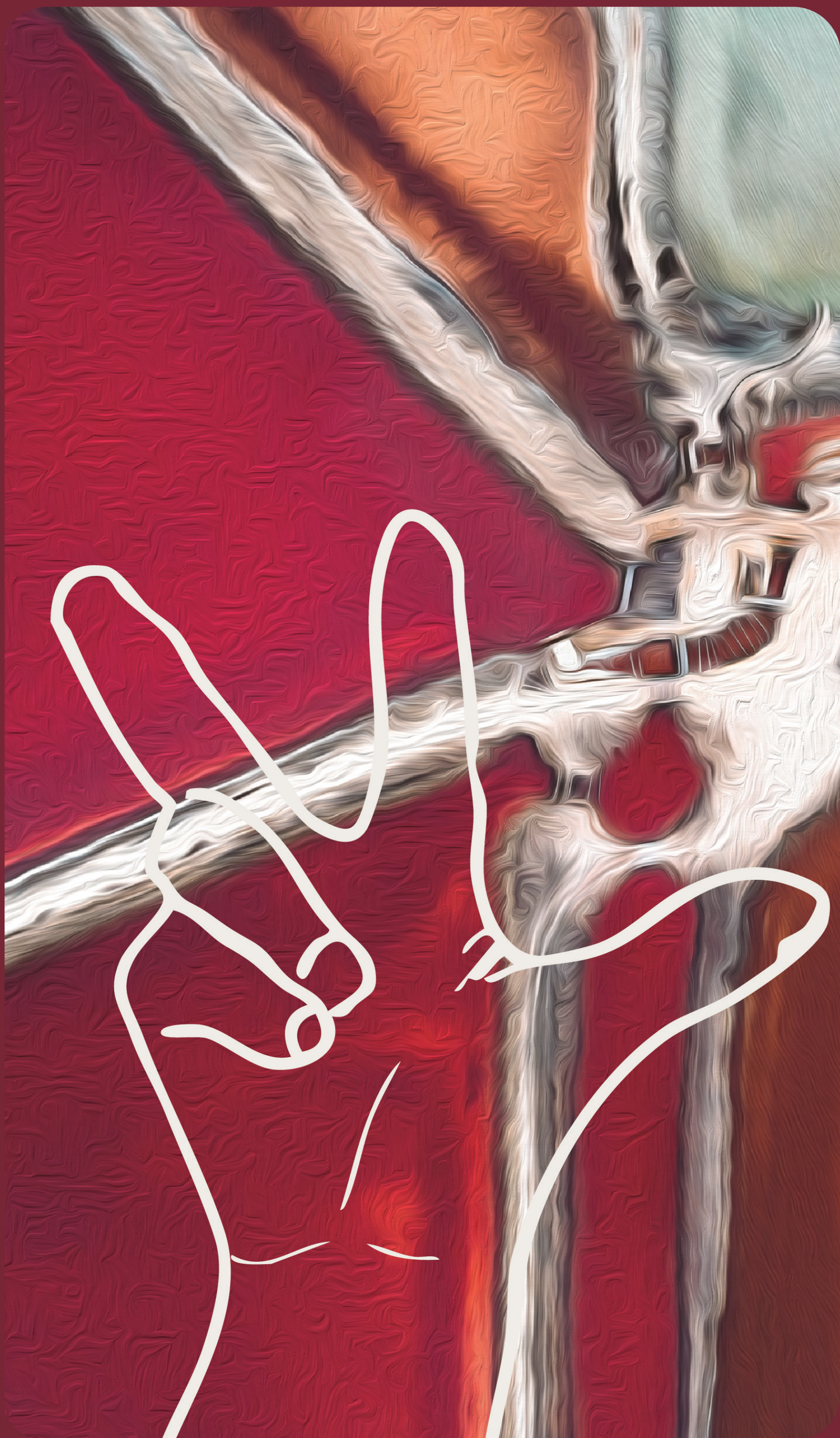
Ahya

Issue Brief

Climate Policy | Federal Decree No. 11
Reduction of Climate Change Effects



Overview

United Arab Emirates, one of the largest economies of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), a regional leader in addressing climate change is furthering its commitment towards the global agenda. Despite contributing to less than one (1) percent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the Emirates face heightened climate risks due to rising temperatures, desertification, and the vulnerability of coastal infrastructure. As 85% of the population and over 90% of critical facilities, such as desalination plants, power stations, and key sectors like tourism and transport, are located along the coast, the country's vulnerability to climate change is further amplified.

