



Press Team



Cross-Culture



Circular Economy



Leadership



# MUNITY VOICE

DAY 4

1ST FEBRUARY 2025

Gaurika Singh  
Doha College

## The Role of the Press Team: Behind the Scenes at THIMUN

### THIMUN Press Team 2025

**Head of Press:**  
Abid Gharatkar

**Deputy Head of Press:**  
Alyaa Al Thani  
Jana Muhiyaddin

**Photography:**  
**Co-Head:** Amaan Anoop  
**Co-Head:** Alana Kazi  
Aisha Al Muzaffar  
Al Reem Al Mansouri  
Areej Zeb  
Luke Matta  
Sara Al Naser  
Zahra Ebrahim

**Videography:**  
**Head:** Slesha Ravish  
Amna Al Theyab  
Maha Alhaidous  
Rahma Al Mohannadi  
Simer Kaur Malhi  
Shaikha Al Khulaifi

**Social Media:**  
**Head:** Aayan Zeb  
Aishah Tariq  
Fatma Al Hashemi  
Maryam Ahmed  
Muneera Al Naser

**Reporting:**  
**Head:** Gaurika Singh  
Lillian Amina Govender  
Lara Al-Jaber  
Shamma Alsulaiteen

**Layout:**  
**Head:** Fladina Ghaisani

**Editing:**  
**Head:** Muhammad Raihan  
Alyaa Al Maadeed  
Kevin Joseph  
Mahimaa Gigy Karunan  
Nivedita Menon



The THIMUN (The Hague International Model United Nations) press team is responsible for documenting and sharing key moments from the conference. This group of student journalists manages content creation across various media platforms, covering debates, interviews, and general conference activities. Their work ensures that both attendees and external audiences remain informed and engaged throughout the event.

The press team operates under the leadership of the Head and Deputy Heads of Press, who play essential roles in coordinating the team's efforts. The Head of Press is responsible for overseeing content production, setting editorial goals, and maintaining quality standards. Deputy Heads assist by managing daily tasks, ensuring deadlines are met, and providing direct support to individual teams. Their leadership is crucial for keeping the press team organized and focused, especially when faced with the fast-paced environment of THIMUN.

### Specialized Roles in the Press Team

To handle the wide scope of conference coverage, the press team is divided into distinct sub-teams:

- **Videography:** Captures footage of key events, interviews, and highlights. They are responsible for editing content to produce engaging videos.
- **Photography:** Takes both official and candid photos to document the event visually. Their work is featured in publications and social media posts.
- **Editing:** Cinematically compiles the behind the scenes of the conference in order to produce a dream like pre and post conference videos.
- **Social Media:** Provides real-time updates and manages audience engagement on various platforms, often working under tight deadlines.
- **Reporting:** Writes articles on debates, interviews, and event highlights. Reporters summarize complex discussions.

- **Layout:** Designs the final look of newsletters and other publications, balancing aesthetics with readability.

Covering live debates presents challenges, including fast-paced discussions, technical issues, and competing deadlines. Coordinating coverage across multiple committees simultaneously adds complexity. Staying organized, communicating effectively, and being adaptable are key to overcoming these hurdles. Student journalism at THIMUN provides practical experience in media production and serves as a crucial component of the conference's communication efforts. By sharing key updates and highlights, the press team ensures that attendees stay informed and that the event's discussions reach a broader audience. Additionally, their work fosters collaboration among delegates and serves as an archive of significant moments and debates during the conference.



## Cultural Exchange and the International Experience: How THIMUN Fosters Cross-Cultural Understanding

Lillian Amina Govender  
Doha College

The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) brings together students from diverse backgrounds to engage in diplomacy, debate, and collaboration. Beyond formal committee sessions, THIMUN fosters an international experience that allows participants to gain a deeper understanding of different cultures through informal interactions, language, traditions, and shared experiences.

While resolutions and policy discussions are at the forefront of THIMUN, informal moments between delegates allow cultural exchange to flourish. Hallway conversations, shared meals, and social events create opportunities for students to connect personally. Delegates exchange stories about their home countries, discuss global issues from different perspectives, and sometimes pick up phrases from each other's languages. These interactions lay the foundation for mutual understanding and appreciation of global diversity.

Language plays a crucial role in uniting individuals at THIMUN. While English serves as the official



language of debate, many delegates speak multiple languages. This multilingual environment fosters an appreciation for linguistic diversity and enhances cross-cultural communication. Delegates often assist each other in

clarifying complex discussions, ensuring effective dialogue among participants.

THIMUN provides a platform for students to showcase their cultural heritage. Delegates often wear national dress, share traditional greetings, and reference cultural aspects in discussions. These moments create a vibrant atmosphere where participants experience different traditions and develop a deeper respect for one another's backgrounds.

Participating in THIMUN is an experience that extends beyond debates and resolutions. Collaborating on policy solutions, engaging in discussions, and navigating challenges

together strengthen bonds among delegates. These experiences encourage long-term connections and broaden perspectives, reinforcing the importance of international cooperation and understanding.

