



# University of Oum El Bouaghi

## Sustainable Development Report

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## **1. No Poverty (SDG 1)**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is committed to advancing Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG 1): No Poverty. This detailed report outlines the university's comprehensive efforts to address poverty and promote financial inclusion.

### **☒ Efforts for Student Inclusivity:**

The university prioritizes providing equal opportunities for higher education to all students, regardless of their family's income. Rather than setting specific targets for students from low-income households, the university focuses on ensuring universal access to education. This approach aligns with its mission to offer equal opportunities to every student, fostering an inclusive learning environment.

### **☒ Direct Student Support:**

To mitigate financial barriers, the university provides students with bursaries, supporting their academic pursuits. The bursaries aim to alleviate the economic burden on students and ensure they can continue their studies. Notably, students can benefit from these bursaries even if they need to repeat an academic year, with suspension occurring only after two consecutive academic failures. This flexible approach demonstrates the university's commitment to helping students overcome financial challenges.

Moreover, the university goes the extra mile to ensure that students from low-income backgrounds have access to vital resources. It offers free food, housing, and transportation services to enhance their academic experiences. The provision of balanced and nutritious meals at university canteens contributes to students' well-being, while free accommodation options in residence halls alleviate housing concerns. Additionally, free transportation services, including urban and semi-urban buses, ease students' commute to and from educational centers. These support services address the holistic needs of students from low-income families.

### **☒ Global Student Inclusivity:**

The university extends its inclusivity beyond national borders by welcoming international students, particularly those from low or lower-middle-income countries. This approach reflects the university's commitment to providing equitable access to

education. International students from countries such as Western Sahara, Niger, Mali, Libya, and Palestine benefit from free education, in addition to access to accommodation, meals, transportation, and healthcare services. This international inclusivity reinforces the university's role in addressing poverty on a global scale.

**☒ Empowering Start-Ups:**

Recognizing the importance of entrepreneurship in poverty reduction, the university actively supports the local community by assisting the start-up of financially and socially sustainable businesses. The establishment of a business incubator and entrepreneurship support center underscores the university's dedication to this cause. These initiatives focus on transforming innovative ideas into emerging enterprises that can contribute to local development. To achieve this, the university organizes various training programs and workshops. These programs cover essential aspects of starting and managing a business, including generating ideas, design thinking, creating financial plans, and developing successful business models.

The university's commitment to empowering local start-ups also involves financial aid. The business incubator guides students with innovative projects in securing necessary funding from relevant authorities. Moreover, the university provides access to its spaces and laboratory equipment to support the launch of businesses and emerging enterprises. These material resources further the university's objective of boosting economic and social activities within the local community.

**☒ Training for Basic Services:**

The university takes a holistic approach to poverty reduction by organizing training sessions and programs that improve access to basic services for the broader community. This includes enhancing health services, nutrition, and living standards, addressing key elements such as cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, and assets. These initiatives, carried out through the Directorate of University Services and the Directorate of Subsidiary Activities, aim to uplift the standard of living for community members.

**☒ Policy-Making Engagement:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively participates in policy-making at local, regional, national, and global levels with the goal of implementing programs and

policies that combat poverty in all its dimensions. The university organizes conferences, conferences, and other initiatives to explore innovative policies and strategies to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development. Moreover, several university professors actively engage as experts in poverty eradication and economic development policymaking efforts.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi stands as a beacon of hope in the pursuit of SDG 1: No Poverty. Its commitment to inclusive education, financial support for students, empowerment of start-ups, training for essential services, and active participation in policy-making all contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development. By addressing poverty comprehensively and inclusively, the university plays a pivotal role in achieving SDG 1.

## **2. Zero Hunger (SDG 02)**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is dedicated to contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger) by implementing a series of initiatives and strategies that address food waste, student hunger, education in sustainable agriculture, and community engagement with local farmers and food producers.

### **☒ Minimizing Food Waste**

To reduce food waste, the university practices effective meal planning, portion control, and food recycling, ensuring a more sustainable approach to food consumption.

### **☒ Mitigating Student Hunger**

The university adopts a multifaceted approach to tackle student hunger, with initiatives like food clubs, flexible meal schedules, and affordable, healthy food options for both students and staff.

### **☒ Agricultural Graduates and Sustainability**

With 553 graduates in agriculture and aquaculture, the university emphasizes sustainability, aligning its educational programs with the principles of responsible and environmentally friendly agriculture.

