

1st International Conference on Carbon Neutral Built Environment, and Thar Karachi Student Mobility Campaign for reducing Carbon Footprint



Karachi 21st December 2018: Closing Ceremony of the 1st International Conference on Carbon Neutral Built Environment 2018 was held at NED University of Engineering and Technology today.

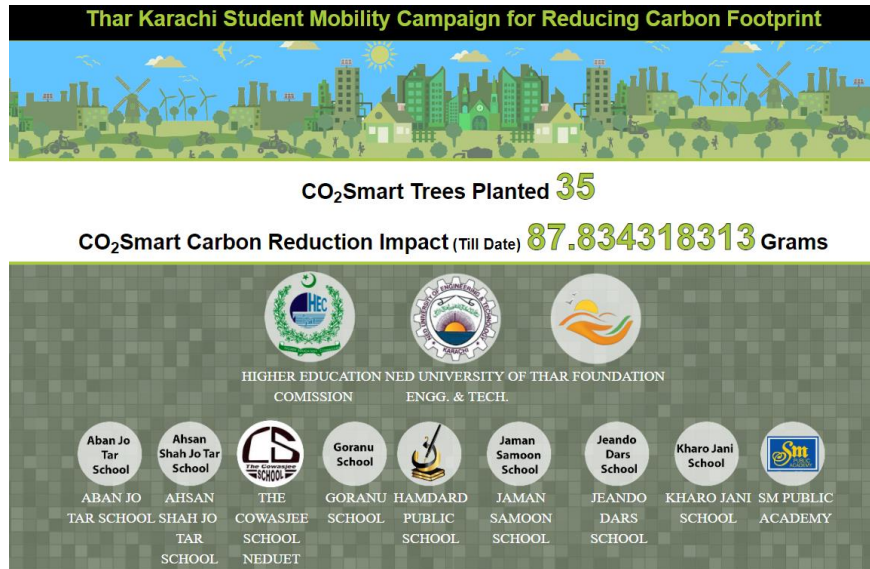
The closing ceremony also hosted thirty-five school students from six schools of Tharparkar region, who alongside school students of Karachi planted geo-tagged trees on NED University soil. The event was attended by various dignitaries, and was conducted in collaboration of HEC and Thar Foundation. SM Public School Campus V, Hamdard Public School and Cowasjee School participated in the drive. The drive was called “CO2 Smart – Thar Karachi Student Mobility Campaign for reducing Carbon Footprint”.

Honorable Minister of Women Development, Mrs. Syeda Shehla Raza, was the chief guest, while Mr. Javed Memon, HEC Regional Director was the guest of honour. Both distinguished guests also planted trees alongside students.



Prof. Dr. Saad Ahmed Qazi, Conference Chair and PI of Thar Karachi Student Mobility Campaign provided an overview of the project to the audience. He stressed on the need of having a national student mobility programme where local engagement is needed to address indigenous challenges and increase cohesion and harmony among ourselves as a nation. He shared that every student that has arrived from Tharparkar is visiting Karachi for the very first time in his or her life. And, that this experience will enable them to broaden their exposure and help them grow into future leaders in their regions.

Afterwards, the CO2smart website was inaugurated by Mrs. Syeda Shehla Raza. The website allows the viewers to see the amount of CO2 what has been absorbed by the planted trees in real time, giving an immediate sense of achievement to the students who planted it. The Minister greatly appreciated the efforts of NED University, HEC and Thar Foundation in converting an innovative technological idea into reality. She also shared various initiatives undertaken by the Sindh Government for uplifting of Tharparkar.



Mr. Javed Memon, HEC Regional Director, stressed on the need to involve more stakeholders in the carbon neutral drive of NED University so as to magnify the impact for the society and the country. He also suggested that relevant environmental bodies should consult NED University for recording real-time statistics from plants.

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tufail broadly shared the idea of a carbon neutral campus and the steps which have been taken by the University. He also presented the shields to the guests.

Conference Secretary, Engr. Saqib noted that the conference was attended by several international dignitaries coming from the UK, Iraq and Australia. He thanked all the participants for making the conference successful through their submissions and presentations.

