

TIMELINE FOR EARTH HOUR 2013 Including Events and Outcomes Around the World

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3:30PM

4:30PM

SAMOA



NEW ZEALAND Skatefest

This year, this remote island nation will be one of the first to kick off Earth Hour celebrations capturing the non-establishment nature of the movement through the I Will If You Will challenge of YouTube skateboarding star, Levi Hawkin. Levi is encouraging everyone to reduce plastic bottle use to stop ocean pollution. Across New Zealand there will be events in six cities, with a main event in Auckland where skateboarders, cyclists and BMXers will take to the slopes of the CBD to draw attention to urban litter and encourage people to switch to reusable drink bottles and cups.

http://www.wwf.org.nz/earth hour/





FIJI

Earth Hour Night Riders

Fiji is hosting The Planet's 1st Ever Earth Hour Night Ride. Two hundred cyclists will take to the main streets of Suva City on the night of Earth Hour with only energy efficient lights to guide them. A commitment from the Fiji Department of Environment for the Fiji National Mangrove Campaign will be made after Earth Hour as a strong push for a government policy on the protection of mangroves. These coastal vegetation communities are critical to island ecosystems and hyper-sensitive to climate change.

City councils and corporates from several Fijian companies are taking steps towards sustainability and encouraging citizens to do the same. ASCO Motors, Fiji's leading provider of Toyota vehicles and automotive supplies, is driving its customers for forest creation, committing \$1 from the sale of every tyre it sells towards a tree-planting project. A major plastics company will provide biodegradable bags free of charge to the Land Transport Authority for all public buses in the country. Two City Councils have initiated composting programmes and this year they intend to continue to subsidise the compost bins, making them affordable for everyone. ANZ Bank will be helping to spread awareness, allowing WWF to post messages on their ATM networks around the country to remind their customers about simple things they can do everyday to go beyond the hour. Vodafone Fiji will continue to support addressing climate change by engaging hundreds of thousands through their mobile network http://www.wwfpacific.org.fj/events/earth_hour/

5:30PM



AUSTRALIA

Renewables Revolution

In the birth place of the Earth Hour event, Sydney, the Opera House will go green for the night, symbolizing the focus on converting to renewable energy. An Earth Hour Awards Event will be held on Sydney Harbour opposite the Opera House, hosted by the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore and Federal Minister for Education, Peter Garrett. West of the city, Earth Hour will take over one of Sydney's hippest streets, King Street, Newtown, and award-winning acoustic sets will bring the streets, restaurants and pubs to life in a truly grass roots celebration.

In a country blessed with options for renewable energy (solar, wind, wave and geothermal), a renewables revolution is already underway in Australia, with 1.5 million people already using GreenPower or solar energy. This year, one lucky person will win a solar power system as part of the Earth Hour Community Challenge. The town and city councils around the country that receive the most pledges to switch to renewables receive a free solar system to donate to a community recipient of their choosing. Those who make the pledge to renewables can sign up to a petition focused on increasing the national renewable energy target to 50% by 2030.

5:30PM

NEW CALEDONIA

GUAM

6:30PM

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

ASIA THE EARTH HOUR POWERHOUSE

In 2012 the Earth Hour global team moved to Singapore to take advantage of the enormous growth and opportunities in this economic powerhouse. From ambitious I Will If You Will targets, to an array of celebrity ambassadors who collectively have hundreds of millions of followers, Asians everywhere are connecting behind a common cause.

7:30PM



SOUTH KOREA

World's Fastest Growing Earth Hour Participating Country

Enlisting the massive support of Naver (South Korea's top search portal surpassing 'Google') and Happybean (South Korea's first online donation portal) for the campaign, the world's fastest growing Earth Hour participating country in 2012 has this year mobilised 3,000 volunteers throughout the nation to drive a greater adoption of the IWIYW campaign and improve awareness, and 2,000 students from around the country will perform flashmobs in Seoul.

The Mayor of Seoul Mr. Park, Won Soon will deliver a talk to 1000 students in Seoul City Hall on the theme "The future of Youth and the Environment". Mr Kim, Seong Gon who is member of the National Assembly has created an I Will IF You Will challenge to get the signatures of all of the members of National Assembly of South Korea pledging to participate in Earth Hour if 100,000 people watch his Earth Hour video.

7:30PM



JAPAN

Leg-work Powers the Disco

The main event in Japan this year is an event at Tokyo Tower in collaboration with a group of Japanese artists called "Mirrorbowlers", who will place an extraordinary piece of art called "0" (zero) under the Tokyo Tower. The striking artwork is an enormous eggshaped installation full of luminous disco balls that are connected to 6 power-providing bicycles.

8:30PM



CHINA

Kids Draw for the Planet

Across China, WWF is encouraging people to take up one of seven environmental actions for the year as part of Green Week celebrations. At Sanlitun Village Shopping Centre, actress Li Bingbing will lead the switch off at a main event being held for Earth Hour. In Shanghai, the Development and Reform Committee will work with WWF to undertake an Earth Hour event by the Bund, launching a 3-month low carbon lifestyle campaign in Shanghai. Over 400 Chinese kindergartens, in the realm of 150,000 kids, will participate in drawing contests illustrating 7 key environmental actions. On the night, live updates on Earth Hour as it unfolds across different parts of Asia will be broadcast on live radio.



TAIWAN

Local and International Star Power

Taiwanese celebrities have turned up in droves to support Earth Hour this year, including popular girl band S.H.E., singer JJ Lin and Christine Fan (Fan Fan), world-renowned filmmaker Tsai Ming Liang, supermodel Sonia Sui Tang, and many more. A million participants are expected to turn off the lights and Taiwan is aiming to hit new heights, taking the title of the most celebrities participating in the world. The planet's tallest green building, awarded by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Taipei 101 will celebrate by showing "60+" on its building and turn its lights off at 8:30pm, and also go beyond the hour by setting the goal to further reduce energy usage by 2% annually in support of Earth Hour.

