

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES MINISTRY OF ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE

### **United Arab Emirates**

# **1st Biennial Update Report (BUR) Addendum**



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# Section 1 National circumstances

Please refer to the UAE's 5th National Communications report pages 18 to 62



# Section 2 National greenhouse gas inventory



This section presents the National inventory of greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removal by sinks not controlled by the Montreal Protocol for the year 2021. A breakdown of the total GHG emissions by sources in Gg CO2 equivalent is shown in the tables 1 and 2 in the following pages.

The 2021 national inventory of greenhouse gases by sources and removal by sinks for UAE was developed according to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

### Data collection and sources

A structured top-down approach was followed to collect data in accordance with the IPCC guidelines, involving various ministries and governmental entities to ensure compliance and accuracy in reporting emission data.

The GHG inventory cycle was initiated in collaboration with the key stakeholders, informing them about the UAE's past efforts, the stages

of GHG Inventory and their role in the data gathering process. Expected future steps were provided to them and a general overview of the project plan was presented for their necessary action. This collaboration not only increased awareness and understanding among the stakeholders, but also resulted in more effective communication channels by identifying relevant focal points and accurate data collection by clarifying data requirements.

Data collection templates were prepared in accordance with the IPCC workbooks, specifically aligned with the 2006 guidelines. The workbooks outline the specific data points and format for data submission. The data collection templates were shared with the relevant ministries and entities that needed to provide data for specific sectors and subsectors.

Stakeholders who own significant data repositories pertaining to GHG emissions, such as Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC), the Ministry for Climate Change and Environment (MoCCAE) and the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MoEI), national energy statistics were closely involved in the data collection process. The FCSC was instrumental in providing data compiled from the primary related entities from all over the UAE. Additionally, data was directly received from manufacturing companies, resulting in better quality of data and enabling the use higher tiers of calculation for certain sectors in this inventory cycle.

Within this inventory report, there exist notable data constraints that impact the completeness of the emissions profile. Specifically, the inclusion of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) within the inventory remains partial, owing to the limited scope of the available data. Furthermore, although there is some data pertaining to sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) emissions, it lacks comprehensiveness. As a result, SF6 emissions, especially those associated with the electric power transmission sector, have not been incorporated into the report. These emissions have been provisionally considered to be of negligible consequence to the national emissions total, pending the acquisition of more complete data. The data of coal consumption in industries has marginal uncertainty which will be addressed in subsequent reporting on traceability and completeness. Also accounting for fugitive emissions from natural gas networks and its associated usage will be improved going forward as the national level MRV system gets implemented. These aspects are noted as improvement areas which would be addressed under various upcoming programs.

Please refer to the UAE's 5th National Communications report pages 71 to 78 for detailed sectorwise methodologies followed for the GHG inventory process.

Greenhouse gas source and sink categories	CO2 emissions (Gg)	CO2 removals (Gg)	CH₄ (Gg)	N2O (Gg)	
Total national emissions and removals	187,802.67		546.48	8.01	
1. Energy	168,804.54	NA	28.56	1.32	
A. Fuel Combustion Activities	162,371.75	NA	7.11	1.28	
1. Liquid fuel	54,090.04	NA	3.35	0.61	
2. Solid fuel	11,306.86	NA	0.12	0.18	
3. Natural gas	96,464.45	NA	3.63	0.49	
4. Biomass	510.40	NA	0.02	0.004	
B. Fugitive emissions from fuels	6,432.80	NA	21.45	0.03	
1. Venting	11.42	NA	4.41	NA	
2. Flaring	988.05	NA	7.69	0.03	
3. Other fugitives	5433.33	NA	9.35	NA	
2. Industrial Processes	18,964.11		0.04		
A. Mineral products	11,583.17	NA	NA	NA	
1. Cement	11,583.17	NA	NA	NA	
B. Chemical industry	1,107.09	NA	NA	NA	
1. Ammonia	1,107.09	NA	NA	NA	
C. Metal industry	6,273.85	NA	0.04	NA	
1. Iron and Steel	2,295.75	NA	0.04	NA	
2. Aluminium	3,978.09	NA	NA	NA	
3. Agriculture			64.14	1.60	
A. Enteric fermentation	NA	NA	60.50	NA	
B. Manure management	NA	NA	3.63	0.003	
C. Managed soils	NA	NA	NA	1.60	
4. Land use change and Forestry		1,073.70			
A. Mangroves	NA	1,073.70	NA	NA	
5. Waste	34.02		453.74	5.09	
A. Solid waste disposal	NA	NA	327.70	NA	
1. Landfill	NA	NA	327.70	NA	
B. Biological treatment	NA	NA	75.22	4.51	
1. Composting	NA	NA	75.22	4.51	
C. Waste incineration	34.02	NA	15.37	0.01	
D. Wastewater handling	NA	NA	35.44	0.57	

