



Message from our CEO

2023 was the Year of Sustainability, characterized by the strong theme of cultivating today for a stronger tomorrow. At the Foundation, we are committed to facilitating the path to high-quality education, empowering youth to shape their futures and drive the transformation towards a greener future. We continue to work towards a world where education is accessible to all, promoting a culture of lifelong learning, knowledge exchange, and holistic education.

As we look back, we are astounded by our youth, who embody dedication and take the lead in their own success. We are also fortunate to have the guidance of the UAE's visionary leaders and the unwavering support from our strategic partners. They enable us to continue advancing education, breaking barriers, and creating pathways for a brighter future. It is with great pleasure that we present the 2023 annual report, which reflects not only our progress in the past year but also the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and commitment that defines our work.

This year, we focused on holistic education and talent development, leveraging the Nexus model to facilitate access to inclusive, high-quality education, and amplifying our work in greening education by partnering with the UAE Ministry of Education. We launched the Ecopreneurship Program, using a well-designed process to support youth in creating impactful startups in the sustainable development sector. In recognition of the importance of a participatory approach to education, we worked with our partners to design and implement community workshops that engaged communities in climate action and inspired sustainable habits.

As we mark our achievements, we acknowledge the challenges that a rapidly evolving world presents. We are dedicated to ensuring that the successful collaborations that were fostered at this year's COP28 continue, fueling our determination to adapt to evolving needs and champion innovative solutions. Moving forward, let us continue to be collective agents for positive change, united by the belief that education is the cornerstone of progress.

Dr. Sonia Ben Jaafar

Chief Executive Officer, Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation
Chairperson, the Global Council on Sustainable Development Goals