



# *UNIVERSITY OF OUM EL BOUAGHI*

***Report on the United Nations  
Sustainable Development Goal 14:  
Life Below Water***

## **ABSTRACT**

This report sheds light on the University of Oum El Bouaghi's initiatives aimed at achieving SDG 14: Life Below Water.

## **1 .Introduction**

Situated in Algeria, the University of Oum El Bouaghi has recognized the pressing global need to protect and preserve aquatic ecosystems. This report delves into the university's extensive endeavors to ensure that its activities and policies are consistent with the principles of SDG 14: Life Below Water, emphasizing the importance of sustainable oceans and marine resources for the well-being of our planet.

## **2 .SDG 14: A Brief Overview**

SDG 14, known as "Life Below Water," is an integral component of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals, each of which pertains to a distinct global challenge. SDG 14 underscores the urgency of safeguarding oceans, seas, and marine resources to foster sustainable development. It comprises various sub-targets and indicators aimed at preventing marine pollution, conserving marine ecosystems, regulating the exploitation of marine resources, counteracting ocean acidification, and promoting sustainable fisheries.

## **3 .University's Contribution to SDG 14**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively engages with the key dimensions of SDG 14, focusing on supporting aquatic ecosystems, ensuring responsible water-sensitive waste disposal, preservation of the local ecosystem, cooperation with the local community, and implementing aquatic park management strategies based on species diversity.

### **3.1 .Supporting Aquatic Ecosystems**

The university supports aquatic ecosystems through diverse initiatives:

- ☒ Field Trips and Wetlands Preservation: The university collaborates with the Directorate of Environment to organize field trips aimed at educating students about local ecosystems and the importance of wetland preservation. This aligns with the goal's target of conserving marine and coastal ecosystems.
- ☒ Participation in Geological Sciences Symposium: Active participation in the Geological Sciences Symposium focuses on Earth resource origins and environmental impacts. This supports the target of conserving and sustaining marine resources.

### **3.2 .Water-Sensitive Waste Disposal**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi strictly adheres to national water quality and drainage standards to protect ecosystems and human health. The evidence provided highlights the university's commitment to complying with national laws and regulations related to water quality and drainage.

### **3.3 .Preservation of the Local Ecosystem**

The university actively implements a comprehensive environmental policy to combat marine pollution resulting from land-based activities. Initiatives include awareness campaigns, sustainable campus practices, and coastal clean-up programs.

- ☒ Collaboration with Local Authorities: The university collaborates with local authorities and industry stakeholders to reduce land-based pollution through responsible waste management.
- ☒ Research and Innovation: Encouraging research to combat marine pollution effectively is integral to the university's approach to preserving the local ecosystem.

### **3.4 .Cooperation with the Local Community**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi cooperates with the local community to conserve shared aquatic ecosystems. Evidence includes agreements with the Directorate of Agricultural Interests and the Directorate of Environment.

### **3.5 .Aquatic Park Management Strategy**

The information provided does not explicitly mention the implementation of an aquatic park management strategy based on the diversity of aquatic species specific to the site.

## **4 .Conclusion**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi serves as an inspiring example of an academic institution actively contributing to the global mission of protecting aquatic ecosystems and marine life. Its diverse initiatives, programs, and partnerships illustrate the capacity of universities to drive sustainability and protect invaluable aquatic resources.

## **5 .Comparative Analysis**

The university's actions align seamlessly with SDG 14, particularly concerning the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems, water quality standards, marine pollution prevention, and community collaboration. The comprehensive measures adopted by the university resonate closely with the targets and indicators set forth by SDG 14. However, the implementation of a specific aquatic park management strategy based on species diversity is not explicitly addressed in the evidence provided.

In summary, the University of Oum El Bouaghi emerges as a role model for institutions striving to fulfill the commitments of SDG 14, demonstrating that academia can be a driving force in the collective effort to protect life below water for present and future generations.