



University of Oum
El Bouaghi

Sustainable Development Report

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



1. No Poverty (SDG 1)

Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a universal framework addressing the world's most pressing challenges. Among them, **SDG 1: No Poverty** aims to eradicate poverty in all its forms everywhere. The **University of Oum El Bouaghi**, Algeria, has demonstrated a strong commitment to advancing SDG 1 through inclusive education, financial aid, entrepreneurship support, and community engagement. The university ensures that students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have equal access to higher education, directly contributing to both national and global poverty reduction efforts. Its policies, programs, and initiatives embody principles of **equity, inclusion, and social justice**.

1. Anti-Poverty Framework of the University

As a public institution, the University of Oum El Bouaghi adheres to Algeria's constitutional and legislative framework guaranteeing free education for all citizens. This principle is enshrined in **Article 53 of the Algerian Constitution** and reaffirmed through **Law No. 84-05, Law No. 99-05, Law No. 2000-04, and Law No. 08-06**. The university's mission emphasizes that education is a **right, not a privilege**, ensuring that no student is excluded due to financial hardship. This framework aligns with Algeria's national policy of social inclusion and human development.

2. Efforts for Student Inclusivity

The university prioritizes **equal access to education** for all students, regardless of socioeconomic background. Instead of setting numerical targets for low-income groups, it focuses on **universal inclusion**, ensuring every student has an equal opportunity to learn and succeed. This approach supports the university's vision of fostering an inclusive academic environment where financial constraints never limit educational potential.

3. Direct Support and Bursaries

To mitigate financial barriers, the university provides **bursaries** to students upon obtaining their **Baccalaureate**, helping cover living and study expenses. These bursaries remain valid even if a student repeats a year, with suspension only after two consecutive academic failures — a policy reflecting compassion and flexibility. Beyond bursaries, the university promotes **solidarity initiatives** where students and staff participate in associations that assist low-income learners, reinforcing a culture of **mutual aid and social responsibility**.

4. Comprehensive Support Services for Low-Income Students

The University of Oum El Bouaghi provides a wide range of **free social services** that directly support students from low-income families, including:

- **Free meals** served daily in university canteens, ensuring access to healthy and balanced nutrition.
- **Free accommodation** in several residence halls for both male and female students.
- **Free transportation** through urban and semi-urban bus services connecting the university with surrounding communities.

These measures remove socio-economic barriers that may hinder student retention and academic achievement.

5. Support for International Students from Low-Income Countries

The university extends its inclusivity beyond national borders by offering **full support** to international students from **low and lower-middle-income countries** such as Western Sahara, Niger, Mali, Libya, and Palestine. These students receive **free tuition, housing, meals, transportation, and healthcare**, illustrating the university's global solidarity and its contribution to **international educational equity**.

6. Promoting Entrepreneurship and Local Development

Recognizing entrepreneurship as a key tool for poverty reduction, the university supports local and student-led **start-ups** through its **Business Incubator**, **Entrepreneurship Support Center**, and **Scientific Complex for Development and Innovation**.

These structures provide training in:

- Business creation and management,
- Idea generation and design thinking,
- Financial planning and business modeling.

The university also grants **free access to facilities and laboratories**, enabling young entrepreneurs to transform innovative ideas into viable, sustainable enterprises that strengthen the local economy.

7. Financial and Technical Support for Start-Ups

The **Business Incubator** assists students and entrepreneurs in securing funding from public institutions and local authorities. In addition to guidance, the university provides **workspace and technical resources** to ensure business continuity and sustainability.

Such efforts contribute directly to **poverty reduction, local job creation, and economic empowerment**, aligning with both **SDG 1** and **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)**.

8. Training for Access to Basic Services

The university organizes **training programs** and **community initiatives** aimed at improving access to essential services such as:

- Health, nutrition, and child mortality prevention,
- Clean water, sanitation, electricity, and housing,
- Sustainable cooking fuels and household assets.

These activities, coordinated by the **Directorate of University Services** and the **Directorate of Subsidiary Activities**, contribute to **raising living standards and enhancing local well-being**.

9. Policy-Making Engagement

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively participates in **policy dialogue** at the local, regional, national, and international levels. It regularly hosts and contributes to **conferences, workshops, and consultations** on poverty eradication and sustainable development.

Furthermore, university professors act as **experts and advisors** in governmental policymaking processes, contributing to the design and evaluation of strategies that address poverty and promote inclusive growth.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi stands as a **beacon of hope** in the pursuit of SDG 1: *No Poverty*. Through inclusive education, direct student support, global cooperation, entrepreneurship promotion, and community engagement, the university has developed a **comprehensive and sustainable framework** to fight poverty.

By ensuring that *no one is left behind*, the university reinforces its commitment to **social equity, human dignity, and sustainable development**, contributing meaningfully to both national and global progress.

2. Zero Hunger (SDG 02)

The The University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong commitment to **Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger)** through a range of initiatives aimed at combating food insecurity, reducing waste, promoting sustainable agriculture, and supporting local communities.

✓ Reducing Food Waste

The university implements effective measures such as precise meal planning, portion management, and food recycling programs to minimize waste and promote more sustainable food consumption practices.

✓ Addressing Student Hunger

A holistic strategy is adopted to alleviate student hunger. This includes establishing student food clubs, offering flexible meal schedules, and ensuring access to affordable and nutritious meals for both students and staff.

✓ Sustainability in Agricultural Education

With **553 graduates** in the fields of agriculture and aquaculture, the university integrates sustainability principles into its curricula, ensuring that graduates are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to advance environmentally responsible agricultural practices.

✓ Empowering Local Farmers and Producers

The university actively collaborates with local farmers and food producers, offering them training, technical assistance, and access to sustainable agricultural technologies. It also organizes events that promote knowledge exchange and encourages the procurement of goods from local and eco-friendly sources.

Through these comprehensive actions, the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** reinforces its dedication to **SDG 2**, playing a crucial role in eliminating hunger, promoting sustainable agricultural development, and enhancing community well-being – thereby contributing to the realization of a world with *Zero Hunger*.

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

1. Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3) aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. In alignment with this objective, the University of Oum El Bouaghi has implemented several policies and initiatives that promote health awareness, disease prevention, and a safe academic environment for its students and staff.

