

## **Press Release**

### **DREI Announces Executive Programme on Real Estate Ecology & Green Property Development**

*First of its Kind Programme in Middle East Offered in Response to High Demand for Education on Green Building*

**Dubai-UAE: 17 May, 2008** - Dubai Real Estate Institute (DREI), the first specialised academic real-estate institution in the region, today announced it will offer an executive programme on Real Estate Ecology and Green Property Development from 8 - 10 June.

The programme will provide an integrated analysis of ecological key concepts, frameworks, tools and innovations in sustainable property design. It will also impart techniques for strategic planning in order to achieve sustainable, aesthetic, functional and innovative urban design.

DREI has opened registration for the programme that aims to draw professionals working in property development, real estate planning and other related industries, as well as representatives from government departments.

For the first time, DREI will host a programme led by a locally based faculty. Dubai-based Professor Dr. Till Stoll, a Swiss national and former lecturer at Harvard University as well as economist with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank, will share his rich knowledge of domestic real estate markets. As the CEO of Green Destinations, a Swiss-UAE project management company based in Dubai, he will highlight key elements in conceptualising and designing environmentally-friendly real estate developments.

Dr Salem Al Shafiei, Managing Director of DREI, said: "Current government initiatives are placing great emphasis on green buildings, sustainability and energy-saving solutions in upcoming developments. The internationally recognised LEED (Leadership of Energy and Environmental Design) Rating System has already begun influencing several developers, adding further momentum to the green movement.

"The programme will provide participants with a greater understanding of how real estate and the environment interact with each other. It will also highlight various methods of making tangible contributions to environmental protection within a property development, without necessarily incurring additional costs."

Delivered in five modules, the world-class course will include an analysis of real estate ecology; inhabitants and their environment; green buildings and green building rating systems; conceptual master and financial planning of sustainable communities. With a strong focus on case studies, the programme will see participants working in groups to draw up investment models for green buildings and sustainable communities.

Upon completing of the course, participants will be equipped with the competency to identify the resources utilized by various real estate components, and suggest alternative solutions for safeguarding the environment. They will also be able to assess the financial implications of developing green properties, and rate its variants both in terms of construction and operation.

The learning method of this 2 ½ day programme will be based on the interactive approach developed by Harvard Business School, where teacher and students work in teams and exchange and develop knowledge together, with the lecturer acting as a key facilitator. Certificates from DREI will be awarded to students upon the successful completion of the programme.

The executive education programmes will be held at the state-of-the-art DREI campus in Building 53, Dubai Healthcare City, which is equipped with facilities designed to provide a productive learning environment.

To register for the programme, participants may contact DREI by email on [admission@drei.ae](mailto:admission@drei.ae), phone +9714 426 7777, or fax +9714 426 7776. Additional information on DREI programmes and faculty is available online at [www.drei.ae](http://www.drei.ae)

– Ends –

### **About Dubai Real Estate Institute**

As the first academic real estate institution in the region, the Dubai Real Estate Institute (DREI) aims to enrich and broaden the knowledge and competencies of real estate professionals and managers at all levels. The institute, operates in partnership with several international real estate universities to offer graduate programmes and industry-specific, open enrolment courses. Areas of co-operation also include research projects and the development of case studies specific to the region.

Addressing the strategic growth opportunities, competitive challenges and operational imperatives of the real estate markets in the MENA region, Asia, and Turkey, the institute offers courses on the real estate development process, asset and portfolio management, real estate evaluation and appraisal, real estate finance and investment, international real estate, risk management, green property development, real estate law, urban economics and project management.

In addition, DREI provides domain specific courses as diverse as real estate strategic and innovation management, strategic alliances, finance and capital markets, market analysis, and the management of specific properties such as residential, industrial, retail and office spaces.

All of the institute's offerings are delivered in partnership with high-ranking and academically accredited international universities using world-class faculty, cutting-edge knowledge and practice, and state-of-the-art facilities.

For further information, please visit: [www.drei.ae](http://www.drei.ae), or contact:

#### **Sally Hamandi**

JiWin

The Public Relations arm of Dubai Press Club

+971 4 361-6666 or +97150 507-3656

Email: [sally.hamandi@jiwin.ae](mailto:sally.hamandi@jiwin.ae)