THIMUN is more than a Model United Nations conference—it is a platform for cultural exchange and mutual understanding. Through informal interactions, language diversity, respect for traditions, and shared experiences, delegates leave with a broader worldview. The relationships and perspectives gained at THIMUN inspire future leaders to approach international relations with empathy and cooperation, promoting unity across diverse communities.





## Challenges and Triumphs: What Made THIMUN 2025 Unique?

Lillian Amina Govender  
Doha College

The Hague International Model United Nations (THIMUN) 2025 brought together delegates from around the world to engage in diplomacy, debate pressing global issues, and work towards consensus. This year's conference stood out for its unexpected challenges, inspiring success stories, and the significant role of technology and social media in shaping the experience. Despite meticulous planning, THIMUN 2025 faced several logistical challenges. From delayed transportation affecting delegation arrivals to last-minute venue adjustments, organizers and participants had to adapt quickly. Committees experienced brief schedule shifts, but the resilience and cooperation of delegates and staff ensured that debates continued smoothly. Volunteers played a crucial role in maintaining order, demonstrating the importance of flexibility in large-scale international events. One of the defining elements of THIMUN is the ability of delegates to navigate disagreements and reach consensus. In several committees, ideological divides initially seemed



insurmountable. However, through effective negotiation, compromise, and diplomacy, delegates worked towards meaningful resolutions. The conference highlighted the importance of listening to opposing viewpoints and finding solutions that balance diverse perspectives.

This year, technology played a bigger role than ever. Digital platforms allowed for real-time

updates, ensuring smooth communication among delegates and organizers. Social media amplified the reach of THIMUN 2025, with live coverage, interviews, and delegate spotlights engaging participants beyond the conference rooms. Online platforms also facilitated document-sharing and resolution drafting, making the process more efficient and accessible. THIMUN 2025

demonstrated that diplomacy thrives in the face of challenges. The adaptability of participants, the emphasis on collaboration, and the effective use of technology shaped a memorable conference. As delegates return home, they take with them not only the lessons learned from debates but also the friendships and connections that will continue to inspire their roles as future leaders.



Lillian Amina Govender  
Doha College

## The Closing Ceremony and Key Takeaways: Final Reflections from Student Leaders Part 1



As the curtains fell on another remarkable edition of the Model United Nations (MUN) conference, the Closing Ceremony marked the conclusion of a week filled with intense discussions, passionate debates, and the forging of new connections. Delegates from all over the world gathered in a final celebration of their efforts and shared experiences. The ceremony highlighted not just the achievements of the participants but also the valuable lessons learned throughout the week. In the reflections shared by student leaders, a sense of accomplishment and growth resonated among the crowd.

This year's MUN conference was a testament to the power of dialogue and diplomacy in addressing global challenges. Student leaders from various schools took the stage to share their personal reflections, highlighting the transformative nature of the event. For many, the conference was an opportunity to step into the shoes of diplomats, representing countries with differing perspectives and

striving to find common ground on the world stage.

The significance of the conference went beyond simply engaging in debates about international issues. Student leaders noted that it offered an invaluable learning experience in leadership, problem-solving, and the complexities of international relations. The opportunity to work with students from diverse backgrounds, all sharing a passion for global affairs, fostered an environment of mutual respect and collaboration.

The Closing Ceremony also marked the time to acknowledge and reward exceptional contributions. Several awards and recognitions were presented to outstanding delegates and teams who stood out for their dedication, research, and leadership. The prestigious titles of Best Delegate, Outstanding Delegate, and Best Position Paper were given to those who demonstrated exemplary knowledge of their assigned topics, as well as

skillful diplomacy and negotiation during the conference. These accolades were a testament to the hard work and commitment that the delegates had invested in the event.

Among the winners, delegates in specialized committees and crisis sessions were also recognized for their innovative problem-solving and ability to manage complex scenarios with tact and diplomacy. Some of the most memorable moments of the week were the inspiring speeches delivered by delegates on crucial issues like climate change, human rights, and global security. Each speech reflected the commitment of the participants to finding solutions for the challenges the world faces.

However, the most memorable moments were not limited to awards alone. Delegates shared stories of breakthrough moments

during debates, where seemingly impossible differences were bridged through collaboration and mutual understanding. It was not just the titles and recognitions that participants took pride in but the opportunity to engage in

real-time problem-solving with peers, building friendships and networks that would last far beyond the conference. As the conference drew to a close, the reflections of the student leaders shed light on the lasting impact the experience would have on their future endeavors. The lessons learned throughout the week were bound to shape the way they approached challenges in both academic and professional settings. Student leaders reflected on the core skills and knowledge they would take away from the MUN experience, sharing how it had influenced their perspectives and aspirations.