### Table 1. National greenhouse gas inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all

#### greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol and greenhouse gas precursors for the year 2021

Greenhouse gas source and sink categories	HFCs	s (Gg)	PFCs (Gg)		
		HCFC-141b	CF <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> F <sub>6</sub>	
Total national emissions and removals	10.82	0.51	0.015	0.0015	
Energy	10.82	0.51			
A. Fugitive emissions	10.82	0.51	NA	NA	
Industrial processes			0.015	0.0015	
A. Metal production	NA	NA	0.015	0.0015	
1. Aluminium	NA	NA	0.015	0.0015	

#### Table 2. National greenhouse gas inventory of

	GHG Emissions (Gg CO <sub>2</sub> e)					
GHG Source and Sink categories	1994 NC1	2000 NC2	2005 NC3	2014 NC4	2021 NC5	
Energy	70,879	116,114	153,833	166,472	169,933	
Industrial Process and Product Use	3,455	6,466	9,426	23,010	19,093	
Agriculture	1,777	4,348	3,976	931	2,080	
Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry	(4,227)	(9,665)	(13,223)	(8,434)	(1,073)1	
Waste Management	2,552	2,622	7,122	9,802	12,894	
Net emissions	74,436	119,885	161,134	191,781	202,928	

anthropogenic emissions of HFCs and PFCs for the year 2021 UAE's National GHG Inventory

# Limitations and identified areas of improvement

The UAE is developing a Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system. This initiative, aligned with the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework, represents a proactive step towards sharing comprehensive data on greenhouse gas (GHG) and air pollutant emissions. By adhering to the IPCC 2006 guidelines and deploying an Integrated Emission Quantification Tool (IEQT) customized for the UAE, the MRV-Transparency System is set to significantly bolster emissions management and air quality control. This effort is coordinated by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE), involving collaboration across various national and emirate-level entities to ensure seamless data flow and stringent quality control across different sectors.

As the MRV system progresses, it is anticipated to bring about substantial improvements in the accuracy and completeness of the UAE>s

emissions data. This reflects a strategic shift towards more refined and reliable emissions reporting mechanisms, underscoring the UAE>s dedication to global climate goals.

The UAE has identified five areas under the national GHG inventory estimation for enhancement in future cycles, at a sectoral and GHG gas level, which are listed below. This forward-looking approach underscores a commitment to continuous improvement and adaptation, ensuring that the UAE meets its international reporting obligations, thereby making a significant contribution to global efforts in limiting temperature rise and advancing climate change mitigation.



### Energy

**Current Limitation:** The emission estimation for this sector relies on a top-down approach using domestic fuel sales data, constrained by the limited availability of data for a bottom-up analysis. This method, while practical, does not capture activity-specific emissions and operational specifics that influence emissions.

In the current reporting cycle, data related to methane (CH4) leakage activities and some aspects of coal imports and usage by particular industries could not be included chiefly due to limitations in the availability of reliable data. These data gaps are acknowledged, and plans are in place to incorporate this information in future updates. Additionally, sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) emissions have not been covered in the current cycle.

