Ali Al Rasbi



### **ISSUE Q3 | JULY - SEP NEWSLETTER** 2023





**ACHIEVEMENTS & EVENTS** 

A summary of our Q3 highlights across research, conservation, education and community engagement.



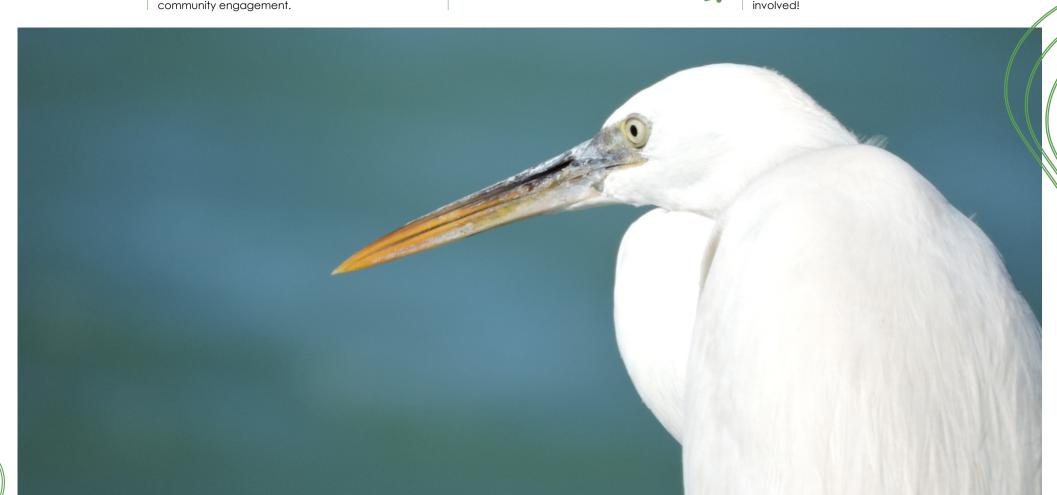
**PROJECT SPOTLIGHT** ESO's Namat Competition inspires

sustainable education in Oman



MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Highlights from our membership programme and details of how to get



### Achievements and Events



**Namat Awards Ceremony** 

The 2022/2023 edition of the Namat Competition concluded on the 18th of September with a successful Award Ceremony welcoming over 9 national schools from 4 governorates. Under the patronage of His Excellency Abdullah bin Khamis Ambusaidi Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education, and representatives from the Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and exhibition showcasing student projects which implemented sustainable solutions within their schools and community. The guests and media were impressed by the innovative ideas and this was followed by the Award Ceremony. More about

the project is mentioned in the project

spotlight below.



Marine Turtle Research and **Conservation Programme** 

We have been engaged in sea turtle research and conservation on Masirah Island since 2008. This year's field season took place between May and September, monitoring nesting population trends and implementing conservation actions to protect the critically endangered Northwest Indian Ocean subpopulation of Loggerhead turtle (Caretta caretta) that nest there. The Green now begun, and will continue until the end of November. We would like to thank the Environment Authority, the USFWS Marine Turtle Conservation Fund, Ocean Ecology Network, the Wali of Masirah and Future Seas Global SPC for supporting this work.



**ESO Ball** 

After a 4-year halt due to COVID19 restrictions, we have recently held the thirteenth edition of the ESO Charity Ball. The event successfully brought together more than 240 corporates, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders; interested in supporting environmental causes that make a real difference. The event also helped raise awareness of ESO's excellent track record for environmental successes it has achieved throughout the years via education, awareness, and conservation. A sincere thank you goes to all that contributed to the success of the event sponsors to donors, auction sponsors and in-kind supporters.



**Raptors Field Surveys** 

We wrapped up the **Disney Conservation** Fund and completed all sponsor requirements. Our team is actively looking for further funding to carry out additional breeding surveys in 2024.



**Dimaniyat Islands Nature Reserve-Awareness Raising Campaign** 

Two awareness materials have been developed on the Dimaniyat Islands Nature Reserve; a marine protected area declared in 1996. These will be published on our website soon. The materials present an overview of the islands, the diverse marine and terrestrial fauna and flora that occur within the reserve, major threats and actions for preserving the islands and their biodiversity. The distribution of these materials will be coupled with a community engagement campaign delivered in October and November, targeting public schools, Omani Women's Associations, Walis, fishermen, marinas and universities, in Barka, Al Mussanah, Al Seeb and Bousher.



Whale and Dolphin Research and **Conservation- Capacity Building Programme** 

A one-year capacity building programme - that was previously funded by HSBC and now under the umbrella of Sohar International focusing on cetacean research and conservation and the development of the next generation of local conservationists is currently being implemented. In September, the final programme module was delivered, concluding the programme's six theoretical modules. The programme also includes a field element, and candidates have had the opportunity to join vessel-based surveys, gaining field experience in boat-based data collection, data download and entry, and basic mapping of survey results.

## 🔎 Project Spotlight

#### ESO's Namat Competition Inspires Sustainable Education in Oman

Oman's youth play a pivotal role in driving environmental awareness for a sustainable future. ESO is at the forefront of this effort by engaging schools, colleges, and universities to promote eco-conscious behaviors. In this quarter's project spotlight, we showcase our flagship educational initiative, the 'Namat Competition'.