And in Taiwan, it doesn't stop with the night. Earth Hour Taiwan's organiser Society of Wilderness (SOW) will continue to run their year-long education program on climate change in schools throughout Taiwan engaging over 70,000 students and volunteers. SOW has also proposed the concept of "Eco-Sponge City" as a sustainable solution to regulate storm water for Taiwan's future urban planning. www.earthhour.tw

8:30PM



HONG KONG

Highest Earth Hour in the World

Hong Kong's countdown to the hour will be at the sky100, the observation deck of the tallest building in the city (the ICC), where everyone attending will see the lights go off in the city in what will be the highest Earth Hour celebration worldwide. In Hong Kong, the Earth Hour campaign is focused on increasing public knowledge around energy efficiency, especially in relation to household appliance use. Hundreds of people have entered WWF's Green City Photo Competition and the winner will be judged by a panel including Cantopop star G.E.M. Cantopop stars Eason Chan and Kay Tse have also taken up the challenge of Earth Hour.

8:30PM



MACAU

Earth Hour Every Month

In Macau, the hotel industry has taken the lead, coining the "Earth Hour Every Month" initiative. More than 13 hotels in Macau are now taking part in #EarthHourEveryMonth, with one hotel initiating an IWIYW challenge to 10 other hotels. The idea has since spread internationally with hotels in Singapore and South Africa joining the campaign.

8:30PM



PHILIPPINES

Highest Earth Hour City Count

As a result of this year's I Will If You Will celebrity challenges in the Philippines, the country will see many native trees planted, plastic use reduced and more switches to LED lighting. The Philippines always has a huge turn out for Earth Hour, having last year reached 1,671 provinces, cities and municipalities across the country, and the enthusiasm levels are off the radar. Local celebrities such as equestrienne and actress Mikee Cojuangco-Jaworski, television personalities Rovilson Fernandez and Marc Nelson are taking the Earth Hour message to the masses, while corporates Philips and Starbucks have also lending their support to the cause.

8:30PM



SINGAPORE

One Degree Up

The new home of Earth Hour global, Singapore will hit the dance floor this Earth Hour on The Float@Marina Bay, using the power of hundreds of dancing feet on a sustainable dance floor to power the event. The focus is the One Degree Up campaign for I Will If You Will which engages government, businesses, individuals and ambassadors to motivate people to go beyond the hour and set their air conditioners at 24 degrees, leading to a tangible energy reduction. Well known celebrities Nadya Hutagalung, Utt and YouTube stars Hirzi and Munah will attend the event and have launched supportive I Will If You Will challenges. The Earth Hour campaign is part of a larger partnership with government agencies to achieve significant cuts in emissions and resource usage.

8:30PM



MALAYSIA

Battle of the Bands

In Malaysia, Earth Hour this year is all about sustainable lifestyles. In the spirit of the event, WWF-Malaysia, in partnership with Universal Music, Sunway Pyramid & DiGi Telecommunication Sdn Bhd, is presenting the Earth Hour 2013 Band Contest, building environmental awareness through music. The main event at Sunway Pyramid in Kuala Lumpur includes a concert in which five bands compete to win the contest, followed by a performance by Kyoto Protocol. The Mayor of Kuala Lumpur has told his constituents he will cycle to work if 50 buildings in Kuala Lumpur participate in Earth Hour. The Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) is one of the city's icons that will be switching off its lights.

8:30PM

MONGOLIA

8:30PM



BRUNEI

Into the Jungle

The Earth Hour team will journey to the Heart of Borneo to meet the Punan tribe and deliver solar lights to this remote ethnic group as part of this year's campaign. The forest-dwelling Punan people are only found in Brunei and have a population of less than 400. Corporates Microsoft and Kodu are challenging teachers and students to become the developers of a game based on the theme of "sustainability and environment". The game will be launched for Earth Hour 2013. The Earth Hour main event will be held at Brunei National Stadium and is expected to attract up to 2000 people.

9:30PM







THAILAND

Earth Hour Low Carbon School Network

Central World shopping complex offices will be the home of the main Earth Hour event, with switch offs happening at the Grand Palace, Wat Arun, Rama 8 Bridge and the Giant Swing, as well as events in the provinces of Thailand. The campaign is promoting the Low Carbon School Network, which incorporates energy-saving lessons in the curricula of Bangkok Metropolitan Authority-affiliated schools. Earth Hour regional Thai ambassador Asda Panichkul has also launched his I WILL IF YOU WILL challenge to encourage people to turn their air conditioners up 1 degree to help save our planet.

9:30PM

CAMBODIA

9:30PM



VIETNAM

I Will If You Will has become a movement of its own in Vietnam, drawing in celebrities like singers Duy Khoa and Chi Pu, schools, businesses and many more. The 2013 Earth Hour event in Hanoi, sponsored by Vietnam Electricity (EVN) and the Vietnam Electrolux Company, will be held at the August Revolution Square in front of the Hanoi Opera House, and attended by several public figures. The message this year is that Earth Hour is not just about the hour, with a focus on electricity saving. http://iwillifyouwill.vn and facebook.com/iwillifyouwill



9:30PM

INDONESIA

Environmental Outcomes Through Huge Social Media

Ini Aksiku! Mana Aksimu? This is the localised version of I Will If You Will that has seen the Earth Hour movement grow to a phenomenal 31 cities across the country, making Earth Hour the largest grassroots environmental movement in Indonesia focusing on energy efficiency, support public transportation, waste management, and saving paper and tissue. Social media is the key to the success of their campaign and Indonesia is the most active social media community globally.

All major celebrity ambassadors are using personal hash-tags for the campaign to show and collate actions like using reusable tumblers, not using air conditioners at night, tree planting and car free days. Local celebrities Pevita Pearce, Ariel from NOAH, Andy F. Noya, Maya Luna and Nadya Hutagalung are lending their voices and huge followings using Twitter and Instagram to generate actions for #IniAksiku! Car Free Day which takes place in most participating cities is used as a platform to promote the Ini Aksiku campaign, with Earth Hour Indonesia teams one of the most active groups involved.

10:30PM



BHUTAN

Ancient Kingdom Participates

Earth Hour will be held at the national stadium in Bhutan's capital and largest city, Thimphu, and is being run in collaboration with the National Environment Commission. Only its second year of participation in the event, Earth Hour Bhutan will be observed nationwide with all districts invited to participate.