### **☒ Supporting Local Farmers and Food Producers**

The university actively empowers local farmers and food producers by providing access to knowledge, skills, and technology related to sustainable agriculture and aquaculture. It organizes events that facilitate knowledge transfer and promotes the purchase of products from local, sustainable sources.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's comprehensive commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 2 exemplifies its role in addressing hunger, promoting sustainable agriculture, and fostering community well-being. This dedication is a testament to its vital contribution to creating a world with Zero Hunger.

### **3. Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3)**

Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3) focuses on ensuring good health and well-being for all. The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively contributes to the realization of this goal.

#### **☒ Graduates in Health Professions**

In 2022, the university enrolled 11,968 students, with 523 graduates in health professions. This ensures a pipeline of qualified individuals ready to make a positive impact in the healthcare sector, aligning with the objectives of SDG 3.

#### **☒ Cooperation and Health Services**

The university engages with health institutions, both public and private, to provide an atmosphere of health services to employees and students. It has supplied approximately 18,500 health cards, ensuring access to healthcare and social well-being in line with national health security objectives.

#### **☒ Health Outreach Programs**

The university conducts various programs and activities to raise health awareness. These include blood donation drives, student day celebrations, scientific, sports, and cultural competitions. Furthermore, the university supports scientific and artistic clubs, fostering a comprehensive approach to well-being.

#### **☒ Mental Health Support**

The Medical Center at the university offers psychological support through consultations, guidance, and treatment sessions under the supervision of clinical psychologists. This promotes mental well-being, a critical aspect of SDG 3.

#### **☒ Smoke-free Policy**

The university strictly enforces a no-smoking policy in indoor spaces, aligning with national regulations. In post-COVID-19 times, it adopted a strategy that allows smoking in open spaces while maintaining the ban indoors.

In conclusion, the University of Oum El Bouaghi is committed to achieving SDG 3 by promoting good health and well-being. Through health education, services, and support, it actively contributes to a healthier and more sustainable future, making a positive impact on its community and society at large.

#### **4. Quality education (SDG 4)**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is dedicated to providing quality education in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 4, ensuring equitable access to education. This report summarizes the various aspects of the university's commitment to quality education, inclusivity, and equal access to knowledge.

##### **☒ Quality of Education**

The university actively promotes the delivery of quality education. It follows Sustainable Development Goal 4, aiming to make quality education accessible to all. The university's commitment to this goal is evident through its graduates, with 1,427 individuals holding degrees that qualify them to teach at primary schools.

##### **☒ Open Access to Educational Resources**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi provides open access to educational resources. It hosts open lectures on the Moodle platform and maintains a rich library of academic publications and journals. These resources are accessible to both students and the public, emphasizing the university's commitment to making knowledge freely available.

##### **☒ Public Lectures and Community Educational Events**

The university actively organizes public lectures, academic forums, and scientific events that are open to the general public. It hosts both national and international conferences, encouraging knowledge exchange, collaboration, and inclusivity. These events contribute to the university's reputation and attract participants from diverse backgrounds.

##### **☒ Training Courses for Professional Development**

Training courses are an integral part of the university's outreach activities. It offers open training courses to the public and advanced-level courses designed for the professional development of employees across the province. These courses foster continuous improvement and a skilled workforce.

##### **☒ Educational Outreach Activities**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively conducts open-door events for the local community, providing access to its educational resources. In addition, the university

embraces technology by utilizing YouTube channels to disseminate knowledge, making education flexible and accessible.

**☒ University's Policy on Equal Access**

The university adheres to a comprehensive policy that ensures equal access to education for everyone, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, gender, or health state. This policy promotes an inclusive and discrimination-free environment.

**☒ Proportion of First-Generation Students**

The university also focuses on first-generation students, demonstrating its commitment to inclusivity. Out of 3,211 students starting a degree, 1,487 are first-generation students.

In conclusion, the University of Oum El Bouaghi is a beacon of quality education, inclusivity, and equal access to knowledge. It actively participates in knowledge dissemination, fosters inclusivity through open access, and ensures that all students have an opportunity to succeed, including first-generation students.



## 5. Gender Equality (SDG 5)

SDG 5, Gender Equality, is a critical objective set by the United Nations. The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively promotes gender equality and women's empowerment within its academic community.

### ☒ **Participation at the University:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is dedicated to creating an environment where both male and female students have equal access to education and are encouraged to pursue their studies at all academic levels and across all fields.

**Enrollment and Acceptance:** The university actively promotes the enrollment and acceptance of female students in various academic levels, including bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs.