**Improvement Plan:** The UAE plans to enhance the energy sectors emission estimation accuracy by gradually integrating bottom-up data collection methods as part of a hybrid approach. This would involve piloting detailed fuel consumption surveys in key industrial sectors, investing in energy consumption monitoring technologies, and developing sectorspecific emission factors in collaboration with industry stakeholders. Efforts will also be made to improve data availability and quality through stakeholder engagement and capacity building, aiming to refine the next GHG inventory cycles estimates. In subsequent reporting the identified improvements on emissions accounting will be addressed adequately to improve accuracy and completeness of GHG inventory. This will incorporate SF6 data, through collaboration with relevant industries and enhanced monitoring.



# Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry

**Current Limitation:** The current categorisation and definition under Land Use and Forestry does not fit the UAE's ecosystem, and thus the limitation currently only recognises negative emissions from mangroves.

**Improvement Plan:** The UAE is in the process of comprehensively classifying its diverse land type and their carbon sequestration capacities, and exploring the tools and partnerships needed to improve accurate data collection.



### Agriculture and Waste

**Current Limitation:** Emission for agriculture and waste are based on estimations, and coverage may be limited.

**Revised Improvement Plan:** The UAE plans to prioritize the operationalization and optimization of the MRV tool to improve the tiers on agricultural practices and waste management operations. This would include the development of specific methodologies for different agricultural systems and waste management facilities to accurately measure emissions. There is plan to engage with stakeholders across these sectors to improve data reporting practices and ensure comprehensive coverage and high data quality in subsequent inventories.



### **HFCs**

**Current Limitation:** The coverage of HFC emissions in the current inventory is not comprehensive due to data limitations. The dispersed use of HFCs within the UAE poses challenges in accurately tracking emissions from the point of consumption.

**Improvement Plan:** The UAE is committed to enhancing the data collection framework for HFC emissions. Moving forward, the country plans to estimate emissions from HFCs based on detailed data concerning imports and exports, capturing dispersed domestic usage, and collaborating with stakeholders to understand consumption/leakages, and striving to report on different activities of HFCs to ensure completeness.



### SF6

**Current Limitation:** In the current reporting cycle, emissions from SF6 were not included due to incomplete data collection. The data initially gathered was from individual utilities, which did not encompass all sources of SF6 emissions, such as Emirates National Grid, Transco, and Emirates Global Aluminium, among others. Given this context, it was deemed prudent to refrain from reporting potentially incomplete data on SF6 emissions.

**Improvement Plan:** Moving forward, the UAE plans to address this gap by broadening its data collection efforts to include all known sources of SF6 emissions within the scope. This will involve engaging with a wider range of entities, including utilities, industrial sources,

## Section 3 Mitigation Initiatives

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has taken significant strides towards mitigating climate change, aligning its national policies with the ambitious objectives of the Paris Agreement. This commitment is most notably captured in the UAE's Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative, a comprehensive plan that sets a clear trajectory towards reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions within the nation. The initiatives not only exemplify the UAE's commitment to a sustainable future but also positions it as a key player in the global effort to combat climate change. As part of this strategic approach, the UAE has embarked on a series of innovative and impactful projects aimed at cutting GHG emissions and fostering environmental sustainability. These projects, ranging from large-scale renewable energy installations to advanced carbon capture technologies, reflect a deep understanding of the multifaceted nature of climate change and the variety of approaches necessary to address it effectively.

These projects, each uniquely contributing to the overarching goal of achieving net-zero GHG emissions by 2050, are a testament to the UAE's proactive and forward-thinking approach to environmental stewardship. The table that follows offers a comprehensive look at these initiatives, highlighting key aspects such as project scope, implementation strategies, anticipated outcomes, and progress to date.