Lillian Amina Govender  
Doha College

## The Closing Ceremony and Key Takeaways: Final Reflections from Student Leaders Part 2



**1. Enhanced Communication Skills** – One of the most significant takeaways for many was the sharpening of their communication skills. Delegates practiced articulating their ideas persuasively, often under pressure, during debates and negotiations. The ability to communicate effectively in front of an audience, express one's viewpoint clearly, and persuade others was a valuable lesson. For many, this was a crucial step in their personal development as future leaders in various fields.

**2. A Deeper Understanding of Global Issues** – MUN provided a platform for delegates to gain a deep understanding of the issues facing the world today. By representing countries with varying priorities, students were able to explore the intricacies of global diplomacy, conflict resolution, and the

challenges of balancing competing interests. The conference allowed them to develop a greater empathy for the difficulties faced by different nations, while also expanding their awareness of international law, human rights, and economic policies.

**3. Teamwork and Collaboration** – MUN is not just about individual achievement; it is about working together to find solutions. Student leaders emphasized the importance of collaboration, noting that the ability to work in teams is a crucial skill in both the diplomatic world and in everyday life. Many delegates found themselves engaging with peers from different cultural backgrounds, learning how to navigate diverse perspectives, and fostering an atmosphere of cooperation.

**4. Leadership and Responsibility** – Several student leaders spoke about how MUN deepened their sense of responsibility. Whether in the role of a delegate, chair, or conference organizer, many participants found that MUN demanded a level of leadership and initiative that they had not experienced before. The ability to lead discussions, manage conflict, and represent a country's interests taught them valuable lessons in both leadership and accountability.

**5. Conflict Resolution and Negotiation** – Negotiating with other delegates was a key part of the MUN experience. Students learned the importance of compromise and finding common ground, even when representing opposing viewpoints. They discovered that diplomacy often requires balancing assertiveness with diplomacy, and that the art of negotiation is essential to resolving conflicts.

**6. Building Long-Lasting Relationships** – Beyond the conference itself, participants forged friendships and connections that would last well into the future. The bonds formed during the MUN conference allowed students to expand their network of like-minded individuals who are equally passionate about global issues. Many students reflected on how the experience had given them the opportunity to meet individuals from all corners of the world, each bringing a unique perspective to the table.

As the conference concluded, the energy in the room was palpable. Participants, leaders, and organizers alike shared a collective sense of pride in what had been accomplished. For many, the MUN experience had been transformative. The Closing Ceremony celebrated not just the hard work and achievements of the delegates, but also the spirit of collaboration and unity that had defined the event.

As the student leaders took to the stage one final time, they reaffirmed their commitment to continue making a difference in the world. The lessons learned and the friendships forged at this year's MUN conference would undoubtedly stay with them as they move forward, equipped with a broader perspective and a deeper understanding of the world's most pressing issues.

The Closing Ceremony not only marked the end of a successful conference but also the beginning of new journeys for these young leaders—journeys that will continue to shape their futures and the future of global diplomacy.



**Gaurika Singh**  
Doha College

## Looking Ahead: The Future of MUN and Global Leadership

As THIMUN continues to bring together thousands of students from around the world, it stands as a training ground for the next generation of global leaders. Many participants see the conference as more than just a simulation — it's a platform that sparks interest in diplomacy, international relations, law, and policy-making. The lessons learned, the skills developed, and the networks built at THIMUN often guide students toward pursuing careers that have a meaningful impact on global affairs.

For many students, THIMUN provides their first hands-on experience in diplomacy and problem-solving on international issues. The debates, negotiation sessions, and exposure to diverse perspectives inspire participants to pursue careers in international organizations, government, law, and policy. Many former delegates go on to study international relations, political science, or law at top universities, often citing THIMUN as the catalyst for their academic and professional paths. In addition to fostering an understanding of global issues, the conference develops essential skills such as public speaking, research, and persuasive communication, all of which are vital for success in high-stakes careers. The teamwork required at MUN also teaches collaboration, which is essential in many professional environments, particularly in diplomacy and policy-making.

Senior delegates often have valuable insights for those new to MUN. One key piece of advice is preparation. "Know your country's position and research your topics in-depth. Make sure you know it to the point that you can recite it in your



sleep." said a seasoned delegate. Understanding both sides of an issue allows you to argue effectively and negotiate better outcomes. Networking is also critical, as building alliances and relationships during debates is crucial for creating successful resolutions. Senior delegates recommend staying calm under pressure, as debates can get heated. "Don't be afraid to make mistakes; it's all part of the learning process," said another senior delegate. They also encourage future participants to enjoy the experience, learn from each other, and appreciate the chance to engage in meaningful discussions.

Looking ahead to THIMUN Qatar 2026, Looking ahead to THIMUN Qatar 2026,

delegates and organizers have high expectations for the event. Many hope to see more emphasis on pressing global issues such as climate change, human rights, and sustainable development. With the increasing importance of technology in global affairs, there is interest in integrating more digital tools to improve the flow of communication and the quality of debate. Virtual platforms, for instance, could enhance participation from remote schools or delegates unable to attend in person. There's also a growing desire to see more diverse representation from countries across the region and beyond, allowing for more inclusive and well-rounded discussions.

