

Business

KIPCO honors first group of 'Generation Alpha'



KUWAIT: Kuwait Projects Holding Company "KIPCO" honored the first group of young sports champions, who participated in the "Generation Alpha" initiative, in order to support and encourage them to achieve their goals. Samer Khanachet, Group Chief Operating Officer at Kuwait Projects Holding Company (KIPCO), also honored the Eighty Percent team for their cooperation with KIPCO Corporate Social Responsibility team to launch Generation Alpha - G1. The company's management applied the necessary safety measures in terms of social distancing, wearing masks, and sterilization, in addition to receiving trophies separately and on different timings.

"Generation Alpha" is a program that hosts talented young athletes, aging between 7 and 12, and have won medals and international rankings. This program is considered a new initiative that KIPCO has worked on and recently launched, in cooperation with "Eighty Percent", which is a sports insti-

tuition with a social orientation, within the framework of the group's social responsibility, in addition to the pillars that the group focuses on including education, developing youth cadres, supporting women empowerment, and health.

Eighty Percent General Manager, Rabaa Al-Hajeri, and CEO, Rawya Al-Hajeri, are members of "Munjiza" platform that was launched by KIPCO in 2019, which is a platform that aims to highlight the significant women and showcase their work by providing them with a platform to share their achievements. This collaboration comes to achieve the most prominent objective of the platform, which is to create a partnership between non-profit organizations and the private sector to work on improving the society through social responsibility programs.

The program included filming television episodes that showcase the stories of those young athletes, which were posted on "ALAAAN" application launched by "KIPCO" last year, and broad-

casted on Al-Rai TV. These episodes also being broadcasted on Marina TV during the holy month of Ramadhan.

On this occasion, Abeer Al-Omar - Executive Director of Social Responsibility at Kuwait Projects Holding Group "KIPCO" - said: "At KIPCO, we believe that supporting young champions at an early age has a positive effect in the future, and that encourages their energies and motivates them to reach their goals, and creating a generation of local champions, who aspire to raise Kuwait's name internationally in the field of sports."

Al-Omar added: "Our support for these young heroes will not stop after broadcasting the program or at the end of this season, as we are working on creating a development plan for each athlete separately, with the help of KIPCO Group companies, to improve the skills required for the success of any athlete, whether these skills are related to their physical and athletic performance, or their life and

personal skills that contribute in their journey to reach their goals and achieve their dreams."

Regarding the second season of the program, Al-Omar said: "The first season of the program has succeeded remarkably, and a few days ago, we have started working and preparing for the launch of the second season, taking into consideration the development of this initiative, and working on providing a new registration mechanism for "Generation Alpha" that gives us the opportunity to support the largest number of young sports talents annually."

Al-Omar added about the strategic partnership of KIPCO with Al-Rai Media Group: "The media partnership of Kuwait Projects Holding Company and Al-Rai Group has started many years ago, and it is a great example of the success of such partnerships and their importance amongst the private sector institutions in contributing to the prosperity and development of society."

Kafa'a initiative website launched

KUWAIT: The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) in collaboration with the Institute of Banking Studies (IBS) and Kuwaiti banks announced the launch of the official "Kafa'a" initiative website. The platform was established to share the training programs offered to develop and qualify national cadres specialized in finance and banking.

Kafa'a is a strategic endeavor undertaken by the CBK in collaboration with Kuwaiti banks and managed by the IBS. It aims to strengthen the banks' role in serving the community, consolidating academic efforts in dealing with banking and financial affairs, working on national capacity building and qualifying them academically and practically in the areas of banking and finance.

The website shares the latest developments, information and data related to the wide range of programs offered by the "Kafa'a" initiative. It is also possible through the website to register for the training programs and events, and review the terms and requirements related to those programs, in both Arabic and English.

Burgan Bank celebrates graduation of 16 new Burganers



KUWAIT: Burgan Bank recently celebrated the graduation of its new batch of young bankers who successfully completed their one month training from its dedicated New Burganers program. Through the new Learning & Development (L&D) eLearning platform and live virtual sessions, 16 ambitious trainees were inducted into the world of banking and Burgan Bank's high-performance culture.

The program that started on the 1st of March 2021 and ended on the 12th of April 2021 included several specialized workshops and field training across the banks' various branches to help them transform their theoretical knowledge into practical experiences. The trainees were given the opportunity to develop human development skills such as "selling skills" and "excellence in customer service"

while learning more about the bank's premium products and services that have been catered to match customers' lifestyle needs.

