

# SDG 14: LIFE BELOW WATER



H.E. Vice Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture, Eng. Mansour Almushaiti, confirmed that the Kingdom celebrates this year World Environment Day, which takes place every year on June 5, by sharing awareness messages urging society to protect the environment and shed light on the damage caused to the planet due to climate change.

Almushaiti said that this year's celebration which comes under the slogan "Generations of Restoration", aims to restore and protect ecosystems through a campaign that will be held from 2021 to 2030, with the participation of individuals, communities, governments, companies and organizations to work together at the global level to address ecological degradation, reduce its harmful effects and secure future livelihoods.

He indicated that the ministry is working to monitor all environmental issues, raise awareness on environmental issues, and the need to preserve

more than 8 million species of plants and animals on Earth, ecosystems and genetic diversity.

"The Ministry has pioneered efforts to limit the ecosystem degradation, restore ecosystems and adapt to climate change, including implementing the national parks development initiative, launching 17 initiatives to protect the environment and improving meteorology and services provided within the National Transformation Program 2020," he said. Adding that the work is underway to establish a climate change center, in addition to stopping the cultivation of crops that require vast amounts of water and using water-saving eco-friendly technologies, launching 64 initiatives within the National Environment Strategy.

These initiatives include adapting to climate changes, adopting national strategies for natural pastures, forests and wildlife, combating desertification, and adopting royal reserves that contributed to increasing the proportion of protected areas to reach 16% and developing national plans to confront natural disasters. World Environment Day is a global platform for raising awareness on the importance of protecting the environment and its resources, reducing global warming and desertification.

### [Jeddah fisheries research center](#)

The Jeddah fisheries research center was established in 1982 under the cooperation agreement between the government of Saudi Arabia and the united nations food and agriculture organization. the centre's main objective focused on research and development programmes in marine aquaculture suitable for fish and shrimp farming, in the dissemination of technical applications for aquaculture and the provision of training programmes. when establishing the center, located 60 km north of Jeddah, it was taken into account the selection of a suitable location in accordance with the establishment of applied models of various breeding systems such as cages, fences and ponds, as well as other attached facilities.



Jeddah fisheries research center



**Vision:**

By 2030, the center will be the leader in applied aquaculture research to promote knowledge, economic prosperity and sustainable development in Saudi Arabia.

**Message:**

Developing, disseminating and using the best technical sciences, knowledge and innovation to support public and private sector beneficiaries for the benefit of Saudi Arabia in developing the aquaculture industry.

**Goals:**

- Implementation of research programmes based on the identification of economic species of marine finfish and shrimp suitable for commercial breeding and production under the local environmental conditions of Saudi Arabia.
- Evaluating the different methods of fish farming systems and identifying the appropriate ones for application in different regions.
- Development of standard feed compositions for fish and shrimp using locally available ingredients.
- Conducting research and field studies in the field of diseases for farmed species of fish and shrimp.
- Follow-up control of the quality of breeding wastewater for fish farms.
- Implementation of training programmes involving various aspects of aquaculture operations.
- Provide the fish farming sector with its needs of fish larvae and fingerlings and shrimp.
- Publication and distribution of free manuals containing all operational techniques and technical guidance for aquaculture projects.
- Selection of coastal sites suitable for aquaculture projects.

- Evaluation of feasibility studies for aquaculture projects.
- Update the library with references to aquaculture operations.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continues to support international and regional trends to protect the marine and ocean environment and to reduce the sources of marine pollution. It seeks to improve the marine environment for its importance in development and to enhance food security. The Kingdom adopts strategies and policies that reduce tampering or negligence in the maritime system, On the biodiversity of the Kingdom in 2005 aimed at ensuring the conservation and development of biodiversity, including plans to study the current status of biodiversity and the threats it faces and ways to preserve and develop it.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's initiatives to preserve marine life

- [Fisheries Research Center.](#)
- [Faculty of Marine Sciences, King Abdulaziz University.](#)
- [Saudi Aquaculture Society.](#)
- [King Faisal University Fisheries Research Center.](#)
- [Red Sea Research Center at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology](#)

## [Saudi Aquaculture Society](#)

In achieving its mission, SAS aims to promote the aquaculture industry and its products and to do whatever necessary to develop this sector. Thus, this objective has been divided into short-term objectives (1-3 years) and long-term objectives (4-10 years).

### **Short-term objectives**

1. Work side by side with the Deputy Ministry of Fisheries Affairs to develop the necessary plans, regulations and legislations which ensure the growth and success of the aquaculture industry in the Kingdom.
2. Work with the stakeholders to establish an aquaculture industry to achieve the SAS's vision in accordance with its mission.
3. Conduct environmental studies and follow up the environmental commitment of projects to achieve sustainable development.

4. Undertake studies, consultations, services and Business transactions to secure growing sources of income to enable SAS achieve its objectives.
5. Work to establish internal and external strategic partnerships that would contribute to the achievement of its objectives.
6. Developing self-capacities to be a scientific, technical and economic reference in the aquaculture industry in the Kingdom.
7. Working with stakeholders to promote the industry to reach the Kingdom of the developed countries in the aquaculture industry within the next 15 years
8. Establishing commercial entities and making suitable investments with others to develop their financial resources.

### **Long-term objectives**

1. Promote self–capacity building to ensure that SAS will be a scientific, technical and economic reference in aquaculture industry in the Kingdom.
2. Work with the stakeholders to promote the industry so that the Kingdom will become one the advanced countries in the area of aquaculture industry within the coming 15 years.
3. Establish business entities and enter into appropriate investments with third parties in order to develop its financial resources

### **Tasks**

To achieve its objectives, Saudi Aquaculture Society will perform the following tasks

### **Work together with the Deputy Ministry of Fisheries Affairs to achieve the following tasks**

- a) Participate in the preparations of the requirements and standards necessary to be applied to the aquaculture industry and its products.
- b) Study the rules, regulations and standards related to the aquaculture industry and recommend any amendments on them.