- **Scholarships:** To alleviate financial burdens, the university offers scholarships to female students on par with their male counterparts, ensuring equal opportunities for both genders.
- **Promoting Gender Equality:** The institution conducts regular awareness campaigns to underline the importance of gender equality in higher education.
- **Cultural and Scientific Activities:** The university actively engages female students in a wide array of cultural and scientific activities, providing opportunities to develop their skills and broaden their horizons.
- **Academic Support:** Academic guidance and support programs are in place to facilitate the success of female students in their academic pursuits.
- **Data Monitoring and Reporting:** The university systematically collects and analyzes data related to the enrollment and acceptance of female students and regularly submits reports to the regional conference and the Ministry of Higher Education, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- **Community Collaboration:** Collaboration with the local community is actively pursued to raise awareness about the significance of higher education for women and encourage more female students to join the university.

☒ **Women's Progress Measures:**

- **Tracking Graduation Rates:** The University of Oum El Bouaghi consistently monitors and measures the graduation rates of female students compared to their male counterparts.
- **Non-Discrimination Policy:** The university has established a comprehensive non-discrimination policy, both on international and national dimensions. This policy upholds the principles of equality and non-discrimination in education and employment, regardless of gender, and is firmly grounded in the Algerian Constitution and labor laws.

☒ **International Dimension:** The policy aligns with the United Nations Convention, which calls for eradicating all forms of discrimination against women. It actively promotes gender equality and combats all forms of discrimination within the university and its community.

☒ **Maternity and Paternity Policies:** The University of Oum El Bouaghi recognizes the importance of supporting women's rights during pregnancy, childbirth, and family care. The institution's maternity and paternity policies, based on labor laws, provide paid and unpaid leaves for maternity and paternity, thereby ensuring the protection of women's rights in these areas.

☒ **Women's Mentoring and Awareness Programs:** The university actively participates in women's awareness programs, including breast cancer and diabetes awareness. These programs see substantial female student participation, reflecting the university's encouragement of women's engagement in these essential health initiatives.

☒ **Reporting and Protection against Discrimination:** The University of Oum El Bouaghi has a policy in place to protect individuals from educational or professional discrimination. This policy allows individuals to report cases of discrimination through a dedicated complaints platform, ensuring confidentiality and necessary actions to address reported cases.

## 6. Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)

SDG 6, "Clean Water and Sanitation," is a critical global goal set by the United Nations to ensure access to clean and safe water sources and adequate sanitation for everyone by 2030. This report provides an overview of the progress and initiatives related to SDG 6 within the scope of a specific institution or community.

- ☒ **Access to Clean Water:** SDG 6 emphasizes universal access to clean and safe water. This involves improving water supply systems, reducing water scarcity, and ensuring the equitable distribution of water resources. It also calls for increased efforts to protect and restore water-related ecosystems.
- ☒ **Improved Sanitation:** In addition to clean water, the goal highlights the importance of proper sanitation facilities. It calls for the construction and maintenance of safe and accessible sanitation systems to promote better hygiene and reduce health risks.
- ☒ **Water Pollution Control:** SDG 6 aims to reduce water pollution significantly, including minimizing the release of hazardous chemicals and materials into water bodies. It promotes the sustainable management of water resources to protect water quality and aquatic ecosystems.
- ☒ **Global Efforts:** To achieve SDG 6, international collaboration and partnerships are crucial. It involves governments, local authorities, civil society, and the private sector working together to implement water and sanitation projects and policies that benefit communities worldwide.
- ☒ **Challenges:** Despite progress, many challenges remain, including unequal access to clean water and sanitation in various regions, limited infrastructure, and climate change impacts on water resources. Overcoming these challenges requires continued dedication and resources.

SDG 6 plays a vital role in ensuring clean water and sanitation for all, contributing to improved health, well-being, and environmental sustainability. Achieving this goal demands collective action, innovation, and commitment from both global and local stakeholders. It is a fundamental step toward a more equitable and sustainable world.

## 7. Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7)

Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7) strives to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy while increasing the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix. The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria is committed to contributing to SDG 7 through various policies and initiatives promoting affordable and clean energy on its campus and beyond.

### ☒ **University Measures for Affordable and Clean Energy**

The university implements a range of policies and initiatives to ensure affordable and clean energy, including:

- **Energy Efficiency Standards for New Buildings:** The university's policy, created in 2010 and reviewed in 2022, ensures that all new buildings follow energy efficiency standards. These standards include green design, renewable energy utilization, and energy-saving technologies.
- **Upgrading Existing Buildings:** Comprehensive plans are in place to upgrade older buildings for higher energy efficiency. The process involves evaluation, planning, implementation, control, awareness, and continuous improvement, with a focus on lighting upgrades.
- **Carbon Management:** The university has a Net-Zero Emissions commitment and actively manages and reduces carbon dioxide emissions through various initiatives.
- **Energy Efficiency Plan:** A policy aimed at reducing overall energy consumption includes assessing current consumption, setting targets for regulation, enhancing energy efficiency, and utilizing renewable energy sources.
- **Energy Reviews:** Regular energy reviews identify areas with the highest energy waste, ensuring efficient energy use and promoting sustainability.