To mitigate these risks, the Emirates have embraced a forward-looking climate policy framework, becoming the first country in the region to commit to a net-zero pathway under its **Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative**[2]. As summarised in our Issue Brief - Climate Change Recommendations for the United Arab Emirates published in 2023 the Emirate's broader sustainability policy revolves around four (4) key pillars:

(I) **Net-Zero 2050 Strategic Initiative**
Aiming to boost national GDP by 3.2% (AED 1,080 billion) and create 200,000 jobs annually while transitioning to clean energy[2].

(II) **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**
The latest update to NDCs in 2024 targets a 47% reduction in business as usual (BaU) emissions equivalent 103.5 million tCO_2e by 2035[3].

(III) **National Climate Change Plan**
The Climate Plan acts as a comprehensive framework for managing GHG emissions, adapting to climate-change and diversifying the economy through innovation[4].

(IV) **UAE Energy Strategy 2050**
Targeting 44% renewable energy, 42-45% increase in energy efficiency, 70% reduction in power sector emissions, and AED 966 billion saving target from energy efficiency and lower consumption by 2050[5].

These pillars are collectively driving sustainable economic growth and environmental resilience.

National Determined Contribution (NDC) targets by 2035[3]

47% reduction in BaU emissions

On **28th of August 2024,** HRH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan issued **Federal Decree-Law No. 11** of **2024** on the **Reduction of Climate Change Effects**[6] (hereinafter "**Emirates Climate Law 2024**") marking a *landmark advancement* in the nation's climate governance. The UAE's Climate Law provides a robust legal mechanism designed to achieve the UAE's Net Zero by 2050 target, bolstering its commitment to climate-action while integrating sustainability as a core national priority. Set to take effect on 30th May 2025, the decree mandates stringent measures for emission reduction, innovation in green

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[1] National Climate Change Adaptation Program Adaptation of the UAE's Environment to Climate Change Risk Assessment & Options for Action. (2019). In MOCCAE.

[2] UAE Unveils National Net Zero by 2050 Pathway at COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh. (2022, November 11). MOCCAE.

[3] Accelerating Action Towards Mission 1.5°C The United Arab Emirates' Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) (November, 2024). In UNFCCC.

[4] United Arab Emirates (n.d.). UAE Net Zero 2050. UA.E

[5] United Arab Emirates (July, 2023). UAE Energy Strategy 2050. UA.E.

[6] United Arab Emirates (August 2024) UAE Federal Decree–Law No. (11) of 2024 On the Reduction of Climate Change Effects.

Targeting renewable energy generation across Emirates by 2040[5]

44%

National Net Zero by 2050 Pathway is projected to boost the national GDP (from 2019 levels) by[2]

3.2% (AED 1,080 billion)

technologies, and collective accountability from the public and private sectors. Ahya commends the UAE's leadership through Federal Decree-Law of 2024, reflecting the nation's clear policy framework for achieving net-zero emissions. In this Issue Brief we take a deep look into the Emirates Climate Law 2024, it's implications for private sector enterprise and Ahya can help.

Federal Decree-Law No. 11 of 2024[6] is a reflection of the UAE's progressive vision for sustainability, encapsulated in its long-term strategies such as the Energy Strategy 2050 and the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050. It aligns with the UAE's international commitments, including its updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which aim to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 47% by 2035 compared to 2019 levels of 196.3 million tCO_2e[3].