The UAE's Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative covers all domestic economic sectors. Respective sector targets implied by the net zero pathway are displayed below. Emissions per sector account for emissions from power and water generation. Key to this initiative are the sector-specific targets, which are instrumental in guiding the UAE's path to net zero emissions. These targets are not only visionary in their scope but also structured with interim goals set for 2030 and 2040, ensuring a consistent and measurable progress towards the ultimate objective.







and other significant users of SF6.

# The sectors covered under this initiative include:

**Industry:** This sector plays a crucial role in the UAE's economy. The focus here is on connecting industrial players to clean grid, switching to clean fuels, switching processes, and adopting cleaner technologies like carbon capture and storage (CCS) to reduce emissions.

**Transport:** A critical area for emissions reduction, the transport sector's targets involve transitioning to electric and low-emission vehicles, improving public transport infrastructure, encouraging sustainable urban mobility, decarbonizing freight transport and mechanical vehicles.

Waste: Managing waste effectively is essential for reducing emissions. The strategy includes increasing harnessing energy from waste, increase recycling rates and reducing landfill waste, and retrofit existing waste-to-energy facilities with emission control systems.

**Buildings:** With a focus on green building practices, the initiative aims to reduce emissions through energyefficient building designs, retrofitting existing structures, and promoting use of clean power and water generation, and solar thermal.

Agriculture: A sector with unique challenges, the targets here involve adopting sustainable agricultural practices like controlled use of chemical fertilizers, use of efficient nitrogen fertilizers and administering diet supplements (methane pills etc.) for livestock.

**Note:** The list of activities is subject to change as UAE economy evolves following business, socio economic and supply chain considerations and global uncertainties.