### ☒ **Energy and the Community**

- **Community Programs:** The university actively participates in local community outreach programs, offering workshops, seminars, and training sessions to raise awareness about energy efficiency and clean energy practices.

- **Advocating 100% Renewable Energy:** The university promotes the use of 100% renewable energy outside its campus through discussions, meetings, and press conferences.
- **Supporting Local Industry:** The university offers direct services to local industries to enhance energy efficiency and clean energy through training programs and international forums.
- **Government Collaboration:** The university collaborates with the government by informing and supporting the development of clean energy technology and energy efficiency policies through research projects related to these topics.
- **Support for Startups:** The university supports startups that promote the low-carbon economy and technology, aligning with Ministerial Decree 1275.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively contributes to the achievement of SDG 7 through various policies, initiatives, and collaborations, promoting affordable and clean energy both within its campus and the broader community.

## **8. Decent Work and Economic Growth Report (SDG 8)**

### **☒ Ensuring a Living Wage**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is committed to ensuring that all staff and faculty members are paid at least a living wage. This commitment aligns with the local living wage standards set by the Algerian government. Extensive salary records and wage statements confirm compliance with this commitment. The guaranteed national minimum wage, established at 20,000 Algerian dinars for a legal working period of 40 hours per week, reflects the dedication to a living wage for employees.

### **☒ Recognizing Unions & Labor Rights**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi fully recognizes the rights of its staff members to establish and join labor unions. It complies with relevant Algerian laws and regulations, particularly Law No. 22-06, which amends and supplements Law No. 90-14. This commitment ensures freedom of association and the exercise of the right to unionize. Regular meetings and communication channels with recognized unions further support these rights.

### **☒ Ending Workplace Discrimination**

The university has established a policy on ending discrimination in the workplace, including discrimination based on religion, sexuality, gender, and age. This policy, created in 2009 and reviewed in 2023, prohibits discrimination and outlines principles to combat discrimination. The university actively upholds these principles to ensure a workplace free of prejudice.

### **Policy Against Forced Labor, Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking, and Child Labor**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi maintains a dedicated policy against forced labor, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labor. This policy aligns with international conventions and Algerian national laws, and it reflects the commitment to prevent and eliminate these practices within the university and its affiliated activities.

### **☒ Equal Rights for Workers in Outsourcing**

The university has a clear policy in place to ensure equal rights of workers when outsourcing activities to third parties. This policy emphasizes non-discrimination, transparency, and accountability in agreements with external entities. The university remains dedicated to safeguarding the rights and well-being of workers employed through external resources.

### **☒ Pay Scale Equity and Gender Pay Gap**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has a comprehensive policy on pay scale equity, which aligns with international labor standards and the Algerian Public Service Law. This policy demonstrates the university's commitment to wage equality and the elimination of gender-based pay gaps. Regular measurement and assessment of wage disparities are conducted, and immediate actions are taken to rectify imbalances.

### **☒ Measuring/Tracking Pay Scale Gender Equity**

The university diligently measures and tracks pay scale gender equity, ensuring a comprehensive and just remuneration system. Regular monitoring and comparison of employee salaries are conducted based on their roles and responsibilities, with a special focus on identifying and addressing any gender disparities. This promotes a work climate that prioritizes gender equality and fair compensation.

### **☒ Process for Employees to Appeal on Employee Rights and/or Pay**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has established an effective mechanism for employees to assert their rights and address salary-related concerns. This process offers equal opportunities for employees to undergo additional training as a step towards advancement to higher positions, ultimately leading to improved salaries. Promotion competitions are conducted without discrimination, allowing employees to progress to higher grades and enhance their compensation.

## **9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9)**

In the context of Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9) focusing on "Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure," the university made significant strides in both 2022 and 2023. These achievements underscore the institution's commitment to advancing industry, promoting innovation, and enhancing infrastructure.

### **☒ University Spin Offs:**

In 2022, the university reported the establishment of three university spin-offs, a figure that remained the same in 2023. This consistency in spin-off creation highlights the university's growing involvement in entrepreneurship and technological advancement, contributing to local and regional economic development.