10:30PM

BANGLADESH

Despite civil unrest across the country, Earth Hour Bangladesh organiser **Mahbub Syed** says participants in his country will gather for a Youth Climate Leadership Workshop and a peaceful protest against climate injustice. Some landmarks in the capital city of Dhaka will be switched off. There will also be a bike rally with a public awareness campaign on climate the focus.

10:30PM

KAZAKHSTAN

This year Earth Hour Kazakhstan organiser Alan Bessan has set a goal to attract at least one million people to plant trees in the Central Asian nation, with the support of a Public Association "Plant a Tree" http://posadiderevo.kz/ The organisers are also launching an Eco Camp in Karasai district, Almaty province for Earth Hour; attracting students, researchers and volunteers to learn about sustainability and increase environmental awareness.

10:30PM

KYRGYZSTAN

10:45PM



NEPAL

Land of Mountains & Music

Famed for its spectacular mountain ranges, climate change is predicted to severely affect fresh water flows in Nepal, with serious consequences for peoples' livelihoods. Earth Hour is an opportunity for WWF to bring more awareness of this issue to the community, especially the 5000 youth expected to attend the event. The main event will be in the city of Pokhara, Nepal's second largest city, featuring a live music performance, attendance by several of Nepal's leading celebrities and WWF conservation ambassadors, including Miss Nepal 2012 and WWF's Young Conservation Ambassador, Shristi Shrestha.

11:00PM



INDIA

Lighting Up Villages With Solar

Taking the event to the next level, Indians are not only switching off for Earth Hour but also helping citizens to switch on to solar energy in villages that have no electricity. **Woodlands** stores have launched an Earth Hour collection drive in their retail outlets across India, inspiring individuals to donate to help light up villages that have no access to energy with solar power. A total of 113 households in four villages in Madhya Pradesh, Central India will receive solar lanterns, the first form of energy they will ever use - since these villages are without access to any form of energy for lighting or cooking. These villages currently depend entirely on forest resources for their energy requirements, so the project is also reducing deforestation.

ING Vysya Bank will light up one village in Odisha using renewable energy on the day of Earth Hour, and extend it into a year-long project, covering 50 villages in this state by Earth Hour 2014. These villages will be identified on the basis of their energy requirements, and an understanding of the existing sources of energy.

Switching to renewable energy is the focus of this year's Earth Hour in India, and a mega event is happening at Delhi's Central Park, Connaught Place to spread the message. The event is a musical concert, with a performance by Rekha Bhardwaj, and hosted by actor Tom Alter.

Celebrities getting behind Earth Hour this year include Bollwood actor Ajay Devgun, Bollywood actor Abhishek Bachchan, world boxing champion Mary Kom, former cricketer Venkatesh Prasad, Telugu actor Shruti Hassan, Tamil actor Jiiva, Bengali actor Parambrata, Chief Minister of New Delhi, and Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Rashtrapati Bhavan. The Gateway of India and India Gate are just two of the landmarks switching off on the night.

New Delhi has been shortlisted as a finalist for the Earth Hour City Challenge (EHCC) along with 5 other cities around the world.

11:00PM



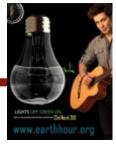
SRI LANKA

Astonishing Growth

Established by Abdul Qadir Uvais in Sri Lanka after the end of the civil war in 2009, the campaign has grown every year and in 2012, 400,000 people participated across the country. Top Sri Lankan pop stars, Bathiya and Santhush and an incredible range of companies communities are involved this year, aiming to establish it as a major campaign for future years.

HSBC employee and Sri Lanka's top mountain climber, Elmo Francis has set out a mountaineering challenge for his I Will If You Will, along with several government ministers who have taken up other challenges.

11:30PM



PAKISTAN

Powerful Ambassadors

Over a week of activities Pakistan will be promoting the 3 As (Attention, Awareness and Action), culminating on Pakistan Day on March 23 with the message of "An Hour Uniting People For A Brighter Pakistan." WWF-Pakistan ambassador Faakhir Mehmood is using Earth Hour to promote the message that the people as a nation should have **zero tolerance for plastic bags**. He pledged that he would only shop at stores that promote eco-friendly bags. Ambassador Fareha Altaf is using the campaign to emphasise the importance of recycling in offices and homes.

11:30PM

MALDIVES

UZBEKISTAN

TAJIKSTAN

MALDIVES

TURKMENISTAN

A GROWING MOVEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

Some of the most inspirational stories this year come from the Middle East and Africa, from Nathi, the teenager in Swaziland who ran Earth Hour singlehanded to the Nigerian undertaking a peace walk in Mali to pass a climate change bill – these are the stories that change the game. This year, Tunisia's first official Earth Hour event is taking place and Earth Hour has become the first environmental movement in Libya post Gaddafi as well as the first environmental action in Palestine since it was acknowledged by the United Nations as a state. The Arab youth are the newcomers to the environmental table and they are moving and shaking it with Earth Hour.

MARCH 24 12:30AM



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

All Emirates In

All seven emirates are participating this year. Earth Hour events will celebrate the hour in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, with world's tallest building The Burj Khalifa switching off. The Pocoyo Earth Hour activity book will be distributed to all schools in Abu Dhabi, spreading environmental awareness among the children of the UAE.

MARCH 24 12:30AM



GEORGIA

Presidential Residence Switches Off

A public gathering at the United Nations House in Tbilisi will be the main Earth Hour event in Georgia, with the Minister of Environment Protection of Georgia, the UN resident representative in Georgia, and other public figures present. The official representative of Earth Hour in this country is the Caucasus Environmental NGO Network (CENN). Events and switch-offs will be simultaneously held in Batumi (near the Black Sea), Gori and Rustavi. Rural Women Councils in various regions of Georgia will also be organizing local events. Landmarks that will switch off during the hour include the Presidential residence and the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia. There is also a photography contest for participants to take the best before and after switch-off photos and/or switch-off videos from the night.

MARCH 24 12:30AM



RUSSIA

Biggest Environmental Outcomes from Earth Hour 2012

Following on from the massive success of its 120,000-strong signature petition through Earth Hour's I Will If You Will campaign that led to better protection of the country's seas from oil pollution in 2012, WWF's Earth Hour in Russia has launched its 2013 campaign aiming to secure more than 100,000 signatures from Russian citizens to petition for amendments to the current forest legislation. Celebrity I Will If You Will challenges have been encouraging people to sign the petition and there has been a strong emphasis on achieving a single environmental outcome with the power of Earth Hour's community.

