

## **Majid Al Futtaim Demonstrates Commitment to Driving Region's Sustainability Agenda, Delivering 97% of 2020 Targets**

- 16.9 million kWh of renewable energy generated across Majid Al Futtaim portfolio
- Company sees 17.5% reduction in water usage across different assets
- Hosted the region's first carbon-neutral movie screening at VOX Cinemas
- The world's first hotel portfolio to receive LEED Platinum Certification

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 28 June 2021:** Majid Al Futtaim, the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East, Africa and Asia, has released its 2020 Sustainability Report, highlighting key milestones and initiatives launched throughout the year. Despite the business and economic disruption brought about by the pandemic, the company achieved 97% of the targets set out in its annual sustainability strategy, further demonstrating the company's dedication to driving the sustainability agenda forward in the region.

The audited results showcase Majid Al Futtaim's progress towards its Net Positive commitment, as 2020 saw the company record a 9.2% decrease in its carbon footprint and a 17.5% decrease in water usage across its operations. It also generated nearly 17 million kWh of renewable energy last year, with 63% generated through its shopping malls alone - enough to power an electric car for 85 million kilometres, or the equivalent to driving over 40,000 times from Dubai to Riyadh and back.

Other important milestones included the launch of Majid Al Futtaim's circular economy strategy focusing on tackling waste and moving towards a more circular business model by 2030, as well as the launch of its Responsible Procurement Policy developed to reduce business risks and to drive positive change within the company's supply chain, with minimum sustainability standards set out for suppliers.

Ibrahim Al-Zu'bi, Chief Sustainability Officer, Majid Al Futtaim - Holding, commented on the report: "The past 12 months have seen our world change beyond imagination and the importance of taking care of one another and the planet has never been clearer. Our sustainability strategy has been a top priority for the business and achieving 97% of our targets demonstrates the importance we place on driving the sustainability agenda forwards within our own operations and across the region as whole.

"The launch of our circular economy strategy, which looks to tackle waste within the business and move towards a more circular business model by 2030, was a key 2020 milestone for us. Now, as we enter the final stretch before reaching our 2022 Sustainable Business Commitments, we will continue to futureproof our business, scaling up on our Net Positive efforts and embedding climate-related risk management to ensure our business resilience and reduce our impact on the environment," Al-Zu'bi added.

As restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus came into place, Majid Al Futtaim's main priority was the wellbeing and safety of its employees, whether they were working remotely or continuing to work at its assets. To this end, besides implementing the highest standards of health and safety, the company launched several initiatives, such as virtual webinars to help employees deal with

COVID-19 anxiety, and its first ever virtual Wellness Week, which saw the engagement of 20,000 employees across the business.

During the malls' closures, the company reskilled over 1,000 of its leisure, entertainment and cinema employees and redeployed them to support the increased demand in its Carrefour business. In 2020, Majid Al Futtaim also doubled down on its Leadership Institute efforts and launched a sustainability e-learning module to over 9,250 of the group's office-based employees across 17 countries.

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, and in line with its vision to create great moments for everyone, everyday, Majid Al Futtaim also hosted the MENA region's first ever carbon-neutral movie screening at VOX Cinemas, in collaboration with the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment to mark World Environment Day 2020. Since then, its continued partnership with Dubai Carbon Centre of Excellence ensures that all screenings held at the VOX Cinemas' Drive-In are carbon neutral and in its first three months, the partnership offset 19.32 tCO<sub>2</sub>e for a total of 1,400 cars.

Also reinforcing its commitment to developing and operating sustainable buildings, Majid Al Futtaim achieved success by leading its 13-property hotel portfolio to become the only group in the world to receive LEED Platinum certification. In addition, highlighting its support to Dubai's strategic objectives in Health, Wellbeing, Happiness, Sustainability and Smart Cities, the company's flagship mixed-use community in Dubai, Tilal Al Ghaf, has been designed with circular economy principles and developed to become a global benchmark which will be the first BREEAM certified community in Dubai.

As a partner of the UAE's 20by2020 initiative, which provides sustainability solutions and technologies to last-mile and off grid communities, Majid Al Futtaim also funded two critical projects to help 6,500 people gain reliable and renewable access to energy through the installation of solar streetlights in Jordan and Egypt. In Jordan, solar streetlights were installed in and around a hospital crucial for the country's COVID-19 response, improving site safety and reducing upkeep costs.

Collaboration and partnerships also played a crucial role within Majid Al Futtaim's 2020 sustainability strategy. Carrefour Kenya worked with a local partner to recycle paper, plastic, metal, and organic waste. The partnership saw 92% of operational waste being recycled and over the year offset 581,221 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the equivalent to saving a forest area the size of 810 football pitches. Carrefour Uzbekistan was the first retail store in the country to introduce and transition to eco bags, paper and reusable bags over plastics, and Carrefour Bahrain made the decision to deliver all orders made through the Carrefour app in reusable bags at no additional cost.

Looking to the future, the company will continue to invest in critical tools and infrastructure, including renewable energy and water efficiency and reuse technology, in a bid to realise its first carbon and water reduction targets in 2022, and the eventual achievement of its 2040 Net Positive commitment. Majid Al Futtaim has been one of the first three signatories to the World Green Building Council's Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment that states buildings must be net zero

carbon in operation by 2050, and with the aim to support to the global agenda, the company looks to set Science Based Targets (SBTs), which will ensure its emissions-reduction targets are aligned with the latest science on what is needed to reach the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

You can access the full report [here](#).

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### **About Majid Al Futtaim**

Founded in 1992, Majid Al Futtaim is the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

A remarkable business success story, Majid Al Futtaim started from one man's vision to transform the face of shopping, entertainment and leisure to 'create great moments for everyone, every day'. It has since grown into one of the United Arab Emirates' most respected and successful businesses spanning 17 international markets, employing more than 43,000 people, and obtaining the highest credit rating (BBB) among privately-held corporates in the region.

Majid Al Futtaim owns and operates 28 shopping malls, 13 hotels and four mixed-use communities, with further developments underway in the region. The shopping malls portfolio includes Mall of the Emirates, Mall of Egypt, City Centre malls, My City Centre neighbourhood centres, and five community malls which are in joint venture with the Government of Sharjah. The Company is the exclusive franchisee for Carrefour in over 30 markets across the Middle East, Africa and Asia, operating a portfolio of more than 350 outlets and an online store.

Majid Al Futtaim operates more than 500 VOX Cinemas screens as well as a portfolio of world-class leisure and entertainment experiences across the region including Ski Dubai, Ski Egypt, Dreamscape, Magic Planet, Little Explorers and iFLY Dubai. The Company is parent to a Fashion, Home and Specialty retail business representing international brands such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Hollister, AllSaints, lululemon athletica, Crate & Barrel, Maisons du Monde, LEGO and THAT, a Majid Al Futtaim fashion concept store and app. In addition, Majid Al Futtaim operates Enova, a facility and energy management company, through a joint venture operation with Veolia, a global leader in optimised environment resource management.

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