

Press Release of  
**Inauguration Ceremony of 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on  
Carbon Neutral Built Environment**



**Karachi: 20th December 2018:** NED University of Engineering and Technology in partnership with IEP Karachi hosted the 1st International Conference on Carbon Neutral Built Environment 2018. The inaugural session was attended by several national and international delegates. Speaking at the occasion, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tufail, Pro-Vice Chancellor stressed on the need to fill the knowledge gap pertaining to climate and environment issues. He pointed out that this conference is one of the major opportunities to apprise oneself of the current challenges and solutions available to help develop carbon neutral built environment.

The Conference Patron, and the Vice Chancellor NED University, provided the conference overview to the audience. He said that the Carbon Neutral Campus is an initiative related to Centennial year celebrations of NED University, and we are targeting it through actions like energy conservation, planting trees and using renewable sources. Our direct contribution to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is 3120 Million Tonnes of Equivalent CO<sub>2</sub>, which is equivalent to approximately planting 140,000 trees equivalent. Through this initiative, NED University is aiming to become a live lab for Carbon Neutrality, and he invited industries to join hands in the partnership.

He also shared that some 40 students and their teachers from 6 different schools from Islamabad, Thar were joining NED where they alongside children from Karachi schools will be planting trees on 21st under a Thar Karachi student mobility campaign for reducing carbon footprint. NED has partnered in this activity with HEC, SECMA and Thar Foundation. The beauty of the campaign is that each plant is geotagged with the pair of students that plant it, and as long as the plant lives, the students will be able to see the CO<sub>2</sub> that their plant has helped to reduce in real time. It will be there on the website to be inaugurated tomorrow.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest, Chairman IEP Karachi Engr. Sohail Bashir, appreciated the efforts of the NED University and hoped that other institutions will also join in the effort and play a more collective role to magnify the impact. Later, he also planted a tree to kick start the initiative. The conference was also joined by Dr. Mansoor Ali from the UK, who shared his experience of carbon neutrality with the audience and provided valuable insight on the experiences of the developed world.

Conference Chair, Prof. Dr. Saad Ahmed Qazi, while speaking with the media, indicated that the conference is the first step towards a larger strategic objective of achieving campus wide carbon neutrality, and that we will inshallah be hosting follow up conferences in years ahead. He also invited other organizations to be part of the initiative.

This conference will continue on 21st December 2018.

