

UN-Habitat vows to support Bahrain's tree-planting plan

World organisation commits to helping Kingdom in doubling number of trees by 2035

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The UN-Habitat is committed to supporting the Kingdom of Bahrain's plan to double the number of trees by 2035.

This was affirmed by Dr. Fernanda Lonardoni, Head of Country Programme in the Kingdom of Bahrain for UN-Habitat, in an interview with The Daily Tribune.

UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities.

"One of our key projects here in Bahrain is to support the government with this National Plan. We believe that trees are essential for creating sustainable cities, and we are committed to helping the government achieve its ambitious goals," said Dr. Lonardoni.

The tree planting plan is part of the government's broader efforts to tackle climate change and enhance the quality of life for its citizens. Trees play a vital role in reducing air pollution, combating heat stress, and providing recreational spaces.

UN-Habitat is providing technical support to the government in various aspects of the plan,

such as data collection and analysis, awareness campaigns, and the implementation of tree planting projects.

"We are confident that this project will make a significant contribution to the sustainability of Bahrain's cities, and we are committed to working with the government to ensure that this plan will succeed," said Dr. Lonardoni.

Major undertaking

The tree planting plan is a major undertaking, and it is essential for the future of Bahrain. With UN-Habitat's support, the government is well on its way to creating a more sustainable and livable country.

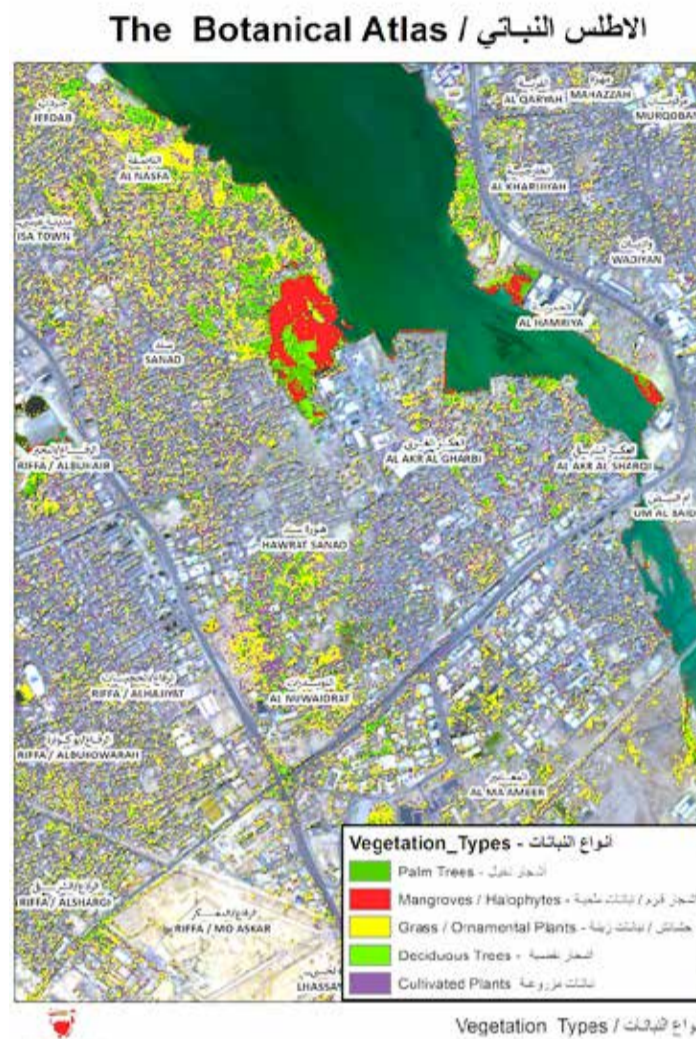
Dr. Lonardoni also stressed the importance of public awareness about the benefits of trees.

"We need to make sure that people understand how important trees are for our environment, for our communities, and for our cities," she said. "We need to raise awareness about the many ways that trees can improve our quality of life."

- DR. FERNANDA LONARDONI, HEAD OF COUNTRY PROGRAMME IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN FOR UN-HABITAT

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The tree planting plan is a positive step forward for Bahrain, and it is clear that UN-Habitat is playing a key role in its success. With the support of the government and the public, Bahrain can achieve its ambitious goals and create a more sustainable future for its citizens.



Remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (Source - Information & eGovernment Authority)

Man convicted of using forged passport entering Bahrain airport

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The High Criminal Court has convicted an Asian individual for possessing and using a forged passport, sentencing him to three years in prison and deportation from the country upon completion of the sentence, along with the confiscation of the forged passport.