MARCH 24 12:30AM



OMAN

Unplugged

The board of the Environment Society of Oman (ESO), as well as ESO staff members and partners will organise and participate in an ESO Spring Cleanup if 2000 individuals and companies accept the challenge to turn off lights for Earth Hour. An UNPLUGGED Earth Hour event, open to the public at the Intercontinental Muscat Hotel will be the main event on the night. The Grand Mosque and The Royal House Opera are also confirmed to switch off the lights.

MARCH 24 12:30AM



MAURITIUS

Challenges Aplenty

The main event for Earth Hour this year in Mauritius will take place at the Royal College Curepipe, the oldest and most prestigious educational institution on the island. The Earth Hour team in Mauritius has further popularized the I Will If You Will campaign locally with more than one dozen challenges, including participation from The Hon. Arvin Boolell, GOSK (Minister of Foreign Affairs).

MARCH 24 12:30AM



AZERBAIJAN

Off Flame Towers Baku

Azerbaijan Earth Hour is turning off Flame Towers, the tallest building in Baku, and also 8 other major landmarks.

MARCH 24 12:30AM

ARMENIA

MARCH 24 1:00AM

IRAN

MARCH 24 1:30AM



MADAGASCAR

Trees, stoves & schools

This African island nation's main events this year take place in the cities of Toliara and the capital, Antananarivo. The Train Station, Queens Palace and Town Hall will all switch off on the night. A hundred schools around Antanarivo will plant 10,000 trees and 1000 subsidized wood-saving cooking stoves will be distributed to the victims of the recent cyclone.

MARCH 24 1:30AM



KUWAIT

Recycling Revolution

The focus of the 2013 campaign is on waste management, with Kuwait generating around 60 million tons of trash each year and spending more than 60 million Kuwaiti Dinars to process it. Earth Hour is introducing the people of Kuwait to the options regarding recycling and the consequences of not practicing recycling. The longer-term aim is for governmental organizations to apply environmental regulations and promulgate a law regarding recycling. The venue for Earth Hour this year is going to be Jaber Al-Ahmed National Stadium, which is the biggest, national stadium in Kuwait (as yet unopened). The Ministry of Information and Youth Affairs, Sheikh Salman Homoud Al-Sabah is supporting Earth Hour by attending the event, along with a lot of well-known figures in the sports sector in Kuwait.

MARCH 24 1:30AM



KURDISH REGION OF NORTHERN IRAQ

Inspired Youth Leader

Earth Hour Kurdistan organiser, Amanj Omar is the inspired 25 year old who founded the Green Environment Organization in Kurdistan. Amanj says "I see Earth Hour as the power of humanity, working towards saving our planet. What makes me proud about starting Earth Hour is that it's the movement towards solving climate change problems in my country." With participations from 4 cities, 5 towns and 8 famous ancient landmarks, including one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world, the ancient Citadel of Erbil and Old Sara Square of Sulaimaniya City, Earth Hour is endorsed by Kurdistan Government, its Directories and the Kurdistan Parliament, with many local NGOs and companies also supporting the campaign

MARCH 24 1:30AM



UGANDA

Earth Hour Forest

The world's first Earth Hour Forest, a project that aims to rehabilitate more than 2700 hectares of degraded land, is the ambitious challenge from the Earth Hour Uganda team. More than 500,000 trees will be planted in 2013 by businesses, governments and individuals in one of the most exciting Earth Hour projects yet. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOsliz14ymA

MARCH 24 1:30AM



KENYA

Foot Power

This year Kenya joins the global community for the Earth Hour event by stepping up renewable energy using foot-power and the sun, with the goal of getting 10,000 Kenyans to sign up for the campaign. A "Step it up for a cleaner environment" I Will If You Will relay will be run on stairs over eight stories of the Boma Hotel. As the participants climb the stairs, a mobile phone charger installed in the sole of a shoe will be activated, with power generated with movement. The charger was invented and patented by a young Kenyan engineer, Mr. Anthony Mutua, who is available for interview about the project. After the staircase lights are switched off, the relay participants will conquer the climb using hand-held solar lamps provided by Givewatts, an Earth Hour supporter.

MARCH 24 1:30AM

BELARUS

With more than 2000 people mobilised across the country for Earth Hour Belarus, the campaign is being run across 10 cities with the support of ecological and youth based NGOs, UNESCO clubs, public schools and universities.

MARCH 24 1:30AM

BAHRAIN

QATAR

SAUDI ARABIA

TANZANIA

MARCH 24 2:30AM



BOTSWANA

Restoring Forests

The former President of Botswana, Mr Festus Mogae, has promised to plant one million indigenous trees over a four years for his I Will If You Will challenge for Earth 2013. He will kick off his incredible I Will If You Will challenge by planting 100,000 trees in a severely degraded area in the southern part of the country, Goodhope. In Botswana, 1.2 million people, businesses, and schools across the country are expected take a stand against global warming and climate change, by participating in Earth Hour 2013, representing well over half the total population.

MARCH 24 2:30AM



SOUTH AFRICA

Table Mountain Switch Off

The focus of the campaign in 2013 is to *Switch Off and Switch Over* to more sustainable practices. The famous landmark, Table Mountain is switching off for first time since it has become one of the 7 wonders of the world, and a magnificent wall mural themed #WeAreAllConnected has been created by art activist for display in Johannesburg.

MARCH 24 2:30AM



SWAZILAND

Youth Inspiration

After organizing Earth Hour for the first time as a 15 year old in his city back in 2011, this year Earth Hour Swaziland coordinator Nathi Mzileni has enlisted support from the nation's biggest media agency and one of the biggest telecommunications companies, as well as several government departments. Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) is the Earth Hour partner for 2013, the largest corporation in the country and the second largest producer of sugar the world. His inspiring video about the growth of the movement in Swaziland can be seen at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZoQWJpwzlk

MARCH 24 2:30AM

JORDAN

MARCH 24 2:30AM



PALESTINE

Action Under Difficult Conditions

In yet another first, this year Earth Hour is the first environmental action to be undertaken in Palestine since it was recognized as a state by the United Nations. Switch off events are happening in Gaza City, and the cities of Nablus, Bethlehem, and Ramallah in the West Bank. Organized by The Arab Youth Climate Movement, Natouf, the Wildlife Society of Palestine, and supported by Zero Waste MENA the Municipality of Gaza, Earth Hour in Palestine shows that even under trying political conditions people care about this issue.