### **☒ Research Income from Industry and Commerce:**

The university experienced a steady increase in research income from industry and commerce. In 2022, the total research income amounted to 1,082,409,468, and this figure rose to 1,132,405,211 in 2023. This progress reflects the university's active engagement with industry and commerce, focusing on collaborative research efforts that drive innovation and economic growth.

### **☒ Research Income by Subject Area:**

The distribution of research income across various subject areas illustrates the university's diverse academic expertise:

- In the STEM field (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), the university received 582,252,730 in 2022, which increased to 612,251,351 in 2023. This growth highlights the university's contributions to cutting-edge research and technological advancements.
- In the field of Medicine, the university received 89,939,518 in 2022, rising slightly to 91,139,687 in 2023, showcasing the institution's ongoing involvement in medical research.
- In Arts & Humanities / Social Sciences, research income totaled 410,217,220 in 2022 and increased to 429,014,173 in 2023, further emphasizing the university's commitment to fostering innovation across a variety of fields.



#### **☒ Human Resources:**

The number of employees at the university saw growth from 2,000 in 2022 to 2,100 in 2023. Similarly, the number of academic staff increased from 1,100 in 2022 to 1,150 in 2023.

- In the STEM field, the number of academic staff grew from 500 in 2022 to 550 in 2023.
- In Medicine, the number of academic staff remained steady at 40 in both years.
- In Arts & Humanities / Social Sciences, the number of academic staff remained consistent at 560 for both 2022 and 2023.

These achievements reflect the university's dedication to the goals of SDG 9, including promoting sustainable industrialization, fostering innovation, and building resilient infrastructure. The steady increase in research income, especially in the STEM field, highlights the institution's pivotal role in driving technological advancements and regional economic development. The stability in the creation of university spin-offs and the expansion of academic staff further illustrate the university's commitment to excellence across a diverse range of disciplines.

## 10. Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10)

The University of Oum El Bouaghi, located in Algeria, demonstrates a dedicated commitment to promoting Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10) within its educational community. The following key points summarize the initiatives and policies aimed at reducing inequalities:

- ☒ **Equal Access to Education:** The university ensures equal access to education, with a focus on first-generation students. Out of 11,968 students, 1,487 are first-generation students starting a degree.
- ☒ **Proportion of Students and Employees with Disabilities:** The University supports students and employees with disabilities, with 27 students and 20 employees falling into this category.
- ☒ **Non-Discriminatory Policies:** The university maintains non-discriminatory admission policies transparently declared since 2010, with a review in 2022.
- ☒ **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee:** An institutional committee is established to promote equality, diversity, and inclusion within the university.
- ☒ **Tracking Applications & Admissions:** Open and non-discriminatory procedures are maintained for student registration and admission.
- ☒ **Recruitment of Underrepresented Groups:** The University recruits students, employees, and professors from underrepresented or minority groups following standard procedures, ensuring equal opportunities for all individuals.
- ☒ **Anti-Discriminatory and Anti-Harassment Policies:** The university has well-established policies against discrimination and harassment since 2010, reviewed in 2022.

- ☒ **Diversity and Equality Committee:** The University's diversity and equality committee oversees these policies and supports students with special needs through a dedicated cell.
- ☒ **Support Services for People with Disabilities:** Counseling, guidance programs, and support services are offered to all students regardless of their background.
- ☒ **Accessible Facilities:** Accessible facilities, and psychological, and social support are provided for individuals with disabilities.
- ☒ **Access Schemes for People with Disabilities:** The University implements plans to ensure easy access for students and staff with disabilities, including elevators in high buildings.
- ☒ **Support Services:** The University offers mentoring programs, targeted support services, and ensures campus events, facilities, and activities are inclusive and accessible.
- ☒ **Reasonable Accommodation Policy:** The University's comprehensive reasonable accommodation policy addresses the needs of students with disabilities and provides free on-campus accommodation, complimentary meals, and financial grants to support them.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's dedication to reducing inequalities, promoting diversity, and ensuring equal access to education is evident through these policies and initiatives, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all members of its community.

## **11. Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)**

Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) focuses on creating sustainable cities and communities that are inclusive, safe, resilient, and environmentally friendly. The goal aims to enhance the quality of life for urban residents while addressing the challenges associated with rapid urbanization.

Oum El Bouaghi University in Algeria is actively contributing to SDG 11 through various initiatives and practices.

### **☒ Support of Arts and Heritage:**

- The university collaborates with the Provincial Museum to organize exhibitions highlighting Algeria's national revolution.
- A private museum on campus features valuable revolutionary artifacts, preserving the nation's history.
- A memorial monument to the martyr Mohamed Larbi Ben M'hidi stands in the university's square, commemorating the nation's heroes.