The law outlines five core objectives, as detailed in Article 2

(I) Emissions Management
Ensure a significant reduction in emissions across all sectors to achieve climate neutrality.

(II) Resilience and Adaptation
Strengthen ecosystems, economic sectors, and society against the adverse effects of climate change.

(III) Innovation and R&D
Promote cutting-edge research, innovation, and the use of advanced technologies to address climate challenges.

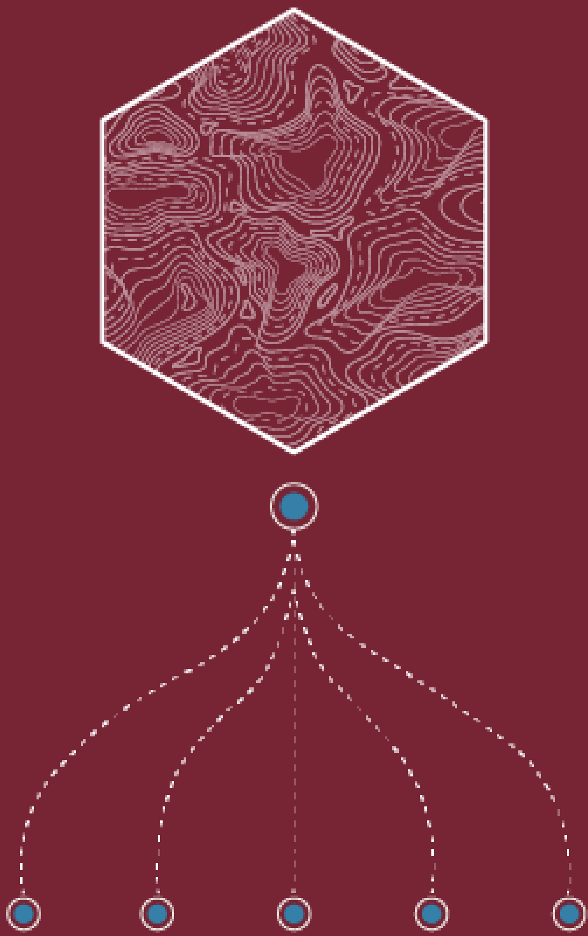
(IV) Data Transparency
Facilitate national and international collaboration by sharing climate-related data.

(V) Sustainable Development
Align climate goals with economic diversification plans, green economy initiatives, and global competitiveness.

Contents

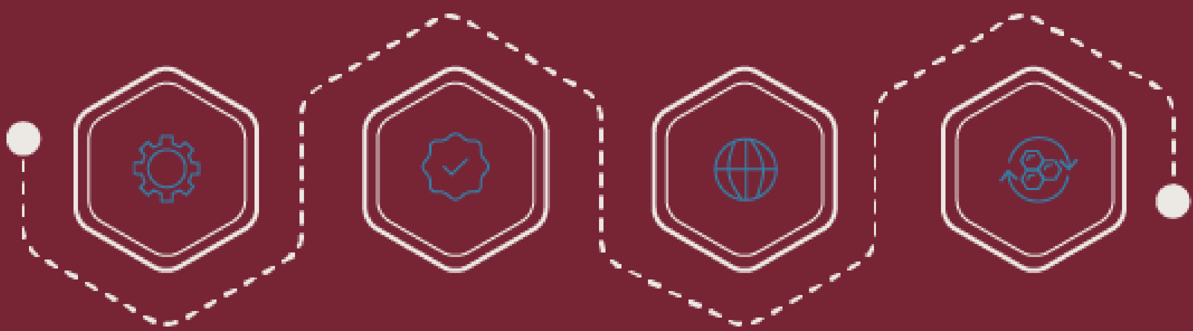
1.0 | Decode

The UAE Federal Decree-Law No. 11 of 2024 provides a comprehensive framework for achieving carbon neutrality through its 21 articles, addressing national strategies, legal applicability, implementation timelines, and penalties for non-compliance.



