



Power saving paving

Evaglow by Making Ground is a unique and sustainable paving system that glows in the dark – a decorative and eco-friendly way to light up patios, pathways and general paving areas. It doesn't require any cables or electricity and is the perfect solution to help prevent wasted energy and money from lighting. As no energy is consumed, there are no carbon emissions, and with light pollution into the sky lowered, the need for street lighting is reduced too, making Evaglow a truly sustainable material that decreases energy use.

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Ecofriendly carpets

Handwoven carpet supplier FBMI operates a local value chain entirely within Afghanistan, buying local wool to support farmers, using natural vegetable dyes in the spinning operations, and producing finished carpets for export to world markets.

The carpets reflect the heritage of cottage-based craftsmanship passed through countless generations of families. The majority of carpets produced by the initiative are made from indigenous Afghan wool purchased from nomads that is then handspun to add to the quality. Out of over 900 breeds of sheep, only a select few qualify to meet the quality requirements of the wool used in the production of fine carpets. Only the best section of the sheep's fleece is used for each carpet. The finest quality

wool used by the initiative ensures the carpets pile strength, sheen, smoothness and durability. The Initiative also produces carpets that are a combination of wool and silk. All carpets are woven using a cotton foundation to ensure strength, reduce shrinkage and guarantee the rug will keep its shape.

The initiative further works to tackle environmental degradation through the use of natural vegetable dyes and traditional washing methods, thus ensuring no environmental damage to the Kabul River. www.fbmi.af



The environmental challenge is particularly acute in the Gulf, where the total population is growing at 2.2 per cent per annum, according to UN data. The UAE is estimated to have the world's highest per capita levels of energy and water consumption and waste output. While the scale of the challenge is vast, the steps required to make a meaningful difference are often small and straightforward.