- c) Propose mechanisms for surveillance and inspection.
- d) Recommend granting licenses and permits, amend or withdraw them.
- e) Propose areas of research and studies related to aquaculture and its products and their marketing.
- f) Study the constraints facing the aquaculture industry and recommend whatever feasible to facilitate the industry affairs.
- g) Hold conferences, symposia and exhibitions on the aquaculture industry and participate in them both inside and outside the Kingdom.
- h) Represent members of SAS with the official bodies and Professional scientific and business institutions inside and Outside the Kingdom.
- i) Grant a logo stating that the facility is applying appropriate aquaculture production standards according to the international standards and norms.

**Coordinate with the relevant authorities to achieve the Following tasks**

- a) Provide technical advice in its field of competence and increase SAS resources to higher levels.
- b) Work with the private and public sectors on the development of investments and pilot projects in the area of aquaculture.
- c) Strengthen relationships and incorporate the principle of shared benefits and the exchange of professional experiences among its members and relevant private companies, institutions, scientists and experts from home and abroad.
- d) Contribute to the provision of assistance to small and medium size enterprises and entrepreneurs in the area of aquaculture.
- e) Follow-up and evaluate new developments and requirements of practical application, and prepare appropriate amendments to improve the level of performance.
- d) Take advantage of using the website and various media in communication, awareness and education.



## Chapter 2: Protection of Environmental Mediums and Water Resources

### Article 6

Any activity that may pollute, harm, or adversely affect the use of environmental mediums and water resources shall be prohibited, as specified by the regulations.

### Article 7

No person may –without obtaining a permit or license in accordance with the regulations– use, transfer, store, sell, or promote natural resources or their products that are found in the territory of the Kingdom, including its mainland, islands, and airspace, as well as its internal waters and territorial sea and their seabed, subsoil, and airspace, in addition to all other maritime areas over which the Kingdom exercises sovereignty or jurisdiction under International Law.

### Article 8

A holder of a license or permit who engages in activities that may result in the release of emissions or pollutants or may affect environmental mediums shall:

1. comply with the environmental requirements, rules, procedures, standards, and measurements specified by the regulations;
2. take the necessary measures and procedures when approaching the limits of environmental measurements, as specified by the regulations;
3. develop programs and devices for detection and measurement, and for monitoring the quality of environmental mediums, as specified by the regulations;
4. provide the competent authority periodically with data and reports relating to emissions or pollutants resulting from the activities he engages in to review and verify their conformity, and determine any violation of measurements, standards, and requirements, as specified by the regulations;
5. provide the competent authority with the environmental audit, as specified by the regulations;

6. rehabilitate environmental mediums that have degraded as a result of his activities, as specified by the regulations.

The competent authority shall determine the activities referred to in this Article.

#### Article 9

1. Any person who engages in any activity that involves the use of substances that adversely affect air quality, or ozone-depleting substances shall take the necessary measures to implement the competent authority's plans for the gradual elimination of such substances, in accordance with the regulations.

2. The competent authority shall specify the substances that adversely affect air quality and depletes the ozone layer.

#### Article 10

1. Ozone-depleting substances, as specified by the competent authority, may not be imported, exported, re-exported, circulated, manufactured, or used without obtaining a permit or license, as specified by the regulations.

2. New or recycled devices, equipment, and products that contain any of the substances referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article may not be imported, exported, re-exported, manufactured, or used without obtaining a permit or license, as specified by the regulations.

3. Materials, devices, equipment, and products referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this Article shall be disposed of, as specified by the regulations.

4. Used devices, equipment, and products that contain any of the substances referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article may not be imported.

#### Article 11

Wastewater or any treated liquids may not be discarded, discharged, or injected into underground wells or any environmental mediums without obtaining a permit, as specified by the regulations.

Regarding environmental sustainability, the ministry succeeds in preparing environmental studies and plans to review oil pollution control and rehabilitate the affected areas. And Saudi Arabia was nominated to chair the Executive Committee of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, and a draft cooperation agreement in the field of environmental protection and pollution reduction was signed between Saudi Arabia and Egypt, in addition to Saudi Arabia's accession to the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

On the ground, the ministry's efforts have contributed to increasing the inspection tours to reach 75% of the total targeted establishments, which is about 21 thousand, to ensure its compliance with environmental controls and standards. And to developing an environmental standard for the establishment of reception facilities services centers to ships. This will enable the construction of these facilities, which are a prerequisite for enabling the declaration of the Red Sea as a special environmental area, which will contribute to supporting new vital national projects to help achieve the Saudi Vision 2030.

### [Faculty of Health interacts with "Environment for Us and Our Generations" Week](#)

The Faculty of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences interacted with Saudi Environment Week, launched by the Ministry of Environment under the slogan "Environment for us and for our generations".

The college displayed images of motivational phrases on the electronic ad display on the ground floor, such as "Let's instill environmental awareness in all of us to have a healthy and sustainable environment."

Students Rima Al-Aiban and Reem Al-Nuweiser presented an awareness lecture entitled "Environment for us and our generations" with the aim of providing advice and guidance for environmental protection, such as intensifying tree planting for its role in climate change, using biodegradable materials, and using rainwater by preserving it for use in irrigating plants, and referring to the damage caused by non-conservation of the environment such as air pollution and water pollution.

Saudi Arabia joins the world in addressing environmental degradation, securing sustainable future