2. Health Education and Training

In 2024, the University of Oum El Bouaghi recorded the graduation of **538 students in health-related disciplines**, including biology, biotechnology, and medical sciences. These programs are designed to strengthen the national health system by providing qualified professionals who contribute to medical research and healthcare delivery.

3. Medical and Social Services

The university's **Medical and Social Center** plays a vital role in maintaining the physical and psychological health of the academic community. The center provides **medical consultations, vaccinations, and psychological counseling** for students and staff. Over **20,000 health cards** have been distributed, granting access to on-campus medical services and affiliated healthcare facilities.

4. Health Promotion and Awareness Campaigns

The university regularly organizes **awareness campaigns** focusing on topics such as mental health, nutrition, and disease prevention. These initiatives aim to encourage healthy habits and improve overall well-being. In addition, **blood donation drives, anti-smoking campaigns, and fitness activities** are held annually to reinforce the importance of preventive health practices.

5. Smoke-Free and Safe Campus Policy

To ensure a healthy learning environment, the University of Oum El Bouaghi enforces a **strict smoke-free policy** across all university facilities. The institution also promotes

physical activity through sports events and maintains a safe, clean, and inclusive campus that fosters both physical and mental well-being.

6. Community Engagement

The university encourages students to participate in community health initiatives through **volunteering programs** and **collaboration with local hospitals and health centers**. These partnerships not only enhance experiential learning but also strengthen the university's contribution to regional health development.

7. Conclusion

Through its educational programs, health services, and community initiatives, the University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong commitment to **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being**. The university's holistic approach reflects its mission to cultivate a healthy, safe, and supportive environment that empowers individuals and contributes to the achievement of sustainable development at both the local and national levels.

4. Quality education (SDG 4)

1. Introduction

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is dedicated to delivering **high-quality, inclusive, and equitable education** in alignment with **Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) – Quality Education**. The university strives to ensure that all individuals, regardless of background, have equal access to learning opportunities, while promoting lifelong learning, professional development, and community engagement.

2. Quality of Education

2.1 Percentage of Graduates with a Teaching Qualification

The University of Oum El Bouaghi maintains a strong commitment to educational excellence through its teacher training programs.

- **Total number of graduates (2024):** 5,103
- **Graduates holding a degree entitling them to teach at primary schools:** 1,515

These graduates contribute directly to strengthening Algeria's educational system and advancing the nation's learning outcomes.

2.2 Lifelong Learning Measures

The university integrates lifelong learning principles across its teaching and research activities. It equips students with critical knowledge, professional skills, and civic values, empowering them to contribute meaningfully to society. A core aspect of this mission is the **free and equitable access to educational resources**, ensuring that knowledge remains accessible to all, regardless of **nationality, ethnicity, gender, religion, or social background**.

3. Open Access to Educational Resources

3.1 Moodle Platform

The University of Oum El Bouaghi utilizes the **Moodle platform**, providing open, flexible, and cost-free online lectures to enhance student learning. This platform facilitates both synchronous and asynchronous education, supporting distance learners and promoting digital inclusivity.

3.2 Library Resources

The university's library serves as an essential academic hub, offering access to:

- **Peer-reviewed journals**
- **Academic publications**
- **Doctoral theses**
- **Conference proceedings**
- **Scientific study day materials**

These resources are freely available to both students and the wider public, reflecting the university's open-access policy and its commitment to knowledge dissemination.

4. Public Lectures and Community Educational Events

4.1 National Conferences and Forums

The university hosts **national conferences and academic forums** that are open to the public, providing platforms for discussion, innovation, and research dissemination. These events strengthen ties between academia and the community, fostering intellectual and cultural exchange.

4.2 International Conferences and Forums

The university also organizes **international conferences**, enhancing global collaboration and intercultural dialogue. These events allow scholars, students, and practitioners from various countries to share experiences and best practices in education and research.

5. Training Courses for Professional Development

5.1 Open Training Courses

Through its **Entrepreneurship Development Center**, the university organized the **National Awareness Day for the Self-Employed Entrepreneur** on May 7, 2024. This event, open to students and entrepreneurs, offered guidance and mentorship from national experts, encouraging innovation and self-employment.

5.2 Advanced-Level Courses

The university provides **advanced-level training** for employees across Oum El Bouaghi Province, aimed at enhancing professional skills and supporting continuous learning within the workforce.

5.3 Training for Public Administrations

Complementary and preparatory training sessions are also offered to **public administration employees**, enabling them to develop managerial, technical, and analytical competencies essential for public service excellence.

6. Educational Outreach Activities

6.1 Open Doors at the University

On the **63rd Anniversary of National Migration Day (1961–2024)**, the Sub-Directorate of Activities, in collaboration with the Institute of Science and Techniques of Physical and Sports Activities (I.STAPS), organized open-door events to promote university sports and strengthen community-university relations.

6.2 YouTube Educational Channels

To promote accessible and flexible learning, the university maintains **official YouTube channels** that host lectures, tutorials, and academic presentations, reaching a broader audience beyond the campus.

7. University Policy on Equal Access

7.1 Legal Framework Supporting Equal Access

The university's equality policy aligns with national and international legal instruments, including:

- **Article 37 of the Algerian Constitution (2020):** Ensuring equality before the law and prohibiting all forms of discrimination.
- **Article 68:** Guaranteeing equal access to education, schooling, and vocational training.
- **UN Convention against Discrimination in Education:** Ratified by Algeria to uphold fairness and inclusion in education.

7.2 Policy Implementation

The university enforces equality through:

- A **Charter of Ethics and Morality**, ensuring mutual respect and zero tolerance for discrimination or harassment.

- A **Students' Rights and Responsibilities Charter**, guaranteeing equal access to academic resources, fair evaluation, and safe learning environments.

7.3 Policy Timeline

- **Created:** 2010 – Established foundational principles of fairness and non-discrimination.
- **Reviewed:** 2024 – Updated to align with sustainability, ethical governance, and inclusivity standards.

8. Proportion of First-Generation Students

The university's inclusivity policy extends to **first-generation students**, ensuring that higher education remains accessible to those from non-academic family backgrounds.

- **Total students (2024):** 11,286
- **Students starting a degree:** 3,315
- **First-generation students:** 1,712

This highlights the university's proactive role in supporting educational mobility and social inclusion.

9. Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi stands as a model of **quality education, open access, and equal opportunity**. Through its teaching excellence, open resources, professional development programs, and inclusive policies, the university exemplifies its contribution to **Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4)**. By nurturing first-generation learners, promoting lifelong learning, and extending education beyond campus boundaries, the university strengthens its role as a **beacon of knowledge and equity** in Algeria's higher education landscape.

5. Gender Equality (SDG 5)

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively supports this goal by promoting gender equality and empowering women across its academic and administrative community.

‣ **Participation at the University:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is committed to maintaining an inclusive environment where male and female students enjoy equal access to education and are encouraged to pursue studies at all academic levels and in all disciplines.

- **Enrollment and Acceptance:** The university promotes the admission of female students in bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs, ensuring balanced participation across all fields.
- **Scholarships:** To reduce financial barriers, the university offers scholarships to female students on an equal basis with male students, guaranteeing fairness in educational opportunities.
- **Promoting Gender Equality:** Regular awareness campaigns are conducted to emphasize the importance of gender equality in higher education and to foster a culture of respect and inclusion.
- **Cultural and Scientific Activities:** The university encourages women's active participation in cultural, scientific, and academic events, helping them develop leadership skills and broaden their professional experience.
- **Academic Support:** Specialized academic guidance and support programs assist female students in achieving academic success and personal development.
- **Data Monitoring and Reporting:** Gender-based data regarding female enrollment, progress, and achievement are systematically collected, analyzed, and submitted to the regional conference and the Ministry of Higher Education to ensure transparency and informed decision-making.
- **Community Collaboration:** The university works closely with the local community to promote the value of women's education, encouraging families and communities to support women in pursuing higher education.

‣ **Women's Progress Measures:**

- **Tracking Graduation Rates:** The University of Oum El Bouaghi regularly evaluates graduation rates among female students compared to their male counterparts to monitor progress and promote equity in academic achievement.
- **Non-Discrimination Policy:** A comprehensive non-discrimination framework ensures equality in both education and employment. This policy, consistent with national and international standards, is rooted in the Algerian

Constitution and labor laws, prohibiting any form of gender-based bias or inequality.

‣ **International Dimension:**

The university's gender equality policy is aligned with the **United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**, reinforcing its dedication to promoting women's rights and preventing all forms of gender discrimination within the university and the surrounding community.

‣ **Maternity and Paternity Policies:**

Recognizing the significance of family care and gender balance, the university provides maternity and paternity leave policies based on national labor regulations. These ensure paid and unpaid leave options, protecting women's rights during pregnancy and childbirth while promoting shared parental responsibilities.

‣ **Women's Mentoring and Awareness Programs:**

The University of Oum El Bouaghi organizes and participates in awareness campaigns on women's health and empowerment, including breast cancer and diabetes prevention programs. Female students are strongly involved in these initiatives, reflecting the institution's encouragement of women's leadership and social engagement.

‣ **Reporting and Protection against Discrimination:**

The university upholds a clear policy to prevent and address any form of educational or professional discrimination. A dedicated confidential platform enables students and staff to report incidents, ensuring that appropriate measures are taken to protect their rights and uphold fairness and equality.

6. Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, *Clean Water and Sanitation*, is one of the key objectives established by the United Nations to guarantee universal access to safe water and adequate sanitation by 2030. This goal emphasizes the importance of sustainable water management as a foundation for human health and environmental preservation.

Access to Clean Water

SDG 6 focuses on ensuring that all individuals have access to safe and affordable drinking water. It calls for the improvement of water supply systems, the reduction of water scarcity, and the fair distribution of water resources. Additionally, it stresses the need to protect and restore ecosystems related to water, such as rivers, wetlands, and lakes.

Enhanced Sanitation Services

Beyond access to clean water, SDG 6 underscores the necessity of improved sanitation infrastructure. It promotes the development and maintenance of safe, hygienic, and accessible sanitation facilities, which are essential to prevent diseases and enhance public health.

Reducing Water Pollution

A major objective of this goal is to minimize water pollution by controlling the discharge of hazardous substances into water sources. SDG 6 encourages the sustainable management of water resources to safeguard water quality and ensure the health of aquatic ecosystems.

Global Partnerships and Collaboration

Achieving SDG 6 requires collective global action. Governments, local authorities, civil society organizations, and the private sector must collaborate to design and implement effective water and sanitation projects that benefit all communities.

Challenges and Future Directions

Despite notable progress, challenges persist—particularly in regions with unequal access to water and sanitation infrastructure. Climate change and limited resources further exacerbate these issues. Addressing them demands continuous effort, innovation, and investment in sustainable solutions.

Overall, SDG 6 is fundamental to promoting human health, environmental resilience, and social equity. Ensuring access to clean water and sanitation for all is a cornerstone of sustainable development and global well-being.

7. Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7)

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 aims to guarantee universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy while increasing the share of renewable sources in the global energy mix. The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria is firmly committed to advancing this goal through targeted policies and initiatives that promote clean and affordable energy both on campus and within the wider community.

University Initiatives for Affordable and Clean Energy

The university has adopted several measures to enhance energy sustainability and efficiency, including:

Energy Efficiency Standards for New Constructions: Since 2010, with an update in 2024, all new university buildings are required to comply with energy efficiency standards. These standards emphasize green architecture, renewable energy integration, and energy-saving technologies.

Upgrading Existing Facilities: The university follows a structured plan to improve the energy performance of older buildings through assessment, planning, and continuous improvement, with a special focus on lighting modernization.

Carbon Management: Committed to achieving net-zero emissions, the university implements initiatives to monitor, manage, and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Energy Efficiency Policy: A comprehensive policy is in place to minimize overall energy consumption by assessing current use, setting reduction targets, and increasing the use of renewable energy.

Regular Energy Audits: Periodic energy reviews help identify high-consumption areas and ensure effective energy use across all facilities.

Energy and Community Engagement

Beyond its campus, the university actively contributes to community awareness and collaboration in the field of sustainable energy:

Community Awareness Programs: Through workshops, seminars, and training sessions, the university educates the public about energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Promotion of Renewable Energy: The institution advocates for a full transition to renewable energy sources by engaging in conferences, media discussions, and community meetings.

