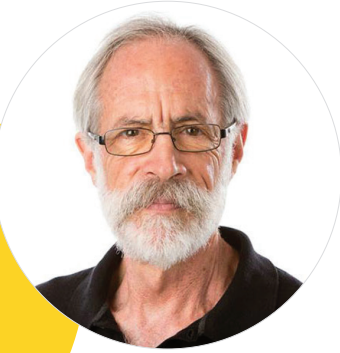
Secretary of State for the Environment, Portugal



Between 2002 and 2010, H.E. Inés dos Santos Costa developed research work at IN + Centre for Studies in Innovation, Technology and Development Policies, especially in the areas of corporate sustainability and industrial ecology. Within these areas, she has worked on environmental policies, waste management, eco parks and industrial symbiosis. She is the author and co-author of scientific articles, books, and technical documents in the field of industrial ecology. In 2006, she was a guest researcher at the Center for Industrial Ecology at Yale University in the United States.

Since 2010, she has worked as a senior consultant at 3Drivers - Engenharia, Inovação e Ambiente, Lda, where she has developed sustainable resource management projects in various sectors, namely with managing entities of specific waste streams, energy sector and municipal councils, among others. She was a partner of the company between 2016 and October 2019. She was aid to the Minister of the Environment and to the Minister of Environment and Energy Transition for the circular economy, in 2016 and 2018, respectively, during the previous Government of Prime Minister Antonio Costa.

Currently, she is the Secretary of State for the Environment, since the beginning of the new Government, in 2019.



JOAQUIN RUIZ

Vice President of Global Environmental Futures; Thomas R. Brown Chair and Director of Biosphere 2; Professor of Geosciences, The University of Arizona, United States

Joaquin Ruiz joined the University of Arizona Geosciences Department as Assistant Professor in 1983 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1989 and Professor in 1993, serving as head of the Department of Geosciences from 1995 to 2000. He served as Dean of the College of Science from 2000-2019, Executive Dean of the Colleges of Letters, Arts and Science from 2009-2018, and Vice President for Innovation from 2013-2019. He was appointed Vice President of Global Environmental Futures in 2019 and has served as the Thomas R. Brown Chair and Director of Biosphere 2 since 2013.

Dr. Ruiz served as President of the Geological Society of America (2010-2011). He is also a Fellow of the Society of Economic Geologists, and a member of the American Geophysical Union, the American Chemical Society, the Geochemical Society, and the National Research Council of the National Academies of Science. He is a member of the Mexican Academy of Sciences and was named a National Researcher by the Mexican government in 2010, when he was recognized for his outstanding scientific contributions and efforts to enhance Mexico's scientific and technological capacity through collaborations with the UA and research institutions in Mexico. In 2018, the Mexican Secretary of State named Dr. Ruiz one of forty distinguished Mexican citizens living abroad who bring distinction to the country. He has served as Secretary of the Volcanology Section of the American Geophysical Union, Councillor of the Geological Society of America, and as a National Science Foundation Panel Member for the Instrumentation and Facilities Program and the Centers for Excellence in Science and Technology Program.

He has served as Associate Editor of the American Journal of Science, Geology, Revista, and Geofísica Internacional of the Institute of Geology, UNAM. As a scientist with equal abilities in chemistry and in geology, Dr. Ruiz addresses many first-order problems in the Earth Sciences, such as the development of new isotope systems for studying ore deposits and the tectonic processes involved in the growth and evolution of Mexico. His research team addresses problems ranging from the origins of life to present-day climate change.



PROFESSOR PAOLO GALLI

Founder and Director of the Marine Research and High Education Center (MaRHE)

Full Professor of Ecology, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

Professor Galli is a Professor of Ecology at Department of Environmental Sciences of University of Milano-Bicocca. He founded various ecology related curriculums and courses at the University of Milano-Bicocca, including the International Master in Marine Sciences for Sustainable Development. From 2016 to 2019, he was a Member of the Sustainability Office at the University of Milano-Bicocca.

Prof. Galli works between Italy and the Maldives and has used acoustic and other advanced computer modelling to understand the marine landscape of the Maldives and Fiji.