The new batch also witnessed the importance and positive impact of ethical practices and efficient teamwork that has maintained the success of the bank. The courses were embedded in line with the bank's aim to strengthen and enable the Kuwaiti youth to realise their potential as leaders and help support the future of the banking and financial industry in Kuwait.

Burgan Bank's Senior Manager - Learning & Development, Ghada El-Kadi said: "A significant part of Burgan Bank's strategy is to recruit and qualify national talent and banking-oriented students to perform their very best in this dynamic sector. Investing in capacity-building and the com-

prehensive training of our youth facilitates the development of a sustainable economy."

Ghada El-Kadi further added: "Strengthened by our values of trust, commitment, progression and excellence, the bank's Learning & Development department aim to foster a positive and rewarding workplace culture. As a customer centric and growth oriented institute, we accommodate the young professionals with the necessary skills and up-to-date knowledge to support their transition into the workplace and enhance customer satisfaction."

At the close of the program, the bank's Human Resources Department celebrated the graduates for their commitment and hard work throughout the learning journey, while maintaining social distancing and applying CBK health regulation standards.

ALSAYER earns GSAS Platinum Certification for state-of-the-art Fahaeel service center

KUWAIT: Aligning with the strategy to build an environment towards a sustainable future - a goal that also aligns with New Kuwait Vision 2035, ALSAYER Group's Fahaeel Service Center in Kuwait has been awarded with Platinum rating for GSAS Operations Certification by the Gulf Organization for Research & Development (GORD).

Yousef Alhorr, Founding Chairman of GORD said, "We congratulate ALSAYER Group for lifting the bar yet again. The achievement represents their organizational commitment in line with the country's growing appetite for environmentally responsible infrastructure. With GSAS Operations Certification, ALSAYER has demonstrated environmental leadership beyond construction and design. On a national level, the initiative is paving the path for others to follow suit."

Speaking about the recent certification and ALSAYER's efforts to promote sustainable environment, Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer, Executive Board Member and Chairman of Sustainability Committee at ALSAYER Group said: "As part of our mission to achieve the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 in line with Kuwait National Development Plan 2035, ALSAYER Group Holding has been specially focused on designing and implementing coherent and balanced sustainable initiatives and taking serious actions toward optimizing its energy consumption, increase production of Solar Energy, minimizing its water use and wastewater and waste recycling on company buildings. I believe it's our responsibility to promote awareness on sustainability internally and externally."

Despite the challenges posed by the global pandemic, the future of green building development in

the MENA region continues to look promising. GSAS Operations certification was awarded in recognition of implementing sustainable measures such as:

- Capitalizing on the region's abundant sunlight, the building's roof houses a solar PV system with the capacity to generate 100 kW that is sufficient to meet 5% of the building's annual energy needs.
- Similarly, the building benefits from highly efficient glazing with double tinted glass and spacing inside.
- It boasts of variable refrigerant flow (VRF) cooling system. Fans delivering fresh and exhaust air to the building are also energy efficient, and so are the LED lighting fixtures across the facility.
- MEP systems within the building are continuously monitored to ensure energy efficiency.
- To reduce water consumption, the building is equipped with low-flow fixtures.
- In addition to above, sorting waste at the source and facilitating the recycling of paper, engine oil and scrap metals, ALSAYER Service Center is diverting a significant amount of waste from landfills.

In the past, other important projects of ALSAYER Group that has achieved GSAS Operations with Platinum rating are: ALSAYER Head Office 1 in Free Trade Zone and ALSAYER Showroom located in Aswaj Al Qurain, Kuwait. Beyond the project, ALSAYER Group has also initiated an environmental policy with KPIs and is arranging awareness campaigns about sustainability for the local community in Kuwait.

The Global Sustainability Assessment System (GSAS) is MENA's first performance-based green buildings certification system aimed at improving the design, construction and operations of buildings while also addressing sustainability challenges specific to the region's built environment. To date, more than 1000 buildings in addition to tens of parks, neighborhoods and districts infrastructure projects have been registered with GSAS, covering a built-up area of more than 229,272,241 square feet and 1.7 billion square feet of district master planning.



GSAS Operations (GSAS-OP) is one of the three certifications under GSAS framework. Specifically meant for post-occupancy stage, the certification is designed to recognize a project's achievement in terms of sustainable operational practices. Unlike GSAS Design & Build and GSAS Construction Management, GSAS Operations deals

with the environmental footprint of projects in post-construction stage. Accordingly, the achievements of projects are acknowledged through five certification ratings i.e., Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, and Diamond with Diamond representing the highest score. This has meant that Al Sayer's projects have achieved the second highest rating.