Support for Local Industries: The university assists local industries in adopting clean energy practices through training initiatives and participation in international forums.

Government Partnerships: It collaborates with government bodies by contributing research and expertise to clean energy and energy efficiency policies.

Encouragement of Startups: Aligned with Ministerial Decree 1275, the university supports startups focused on low-carbon technologies and sustainable innovation.

Through these initiatives, the University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong commitment to achieving SDG 7 by fostering energy efficiency, renewable energy adoption, and community collaboration for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

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

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8), titled “*Decent Work and Economic Growth*,” represents a key component of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It emphasizes the promotion of sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. The University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong institutional commitment to advancing this goal through policies and practices that ensure fair employment, uphold labor rights, promote gender equity, and foster a safe, inclusive, and respectful work environment.

Ensuring a Living Wage

The University of Oum El Bouaghi ensures that all staff and faculty members receive at least a living wage in full compliance with Algerian national standards. The guaranteed national minimum wage (SNMG)—set at **20,000 Algerian dinars per month** for a legal working period of **40 hours per week**—is strictly observed. The university maintains detailed salary records confirming adherence to this standard, thereby demonstrating its ongoing commitment to fair remuneration, financial stability, and decent living conditions for all employees.

Recognizing Unions and Labor Rights

The University of Oum El Bouaghi fully recognizes the rights of its employees to establish and join labor unions, in accordance with **Law No. 22-06**, which amends and supplements **Law No. 90-14** on the exercise of the right to unionize. Freedom of association and collective representation are guaranteed, and regular meetings are organized between university management and union representatives. These interactions foster a climate of dialogue, collaboration, and transparency in all matters concerning staff welfare and institutional governance.

Ending Workplace Discrimination

Since **2009**, the university has enforced a comprehensive policy to eliminate all forms of discrimination in the workplace. This policy, updated in **2023**, prohibits discrimination based on religion, gender, age, or sexual orientation. The **University Charter** reinforces the principles of equality, inclusion, and respect for human dignity, prohibiting any form of hate speech or prejudice. Violations of this policy are subject to disciplinary action, ensuring a work environment founded on mutual respect and equality.

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

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has adopted a strict policy prohibiting **forced labor, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labor**, in line with both international conventions and national legislation. This policy includes awareness campaigns, staff training sessions, compliance mechanisms, and due diligence procedures to prevent and eliminate such practices. It underscores the university's unwavering commitment to human rights and ethical labor standards within all institutional activities and partnerships.

Equal Rights for Outsourced Workers

The university ensures that **outsourced and contracted workers** enjoy equal rights and fair treatment. This policy emphasizes non-discrimination, transparency, and accountability in all agreements with third-party service providers. Furthermore, the university encourages the participation of external service staff—such as maintenance and security personnel—in internal training sessions and awareness activities, reinforcing social inclusion and institutional belonging across all workforce categories.

Pay Scale Equity and Gender Pay Gap

The University of Oum El Bouaghi maintains a **Pay Scale Equity Policy** consistent with international labor standards and the Algerian **Public Service Law**. This policy guarantees equal pay for equal work and seeks to eliminate any gender-based wage

disparities.

Regular audits and data reviews are carried out to identify potential imbalances. Where disparities are found, corrective actions are promptly implemented to ensure fairness and transparency in compensation.

Measuring and Tracking Gender Pay Equity

A systematic process is in place to **monitor and assess gender pay equity**. Salaries are periodically reviewed and compared across similar job roles and levels of responsibility.

This approach enables early detection of wage discrepancies and supports data-driven decision-making to promote equality. The continuous evaluation process fosters a culture of accountability, fairness, and gender equity in all employment matters.

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

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has established a **transparent appeal mechanism** that allows employees to raise concerns related to rights, pay, or promotion. This system ensures fairness and equal opportunity for all staff members. Employees may pursue additional training and participate in promotion competitions, which are conducted equitably and without discrimination. This process contributes to professional development, career advancement, and salary improvement for deserving employees.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi reaffirms its full commitment to **Sustainable Development Goal 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth**. Through well-defined policies on living wages, labor rights, non-discrimination, gender equality, and fair treatment of all workers—including outsourced staff—the university upholds international and national labor standards. These sustained efforts not only foster a fair and inclusive workplace but also strengthen the institution's role in promoting sustainable employment and inclusive economic growth, in alignment with the **United Nations' 2030 Agenda**.

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

In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9), which emphasizes *Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure*, the University of Oum El Bouaghi continues to demonstrate significant progress. The achievements recorded in **2024** reaffirm the university's dedication to promoting sustainable industrial growth, fostering innovation, and strengthening infrastructure to support economic and technological advancement.

University Spin-Offs

In **2024**, the University of Oum El Bouaghi reported the establishment of **five (05) university spin-offs**, marking a notable increase compared to previous years (three spin-offs in both 2022 and 2023). This rise reflects the institution's sustained commitment to nurturing innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology transfer. The growth of spin-offs also underscores the university's expanding role in supporting start-ups derived from academic research, contributing to regional and national economic development.

Research Income from Industry and Commerce

The university's collaboration with industry and commerce reached new heights in **2024**, generating a total research income of **1,743,000,000 DZD**. This substantial increase from **1,132,405,211 DZD in 2023** illustrates the university's growing engagement with the private sector and its effectiveness in translating academic research into practical, market-oriented solutions. These partnerships play a vital role in driving innovation and reinforcing the university's contribution to Algeria's knowledge-based economy.

Research Income by Subject Area

The diversification of research income across various academic disciplines highlights the university's multidisciplinary approach to innovation and industrial collaboration:

- **STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics):** 900,000,000 DZD
- **Medicine:** 219,786,000 DZD
- **Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences:** 623,214,000 DZD

While STEM remains the primary contributor to industrial research partnerships, the growing participation of the humanities and social sciences reflects the university's comprehensive vision of innovation, which integrates technological, social, and cultural dimensions.

Human Resources

The University of Oum El Bouaghi maintained a total workforce of **2,000 employees** in **2024**, confirming its position as a key employer in the region. Out of this total, **1,072** were **academic staff members** actively engaged in research, teaching, and innovation activities.

