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Mission Green Earth Provides Hope for Future: Haya

Staff reporter

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DUBAI – The three-day Mission Green Earth Stand Up and Take Action 2008 concluded on Sunday with the participation of 137,711 people.

Among the people who took part in the Stand Up were students and staff of schools and colleges, employees of various companies and organisations, people from communities and social clubs, and visitors to malls and shopping establishments. The participants of the Stand Up took a pledge to pursue sustainable living and remind their governments of the commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

During the ceremony marking the event's conclusion, a host of dignitaries, including the Minister of Environment and Water, Dr. Rashid Ahmad bin Fahad, and guests listened to a recorded message from the campaign patron and UN Messenger of Peace, Princess Haya bint Al Hussein, wife of His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. "This is not just another green campaign. This is about saving and enhancing human lives because we know that those who will be hardest hit by climate change will be those who are already the most vulnerable in our societies. We enjoy abundant water, but in other parts of the drylands, people like us are on the brink of fighting for water. We enjoy the energy to power air-conditioned surroundings at work, home and leisure places, but in some places just providing the energy to provide light and clean fire would provide hope for the future," Princess Haya said.

"It's so fulfilling to reach out to a large number of people. People are waking up and they want to be a part of it. Word is spreading and people are taking a serious note," said Madhu Bhatnagar, who helped coordinate the team of volunteers who spread the message.

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Students in Forefront

DUBAI - Dubai International Academy took part in the global Stand Up and Take Action event on Sunday in support of eradication of extreme poverty and an environmentally sustainable world. Besides standing up, DIA's 1695 students and 211 staff, were also part of the attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the largest number of people standing together in support of a cause. Similarly several school students from the UAE including Delhi Private School, Sharjah and Delhi Private School, Dubai, stood up to express their solidarity.

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