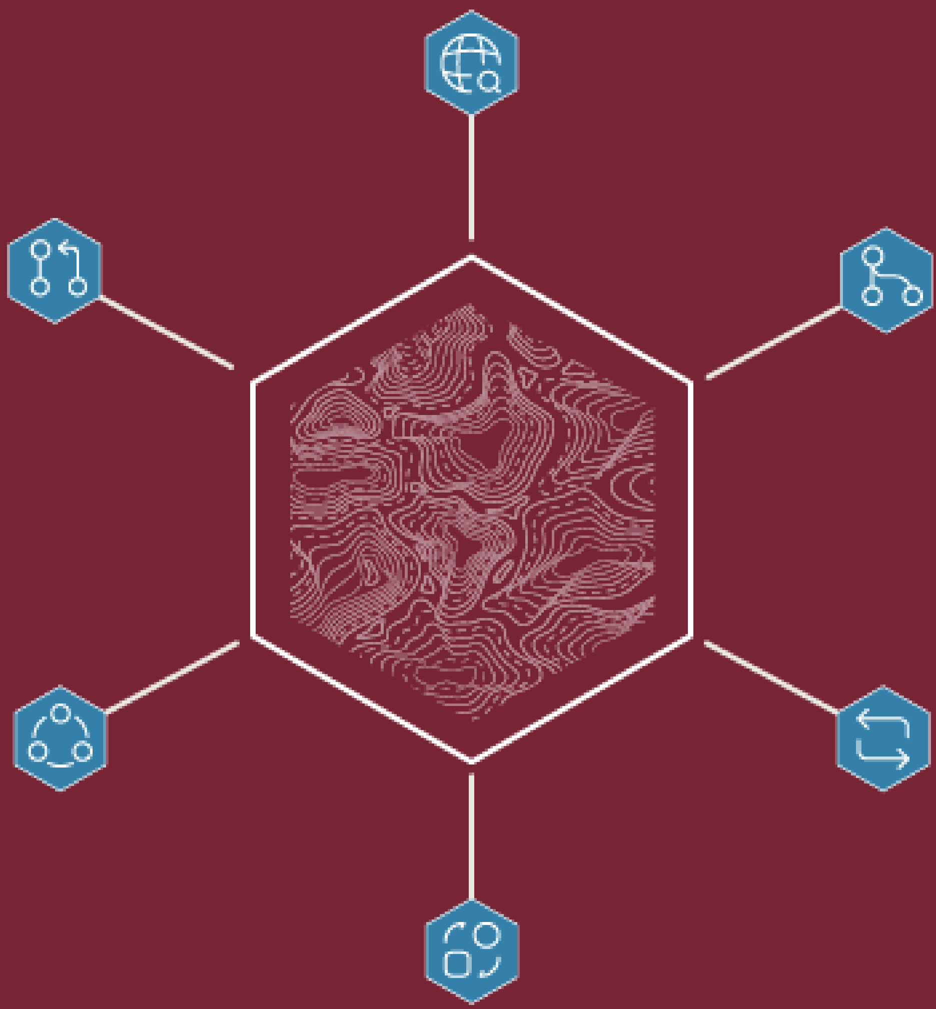
2.0 | Transform

Challenges and opportunities for businesses, underscoring the need for adapting to evolving regulations while advancing sustainability objectives.



3.0 | Strenghthen

Ahya's unified AI - powered platform strengthens sustainable innovation by simplifying emissions measurement, reporting and reduction.



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Contact us to accelerate your net-zero journey.

Salaal Hasan | *Chief Executive*
E: salaal@ahya.ai

Yousha Khan | *Lead, Climate Science*
E: yousha.khan@ahya.ai

Hamna Hafeez | *Snr Associate, Climate Science*
E: hamna.hafeez@ahya.ai

Taimur Khan | *Snr Associate, Carbon Markets*
E: taimur.khan@ahya.ai