

## Corporate Social Responsibility



Waha Capital believes that it is important for companies to contribute to the socio-economic development of the communities where they are active, and in 2016 the company continued its corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes on a number of fronts.

### Contributing to the Community

- Support for Ataya to build schools in war-torn areas
- Partnership with Dubai Cares and “BuildOn” to support the alleviation of human suffering and humanitarian crises
- Promotion of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education and careers through Emirates Wildlife Society and Emirates Foundation
- Iftars for orphans and construction workers across the UAE during Ramadan

Waha Capital’s CSR initiatives in the UAE are currently focused on the promotion of science and environmental education, to support the country’s strategy for economic diversification into areas such as high-value manufacturing and other knowledge industries.

The company has partnered with the Emirates Wildlife Society (EWS-WWF) to support its Environmental Youth Champions Programme, which aims to raise awareness of climate change and to encourage scientific study among youth in the UAE.

Waha Capital is giving financial support, and its employees will assist the programme in engaging young people in environmental and scientific issues through field research and classroom activities.

The Environmental Youth Champions Programme focuses on engagement with the country’s youth, supporting their hopes and aspirations to face the challenges of climate change through an inspirational lecture and a sustainability board-game workshop. Participants of the programme also engage with the UAE’s natural environment through a two-day field experience that is made up of scientific research, theoretical lectures

and lab work, covering a variety of climate change modules through the Future Scientists Programme.

Waha Capital also partnered with Emirates Foundation to promote education and careers in science and technology in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) through the organisation’s “Think Science” programme.

Aimed at young Emiratis between 15 and 35, the “Think Science” initiative responds to a growing global shortage of young people studying science and technology to a high level, at a time when demand is growing – especially in the UAE – for scientists, doctors and engineers.

Aligned with the UAE’s National Economic Development strategy to build a robust knowledge economy, the Think Science programme runs a national science competition that aims to challenge gifted youth across the UAE to think creatively and independently to solving practical problems with community benefits. A second component of the programme connects young scientists with key industry stakeholders to promote career opportunities. Emirates Foundation also organises an annual Think Science fair, an

educational experience that has attracted 37,000 young people over the four years it has been running.

Waha Capital was also proud to contribute AED 10 million to Sandoog Al Watan, a fund that supports social development, research and development, and investment in the next generation of UAE talent.

Waha Capital’s commitment to providing education opportunities also extended beyond the UAE, through the company’s collaboration with the Ataya organisation to fund, design and build schools in war-torn countries across the world. The company also continued its support for a Dubai Cares initiative, adopting a primary school in the underprivileged rural village of Sukumbase Tole, located in western Nepal. The company’s donation was used to construct and equip the school, and to provide the funds for two years of primary education and literacy classes for adults.

In the spirit of the holy month of Ramadan, Waha Capital’s employees worked closely with the Red Crescent team to manage event logistics and help serve iftar meals to workers. The company also hosted another iftar for orphans in the UAE.