Additionally, many hope the event will continue to foster an environment where diplomacy and collaboration are prioritized over competition.

As THIMUN continues to evolve, its role in preparing students for leadership on the global stage remains clear. The experiences gained, the friendships built, and the lessons learned form a strong foundation for future leaders. Whether they go on to work in international organizations, governments, or NGOs, the skills and knowledge acquired through MUN will continue to shape their approach to global challenges in the years ahead.



## Sustainable Development at THIMUN Qatar 2025: A Focus on SDG 11 & 12

Gaurika Singh  
Doha College

### Introduction to SDG 11 & 12: What They Are and Why They Matter

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 11 and 12 are critical to ensuring a balanced and sustainable future. **SDG 11**, “Sustainable Cities and Communities,” focuses on making cities more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. It emphasizes the need for urban spaces that promote equal access to resources and address issues like pollution and urban sprawl. **SDG 12**, “Responsible Consumption and Production,” encourages industries and individuals to reduce waste, promote resource efficiency, and adopt sustainable consumption practices. In today’s world, where overpopulation and environmental degradation threaten our ecosystems, these goals are essential to shaping a sustainable future.

### How These SDGs Were Addressed in Debates

At THIMUN Qatar 2025, SDG 11 and 12 became central themes in various committees. Delegates discussed innovative solutions for creating **sustainable cities**, such as green building initiatives, improving public transportation systems, and enhancing urban planning for resilience against climate change. In committees focused on **responsible consumption**, delegates proposed policies for reducing waste, encouraging recycling, and promoting the use of sustainable materials in industries. **Waste management** also featured prominently, with solutions aimed at improving recycling infrastructure and reducing plastic usage in urban centers.

### Notable Resolutions

Several resolutions from THIMUN Qatar 2025 stood out for their forward-thinking proposals. One notable proposal aimed at increasing the integration of **eco-friendly technologies** in urban planning, including the development of energy-efficient buildings and renewable energy solutions in cities. Another key resolution proposed increasing the **awareness of sustainable consumption practices** by introducing education campaigns and incentives for businesses to adopt circular economy principles. Additionally, a resolution called for global collaboration to combat **electronic waste** by establishing a standardized system for responsible disposal and recycling.

### Innovative Ideas from Delegates

Delegates presented a variety of **innovative solutions** for addressing urban sustainability and responsible consumption. One suggestion included creating **smart cities** that utilize technology to optimize energy usage, waste disposal, and transportation, ultimately reducing cities' carbon footprints. Another unique approach was the concept of a **global waste bank**, where countries could trade or recycle waste materials to promote sustainable resource use. Delegates also explored the idea of **eco-labeling**, where products are marked based on their environmental impact, encouraging consumers to make sustainable choices.



### Real-World Connections

The resolutions and discussions at THIMUN Qatar 2025 mirror ongoing efforts in cities and industries worldwide. Many global cities, including Copenhagen and Singapore, have been recognized for their **commitment to sustainability**, integrating green spaces, energy-efficient buildings, and sustainable public transportation into their urban planning strategies. In the business world, companies like Patagonia and IKEA are working towards **circular production models**, reducing waste, and focusing on sustainable resource usage — all of which were echoed in the ideas discussed at the conference.

### THIMUN's Sustainability Efforts

THIMUN Qatar 2025 also

took steps to align with the SDGs through its own sustainability initiatives. The conference reduced paper waste by promoting digital solutions for scheduling, voting, and distributing materials. Delegates were encouraged to use digital devices for note-taking and research, helping to reduce the overall carbon footprint. Additionally, the conference partnered with local organizations to offset its environmental impact and raise awareness about the importance of sustainability both within and outside the MUN community.

By addressing SDG 11 and 12, THIMUN Qatar 2025 not only provided a platform for future leaders to engage with global issues but also demonstrated its commitment to sustainability in action.



Gaurika Singh  
Doha College

## Circular Economy in Urban Areas: Reducing Waste and Boosting Sustainability Part 1

The concept of a circular economy is transforming how cities manage resources, waste, and sustainability. Unlike the traditional "take, make, dispose" model, the circular economy aims to keep products, materials, and resources in use for as long as possible, minimizing waste and maximizing the value extracted from them. This approach is particularly important for urban areas, where population growth and resource consumption are at their highest.

### The Need for a Circular Economy in Cities

Urban areas face immense challenges related to waste generation and resource depletion. Cities worldwide are growing rapidly, leading to increased demand for raw materials, higher waste production, and greater environmental strain. Without a shift toward sustainable practices, this growth will result in more landfills, polluted environments, and resource scarcity.