The Namat Competition aligns with Sustainable Development Goals for sustainable education and Vision Oman 2040. It educates students and teachers about environmental issues, fostering knowledge transfer to the local community. The initiative empowers the new generation to make informed decisions for the environment's preservation. Students in this competition form teams and engage in activities

that promote sustainable development behaviors, principles,

ESO's Namat Competition encourages sustainability projects in schools. Teams tackle waste, water, or energy management themes, with cash prizes awarded to the top three teams in Sponsored by Veolia Oman and under the supervision of Ministry of Education, the 2022/23 Namat Competition involved 85

and values. The competition reaches government schools,

involving students, staff, and parent councils. Winners are

celebrated at a national level ceremony.

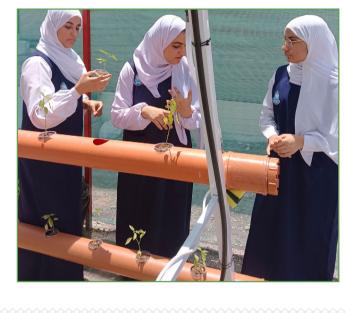
schools from 11 governorates across Oman, reaching a total of 470 schools since inception in 2019. A judging panel evaluated submissions, and nine schools from four governorates moved to the final round.

Under the patronage of H.E. Dr Abdullah bin Khamis Ambusaidi Undersecretary of Ministry of Education, an award ceremony was held on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023, with a dedicated exhibition for all shortlisted schools. These winning teams achieved impressive results. Projects

included using grey water for agriculture, significant waste reduction, and energy awareness advocacy.

ESO continues to inspire youth to be active environmental citizens. With support from Veolia Oman, Namat 2023/24 promises to be even more exciting.









# **ESO** Membership Update

We are proud to offer both corporate and individual membership programmes, providing the community in Oman the opportunity to get closer to the work of ESO. We organise regular lectures and events allowing our members to come together in support of the environment. Upcoming events are listed on our website (link), with recordings of previous events available on the ESO You Tube channel (ESOMediaChannel).



**July Lecture** 

"The Future of Microplastics in the Environment" delivered by **Sumaiya Al Siyabi** known to be an Innovation and Science Olympiad Specialist who supervises scientific innovations within the region, in addition to conducting courses in the field of scientific research and innovation for students and teachers. A special thank you to Sumaiya Al Siyabi for sharing her incredible passion and expertise with us.



Adaptations: Role of Nature-Based Solutions", took place this quarter. This series is sponsored by Asyad Group and the event was moderated by Rumaitha Al Busaidi, along with guest panellists; Suaad Al Harthi – **ESO**, Dr Thuraya Al Sareeri – **Environment Authority** and Hatim Al Abdissalam – **Estiqama TV**. The event covered the importance of nature in fighting climate change, the connection between human well-being and naturebased solutions and Oman's efforts in adopting these solutions. Special thanks to all the speakers for their valuable contribution during the session. Recordings of all the delivered Climate Dialogues sessions can be found on our YouTube Channel (ESOMediaChannel). September (World Cleanup Day)



In celebration of World Cleanup Day, ESO organized a cleanup at Al Hail beach which

was supported by **Petrogas E&P** (for t-shirts & caps production), **Kempinski Hotel Muscat** (snacks) and **be'ah** (bags & logistical support). The cleanup took place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Al Hail beach. An estimated 1680 kgs of litter was collected with 250 contributions the contribution of the co participants joining the cleanup. Special thanks to all the volunteers and valuable sponsors who contributed to the success of the event.









Why

**NEW MEMBER** 

**RENEWALS** 



\*INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

\*CORPORATE RO

commitment to conserve and protect the incredible biodiversity of Oman.

Thank you for believing in our

Your support matters.



Corporate Sponsorship / Membership

Juhaina Al Ghafri - membership@eso.org.om





**How to support ESO in 2023** 

1. MAKE A DONATION VIA

**FOR ENQUIRIES:** 

Individual Membership:

Ghaniya Al Maawali: ghaniya.almaawali@eso.org.om

are per year.

\*Memberships



**EDUCATE** communities on the importance of adopting more susainable lifestyles

sustainability



**BUILD CAPACITY** within the environmental sector in Oman

endangered species in Oman

**ADVOCATE** for environmental



future generations.

**CONSERVE** Oman's natural hertiage for

# #0315-0039-6351-0017

Bank transfer, Bank Muscat

**SEND DONATE** 

عمانتل

**Omantel** 



عمانتل

**Omantel** 

3. CLICK TO JOIN OR RENEW ESO **MEMBERSHIP** 

2. CLICK & FOLLOW US

4. SUPPORT ESO OUR **CHARITY INITIATIVES LEARN MORE** 

**MEMBERSHIP** 



DONATION PROGRAMMES We are very grateful to all our donation partners, who



AlilA





# **THANK YOU!**

Petrogas E&P and Al Sharqiya Aviation.

Ominvest for supporting the ESO Ball as a Pearl Sponsor. **Oman LNG** for supporting the ESO Ball as a Pearl Sponsor. Al Jeneibi International Automobiles for supporting the ESO Ball as Coral

ESO Ball Auction Supporters: Anantara Al Jabal Al Akdhar, Hudhud Tourism, All the in-kind support and generous donations received at the ESO Ball.

Rumaitha Al Busaidi for leading and moderating the Climate Change Series. **TRACCS** for their ongoing in-kind media services.

Maryam Al Farsi for supporting the Research & Conservation Team as an intern.

SABCO Sports for the donation received from Al Mouj Muscat Marathon

Bader Al Yazidi for his ongoing support towards Namat Competition. Aruba Saeed for supporting the Communication Team as an intern.