"People in Palestinians are working together for one goal, which is to solve the climate crisis. Such a thing will give Palestinians a sense of unity," says Sara Suwwan, from the Ecology Friends Association and organiser of Earth Hour in Nablus City. "We want to show that world that if Palestine, one of the most vulnerable communities in the world, can take action against climate change then it's an indication that we can actually work together to save the planet.

MARCH 24 2:30AM

LEBANON

Hotels Take Lead

There will be a cocktail/dinner party under candlelight at the Four Points by Sheraton Le Verdun on the night of Earth Hour, to which the Minister of Energy has been invited. Starwood Hotels is aiming to reduce energy consumption by 30% and water consumption by 20% by 2020 in all their hotels worldwide.

MARCH 24 2:30AM

NAMIBIA

EGYPT

ZAMBIA

RWANDA

ZIMBABWE

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LIBYA

First Environment Movement

After becoming the first environmental movement post civil war in Libya, Earth Hour Libya will spread to at least 5 cities in 2013. The main event for Earth Hour this year will be in Benghazi with performance by Libyan rapper Malik L and a BMX show. Seven major landmarks in the city will go dark, including the Scouts HQ which has help spread the movement through both Tripoli and Benghazi. Watch the video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXlq505AcKl

MARCH 24 3:30AM



NIGERIA

Walking for Climate Change

In Nigeria the campaign is focused on generating 20,000 signatures for Nigeria's Climate Change Bill Petition, which will be presented to President Goodluck Jonathon. Globally profiled Earth Hour Nigeria coordinator Oludotun Babayemi has pledged to do a peace walk to Mali from Nigeria if 20,000 sign the petition.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



TUNISIA

First Time Participating

This is the first official time the country is participating in Earth Hour and to kick it off in style, the President will attend the event. Other Earth Hour events are taking place across 11 cities and towns. The main event will be at the Avenue Habib Bourguiba, which is where the initial protests that triggered the Arab Spring took place.

EUROPE DARES THE WORLD WITH MOST PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IN I WILL IF YOU WILL CAMPAIGN

Launched as a pilot project in 2012 with participation in just 13 countries, this year the campaign is taking place in more than 50, with 14 of those just in Europe. I Will If You Will empowers anyone - as an individual or as part of a community or organisation - to share their commitment to the planet with friends, family, colleagues, fans or even a whole nation.



The EU Commissioner for the Environment will write and sing a song live on stage to 1000 people if 1000 people stop using their cars for a week.

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GREECE

Low Impact Transport

This year 70 cities and more will take part in Earth Hour across Greece, including the Acropolis and the Greek Parliament House. The campaign is focused on I Will If You Will challenges, with 27 municipalities committing to challenges, mostly to improve public transportation and cycle paths.

MARCH 24 2:30AM

CYPRUS

High Level Support

Earth Hour in Cyprus will be celebrated at the Presidential Palace, where the new President, Mr. Nicos Anastasiades, Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resource & Environment Mr. Kougialis Nicos and the Environmental Commissioner, Ms. Ioanna Panayiotou will attend and show high level support for the issues.

MARCH 24 2:30AM

TURKEY

East Meets West for Earth Hour

The Bospherous Bridge, which connects Europe to Asia, will be participating along with Hagia Sofia. People are able to sign up for a profile on the Earth Hour Turkey site, with actions they can take to help the planet.

MARCH 24 2:30AM



BULGARIA

Record City Participation

The main event in Bulgaria will be held in Sofia, where Mayor Yordanka Fandukova will once again turn the lights out for Earth Hour, and there will be a fire show, concert and theatre performance. The biggest state institutions will turn off their lights, including the Presidency of the Republic of Bulgaria, Parliament, Council of Ministeries, Bulgarian National Bank and the National Opera. At least 100 Bulgarian cities and municipalities will be participating, which is, in itself, a record.

MARCH 24 2:30AM



ROMANIA

Huge Recycling Effort

In Romania, this year Earth Hour will take place in at least 40 cities and towns. The main event will be held in Timisoara, which is the nation's Earth Hour Capital for 2013. The Earth Hour challenge was for cities to collect empty plastic bottles, biodiversity conservation, energy efficiency, education and awareness raising and much more. In an impressive effort, more than 9 tons of empty plastic bottles were collected for recycling across three participating cities in the challenge.

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LATVIA

LITHUANIA

UKRAINE

FINLAND

MOLDOVA

LESOTHO

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CROATIA

Ministerial Pledge

Croatia's main Earth Hour event will be held in Zagreb in front of the Cathedral, the best-known landmark in the city. There will also be a gathering in Stradun, Dubrovnik with the famous city walls. In a widely publicized I Will If You Will challenge, announced on all major commercial TV stations in the country, the Minister of Environment and Nature Protection, Mihael Zmajlovic pledged, "If 5 cities in Croatia introduce biodegradable waste boxes or composting places by 1st July, I will personally prepare and serve meal for the first shift of utility workers in that city."

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SERBIA

Music 'Unplugged'

In Serbia, the WWF team has already signed up 36 cities, including many ministries, all major national media, many local TV stations and other media in support of Earth Hour. The Horkestar choir will perform a Belgrade event to support the local "unplugged" initiative and invite people to join the action, while in Nis and Novi Sad a music programme will be organized by local NGOs.