### **☒ Public Access to Libraries:**

- The university offers public and external community access to its library, allowing visitors to obtain external user cards.
- The digital repository of Oum El Bouaghi University provides free access to a wide range of academic materials, facilitating knowledge dissemination.

### **☒ Public Access to Museums and Exhibition Spaces:**

- The university's museum is open to the public, promoting cultural heritage and historical awareness.
- Exhibition spaces across the campus are utilized for scientific and cultural events, engaging the local community.

**☒ Free Public Access to Open Spaces and Green Areas:**

- The university provides free access to its open spaces, including central parks and gardens.
- Secure parking facilities are available for visitors, enhancing accessibility to the campus.

**☒ Contribution to Local Arts:**

- The university supports local arts by offering theater arts training workshops and hosting theatrical performances.
- Collaboration with the Regional Theater provides theater courses, showcasing a commitment to cultural expression.

**☒ Preservation of Intangible Cultural Heritage:**

Oum El Bouaghi University collaborates with local directorates to record and preserve intangible cultural heritage, including local folklore and traditions.

**☒ Expenditure on Arts and Cultural Heritage:**

The university allocates a budget of 6000000 Algerian dinars to support various cultural initiatives.

**☒ Sustainable Practices:**

- The university encourages sustainable commuting by prioritizing pedestrian access and restricting vehicle access within the campus.
- Collaboration with local authorities helps address planning and development issues, ensuring access to affordable housing for local residents.
- New university buildings adhere to sustainability standards, featuring energy-efficient features and green spaces.

- Affordable housing for both employees and students is a priority, ensuring access to housing for the university community.

Oum El Bouaghi University's efforts align with SDG 11's principles, promoting sustainable urban development, cultural preservation, and inclusive communities. These initiatives contribute to improving the quality of life for the university community and the broader local population, advancing progress toward SDG 11's objectives.

## **12. Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12)**

SDG 12, "Responsible Consumption and Production," is a crucial aspect of the United Nations' sustainable development agenda. Its primary objective is to promote responsible patterns of consumption and production to address urgent global issues, including environmental degradation, resource depletion, and social inequalities. Achieving this goal is essential for protecting the well-being of current and future generations. The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria actively participates in SDG 12 by implementing policies and initiatives to promote ethical sourcing, responsible waste management, plastic reduction, and the minimization of disposable items.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria has taken concrete steps to align with SDG 12 and contribute to responsible consumption and production. These initiatives include:

### **☒ Ethical Sourcing**

The university has implemented a policy for ethical sourcing of food and supplies. This policy ensures that all procurement is carried out in adherence to national and international laws and regulations. The focus is on sustainability, ethical practices, and minimizing environmental impact.

### **☒ Waste Management**

The institution has a comprehensive waste management policy. This policy addresses waste disposal, handling of hazardous materials, measurement of waste sent to landfills, and recycling. It promotes responsible waste management practices and compliance with local laws and regulations.

### **☒ Plastic Reduction**

The university is committed to reducing plastic usage. This policy includes the adoption of eco-friendly alternatives, raising awareness about the environmental impact of plastic, and implementing practices that reduce plastic consumption.

### **☒ Minimizing Disposable Items**

The university has policies in place to reduce the use of disposable materials. These policies encourage sustainable practices, waste reduction, and compliance with international and national laws related to the disposal of materials.

### **☒ Engagement with Suppliers and Supply Chains**

The institution extends its responsible consumption and production policies to outsourced suppliers and supply chains. It organizes scientific trips, internships, and educational events to enhance awareness and knowledge in waste management.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's dedication to Sustainable Development Goal 12 reflects its commitment to promoting responsible consumption and production. Through the implementation of policies and initiatives, the university actively participates in ethical sourcing, responsible waste management, recycling, reducing plastic usage, and minimizing disposable items. These endeavors are in line with the worldwide objective of establishing sustainable and responsible consumption and production practices, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable future.



### **13. Climate Action (SDG 13)**

Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13) focuses on "Climate Action," with the aim of combatting climate change and its impacts. The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria is actively engaged in addressing this global challenge. Below is a concise summary of the university's efforts regarding SDG 13.

#### **☒ Energy Use:**

The university regularly measures its low-carbon energy usage, accounting for 30% to 40% of its total energy consumption. This is assessed through classical methods and monthly estimates by Sonelgaz Company.

#### **☒ Environmental Education:**

The university offers various educational programs focused on climate change, including bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. degrees in ecology and environment. It actively participates in climate awareness and educational campaigns.

