

## **Al Ameen Students at the 2011 EEG Workshop**

Al Ameen Environment Ambassadors attended the annual series of Students' Workshop conducted by the EEG, on 'Sustainable Cities; Healthy Life' on the 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2011. The goal of this workshop was to provide students with information on the initiatives that can be undertaken to achieve a sustainable city by protecting and preserving the basic elements of sustainability; Air, Water, Energy, Land, Food and Waste.

**Burhanuddin Mustafa Fakhri from Year 7, Sherbano Amir Ali and Zahra Nuruddin Jethajiwala from year 5 represented Al Ameen, attending the Juniors' Workshop. The venue for the workshop was The Rashid School.**

Mrs. Habiba Al Marashi, Chairperson of EEG, welcomed the audience consisting of students and supporting teachers saying that due to the rapid advent of globalization, urban settlements have transformed into major consumers of goods and services that drain natural resources. Today, major cities across the world are under pressure of degradation, as a result of which we may face problems in the supply of clean water, adequate waste management, efficient transportation and other necessities for decent living. The workshop hosted a group of speakers from diverse backgrounds and expertise in the field of sustainable development.

Speakers, Mr. Doug Cook, the First Secretary, Energy and Climate Change, British Embassy, Eng. Yousuf Mohammed Al Ali, Executive Director of Dubai Taxi Agency, Dr. Ryan Penny, specialist nutritionalist, Eng. Hassan Mohammed Makki, Director of the Drainage and Irrigation Network, Dubai Municipality, Ulrike Vott of Nokia, Mr. Hazem El Mahi, MD, Relief Avenue, Mr. Sarfraz Dairkee, Sustainability Engineer, , Ms. Shirin Bseiso, DEWA, and Mrs. Nafeesa Ahmed, specialists in Nutrition & Dietetics and Mr. Youshey Zakiuddin, Arabia CSR Network - covered the various elements of Sustainability with their presentations and interactive Q&A sessions. They spoke about the various materials that could be recycled and encouraged participants to do so. Various items such as paper, plastic, glass, cans, batteries, toners and cell phones can be recycled. There was also a short video screened showing the process of recycling these products and how it happens at the factory.

The activities of the workshop were designed to engage student communities and drive their active involvement on individual and community-based programmes that are aimed at preventing environmental degradation. The EEG Warrior of the day Kekashan Basu inspired the audience with her vision of the 'Dream City' explaining how she played her part in maintaining the environment and creating a sustainable city.

Students were provided with charts and colour pencils to design a poster on their Dream City. This city was to be a sustainable city. At the end of the workshop, the teachers were given posters designed and printed by the EEG to take with them. Zahra and Sher Bano learned a lot as this was their first time to the workshop and they would love to go next time too. Burhanuddin has been going for the past 3 years and loves to work with peers in other schools.