In 2021, the world's cities produced an estimated 2.01 billion tonnes of municipal solid waste. If current trends continue, that number is expected to increase by 70% by 2050. Most of this waste ends up in landfills or is incinerated, releasing harmful pollutants into the environment. A circular economy offers a solution by rethinking waste as a resource and reimagining urban systems to reduce, reuse, and recycle materials, leading to cleaner, more sustainable cities.

### Key Elements of a Circular Economy in Urban Areas

To embrace a circular economy, cities need to incorporate several core principles that help reduce waste and encourage sustainability.



#### 1. Designing for Longevity and Repairability

One of the foundational elements of a circular economy is designing products that last longer and are easier to repair, rather than disposable items that are meant to be thrown away after a short lifespan. In urban areas, this could mean encouraging manufacturers to produce goods that are durable, repairable, and recyclable. Cities can promote these products through incentives or regulations. Examples of circular economy practices in action include repair cafes, where residents can bring in broken items—such as electronics, furniture, and clothing—to be fixed instead of discarded. This not only extends the life of products but also fosters a culture of

reuse and repair within the community.

#### 2. Recycling and Upcycling

Recycling plays a critical role in the circular economy. Cities can implement comprehensive recycling programs that prioritize the separation of waste into recyclable materials, diverting them from landfills and ensuring they are reused in new products. Upcycling is another important aspect, where waste materials are transformed into products of higher value or function.

For example, construction waste can be repurposed to create new urban infrastructure or used for creating public art, reducing the need for raw materials. This approach not only helps reduce waste but also stimulates creative

reuse of materials.

#### 3. Waste-to-Energy Technologies

Some waste cannot be easily recycled or reused, but cities can still harness its potential by investing in waste-to-energy (WTE) technologies. These technologies convert non-recyclable waste into energy, such as electricity or heat, which can then be used to power homes, businesses, or even public transportation. An example is the implementation of waste-to-biogas systems, where organic waste like food scraps is processed into biogas. This renewable energy can then be used to reduce the city's reliance on fossil fuels, making urban energy systems more sustainable.





## Circular Economy in Urban Areas: Reducing Waste and Boosting Sustainability Part 2

Gaurika Singh  
Doha College

### 4. The Product-as-a-Service Model

The circular economy challenges the traditional model of ownership. Instead of owning products, individuals and businesses can lease or rent items that are maintained and repaired by the service provider. This reduces waste by ensuring products are used efficiently and recycled at the end of their life.

Cities can support this transition by promoting shared services, such as car-sharing programs or bike-sharing systems, which reduce the number of privately owned vehicles and decrease the environmental footprint of transportation. These models encourage more sustainable consumption patterns and reduce waste associated with production.

### Real-World Examples of Circular Economy Practices in Cities

Cities around the world are already moving toward circular economy practices to create more sustainable and livable environments.

#### 1. Zero-Waste Initiatives

San Francisco is a leading example of a city committed to reducing waste through a zero-waste initiative. The city aims to send zero waste to landfills by 2025 by promoting recycling, composting, and upcycling. This initiative has not only reduced waste but also created new business opportunities around recycling and sustainable resource management.



#### 2. Circular Supply Chains

Rotterdam, in the Netherlands, has become a hub for circular economy practices. The city's port processes waste materials from across Europe, transforming them into new products, from metal alloys to recycled textiles. By integrating circular supply chains into the urban economy, Rotterdam is contributing to reducing the use of virgin resources and fostering sustainable industry.

#### 3. Urban Mining

Urban mining refers to the practice of recovering valuable materials from waste streams, such as electronic waste (e-waste) and construction debris. Cities can adopt urban mining strategies to recover metals, rare minerals, and other

reusable materials that would otherwise be discarded. For example, some cities have started to process e-waste at local facilities to recover precious metals like gold and copper, which can then be used to manufacture new electronics.

### Benefits of Circular Economy for Urban Sustainability

The shift to a circular economy brings numerous benefits for urban sustainability:

- **Waste Reduction:** By rethinking how products are designed, used, and disposed of, cities can dramatically reduce the volume of waste that ends up in landfills, helping mitigate pollution and conserve valuable land resources.
- **Economic Growth:** Circular economy practices can create new business models and jobs. These green jobs promote

- economic growth while minimizing environmental harm.
- **Resource Efficiency:** Circular systems make more efficient use of resources, ensuring that materials are reused and recycled, reducing reliance on virgin resources and promoting a more sustainable urban infrastructure.

Cities have a vital role to play in the transition toward a circular economy. By adopting circular practices, such as designing for longevity, embracing recycling and upcycling, investing in waste-to-energy technologies, and promoting product-as-a-service models, urban areas can reduce waste, boost sustainability, and foster more resilient communities. As cities grow and face increasing environmental challenges, the circular economy offers a hopeful path toward a more sustainable, waste-free future.