Name of the action	Coverage	Quantitative goals/ Objectives	Progress indicators	Methodologies/ Assumptions	Steps taken/ envisaged	Outomes achieved	Estimated emission reductions
The UAE Solar PV and CSP Plants	CO2	To decarbonize the power sector and increase the local clean energy capacity. Some plants are operational and generating 3GW, however others are yet to be commissioned in the coming few years where the energy capacity will increase.	Solar Electricity generated	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	The implementation status of the Solar PV plants varies from completed to under contruction. Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park is one of the large-scale projects, currently producing energy capacity of 2 GW as of 2023 with an extension of a 700 MW CSP plant with molten salt technology which is already under construction	Tha plants generated 5475 GWh in 2022	3.3 MtCO2e (in 2022)
The UAE Wind Program by MASDAR	CO2	To decarbonize the power sector and increase the local clean energy capacity. The plant is producing at a capacity of 103.5 MW.	Wind Energy generated	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Completed The plant is currently producing 103.5 MW through wind turbine technology. The plant is operational since 2023.	The plant is producing 188.9 GWh/ year	0.12 MtCO2e <i>(in 2023)</i>
Abu Dhabi's Department of Energy (DOE) Battery Storage Plant	CO2	To decarbonize the power sector and increase the local clean energy capacity. The plant has a storage capacity of 108 MW.	Clean energy battery stoarge	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Completed The plant was commissioned in 2019 and has a capacity of 108 MW using sodium Sulphur battery cells distributed over 10 sites across the emirate. The battery plant can provide backup power for 6 hours.	The Battery storage plant has a capacity of 108 MW ~ 197.1 GWh/ year.	8,200 tCO2e <i>(in 2023)</i>
Dubai's Demand Side Management (DSM) Strategy	CO2	To secure Dubai's uninterrupted energy supply and optimize its growing electricity and water demand. Dubai targets overall electricity savings of about 19,200 GWh by 2030.	Less carbon emissions and cost- effective solutions with an increase in the energy demand.	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Dubai is setting Policies and regulations in the domains of green buildings, outdoor lighting, efficient cooling, etc.). DSM strategy is evolving year by year to deliver 30% annual savings in electricity and water by 2030	As of 2022, the electricity savings reached up to 8100 GWh.	3.9 MtCO2e (in 2022)
The Abu Dhabi DSM & Energy Rationalization Strategy 2030	CO2	Reduce electricity consumption by 22% by 2030 and save more than 19,000 <u>GWh</u> Reduce water consumption by 32% by 2030 and save more than 480 million m <sup>3</sup>	Reduction in electricity consumption Reduction in water consumption (Against 2013 BaU scenario)	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation. And reduction in energy demand associated with water management.	In progress Programs being implemented under the initiative include building regulations, standards and labels, demand response, retrofitting street lighting, building retrofits, rebate programs for behavioral change, efficient water use /reuse, district cooling and energy storage	As of 2023, the strategy gas resulted in savings up to 6,500 GWh of electricity and 234 million cubic meters of water	0.82 MtCO2e (in 2022)
Ras al Khaimah Energy Efficiency & Renewables Strategy 2040	CO <sub>2</sub>	Target 30% energy savings, 20% water savings and 20% contribution from renewable energy sources by 2040	Reduction in electricity consumption. Reduction in water consumption. Increase in renewable energy generation. ( <i>Compared to a 2017</i> <i>baseline</i> )	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation. And reduction in energy demand associated with water management.	In progress inplemented under the strategy include green building regulations, building retrofits, energy management, efficient appliances, efficient street lighting, water reuse and efficient irrigation, solar programs, energy from waste, and efficient vehicles	In 2021, the strategy resulted in savings of 60.9 GWh of electricity and direct fuel savings of 297 GWh (thermal)	0.11 MtCO2e <i>(in 2021)</i>
UAE Civil Nuclear Energy program (Barakah nuclear power plant)	CO <sub>2</sub>	To decarbonize the power sector and increase the local clean energy capacity. Once the plant is fully commissioned, the energy capacity will reach up to 5.6 GW (40 Terawatt per annum).	Nuclear Energy generated	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Partially completed The plant is currently hosting 4 Nuclear units, 3 reactors are operational as of 2023 and the 4 <sup>th</sup> unit is more than 92% complete where it will be commissioned in the coming few years.	The three nuclear reactors are producing 7665 GWh/ year	15.7 MtCO2e <i>(in 2023)</i>
Carbon capture and storage (CCS) in ADNOC	CO2	To capture emissions from industries that are considered heavy emitting sectors (HES). The facility will have up to 800,000 tCO2e/ year capture capacity.	Decrease in the carbon emission with the continuous use of the natural gas at the processing plants.	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Under Construction ADNOC is currently constructing a carbon capture plant where it will be commissioned by 2030. There are plans to expand its carbon capture capacity to 5M tCO2e/ year by 2030.	The outcomes are n captured.	
DEWA's Hatta Hydropower Storage Plant	CO2	To decarbonize the power sector and increase the local clean energy capacity. Once the plant is fully commissioned, the energy capacity will reach up to 250 MW by end of 2024.	Hydropower Electricity generated	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Under construction Dubai is currently constructing a 250 MW hydropower storage plant. Construction is approaching the 60% completion mark, and the plant is expected to be commissioned by the end of 2024.	The outcomes are n captured as the pro under construction.	
DEWA's Hatta Hydropower Storage Plant	CO <sub>2</sub>	To decarbonize the power sector and increase the local clean energy capacity. Once the plant is fully commissioned, the energy capacity will reach up to 250 MW by end of 2024.	Hydropower Electricity generated	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from natural gas-based electricity generation.	Under construction Dubai is currently constructing a 250 MW hydropower storage plant. Construction is approaching the 60% completion mark, and the plant is expected to be commissioned by the end of 2024.	The outcomes are n captured as the pro under construction.	
Switch to Clean Source of energy for Industrial Heating in cement, iron, steel and petrochemicals, refineries Industries	CO2	To replace coal with clean source of energy by incorporating Solar thermal, natural gas and green hydrogen.	Increase in clean energy sources in the energy mix	The carbon abatement achieved by this measure is based on the amount of emissions avoided from coal-based heat generation.	Under Process The Implementation is yet to start, and it's promised to commence switching in the beginning of 2030. Clean source of energy switching measures will enable 11% GHG emissions reductions in the industrial heating field by 2050	The outcomes are n captured as the pro under progress.	