Academic Staff by Subject Area:

- **STEM disciplines:** 550
- **Medicine:** 25
- **Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences:** 497

This distribution underscores the university's balanced academic structure and its multidisciplinary capacity to contribute to diverse fields of study and innovation.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's achievements in **2024** strongly align with the objectives of **SDG 9**, highlighting its ongoing efforts to strengthen the link between academia, industry, and innovation. The increase in spin-offs, higher research income, and stable human resource base demonstrate a clear trajectory toward sustainable industrialization and technological advancement. Through these initiatives, the university continues to play a pivotal role in fostering an innovation-driven ecosystem that supports regional and national development.

10. Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10)

Introduction

The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria demonstrates a strong commitment to implementing the principles of **Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities**. This report highlights the university's diverse initiatives, programs, and policies that foster **equality, inclusion, and diversity** across its academic and administrative community. Through these actions, the university aims to ensure that all students and staff members have equitable opportunities to learn, work, and succeed.

1. Equal Access to Education

The University of Oum El Bouaghi ensures **equal access to education** for all students, regardless of their background, gender, or socioeconomic status.

- **First-Generation Students:** The university actively encourages and supports first-generation students in pursuing higher education. Out of a total of **11,286 students**, **1,712** are first-generation students currently enrolled, representing a significant proportion of the student population. This commitment reflects the university's mission to expand access to higher education and promote social mobility.

2. Proportion of Students and Employees with Disabilities

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is deeply committed to **supporting individuals with disabilities** among both students and staff.

- **Students with Disabilities:** 40

- **Employees with Disabilities:** 20

These individuals receive continuous academic, psychological, and social support to ensure their successful integration and participation in university life.

3. Non-Discriminatory Admission Policies

The university applies **transparent and non-discriminatory admission policies**, guaranteeing fairness and equal opportunity for all applicants. Admission is merit-based and open to everyone, without distinction based on gender, race, disability, or financial background. These policies are clearly declared and periodically reviewed to maintain transparency and inclusiveness.

4. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

To institutionalize its commitment to equality, the university has established a **Committee for Diversity and Equality**. This committee plays a central role in:

- Implementing and monitoring equality and inclusion policies;
- Organizing awareness and training sessions;
- Ensuring a **respectful and inclusive campus environment** for all community members.

5. Tracking Applications and Admissions of Underrepresented Groups

The University of Oum El Bouaghi maintains **open and transparent procedures** for student applications and admissions. The institution systematically tracks enrollment data to ensure fair representation of all groups, including **first-generation**,

international, and **students with disabilities**, while ensuring equal treatment throughout the admission process.

6. Recruitment of Underrepresented Groups

The recruitment of students, staff, and professors follows regular, standardized procedures that guarantee **equal opportunities for all candidates**. There is no discrimination based on gender, race, socioeconomic status, or disability in recruitment, promotion, or professional development opportunities.

7. Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policies

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has adopted a **comprehensive Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy**, initially established in **2010** and reviewed in **2024**.

This policy ensures a **safe and respectful campus** with **zero tolerance** for any form of discrimination or harassment. It also includes **reporting mechanisms**, **confidential support services**, and **awareness campaigns** to prevent misconduct and protect victims.

8. Diversity and Equality Structures

The university has established two key institutional structures:

- The **Diversity and Equality Committee**, responsible for policy oversight and implementation.
- The **Mediation and Social Assistance Cell**, which provides counseling, mediation, and guidance to students and staff, particularly those with special needs.

These structures work collaboratively to ensure inclusivity and social well-being across the university.

9. Support Services for People with Disabilities

The university provides **comprehensive support services** for students and staff with disabilities, including:

- **Psychological, social, and medical assistance** through the Social Medical Center;
- **Braille reading and printing services** at the Central Library for visually impaired students;
- **Academic counseling and orientation programs** that facilitate full integration into university life.

10. Accessible Facilities

The University of Oum El Bouaghi ensures that all its buildings and learning spaces are **accessible** to individuals with disabilities. Elevators are installed in high buildings, and physical barriers have been removed to guarantee **mobility and independence** for all students and employees. The university continuously upgrades its infrastructure to promote accessibility and inclusiveness.

11. Access Schemes for People with Disabilities

The university implements **well-designed access schemes** to ensure that students, staff, and professors with disabilities can easily reach and use all facilities. These measures enable their **full participation** in academic, cultural, and extracurricular activities.

12. Support and Mentoring Programs

The University of Oum El Bouaghi offers various **mentoring, tutoring, and personal guidance programs** for students with disabilities and underrepresented backgrounds. These initiatives aim to strengthen students' academic performance, confidence, and social integration within the university environment.

13. Reasonable Accommodation Policy

The university has adopted a **comprehensive Reasonable Accommodation Policy** that ensures fair treatment and accessibility for students with disabilities. This policy provides:

- **Free on-campus accommodation**
 - **Complimentary meals**
 - **24-hour healthcare services** through the Social Medical Center
 - **Access to all cultural, sports, and scientific activities** organized on campus
- These services reflect the university's dedication to ensuring equitable learning conditions for all.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi reaffirms its unwavering commitment to **reducing inequalities and promoting inclusion, diversity, and equal opportunity** for all members of its community. Through its robust institutional policies, inclusive educational programs, and accessible infrastructure, the university strives to create a learning environment where every student and staff member can **thrive academically, professionally, and personally**.

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)

Introduction

In alignment with **Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11)** – which aims to make cities and communities **inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable** – the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** integrates cultural preservation, community engagement, and environmental sustainability into its policies and initiatives. The university plays an active role in improving the quality of life for both its academic community and local residents, contributing to sustainable urban development in the province of Oum El Bouaghi.

1. Support of Arts and Heritage

The University of Oum El Bouaghi is strongly committed to **preserving Algeria's cultural and historical heritage** while promoting artistic creativity among students and the community.