**Lillian Amina Govender**  
Doha College

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12, "Responsible Consumption and Production," emphasizes the need to promote more sustainable ways of consuming and producing goods and services. As the world grapples with the environmental, social, and economic consequences of overconsumption, the importance of transitioning to more sustainable practices has never been clearer.

In 2015, the United Nations set the agenda for the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, which call for urgent action to combat climate change, inequality, and environmental degradation. SDG 12 directly addresses these issues by encouraging countries, businesses, and individuals to rethink the way they use resources and manage waste. Achieving this goal is crucial to creating a more equitable and environmentally friendly world.

The current model of consumption and production is taking a significant toll on the planet. The global population is growing, and with it, the demand for goods and services. However, this increased demand is accompanied by unsustainable resource extraction, waste generation, and pollution. According to the UN, about one-third of food produced worldwide is lost or wasted, contributing to environmental harm while millions of people around the world continue to suffer from hunger.

In addition, the manufacturing process behind many products—ranging from electronics to clothing—often relies on non-renewable resources and causes high levels of waste. The excessive use of single-use plastics, deforestation for agriculture, and the overproduction of fast fashion contribute to the

## Sustainable Consumption and Production: The Path to a Greener Future (SDG 12) Part 1



depletion of natural resources and the accumulation of waste in landfills and oceans.

The environmental and social impacts of such practices are far-reaching. The degradation of ecosystems, loss of biodiversity, and increased greenhouse gas emissions are just a few of the consequences that threaten the planet's future. Furthermore, many communities, particularly those in developing countries, face the negative consequences of unsustainable production and consumption, including poor working conditions, exploitation, and a lack of access to essential services. SDG 12 outlines several targets that seek to transform how societies approach consumption and production, encouraging the adoption of more sustainable practices across industries, governments, and individuals. Key targets of SDG 12 include:

- **Implementing Sustainable Practices** – Encouraging businesses and industries to adopt sustainable production methods, reduce their environmental footprints, and ensure resource efficiency throughout the product lifecycle is crucial to achieving this goal. This involves designing products with longer lifespans, using eco-friendly materials, and improving energy efficiency in manufacturing processes.
- **Reducing Waste Generation** – A major focus of SDG 12 is reducing waste production, particularly through recycling and reusing materials. The target is to significantly reduce waste generation by 2030, especially in the form of plastic pollution and electronic waste. This involves improving waste management systems and also fostering a culture of recycling.
- **Promoting Sustainable Practices in Food Systems** – One of the most significant aspects of sustainable consumption and production is reducing food waste. SDG 12 encourages both individuals and businesses to rethink their approach to food, promoting the reduction of waste from farm to table and addressing inefficiencies in food distribution and consumption.

Supporting the Adoption of Green Technologies – Another key target is the promotion of green technologies and innovations that can reduce the environmental impact of production. This includes encouraging industries to adopt renewable energy sources, use fewer resources, and implement clean technologies that reduce pollution and waste.



Lillian Amina Govender  
Doha College

## Sustainable Consumption and Production: The Path to a Greener Future (SDG 12) Part 2

While governments and businesses have a significant role to play in achieving SDG 12, individuals also have a crucial part in making the shift toward more sustainable consumption and production. Everyday decisions, such as the products we purchase, how we dispose of waste, and the energy we use, all contribute to the larger picture.

Some ways individuals can make a positive impact include:

- **Conscious Consumption** – Buying only what is needed, opting for products made from sustainable materials, and supporting businesses that prioritize eco-friendly practices can all make a difference.
- **Reducing Waste** – Practicing the "reduce, reuse, and recycle" approach helps limit waste and ensure that resources are used more efficiently. Avoiding single-use plastics, reducing food waste, and composting are simple yet effective steps in waste reduction.
- **Choosing Sustainable Food** – Purchasing locally grown, organic food, reducing food waste at home, and supporting sustainable farming practices contribute to more responsible food systems.
- **Supporting Policy Change** – Advocating for stronger environmental policies, supporting businesses with ethical supply chains, and raising awareness of the importance of sustainability all contribute to the larger movement toward achieving SDG 12.



The global transition to sustainable consumption and production requires collaboration and commitment across all sectors of society. Governments must implement policies that incentivize green technologies, sustainable practices, and responsible resource management. Businesses must invest in innovation to minimize their environmental footprint while providing consumers with

sustainable products. And individuals must take responsibility for their choices, recognizing the impact they have on the planet.

Achieving SDG 12 is not only necessary for the health of the planet but also for the future well-being of generations to come. It is a call for a fundamental shift in how we view our relationship with resources and the environment. By working

together, we can create a world where production and consumption patterns are aligned with the principles of sustainability, ensuring a cleaner, greener future for all.

As we move toward 2030, it is vital that we act now—on every level—to reduce our collective impact and pave the way for a future in which sustainable consumption and production are the norms rather than the exceptions.