MARCH 24 3:30AM

BOSNIA

Steady Growth

13 towns will participate in Earth Hour this year in Bosnia and there is definitely growth of the campaign in this part of the world. On the night, people are invited to attend an event in OKCAbrasevic, with United World College from Mostar. There will be a fire show and a candlelit exhibition of Hercegovinanatural beauty, followed by a poetry soiree. Ambassadors this year include Mario Knewzovic, singer of the band Zoster, Bories Banovic, a fashion critic, and Ida Prester, a Croatian singer.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



CZECH REPUBLIC

Candlelit Gathering

The main event in the Czech Republic is a candlelit gathering at the Republic Square in Prague. More than 150 municipalities are expected to take part, representing more than 25% of the Czech population. Around 10 municipalities have committed to going beyond the hour.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



ITALY

Huge Participation

More than 250 cities and towns will participate in the campaign in Italy this year, with Statue of David and St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral participating for the first time. Italians have shown massive participation in the I Will If You Will campaign and Forli was one of the finalist cities in the Earth Hour City Challenge.

Spanish Steps in Rome, where we will have the great event with main Italian Radio program and international sail champion Giovanni Soldini (just made speed record from New York to San Francisco http://maserati.soldini.it/) turning off the lights, but also the Tower of Pisa, San Marco Square in Venice.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



POLAND

I WILL IF YOU WILL

Poland is using I Will If You Will challenges this year to push for 100,000 people to register for Earth Hour in Poland. Challenges have been made by representatives of the Warsaw Local Government, famous cooking and fashion bloggers, and opposition politicians. A total of 30 cities will be celebrating Earth Hour in Poland.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



SPAIN
Flash Mob

Spain's main Earth Hour event will be held in Madrid, where a flash mob will wow the crowds. Other events are planned across the country in other events, with several landmarks going dark in other cities of Spain.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



GERMANY

Energy Transformation

More than 128 German cities will take part in Earth Hour this year. Brandenburg Gate in Berlin is where the main Earth Hour event will be held, with an LED light installation powered by four pedal power bikes producing the electricity for the LED light show. The singer/ songwriter Ashley Hicklin will perform his song 'City Lights'. This is the first time that Earth Hour has been used in Germany for a political action, with participants signing a petition for a successful energy transformation in the nation. The goal is to collect 5000 to 10000 signatures during Earth Hour, with the pledges to be presented to the candidates of chancellors in this year's upcoming election.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



SWEDEN

Widespread Participation

In 2013, Sweden hosted the press conference on March 19 in Malmo to announce the winner of the Earth Hour City Challenge, and the City of Uppsala in Sweden was a finalist in the competition. There are at least 12 high-profile I Will If You Will challenges from Sweden, from the likes of hip-hop artist Lazee, indie band Mando Diao, and ambassador Joakim Odelberg, who has challenged the Environmental Minister to make one political action to do something for the benefit of cleaning up the Baltic Sea. WWF Sweden also aims to get the Government to accept its I Will If You Will challenge to create a 100% renewable energy powered Sweden by 2050. 120 municipalities are taking part in the event, with Stockholm's Castle, lobe and Opera switching off.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



NETHERLANDS

Sky is the Limit

The Netherlands' main Earth Hour event is a Rooftop Concert with Dutch singer songwriters on the top floor of the largest and sustainable building in the city of Rotterdam. Concert Hall in Amsterdam, Amsterdam Arena, Domtoren in Utrecht and many other famous landmarks will be switching off on the night. WWF is partnering with the national broadcaster VARA for the concert. The WWF ambassador and astronaut André Kuipers is once again the face of the campaign in 2013. The campaign also has the support of the Royal family as the lights will be switched off at the Royal Palace in Amsterdam.

MARCH 24 3:30AM

NORWAY

More than 120 municipalities have been confirmed so far in Norway, and it is one of six pilot countries in the Earth Hour City Challenge.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



FRANCE

Light Parade

In France the focus of the campaign is "We are the energy", linked to the vision of the WWF 2050 global energy report. All big French cities have been invited to switch off the lights of municipal buildings with their business partners. There will be a light-mob experience in front of the Eiffel Tower with participants taking part in a "light parade" through the streets of Paris to discover the city's monuments switched off.

MARCH 24 3:30AM

AUSTRIA

Earth Party

In Austria, the band Big City Indians donated their song "Earth is crying" as an Earth Hour song for 2013. A total of 9 cities are participating (Vienna, Graz, Bregenz, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Linz, St. Pölten, Eisenstadt) and many landmarks will switch off, including City Hall and Castles of Schoenbrunn and Belvedere, Arsenal Tower, 14 big hotels (Vienna), Golden Roof (Innsbruck), Martins Tower (Bregenz), City Hall and City Museum (St. Pölten), Clock Tower (Graz), Lindwurm (Klagenfurt), Ars Electronica Center and Lentos Kunstmuseum (Linz), Castle of Esterházy and Martins Casern (Eisenstadt), Old Town and Old Town churches and Mozart monument and Castle of Hohensalzburg (Salzburg), old town and Castle of Kufstein. Federal President Heinz Fischer and Chancellor Werner Faymann and other ministers are committed to switch their buildings lights off and sent message of support for Earth Hour. An "Earth Party" in Vienna will integrate Earth Hour on Saturday evening with speeches by WWF-Austria.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



BELGIUM

Making It Real

The focus of Belgium's Earth Hour this year was the I Will If You Will angle, focusing on five key outcomes/actions for citizens of Belgium. A calculator gives the CO2-equivalent of people's actions, making their own footprint tangible in the context of climate change. The Mayor of Antwerp, Bart De Wever and the Mayor of Ottignies both undertook I Will If You Will challenges. WWF's CEO Damencent pledged to climb the Atomium if 5000 people in Belgium signed up to Earth Hour.

MARCH 24 3:30AM

LIECHTENSTEIN

Royal Action for Earth Hour

Honored as Europe's Top Energy Country, all of its eleven cities and towns will be participating in Earth Hour this year as well as the Prince of Liechtenstein, he will switch off the lights of the castle in the capital city Vaduz. And three of Liechtenstein's villages have committed to actions beyond the hours by switching off lights for public buildings daily.

MARCH 24 3:30AM



DENMARK

Little Mermaid Goes Dark

Denmark's Earth Hour campaign was launched on the basis of a survey that found 58% of the Danes believe citizens and consumers have the biggest responsibility in acting on climate change. This set the stage for some impressive I Will If You Will challenges from musicians such as Shaka Loveless and Erann DD who will also perform at a free event concert on 23rd of March alongside Sebastian Dorset. The lights on Copenhagen's Little Mermaid will go dark on Earth Hour.