- **Cultural Exhibitions:** In cooperation with the **Provincial Museum**, the university organizes exhibitions showcasing historical photos and documents related to the **Algerian national liberation revolution**.
- **University Museum:** The university maintains a **private museum** housing valuable revolutionary artifacts that attract visitors from within and outside the province.
- **Memorial Monument:** A **memorial monument** dedicated to the martyr **Mohamed Larbi Ben M'Hidi** stands prominently in the central square of the campus, symbolizing national pride and remembrance.
- **Theater and Arts Support:** The university promotes artistic expression by hosting **theater arts workshops**, in collaboration with the **Regional Theater**, and organizing performances that encourage student engagement in cultural activities.
- **Intangible Cultural Heritage:** In partnership with the **Directorate of Tourism and Traditional Industries**, the university contributes to **preserving intangible heritage**, including local folklore, oral traditions, and dialects that reflect the region's cultural identity.

2. Public Access and Community Engagement

The University of Oum El Bouaghi ensures **public access** to several of its facilities, reinforcing its role as a **community-centered institution**:

- **Library Access:** The **Central Library** is open to external users who may obtain **external user cards** to access books, journals, and digital resources.
- **Museum and Exhibition Spaces:** The university's **museum** and **exhibition halls** are open during designated times, hosting **guided tours**, **educational programs**, and **cultural exhibitions** for the public.
- **Open and Green Spaces:** The **campus gardens and green areas** are freely accessible to local residents, offering a safe, clean, and inclusive environment for recreation and study. Through these actions, the university strengthens its bond with the community and promotes a culture of openness, collaboration, and lifelong learning.

3. Sustainable Practices and Environmental Policy

The University of Oum El Bouaghi implements a range of **eco-friendly and sustainable practices** that align with national and global environmental priorities:

- **Sustainable Mobility:** Vehicle circulation is restricted within the campus. **Parking lots** are located at the main entrances, and **pedestrian walkways** and **covered paths** connect all major facilities, reducing pollution and ensuring safety.
- **Green Building Design:** Newly constructed buildings — including the **Faculties of Economics, Arts and Languages, Sports**, and the **Institute of Applied Sciences** — comply with **environmental and energy efficiency standards**, featuring natural lighting, water-based heating, and energy-saving LED systems.
- **Reforestation and Green Campaigns:** The university organizes **annual tree-planting and reforestation campaigns** to expand green areas and raise environmental awareness among students and staff.

These sustainable practices contribute to reducing the university's ecological footprint and fostering environmental responsibility among the academic community.

4. Government and University Support Systems

The **Algerian government**, in coordination with public universities, provides significant support to promote **sustainable urban life** and ensure accessibility for all:

- **Transportation:** Free **university buses** transport students and staff between the university campus and various neighborhoods of Oum El Bouaghi, reducing private vehicle use.
- **Student Housing:** All legally enrolled students in public universities benefit from **free or highly subsidized accommodation**, ensuring housing access regardless of financial background.
- **Staff Housing:** Teachers and staff are offered **affordable housing** near the university. Rental options are also available for those not covered by government housing programs.
- **Distance Education:** To improve access for students living in remote areas, the university has developed a **digital learning platform** that includes online courses for all programs. Additionally, a **digital administration system** streamlines academic and administrative processes, reducing paperwork and unnecessary travel.

These measures collectively enhance sustainability, accessibility, and inclusion across the university system.

5. Collaboration with Local Authorities

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively collaborates with **local authorities** to support sustainable urban development and public policy initiatives:

- The **Rector of the University** participates in the **Provincial Council**, contributing expert insights and research-based recommendations on urban planning, housing, and sustainability.
- The university maintains partnerships with the **Directorate of Housing** and other public bodies to **improve local infrastructure**, promote **sustainable**

urban design, and ensure community well-being.

This collaboration strengthens the university's engagement in local governance and its role as a knowledge partner in sustainable development.

Conclusion

Through its integrated actions in **cultural preservation, public engagement, environmental protection, and collaboration with governmental institutions**, the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** reaffirms its deep commitment to **Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**. Its continuous efforts contribute to building a more **inclusive, resilient, and environmentally responsible** academic and social environment — one that benefits not only the university community but also the broader population of Oum El Bouaghi and the surrounding region.

12. Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12)

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 12 (SDG 12), *Responsible Consumption and Production*, seeks to ensure sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources, thereby minimizing environmental degradation and promoting long-term ecological balance.

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi**, in alignment with this global objective, has adopted comprehensive policies and initiatives that promote **ethical sourcing, efficient waste management, recycling**, and the **reduction of plastic and disposable materials**. These efforts reflect the institution's commitment to integrating sustainability into its operational, academic, and community engagement practices.

1. Ethical Sourcing of Food and Supplies

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** has established a **policy on ethical sourcing**, initially developed in **2010** and reviewed in **2024**, to ensure all procurement processes adhere to sustainability and ethical standards.

- This policy emphasizes **environmentally responsible purchasing**, ensuring that goods and services are sourced from **suppliers that respect environmental, labor, and human rights standards**.
- The university prioritizes **eco-friendly and locally produced materials**, reducing transportation emissions and supporting regional economies.
- All procurement procedures comply with **national and international regulations**, reinforcing transparency, accountability, and social responsibility.

2. Waste Management and Recycling

The university has implemented an **integrated waste management system** designed to handle waste safely and sustainably. Key features of this system include:

- **Waste classification**, proper handling of **hazardous materials**, and **safe disposal** practices.

- **Regular monitoring** of waste generation and recycling rates to assess environmental performance.
- In **2024**, the university generated a total of **810 tons of waste**, of which **320 tons were recycled**, representing **approximately 40% of total waste** — a clear indication of progress in waste reduction and recycling efficiency.
- The university's **Environmental and Safety Office** supervises these initiatives, ensuring compliance with environmental legislation and continuous improvement of recycling infrastructure.

3. Reducing Plastic and Disposable Materials

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** is actively reducing its reliance on plastic and other disposable materials by implementing targeted policies and awareness initiatives.

- The university has introduced **eco-friendly alternatives** to single-use plastics in cafeterias, offices, and event spaces.
- Awareness campaigns are regularly conducted to educate students and staff about the **negative environmental impacts** of plastic waste and to promote behavioral change toward sustainable consumption.
- These measures align with both **national environmental regulations** and **international sustainability standards**, positioning the university as a model institution for environmentally responsible practices.

4. Extension to External Stakeholders and Community Engagement

Beyond its internal policies, the university extends its sustainability practices to the broader community and external stakeholders.