#### Data, assumptions, and sources of uncertainty

Name of the action	Source of data	Assumptions and Uncertainty
The UAE Solar PV and CSP Plants	International Renewable Energy Agency https://www.irena.org/-/media/Files/IRENA/Agency/Statistics/Statistical_Profiles/Middle- East/United-Arab-Emirates_Middle-East_RE_SP.pdf	Data directly taken from the report
The UAE Wind Program by MASDAR	MASDAR Masdar   UAE Wind Program	Data directly taken from MASDAR
Abu Dhabi's Department of Energy (DOE) Battery Storage Plant	Abu Dhabi Department of Energy https://www.doe.gov.ae/en/Media-Centre/News/EAD-works-in-partnership-with-the-DoE	Emission reduction estimated assuming a utilization rate of 20% for 2 hours per day
Dubai's Demand Side Management (DSM) Strategy	Dubai Supreme Council of Energy https://dubaisce.gov.ae/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/DSM-Annual-Report-2022_June-2023.pdf	Emission reduction estimated based on the avoided emissions achieved through the DSM strategy
The Abu Dhabi DSM & Energy Rationalization Strategy 2030	Abu Dhabi Department of Energy Abu Dhabi Department of Energy announces implementation of Demand Side Management Regulations from 1st July 2023 (doe.gov.ae)	Total emissions saved since unvieling the strategy assumed to be equally distrbuted over the years
Ras Al Khaimah Energy Efficiency & Renewables Strategy 2040	Ras Al Khaimah Municipality reem.rak.ae/ReemDocuments/Publications/EERStrategyAnnualReports/English/Annual Report 2021_RAK Energy Efficiency and Renewables Strategy 2040_English.pdf	Emission reduction estimated based on the avoided emissions and fuel savings achieved through the Energy Efficiency & Renewables Strategy. All fuel saved assumed to be diesel.
UAE Civil Nuclear Energy program (Barakah nuclear power plant)	Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation https://www.enec.gov.ae/doc/enec-factsheet-grid-synchronization-and-connection-factsheet-en- 612f029d9bba8.pdf	3 of the 4 operational reactors are assumed to be working continuously at 75% plant load factor
UAE Grid Emission Factor	IEA 2021 Emission factor for UAE (2016 to 2019 average) is 524.5 $gCO_2/kWh$	

# Section 4 Constraints and gaps



Several practices, including energy production, waste management, and transportation, are significant contributors to the country's GHG emissions. Information about these sectors is often fragmented or insufficient, inhibiting the comprehensive evaluation of the total emissions.

Uncertainties exist within the available data and calculation methodologies, leading to difficulties in accurately quantifying the emissions from forestry and other land-use sectors. Moreover, it remains a challenge to track the progress of implemented mitigation actions because the methodologies for their measurement, reporting and verification are only being developed in the UAE.

In addition to these constraints and gaps, there is a need for continuous basic and applied research to understand the science of climate change better, especially how the change affects the UAE's unique environment better. Awareness and understanding could be bolstered through coordinated campaigns to educate the public and policymakers about climate change impacts and mitigation measures.

Overcoming these constraints and gaps will play a crucial role in advancing the efforts of the UAE in tackling climate change. The UAE is working on creating a comprehensive MRV system at the federal level, however, as part of the development process, the UAE is rolling out capacity building programmes to ensure that this system is robust and the existing data collection methodologies are refined. Additionally, the exchange of knowledge, technological advancements, and best practices at both regional and international levels will be instrumental in the success of the UAE's environmental goals.

Please refer to the UAE's 5th National Communications report pages 151 to 157 for more details under constraints and gaps.

### Section 5

### **Other information**

Please refer to the UAE's 5th National Communications report pages 136 to 149

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