The 38-year-old suspect arrived at Bahrain International Airport and presented the forged passport to a passport control officer. The officer grew suspicious of the suspect's behaviour while handing over his passport.

The officer, who served as a witness, stated during the investigations that when the suspect approached him to finalise his passport procedures at Bahrain International Airport, he appeared nervous and looked around in all directions.

"It became evident that the presented passport contained data and photos of another person, indicating that it was forged. The passport was subsequently entered into the Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs (NPRA) system, revealing a discrepancy between the photo in the passport and the one stored in the system. Furthermore, the photo did not match the appearance of the suspect.

He was nabbed and charged with forgery.

60-year-old Asian woman held for smuggling 5.3kg of drugs

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A 60-year-old Asian woman has been apprehended on charges of smuggling 5.3 kilograms of illegal substances into Bahrain.

According to investigations conducted by the Anti-Narcotics Department, the accused took advantage of her age and the use of a wheelchair, as she employed clever techniques to evade thorough inspection.

She chose to arrive in Bahrain via the air route, aiming to

avoid meticulous scrutiny. Her intention was to smuggle the illegal substances and deliver them to unknown individuals in exchange for financial compensation.

The High Criminal Court initiated the trial proceedings against the Asian woman accused of trafficking 5.3 kilograms of psychotropic substances within Bahrain. The court has scheduled September 6 for further examination and the presentation of arguments.

During the first court hear-

ing of her case, the defendant, who denied the charges brought against her, claimed that she had purchased the bags in her home country as ordinary luggage and was unaware of the presence of the confiscated drugs.

Meanwhile, her lawyers requested access to a copy of the case files and requested an adjournment for review and the presentation of arguments.

The Public Prosecution has charged the 68-year-old accused, a housewife, with im-

porting and possessing methamphetamine for the purpose of trafficking, in violation of the applicable laws, specifically on June 22, 2023, at the Bahrain International Airport Security Circle.

Regarding the details of the case, a customs officer at Bahrain International Airport testified that on June 22, 2023, while he was on duty at the red channel, the defendant was redirected for suspicion surrounding her bags.

Upon questioning, she claimed

ownership of the bags. When asked if she possessed any prohibited items, she denied it.

However, upon inspecting the bags, a substance believed to be the illicit drug "methamphetamine" was discovered concealed inside two plastic bags of non-transparent colour, wrapped with black adhesive tape, artistically hidden in the bottom of the bags. The confiscated items were subsequently seized and handed over to the Anti-Narcotics Department.

Another customs officer at

Bahrain International Airport testified, confirming the aforementioned account. He added that while operating the external X-ray machine (L3) at the airport, he grew suspicious of two travel bags arriving from the defendant's home country.

Consequently, he marked the bags with the agreed-upon symbol (X) and informed the first witness accordingly. He then proceeded to closely monitor and search the bags, leading to the discovery and confiscation of the illicit substances.

Three jailed for kidnapping and assault over unpaid debts

● Six months in prison

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The High Criminal Court has handed down a six-month prison sentence to three Asian individuals, aged 34, 40, and 18, who were accused of kidnapping and assaulting another individual over unpaid debts.

The public prosecution charged the defendants with kidnapping the victim along with an unidentified accomplice, taking him from the Hamad Town area to Manama. The incident involved the

use of force and was motivated by financial gain. The defendants also unlawfully restrained the victim's freedom through the use of force for the purpose of monetary gain.

The victim stated that while he was at his workplace, the defendants, accompanied by another person, approached him, demanding a sum of money.

The victim explained his financial difficulties and requested some time, but the defendants proceeded to assault him. They then forced him into their car, continued to assault him, and transported him to the residence of the first defendant in the Manama area.

Man arrested for stealing BD5,000

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The Criminal Investigation Directorate of the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science has arrested a man, 45, for stealing around BD5,000 from a house in the Northern Governorate.

An investigation into the received case led to identifying and arresting the suspect. Legal proceedings were taken to refer the case to the Public Prosecution.

From traditional to digital libraries



The US Embassy in the Kingdom of Bahrain, in cooperation between the General Secretariat of the House of Representatives, presented a lecture entitled "Mechanism of Transformation from Traditional to Digital Libraries", which was given by Mr. John Herber, an expert in library science and the owner of modern and innovative concepts in library science. The lecture aims to expand the circle of knowledge among a number of employees of the General Secretariat about applying digital transformation mechanisms to manual operations in offices.