- It collaborates with **local institutions, suppliers, and public authorities** to promote responsible waste management across the province.
- The university organizes **training sessions, internships, and scientific events** focusing on sustainable development, waste recycling, and environmental protection.

- These initiatives strengthen environmental education and encourage **knowledge transfer between academia, local industries, and the community**, fostering collective responsibility toward sustainable production and consumption.

Conclusion

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** demonstrates a strong and measurable commitment to achieving **Sustainable Development Goal 12: Responsible Consumption** and **Production**.

Through its **ethical sourcing policy, comprehensive waste management system, plastic reduction initiatives, and community engagement activities**, the university actively promotes sustainable practices across its campus and beyond. By integrating sustainability into every aspect of its operations, the University contributes meaningfully to national and global efforts to build a more **environmentally responsible and socially equitable future**.

13. Climate Action (SDG 13)

Introduction

Climate change remains one of the most urgent challenges facing humanity, impacting ecosystems, economies, and communities worldwide. In alignment with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13) – Climate Action** – the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** is firmly committed to advancing environmental sustainability, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and enhancing resilience to climate-related risks.

Through education, research, partnerships, and institutional policies, the university contributes meaningfully to climate mitigation and adaptation efforts at local, national, and global levels.

13.2 Low-Carbon Energy Use

13.2.1 Measuring Low-Carbon Energy Use

The University of Oum El Bouaghi consistently monitors its low-carbon energy consumption in collaboration with **Sonelgaz Company**, Algeria's national energy provider. Using conventional measurement methods and monthly reports, the university estimates that **30% to 40%** of its total energy consumption comes from low-carbon sources such as natural gas and renewable energy. This monitoring system reflects the university's strategic direction toward **energy efficiency, sustainable management**, and contribution to Algeria's national goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

13.2.2 Energy Consumption Data

- **Total energy used:** 2,185 GJ
- **Total energy from low-carbon sources:** 915 GJ

This data demonstrates the university's substantial reliance on cleaner energy alternatives and highlights its commitment to continuous improvement in environmental performance and sustainability outcomes.

13.3 Environmental Education and Climate Awareness

13.3.1 Climate Change Education and Training Programs

Environmental and climate-related education are integral components of the university's academic mission. Programs at the **bachelor's, master's, and doctoral** levels in ecology, environment, and sustainable development ensure that students gain in-depth knowledge of climate change impacts, adaptation, mitigation strategies, and early warning systems. Workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns further strengthen the campus community's understanding of environmental challenges and collective climate responsibility.

13.3.2 University Climate Action Plan and Local Collaboration

In collaboration with the **Provincial People's Council** and **local community organizations**, the University of Oum El Bouaghi has implemented a **Climate Action Plan** that guides its sustainability and climate response efforts.

Key objectives of the plan include:

- Raising awareness about climate change impacts among students, staff, and the local community.
- Reducing the university's environmental footprint through sustainable energy management and waste reduction.
- Integrating climate change education into academic programs and research agendas.

- Promoting partnerships for climate adaptation and resilience building.

Key actions:

- Conducting awareness campaigns and academic workshops.
- Integrating environmental sustainability into curricula.
- Conducting localized research on regional climate impacts.
- Collaborating with local authorities for community-based adaptation projects.

This plan is supported by the **Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energies** through the **Environmental Directorate of Oum El Bouaghi**, ensuring alignment with national sustainability policies. The university's Rector, **Professor Zohir Dibi**, actively participates in provincial council meetings to advocate for environmental governance and policy alignment.

13.3.3 Cooperative Planning for Climate Change Disasters

The university plays an essential role in regional disaster preparedness and climate resilience planning. It collaborates with:

- The **Center for Scientific and Technical Research on Arid Regions (CRSTRA)**, and
- The **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**

These agreements facilitate **knowledge exchange**, **research collaboration**, and **capacity building** to address climate-induced challenges such as **drought**, **desertification**, and **internal displacement** caused by environmental degradation.

13.3.4 Support for Local and Regional Governments

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively supports local and regional governments in **climate risk monitoring, data analysis, and early warning system development**. As a member of **Energy Cities Algeria**, the university contributes to the national dialogue on energy transition, renewable energy adoption, and sustainable urban planning.

Through this network, represented by **Professor Amel Ferial Boudjabi**, the university engages in promoting local energy initiatives, enhancing policy coordination, and sharing best practices across Algeria's provinces.

13.3.5 Collaboration with NGOs on Climate Adaptation

The university also maintains strategic partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organizations for **climate adaptation** and **environmental conservation**, including:

1. **Directorate of Environment of Oum El Bouaghi** – joint initiatives for climate adaptation and environmental education.
2. **Conservation des Forêts of Oum El Bouaghi** – collaboration on forest management, biodiversity protection, and reforestation programs.

These partnerships strengthen the region's ability to mitigate the effects of climate change and promote long-term ecological sustainability.

13.4 Commitment to Carbon Neutrality

13.4.1 Carbon-Neutral Target and Greenhouse Gas Protocols

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** has formally committed to achieving **carbon neutrality by 2035**, in accordance with **international climate frameworks** and

national

regulations.

This target is part of the university's **Net-Zero Emissions Commitment**, which includes:

- Regular monitoring and reporting of carbon emissions.
- Gradual transition to renewable energy sources.
- Promotion of sustainable transportation and green infrastructure.
- Integration of sustainability principles into all university operations.

This strategic vision demonstrates the university's dedication to environmental stewardship and aligns its mission with global climate objectives.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi exemplifies a comprehensive and forward-looking approach to **SDG 13 – Climate Action**. Through continuous monitoring of low-carbon energy use, integration of environmental education, development of a Climate Action Plan, and collaboration with governmental, non-governmental, and local entities, the university has positioned itself as a leader in Algeria's sustainability transition. Its commitment to achieving **carbon neutrality by 2035** reflects a deep institutional responsibility toward climate resilience and sustainable development – a testament to its enduring contribution to building a greener and more sustainable future.

14. Life Below Water (SDG 14)

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) – *Life Below Water* – seeks to conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. Although the University of Oum El Bouaghi is located inland and not geographically maritime, it plays a vital role in advancing SDG 14 through education, research, and community engagement related to **freshwater ecosystems, biodiversity preservation, and environmental sustainability**. The university's actions emphasize the sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems, protection of biodiversity, responsible use of water resources, and collaboration with national institutions to promote ecological awareness.