## الحياة البحرية وتأثير الاستهلاك المفرط والنفايات

بقلم شما السلاطين  
أكاديمية قطر الدوحة



يعد النظام البيئي البحري، الذي يضم تنوعاً هائلاً من الكائنات الحية، عنصراً أساسياً في الحفاظ على توازن كوكب الأرض. فمن الشعاب المرجانية النابضة بالحياة إلى المحيطات الشاسعة التي توفر 50% من الأكسجين في العالم، تعتبر الحياة البحرية ضرورية لبقاء جميع الكائنات، بما في ذلك البشر. ومع ذلك، فإن الاستهلاك المفرط للموارد والنفايات المتزايدة الناتجة عن أنماط حياتنا الحديثة يهددان هذا النظام الحساس بشكل خطير. وترتبط هذه القضايا مباشرة بالهدف 12 من أهداف التنمية المستدامة (الاستهلاك والإنتاج المسؤولان)، الذي يدعو إلى اتخاذ إجراءات عاجلة للحد من النفايات وتعزيز الممارسات المستدامة.

أحد أكبر التهديدات للحياة البحرية هو التلوث البلاستيكي. إذ ينتهي المطاف بملايين الأطنان من النفايات البلاستيكية في المحيطات كل عام، وتحلل إلى جزيئات دقيقة يتم الخلط بينها وبين الغذاء من قبل الكائنات البحرية مثل الأسماك والسلاحف البحرية والطيور البحرية. يؤدي تناول البلاستيك إلى إصابات داخلية وانسدادات وحتى المجاعة. فالسلاحف البحرية، على سبيل المثال، غالباً ما تخلط بين الأكياس البلاستيكية وقناديل البحر، وهي أحد مصادر غذائها الرئيسية. وبالمثل، فإن الطيور البحرية مثل القطرس تطعم صغارها الحطام البلاستيكي، مما يؤدي إلى عواقب مميتة. ولا يتوقف تأثير التلوث البلاستيكي عند الكائنات الفردية، بل إنه يخل بتوازن السلسلة الغذائية بأكملها، حيث تتسرب المواد الكيميائية السامة من البلاستيك إلى الأسماك التي يستهلكها البشر.

يعد الصيد الجائر، وهو نتيجة مباشرة لاستهلاك المفرط، مشكلة أخرى تلحق الضرر بالنظم البيئية البحرية. فقد أدى الطلب المتزايد على المأكولات البحرية إلى دفع العديد من أنواع الأسماك، مثل التونة والقد، إلى حافة الانقراض. ولا يقتصر تأثير الصيد الجائر على استنزاف أعداد الأسماك، بل إنه يضر أيضاً بالشعاب المرجانية والموائل الأخرى، حيث تؤدي تقنيات الصيد المدمرة مثل الجرف القاعي إلى تدمير قاع



علي الحكومات والصناعات والأفراد العمل معاً للحد من النفايات، وإعادة تدوير المواد، وإعطاء الأولوية للبدائل الصديقة للبيئة. على سبيل المثال، يمكن أن يساعد الحد من استخدام

البلاستيك أحادي الاستخدام، ودعم المأكولات البحرية المستدامة، والاستثمار في الطاقة المتجددة في حماية النظم البيئية البحرية. وحتى التغييرات البسيطة، مثل استخدام الأكياس القابلة لإعادة الاستخدام، يمكن أن يكون لها تأثير كبير إذا تم تبنيها على نطاق عالمي.

إن محيطاتنا مورد مشترك، وهي ضرورية للحياة البحرية وللإنسانية. فالخيارات التي نتخذها اليوم ستحدد ما إذا كانت الأجيال القادمة ستراث نظاماً بحرياً مزدهراً أو محيطات خالية من الحياة. ومن خلال تبني الاستهلاك والإنتاج المسؤولين، يمكننا حماية المحيطات وضمان مستقبل مستدام للجميع.

المحيط. وبدون وجود أعداد كافية من الكائنات البحرية للحفاظ على التوازن، يمكن أن ينهار النظام البيئي بأكمله، مما يؤثر على سبل عيش الملايين من الأشخاص الذين يعتمدون على المحيط في الغذاء والدخل.

كما تساهم النفايات المفرطة الناتجة عن الصناعات البرية في تدمير الموائل البحرية. إذ تؤدي التسربات النفطية والجريان السطحي الزراعي ومياه الصرف الصحي غير المعالجة إلى إدخال مواد كيميائية وسموم ضارة في المياه، مما يسبب تبيض الشعاب المرجانية وظهور مناطق ميتة لا تستطيع الحياة البحرية البقاء فيها. وتعتبر الشعاب المرجانية، التي تعرف بـ "غابات البحر المطيرة"، من أكثر النظم البيئية تأثراً. ومع موت الشعاب المرجانية بسبب التلوث وتغير المناخ، تفقد العديد من الأنواع موائلها، كما تخسر المجتمعات الساحلية مصدراً رئيسياً للغذاء والحماية من العواصف.