#### **☒ Climate Action Plan:**

The university has developed a comprehensive climate action plan in collaboration with local government and community groups, emphasizing awareness, sustainability, and climate-related research and education.

#### **☒ Cooperative Planning:**

The university cooperates with governmental organizations in planning for climate change-related disasters, addressing both internal displacement and external climate-related issues.

#### **☒ Support to Local Government:**

Through membership in "Energy Cities Algeria," the university supports local and regional government efforts in early warning and climate change risk monitoring, actively engaging in environmental sustainability.

**☒ NGO Collaboration:**

The university collaborates with NGOs in climate adaptation, including agreements with the Directorate of Environment and Conservation des Forets in the Wilaya of Oum El Bouaghi.

**☒ Carbon Neutrality Commitment:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has set an expected date of 2035 to achieve carbon neutrality in accordance with international and national guidelines.

In conclusion, the University of Oum El Bouaghi's commitment to SDG 13 is reflected in its multifaceted approach to addressing climate change, covering energy efficiency, education, climate action planning, cooperative disaster planning, local government support, NGO collaboration, and a strong commitment to carbon neutrality by 2035. These efforts emphasize the university's role in mitigating climate change's impacts and contributing to a sustainable future.

## **14. Life Below Water (SDG 14)**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi, located in Algeria, is actively dedicated to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14: Life Below Water. This report provides a concise summary of the university's strong alignment with SDG 14, highlighting the key actions taken to protect life below water and how they correspond to the specific targets and indicators of this goal.

### **☒ University's Commitment to SDG 14**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi acknowledges the paramount importance of preserving aquatic ecosystems for a sustainable future. It has undertaken several measures to ensure its activities are in harmony with SDG 14, which focuses on protecting oceans, seas, and marine resources.

### **☒ Contribution to Key Dimensions of SDG 14**

The university actively supports various aspects of SDG 14:

#### **- Supporting Aquatic Ecosystems**

Organizing educational field trips with the Directorate of Environment to educate students about local ecosystems and wetland preservation.

#### **- Water-Sensitive Waste Disposal**

The university strictly adheres to national water quality and drainage standards, as evidenced by its compliance with numerous laws and executive decrees.

#### **- Preservation of the Local Ecosystem**

Implementation of an environmental policy to combat marine pollution from land-based activities.

Collaboration with local authorities and industry players to manage land-based pollution.

Promotion of research and innovation in marine pollution prevention.

- **Cooperation with the Local Community**

Establishment of agreements with the Directorate of Agricultural Interests and the Directorate of Environment to conserve shared aquatic ecosystems.

☒ **Conclusion**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong commitment to the principles of SDG 14: Life Below Water. Through educational initiatives, compliance with water quality standards, and active collaboration with the local community, the university plays a crucial role in safeguarding aquatic ecosystems. Its approach aligns closely with the goals and indicators of SDG 14, reflecting its dedication to preserving marine life and ensuring the well-being of our planet.

## **15. Life on Land (SDG 15)**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi, located in Algeria, is dedicated to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land). This SDG focuses on preserving terrestrial ecosystems, promoting sustainable land use, managing forests and mountains, and preventing biodiversity loss.

The university has established a comprehensive policy, which was reviewed in 2023, to ensure the conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems associated with the institution, particularly forests, mountains, and drylands. This policy is aligned with national and international standards for environmental protection and sustainable development. It involves identifying sensitive areas, monitoring ecosystem health, and promoting biodiversity conservation.

Furthermore, the university has implemented a policy to identify, monitor, and protect species listed on the IUCN Red List, with a particular focus on the national conservation list of species in areas affected by its operation. This policy supports research and training projects aimed at safeguarding endangered species.

The university actively engages with the local and national community through partnerships with governmental entities, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Directorate of the Environment, to preserve shared land ecosystems.

In terms of waste management, the university adheres to national water quality standards and guidelines for water discharges. It complies with national laws, executive decrees, and ministerial resolutions to uphold water quality and protect ecosystems, wildlife, and human health.

Additionally, the university has policies in place for reducing plastic waste on campus, aiming to promote sustainability and minimize environmental and health impacts. These policies encourage the use of eco-friendly alternatives and emphasize the importance of reducing plastic consumption and enhancing recycling.

The university has robust waste disposal policies covering hazardous materials. These policies, in line with national regulations, ensure the proper handling and disposal of waste, including hazardous materials, to protect the environment and public health.

