

Public health victory

Maqsha dump cleared of 107 loads, chemical waste still on site

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Over a hundred truckloads of waste have been cleared from an illegal dump in Maqsha and hauled to the official landfill in Askar, following concerns over the effect on public health and the daily lives of those living nearby.

The clean-up began on 10 July under the supervision of the Northern Municipality and in coordination with the area's municipal council.

Inspection

Council chairman Dr Sayed Shuber Ebrahim Al Wadaei said the work followed an inspection on 30 June that found the site posed risks to residents.

By 21 July, 107 shipments had been moved.

Dr Al Wadaei said this came after repeated requests from residents and community figures who had been seeking assurance that proper steps were being taken.

Operation

On 16 July, Dr Al Wadaei visited the area to meet the municipal inspector responsible for the operation.

He reported that a large volume of rubbish had already been removed, along with various makeshift structures and fences which, he said, could have been misused.

Chemical containers still on site have not yet been dealt with.

Specialist

Dr Al Wadaei explained that their removal requires specialist handling in line with Law No. 7 of 2022 on the Environment.



Dr Sayed Shuber Ebrahim Al Wadaei leads inspection at the site

“This clean-up drive is necessary to prevent possible harm to residents living nearby, particularly children.”

- DR SAYED SHUBER EBRAHIM AL WADAEI, NORTHERN MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN



The clean-up operation in progress

Cost

The municipality, the council and the environmental authority are not responsible for the cost.

Responsibility lies with the

landowner. An official letter has been sent, calling on the owner to cover the cost of removing the chemical containers.

Dr Al Wadaei said this was necessary to prevent possible harm to residents living nearby, particularly children.

Kids Learn Sustainability



Fun and learning for kids

● Hands-on eco workshops

● Local artists engage families

● Event blends fun and learning

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

A week-long environmental awareness event hosted by the Southern Municipality has drawn enthusiastic crowds of families and children, blending education with creativity through the interactive initiative “Little Municipalities Village.”

Held from July 12th to 18th at Oasis Mall in Riffa, the event concluded with a ceremony honouring contributors, volunteers, and partners who helped bring the programme to life.

Community spirit in action

Engineer Isa Abdulrahman Al-Buainain, Director General of the Southern Municipality, and Abdullah Ibrahim Abdul Latif, Chairman of the Southern Municipal Council, led the appreciation ceremony, recognising youth volunteers, Bahraini artists, and private and government sector participants.

Al-Buainain described the initiative as a resounding success that resonated with children and parents alike. He said the event was part of the municipality's wider strategy to enhance public environmental awareness, correct negative behaviours, and highlight the importance of cleanliness in achieving sustainability.

The event featured multiple educational zones designed specifically for young participants. These included workshops on painting glass, recycling plastic containers,



In 2024, Bahrain ranked among the top five GCC countries in municipal innovation initiatives targeting youth engagement and environmental sustainability.

creating cardboard models, and interactive storytelling sessions with environmental themes.

Much-loved characters such as “Saeed” and “Droopy,” a water bottle mascot made from recycled materials, helped convey key messages about environmental conservation in playful, accessible ways.

Children also took part in face-painting, watched short films on the municipality's services, and attended mini-lectures that reinforced the importance of sustainability at home and in the community.

Creative collaboration

The event saw strong participation from Bahraini artists Khalil Al Rumaithi, Al Bas-sam Ali, and Mohammed Saqr, who engaged children through live performances, games, and prize giveaways.

Al-Buainain thanked all the partners involved, including Dar Al Manar Parents' Care Center, which hosted a recycling station for children, and the Nabdhat Hayat volunteer team, which delivered interactive eco-workshops.

Students from Gulf University played a key role in helping deliver sessions, while the Ministry of Interior's Community Police lent support to the coordination and safety of the programme.

Land development projects on track

TDT | Manama

The projects currently under implementation within the Government Land Rights Development Programme, in partnership with the private sector, are witnessing continuous acceleration in terms of completion rates.

This was emphasised by Her Excellency Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning.

She highlighted that the completion rate of the Al Naseem project, executed in partnership with Delmon Gate, has reached 79%, while the Al Wadi pro-

“This programme is one of the main pathways to increase the Kingdom's property stock to meet the growing demand for housing finance, achieving the goals of the Government Programme 2023-2026.”

- H.E. AMNA BINT AHMED AL RUMAIHI, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN PLANNING



H.E. Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi project in Buhair, executed by Al Saraya Company, has achieved a completion rate of about 59%, and the Hoorat Sanad project, executed by Al Naml Group, has

advanced to 15%.

Rapid progress

Al Rumaihi said that the Al Naseem project in Salman City, which provides 131 housing units, is currently witnessing rapid progress in construction works within the final finishing phase and electricity connections to the units.

The Minister noted that the total area of the project is estimated at 23,000 square metres, with the sizes of the residential units ranging between 171 and 190 square metres, while the built-up area for each residential unit is 265 square metres.

Filipino students showcase first dressmaking project

TDT | Manama

Filipino dressmaking students showcased their technical skills and creative abilities as they proudly presented their inaugural project, a balloon skirt, during their third challenging training exercise at the Majestic Hotel in Bahrain.

The uniqueness of the outfit showed the students' perseverance and growing mastery of



Unique dressmaking projects by students, proudly worn by Filipino women

fashion design and creation.

Having become proficient in the skirt expose technique, the participants progressed to pattern making and cutting square pants, a more complicated garment design.

The exercise highlighted not only the technological skill of the future designers but also their own personal creative interpretation of current trends.

The training is the 6th batch of

the Pinay Ikaw Na (PIN) dress-making training program, in collaboration with the Philippine Embassy, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), and Migrant Workers Office (MWO).

Among the motivating trainees of the training is Cristina Coscolluela, a 58-year-old who hails from Miag-aon, Ilo-ilo. She currently stays in Bahrain with her daughter and youngest son.