يتطلب التصدي لهذه التحديات جهداً جماعياً لتبني ممارسات الاستهلاك والإنتاج المستدامة، كما يؤكد عليه الهدف 12 من أهداف التنمية المستدامة. يجب



بقلم شما السلاطين  
أكاديمية قطر الدوحة

## التزام الخطوط الجوية القطرية بالتنمية الحضرية المستدامة



في عصر لم تعد فيه الاستدامة البيئية مجرد اتجاه، بل أصبحت ضرورة حتمية، اتخذت الخطوط الجوية القطرية خطوات كبيرة لمواءمة عملياتها مع الهدف 11 من أهداف التنمية المستدامة للأمم المتحدة، والذي يركز على جعل المدن والمبستوطنات البشرية شاملة وآمنة وقادرة على الصمود ومستدامة. وتتميز استراتيجية الاستدامة الخاصة بالخطوط الجوية القطرية بنهجها الشامل الذي لا يعالج فقط القضايا البيئية العالمية، بل يساهم أيضاً في التنمية المستدامة للمناطق الحضرية.

تستند استراتيجية الاستدامة للخطوط الجوية القطرية إلى الاستثمار في أسطول حديث وفعال من حيث استهلاك الوقود. حيث تدير الشركة واحدة من أحدث أساطيل الطائرات في الصناعة ولديها أكثر من 200 طائرة جديدة قيد الطلب. ويضمن هذا الالتزام تقليل استهلاك الوقود وانبعاثات غازات الاحتباس الحراري، مما يساهم بشكل مباشر في تحسين جودة الهواء في المناطق الحضرية.

تجسد الخطوط الجوية القطرية، من خلال التزامها المتعدد الأبعاد بالاستدامة، نموذجاً قوياً لإدارة البيئة، حيث تتماشى بشكل وثيق مع الهدف 11 من أهداف التنمية المستدامة. ومن خلال الاستثمار في التقنيات الفعالة في استهلاك الوقود، واعتماد الوقود المستدام، وتنفيذ أنظمة إدارة بيئية شاملة، والمشاركة في التعاون العالمي، لا تغزى الشركة كفاءتها التشغيلية فحسب، بل تلعب أيضاً دوراً محورياً في تعزيز البيئات الحضرية المستدامة في جميع أنحاء العالم، مما يجعلها مثلاً رائداً في مختلف المجالات.

وإدراكاً لأهمية التعاون، تشارك الخطوط الجوية القطرية بنشاط مع الجهات المعنية في الصناعة لتعزيز استخدام وقود الطيران المستدام والوقود منخفض الكربون المعتمد بموجب معايير الاستدامة الصارمة المعترف بها من قبل منظمة الطيران المدني الدولي (ICAO). كما تلتزم الشركة بالأطر البيئية العالمية، بما في ذلك نظام تداول الانبعاثات في الاتحاد الأوروبي (EU ETS)، ونظام تداول الانبعاثات في المملكة المتحدة (UK ETS)، ونظام تعويض الكربون والحد من الانبعاثات في الطيران الدولي (CORSIA). وتضمن هذه الجهود التعاونية والتدابير التنظيمية أن عمليات الشركة تساهم بشكل إيجابي في التنمية الحضرية المستدامة.

طبقت الخطوط الجوية القطرية نظاماً لإدارة البيئة حاصل على أعلى مستويات الاعتماد في برنامج التقييم البيئي التابع للاتحاد الدولي ويشمل (IENVA) للنقل الجوي هذا الاعتماد مختلف جوانب عمليات الشركة، بما في ذلك تشغيل الرحلات الجوية، والخدمات الأرضية، والوظائف الإدارية. ومن خلال الامتثال لهذه المعايير البيئية، تقلل الشركة من تأثيرها البيئي وتعزز الاستدامة في المدن التي تعمل فيها. كما يشمل التزامها الإدارة المستدامة للنفايات والمياه، حيث تسعى الشركة إلى تحقيق "صفر نفايات" والقضاء على تصريف مياه الصرف غير المعالجة، وهي جهود حاسمة في الحفاظ على النظم البيئية الحضرية وضمان صحة ورفاهية سكان المدن.

بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تعهدت الخطوط الجوية القطرية بدمج ما لا يقل عن 10% من وقود الطيران المستدام في استهلاكها (SAF) لوقود الطائرات بحلول عام 2030. وفي عام 2023، استخدمت الشركة 3.9 مليون لتر من وقود الطيران المستدام، مما أدى إلى تقليل انبعاثات دورة الحياة بنسبة 94.4% مقارنة بوقود الطائرات التقليدي. ولا يقلل هذا المبادرة من البصمة الكربونية للخطوط الجوية القطرية فحسب، بل يدعم أيضاً التحول العالمي نحو مصادر الطاقة المستدامة، مما يعود بالنفع على البيئات الحضرية في جميع أنحاء العالم.



# MUNITY VOICE



DAY 4

1ST FEBRUARY 2025