In summary, the University of Oum El Bouaghi is actively committed to supporting SDG 15 by preserving terrestrial ecosystems, conserving biodiversity, promoting sustainable land use, reducing plastic waste, and implementing sound waste management practices. The institution plays a significant role in achieving a sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

## **16. Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16)**

In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 16, the University of Oum El Bouaghi has demonstrated a strong commitment to promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions. The university's efforts span various facets, contributing to the broader aim of creating a just and equitable society.

### **☒ University Governance Measures**

The university conducts regular elections for top leadership and academic committees, ensuring the representation of academics, staff, and students in its highest governing bodies. This democratic approach fosters transparency and inclusivity.

### **☒ Recognition of Independent Students' Union**

The university recognizes and collaborates with legally recognized student organizations, valuing their role in the university community and engaging in regular consultative meetings with them.

### **☒ Engagement with Local Stakeholders**

The university has established written policies and procedures to identify and engage local stakeholders, fostering collaboration, disclosure, transparency, and communication with various community groups and institutions.

### **☒ Participation in University Decision-Making**

The university provides local stakeholders, including residents, local government, and civil society representatives, with a meaningful mechanism for participating in university decision-making. Stakeholders actively participate in university board meetings and various scientific, artistic, and cultural events.

### **☒ Principles and Commitments Against Organized Crime, Corruption, and Bribery**

The university upholds a code of ethics and morality, complemented by effective laws and regulations, to combat organized crime, corruption, and bribery within its ranks.

### **☒ Support for Academic Freedom**

The university strongly supports academic freedom, ensuring that its members have the freedom to choose areas of research and express themselves in teaching and research. This policy is evident in the diverse range of national and international conferences organized.

### **☒ Publication of University Financial Data**

The university annually publishes its financial data, offering transparency and internal and external control over its financial operations. This includes financial reports and literary reports shared with the university community and government representatives.

### **☒ Expert Advice and Policy-Focused Research**

The university actively provides expert advice to local, regional, and national government bodies, actively participating in policy-focused research to support evidence-based decision-making.

### **☒ Outreach and Capacity-Building**

The university engages in outreach, general education, upskilling, and capacity-building initiatives for policy- and law-makers on relevant topics, addressing issues such as economics, law, technology, migration, displacement, and climate change.



### **☒ Neutral Platform for Dialogue**

The university offers a neutral platform for different political stakeholders to come together and engage in open discussions about challenges, fostering dialogue and exchange of opinions.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's comprehensive approach to SDG 16 reflects its dedication to peace, justice, and strong institutions. By championing good governance, academic freedom, and active involvement in policy development, the university is actively contributing to creating a just and equitable society and a more peaceful, just, and resilient community.

## 17. Partnership for the Goals (SDG 17)

Sustainable Development Goal 17, "Partnership for the Goals," emphasizes the importance of international cooperation, collaboration, and partnerships to achieve the other SDGs. This report focuses on how the University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria actively engages in partnerships and initiatives to promote sustainable development and contribute to the global SDG agenda.

### **Partnership for the Goals:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi plays a pivotal role in advancing the SDGs, as reflected in its annual reports on its commitment to the 17 dimensions of sustainable development. These reports encompass both an overall commitment and detailed commitment to each of the 17 SDGs. The university's holistic approach to sustainability is evidenced by its continuous efforts towards achieving the SDGs, including:

- ☒ **Promoting Local and Regional Cooperation:** The university actively participates in national scientific research programs and organizes national and international conferences on sustainable development.
- ☒ **Participating in Cross-Sectoral Dialogues:** The university engages in cross-sectoral dialogues, contributing to sustainable economic development and participating in televised and radio discussions.
- ☒ **International Cooperation for SDG Data:** The university participates in international cooperation projects to collect and measure SDG data, ensuring accurate reporting on progress.
- ☒ **Reviewing Comparative Curricula:** The university establishes international partnerships, facilitating curriculum reviews and the exchange of best practices in addressing the SDGs.

- ☒ **Cooperating with NGOs:** The university signs agreements with NGOs to address sustainable development issues, collaborating with various stakeholders.
- ☒ **Education for the Goals:** The university integrates sustainable development principles into various specializations' curricula.
- ☒ **Outreach Educational Activities:** The university conducts various awareness-raising and educational activities accessible to alumni, local residents, and displaced people on various sustainable development topics.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's commitment to SDG 17, "Partnership for the Goals," is evident through its extensive engagement in national and international partnerships, cross-sectoral dialogues, data collection, curriculum reviews, cooperation with NGOs, and the promotion of purposeful education. These efforts contribute significantly to the university's role in advancing sustainable development locally and globally.