HUNGARY

"Biggest" Celebration of Earth Hour in Hungary
Earth Hour will be held on top of West End City
Center, one of the biggest shopping centers in the
country, with the famous Hungarian singer Vera Tóth
and other celebrities. There will be live broadcasting
of the switch off of many famous Hungarian sights
including Chain Bridge, The Parlament, Gellért
Mountain and Citadella, and the lighting ceremony of
Hungary's tallest candle, a more than 5 meters in
height.

MARCH 24 3:30AM

MONTENEGRO

Fifth year of participation, Earth Hour will be organized in Montenegro by NGO Green Home, WWF and Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro. Events will take place in 40 schools and 11 towns, and main event will be at the capital of Podgorica to switch off lights of the city landmark Millenium Bridge.

MARCH 24 3:30AM

MALTA

MONACO

SLOVAKIA

SWITZERLAND

SLOVENIA

ALBANIA

ANDORRA

MACEDONIA

GRENADA

MARCH 24 4:30AM



UNITED KINGDOM

Kids Question the Prime Minister

England's Earth Hour campaign #doitinthedark is the focus in this country and it has been supported by hugely popular pop band McFly. UK Houses of Parliament, BFI Imax, Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, Holyroodhouse, Royal Albert Hall and the Brighton Wheel are all participating. On Friday 8 March, David Cameron met with school children from his Witney constituency who asked him to take part in WWF's Earth Hour. They asked him whether he will support the UK getting more energy from renewable sources.



WALES

Greenest School in the UK

The main event in Wales will be held at the Chapter Arts Centre in Cardiff, with a poetry event themed on renewable energy, a film screening and the creation of a large renewables-themed image from LED tea lights. The pupils of Greenhill Primary School near Caerphilly supported the campaign heavily this year. The school, dubbed the 'greenest school in the UK', generates electricity from wind turbines and solar panels and harvests rainwater. The children are really engaged on the issue of renewable energy. Welsh artist Pete Fowler also took part in the *Do The Green Thing* 23 day poster countdown to Earth Hour.



SCOTLAND

Castles, Palaces & Parliament

In Scotland, the Edinburgh castle, the Scottish Parliament, the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the National Gallery of Scotland and the Royal Scottish Academy, the Balmoral Hotel, Camera Obscura and the National Monument have all confirmed their lights are going out for the Hour. Glasgow City Council has confirmed that some of the most iconic buildings in the city will be going dark for Earth Hour, including Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, the City Chambers, the Mitchell Library and the Clyde Arc Bridge.

MARCH 24 4:30AM



MARCH 24 4:30AM

MARCH 24 4:30AM

MARCH 24 7:30AM

MARCH 24 7:30AM



PORTUGAL 1000 Step Walk

Six celebrities in Portugal will take part in the I Will If You Will campaign this year, committing to an environmental action to be undertaken in 2013 and challenging their fans to do the same. Portugal's main event is a 1000 step walk along the main pier in Lisbon, where participants will see landmarks going dark.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

1 Million Trees

Ireland's "One Million Trees In One Day" project manager, Imogen Rabone, has partnered with Earth Hour and created an I Will If You Will Challenge to help plant native trees throughout Ireland while getting people to turn out the lights for Earth Hour. Imogen is working with a number of contacts to culminate Earth Hour activities throughout the Republic of Ireland to take action beyond the hour for years to come.

ICELAND

In downtown Reykjavik, Earth Hour will host a candlelight concert and with street lights switched off during daylights.

MOROCCO

ST. HELENA

FAROE ISLANDS

COTE D'IVOIRE



BRAZIL

Green Transformation for Capital City

Following the line of huge environmental outcomes of the global Earth Hour movement last year, the governor of the Federal District of Brasilia, Agnelo Queiroz, officially announced a series of green measures that will be adopted this year in his city. The flagship of those measures, "Brasilia, City Park" will see spaces across the federal capital transformed into green parkland. One such project is the Water for Life Program partnership between WWF-Brazil and Americas' Beverage Company (AMBEV), which will improve the conditions of the water streams in Prainha Park. Queiroz has also pledged to turn the lights off for Earth Hour in the city center of Brasilia, including the Cultural Complex, Library and National Museum, Cathedral, Ministries esplanades and JK Bridge.

SURINAME AND FRENCH GUYANA

First Timers Strike Gold

The global Earth Hour movement continues to expand as Suriname and French Guyana joins in this year. They aim bring to the government's attention the environmental damages caused by gold mining in Protected Areas.

MARCH 24 7:30AM



ARGENTINA

Lights Out to Protect the Seas

Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina is mobilising thousands of participants to to shut off their lights between 8:30 and 9:30pm on March 23 to support the creation of Marine Protected Areas. They are especially promoting the approval in the Senate of a bill to make the Banco Burdwood, a highly biodiverse and vulnerable area of approximately 34,000 squared kilometers, a Marine Protected Area.

If approved, it will become the first ocean marine protected area, located in Argentina's Exclusive Economic Zone, raising the level of protection of Argentina's marine area from 1% to 4%. Latest's news indicates that the Environmental Commission will likely pass the bill just before Earth Hour, after it received a favorable ruling.

Argentina's main Earth Hour event will be held at the Planetarium of Buenos Aires and will see strong support from celebrities and sports teams, including Club Atlético Independiente.



BERMUDA

Fifth Year Running and Growing

In its 5th year participating, Earth Hour Bermuda will have the support of the Mayor and the Ministers of the Environment and of Economic Development (which includes the Department of Energy) at the event, and also BELCO, Bermuda's electricity utility.

The event held at City Hall in the City of Hamilton features free entertainment and films, pedal power generators, a 'glow in the dark' fun walk/run during the lights out hour, a night market, healthy food vendors and green exhibitors showing products for a sustainable lifestyle. The organiser will also be announcing the winners of the Earth Hour Student Creativity Competition.

MARCH 24 7:30AM

MARCH 24 7:30AM

URAGUAY

MARCH 24 7:30AM



CHILE

My Own Energy for the Planet

The first ever completely human powered event in Chile will be held on 23 March, with energy generated by pedaling participants. This event, called My Own Energy for Earth Hour 2013, will be held in Santiago. Between noon and ten o'clock at night, a People's Fair will be held, where where participants will have the opportunity to generate the power for a concert held during Earth Hour that night.





