

The **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** faces several environmental challenges due to rapid development, population growth, and high energy demand. The UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment plays a vital role in addressing these environmental issues and promoting sustainable practices<sup>1</sup>.

**Exploitation of Natural Resources**: The UAE's economic growth relies on oil and gas extraction, which impacts the environment through habitat destruction, pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions.

**Biodiversity Conservation**: Despite challenges, the UAE is committed to preserving its unique ecosystems, including desert, mountain, coastal, and marine environments<sup>2</sup>.

**Drought and Aridity**: The arid climate exacerbates water scarcity and affects agriculture.

**Water Scarcity**: Rising temperatures and limited freshwater sources contribute to water scarcity.

**Rising Sea Levels**: As global temperatures increase, sea levels rise, posing a threat to coastal areas. The UAE has implemented desalination plants to meet water demands, but this process has environmental consequences. By balancing development with conservation, the UAE strives to create a greener future for generations to come.

**Wetlands**: The UAE has wetlands that serve as critical habitats for migratory birds and other wildlife. Sustainable water management and conservation efforts are crucial. These ecosystems support diverse flora and fauna. Conservation efforts aim to protect these sensitive areas<sup>4</sup>. The UAE's extensive coastline makes it vulnerable to these changes. Here are some key points:

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