UNIVERSITY OF OUM EL BOUAGHI

Report on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 1: No Poverty

ABSTRACT

This report sheds light on the contributions of the University of Oum El Bouaghi, Algeria, towards achieving SDG 1: No Poverty.

Introduction:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a critical global framework aimed at addressing pressing worldwide issues. Among these goals, Goal 1 stands out with its commitment to end poverty in all its forms.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria has taken significant strides in ensuring that students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have access to higher education. This is a fundamental step in poverty reduction and aligns with the principles of SDG 1. The university not only accepts but actively supports all students, including those within the bottom 20% of the household income group, ensuring equal educational opportunities for all without any form of income-based discrimination.

1. **Anti-Poverty Programs of the University:**

The university firmly adheres to the principles of Algerian higher education, offering free education for all, as mandated by Algerian laws, and specifically the constitution's Article N° 53. This commitment is further supported by key legal documents, including Law No. 84-05, Law No. 99-05, Law No. 2000-04, and Law No. 08-06, all of which establish a framework for free public education. The university's alignment with the social policy of the Algerian State emphasizes the importance of free, accessible education for all.

2. **Direct Support for Low-Income Students:**
☒ **Graduation/Completion Goals:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is dedicated to ensuring the success of all students, irrespective of their family income. The absence of specific goals related to the bottom 20% of the household income group is compensated by the university's focus on providing equal opportunities for all students to continue their studies. Graduates can progress to Master's and Doctoral programs without income-based barriers.

☒ **Goals for Master's and Doctoral Studies:**

The university's alignment with laws and regulations enables students, regardless of their income level, to enroll in Master's and Doctoral programs through competitive admission processes. This commitment furthers the principles of SDG 1 by supporting higher education without income-related hindrances.

3. **Support Services for Low-Income Students:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi goes beyond the classroom to offer holistic support for students from low-income families. This includes free food, housing, and transportation services, essential components for academic success. Students receive

balanced and nutritious meals in university canteens. Free housing in residence halls is available, while free transport services ensure students can commute comfortably.

4. **University Initiatives and Support:**

The university actively promotes support initiatives for low-income students. Students are provided with bursaries that extend to instances of repeating an academic year. These bursaries are a crucial component in enabling financially disadvantaged students to complete their studies. The university also encourages members to participate in associations and activities that support low-income students.

5. **Support for Students from Low or Lower-Middle-Income Countries:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi welcomes international students from low or lower-middle-income countries, providing them with free education, meals, accommodation, transport, and healthcare services. This commitment extends the principles of SDG 1 to the global level, supporting education and economic opportunity for students from financially disadvantaged nations.

6. **Supporting Start-Up Businesses:**

The university is deeply involved in the local community by assisting financially and socially sustainable start-up businesses. It operates a business incubator and entrepreneurship support center, which educate students on business creation and offer access to university resources. This plays a significant role in local development, aligning with SDG 1 to combat poverty and encourage economic growth.

7. **Financial Aid for Local Start-Ups:**

The university provides financial assistance for local start-up initiatives, particularly through the business incubator. This includes guidance for innovative projects to secure funding from relevant authorities. In addition, stakeholders are granted access to university spaces and equipment to support sustainable business development, creating opportunities for economic improvement in the community.

8. **Training for Access to Basic Services:**

The university recognizes the significance of training to improve access to basic services. It encompasses health services, nutrition, child mortality, as well as standard of living components such as sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, and assets. These efforts contribute to poverty alleviation in the community, aligning with the principles of SDG 1.

9. Participation in Policy-Making:

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively engages in policy-making at local, regional, national, and global levels to implement programs and policies aimed at ending poverty. It conducts conferences and encourages expert participation in policymaking for poverty eradication and economic development. Notable experts and professors have contributed significantly to these efforts.

Conclusion:

The University of Oum El Bouaghi, Algeria, has taken comprehensive steps to contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 1: No Poverty. By supporting low-income students, facilitating their access to higher education, assisting local start-ups, and actively participating in poverty alleviation efforts, the university plays a vital role in promoting social and economic development, locally and globally. Its holistic approach aligns with the principles of SDG 1 to ensure that "no one is left behind" in the fight against poverty.