PARAGUAY

Uniting for Real Change

Paraguay will mark Earth Hour this year by staging a flash mob in front of 'EL CABILDO', the most important cultural centre of Acuncion, located by the Parliament and Presidential Palace. The event will demonstrate the will of the people and is symbolic of an even bigger action—the petitioning for the extension of the law to conserve Paraguay's forests. Many companies and organisations have been invited to join the campaign and will announce their organisation challenges on the 23rd. They are looking to have **20,000 signatures that will support the forest conservation law**, so that the President will continue with reforestation around the Atlantic Forest.

MARCH 24 8:30AM





USA

Jessica Alba's Challenge

Earth Hour's newest Global Ambassador Jessica Alba will let her kids dress her and the rest of the staff of her company if 10,000 people switch to eco-friendly products in their homes.

Across the United States, many significant landmarks will switch off their lights for Earth Hour, including the Empire State Building, the Rockefeller Centre, the UN Headquarters, Niagara Falls, the Las Vegas Strip and LAX.

MARCH 24 8:30AM **ANTIGUA**

ARUBA

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

BARBADOS

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

BOLIVIA

PUERTO RICO

CURACAO

VENEZUELA

ST. LUCIA

MARCH 24 9:30AM



PERU

Lights Out for Ancient City

In Peru's Earth Hour, the Environmental Ministry, together with the Chamber of Commerce and WWF, have invited 12,000 companies to commit to saving the planet through the Earth Hour movement by addressing three areas: water, energy, and waste. Earth Hour celebrations have been scheduled in cities in the 25 regions from the Pacific, to the Andes and the Amazon, and every day more are joining in, including the city where the Amazon River starts, Iquitos, and the Incan capital in Cuzco.

In Lima, a main event is being co-planned by the local city government, the Environmental Ministry, and WWF in the Main Plaza, surrounded by more than 15 World Historical Heritage monuments whose lights will be turned off, including the Governmental Palace and Lima's Cathedral. As part of Lima's celebration, considered one of the best shows of World Music globally, and recognized as the best interpretation ever by UNESCO, the celebrated Peruvian musician Lucho Quequezana will perform a free concert in the Main Plaza, totally powered by solar energy.

MARCH 24 9:30AM



COLOMBIA

One Hashtag = 10,000 Trees

This year, WWF Colombia is challenging the country's biggest companies to plant a tree for every ten of their followers that use social networks to support the Earth Hour movement. ConTREEbute, an allied company specialized in reforestation, is supporting their efforts. The digital marketing strategy, which features Latin American ambassador Claudia Bahamon, along with other celebrities and digital influencers, aims to increase the number of individuals that join the campaign through the Internet. Colombians will be able to interact and share information about the activities they are holding during Earth Hour by using the hashtag #UnaHoraPara ("one hour to _____").

The goal of the campaign is to plant 10,000 trees and to cause more than one million digital interactions. In order to reach this goal, opinion leaders, news outlets, Internet figures, and other allies will share information with their followers, strengthening the campaign and helping go beyond the target number of trees – contributing to real environmental impact in Colombia

MARCH 24 9:30AM



GALAPAGOS / ECUADOR

Sustainable Tourism in the Galapagos

Despite its small population, the Galapagos Islands are famous for the many animal species studied by Charles Darwin that led to his groundbreaking theory on evolution. This year, the Galapagos will join Earth Hour for the first time with a small community driven event. The National Parks of Galapagos is asking all boats and tourists to turn off their lights to raise awareness on sustainable tourism and the importance of environmental conservation in the Galapagos..

MARCH 24 9:30AM



JAMAICA

Grooving to the Music of the Land of Wood and Water

As the Earth Hour movement spreads throughout the Caribbean, some of the freshest names in Jamaica's music scene, including Protoje, Conkarah, Jah9 and Sky Grass, are set to perform for the first time at the country's Earth Hour celebration which will be held at the lights off event at the Ranny Williams Entertainment Centre in Kingston. Thousands are expected to attend the free concert. People can choose to donate US\$5 to the Jamaica Environment Trust Fund.

"Our participation in Earth Hour goes without question. For one we are from the land of wood and water, so of course a cause to preserve the natural resources of the Earth is close to our hearts," said Alex Morrissey, the Founder and CEO of the online Jamaican music site www.jamaicansmusic.com/ and organiser of the acoustic concert.

MARCH 24 10:30AM

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUA

GUATEMALA

GALAPAGOS

MEXICO

MARCH 24 11:30AM

FRENCH POLYNESIA

MARCH 24 11:30AM

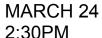


CANADA

Vancouver Crowned as the Winner of Earth Hour City Challenge 2013

The City of Vancouver has been recognised for its innovative actions on climate change and dedication to create a sustainable, pleasant urban environment for current and future residents.

Vancouver has been recognised by the jury for its ambition to be global leader on climate-smart urban development in spite of low national ambitions. The city's overall holistic and strategic approach to climate action – specifically its impressive transportation strategy, solid actions on the impact of food and progressive neighbourhood energy plan – were seen as evidence of how Vancouver aims to play an active role in the global transition towards a 100% renewable future within the next few decades. Example targets for Vancouver include that by 2020 all new buildings are to be carbon neutral in their operations; citizens are to make over 50% of trips by foot, bicycle or public transport; and the number of green jobs is to have doubled.





COOK ISLANDS

Final Lights Out and Beyond

In the tiny Cook Islands, the last place to celebrate Earth Hour, hotels are implementing their own Earth Hour initiatives to join the global movement and work towards a sustainable future for our planet.

"The impacts of a changing planet can be seen in many places around the world, especially here in the Cook Islands. As we are directly affected by climate change, due to the threat of rising sea levels, we are putting our home at risk of being lost forever. We're urging other hotels around the world to join hands with us this Earth Hour, and to take their sustainability initiatives beyond the hour. Their impacts will not only be felt in their own cities, but even as far as here in the Cook Islands," said Greg Stanaway, CEO of Pacific Resort Rarotonga Group in the Cook Islands.