University's Commitment to SDG 14

The University of Oum El Bouaghi recognizes the essential importance of preserving aquatic and freshwater ecosystems for future generations. It ensures that its academic, research, and community-based activities align with the objectives of SDG 14 by:

- Promoting sustainable water and ecosystem management through specialized education and research;
- Implementing environmentally responsible waste and water management practices;
- Engaging in collaborative projects with public authorities and environmental organizations;
- Encouraging student and staff participation in conservation activities.

14.2 Educational and Awareness Programs

1. Educational Programs on Freshwater Ecosystems

The university offers specialized programs addressing limnic and lotic ecosystems, water management, and conservation, such as:

- **Bachelor's in Hydrology** – focusing on irrigation practices, hydrological systems, and water conservation.
- **Master's in Urban Hydrology** – emphasizing sustainable urban water management.

These programs contribute to national capacity-building by preparing experts capable of implementing sustainable water management practices across Algeria.

2. Education and Awareness on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

Although not located on the coast, the university integrates concepts of **sustainable fisheries management** and **aquatic biodiversity conservation** into its curricula:

- *Licence in Ecology and Environment*
- *Master in Biodiversity and Environment*
- *Master in Ecology of Natural Environments*

These programs train students to adopt sustainable practices in resource use and environmental protection.

3. Awareness about Overfishing and Destructive Practices

Through its laboratories and outreach programs, the university raises awareness of **illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU)** fishing and its ecological impacts:

- The **Functional Ecology and Environment Laboratory (LEFE)** conducts workshops and seminars on aquatic conservation.

- The **Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection Laboratory (LDDPE)** promotes environmental stewardship and campaigns against destructive fishing methods.

14.3 Supporting Aquatic Ecosystems through Action

4. Conservation and Sustainable Use of Aquatic Resources

The university conducts field trips and public awareness events to engage students and citizens in conservation activities:

- **World Wetlands Day (2023)** – A field trip to *Ourkis Dam* was organized in collaboration with the Directorate of Environment, featuring biodiversity education and tree planting.
- **Geological Sciences Symposium (2024)** – Focused on sustainable resource management and environmental impacts.

5. Sustainable Sourcing of Aquatic Food Products

The university supports responsible sourcing practices guided by national and international sustainability frameworks, including:

- The **IUCN Biodiversity Conservation Framework**;
- **Law No. 83-03** on Environmental Protection;
- National policies promoting sustainable aquaculture and fisheries.

6. Preserving and Enhancing Threatened Ecosystems

In collaboration with the **Directorate of Environment** and the **Forest Conservation Department**, the university participates in biodiversity monitoring, ecological research, and environmental education programs.

7. Research Collaboration to Protect Aquatic Ecosystems

Ongoing research projects address pollution control, ecosystem resilience, and habitat restoration in Eastern Algeria, contributing to sustainable development strategies at the regional level.

14.4 Water-Sensitive Waste Disposal

8. University Water Quality Standards

The University of Oum El Bouaghi strictly complies with national water quality and drainage standards to protect human health and biodiversity. Key legal frameworks include:

- **Executive Decree No. 11-125 (2011)** – on drinking water quality;
- **Law No. 05-12 (2005)** – permitting treated wastewater for irrigation;
- **Executive Decree No. 10-23 (2010)** – regulating wastewater treatment systems.

9. Plastic Waste Reduction Policy

The university implemented its **Plastic Reduction Policy** in 2010 (reviewed in 2024), which emphasizes:

- Compliance with national environmental legislation;
- Awareness campaigns on plastic pollution;
- Substitution with biodegradable materials;
- Waste reduction and recycling initiatives.

Collaborating partners include the **Ministry of Environment, National Waste Agency**, and **APOCE**.

10. Prevention of Land-Based Marine Pollution

Although located inland, the university enforces an environmental policy targeting pollution originating from terrestrial sources, aligning with the **Algerian Littoral Law (Law No. 02-02)**.

It supports research and community projects that minimize pollution runoff into aquatic systems.

14.5 Preservation of the Local Ecosystem

11. Minimizing Alterations in Aquatic Ecosystems

In accordance with **Law No. 83-03 (Environmental Protection)** and **Law No. 2002-02 (Coastal Preservation)**, the university undertakes actions such as:

- Environmental education campaigns;
- Research on sustainable land and water use;
- Eco-campus initiatives and community engagement.

12. Monitoring Aquatic Ecosystem Health

The university monitors water quality, biodiversity, and pollution levels through its laboratories and in partnership with the **Directorate of Health and Hospital Reform**, contributing to informed environmental management.

13. Supporting Aquatic Stewardship and Research

Through participation in national research programs (Decree No. 21-89 of 2021), the university supports:

- Aquaculture development

- **Water quality and conservation**
- **Fisheries management**
- **Natural resource protection**

14. Partnerships for Ecosystem Preservation

Formal agreements with the **Directorate of Agricultural Interests** and the **Directorate of Environment** foster joint initiatives in ecosystem protection, sustainable water use, and environmental education.

15. Future Aquatic Park Management Strategy

While no aquatic park currently exists on campus, the university's ongoing research and awareness programs provide a foundation for developing an integrated aquatic biodiversity park and educational center in the future.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong and expanding commitment to the objectives of **SDG 14: Life Below Water**. Through academic programs, applied research, environmental partnerships, and community involvement, the university actively contributes to the conservation and sustainable management of Algeria's freshwater and aquatic ecosystems. Its alignment with national legislation and the UN sustainability agenda reflects a clear institutional vision: **to preserve biodiversity, promote responsible water management, and ensure ecological resilience for future generations.**

15. Life on Land (SDG 15)

The University of Oum El Bouaghi in Algeria is firmly committed to advancing **Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land)**, which emphasizes the protection of terrestrial ecosystems, the sustainable management of forests and mountains, and the prevention of biodiversity loss.

In line with this goal, the university has adopted a **comprehensive environmental policy**, updated in 2024, to promote the **conservation, restoration, and sustainable use** of ecosystems within and around its premises, including forests, drylands, and mountainous regions. This policy aligns with both national and international environmental standards and focuses on identifying ecologically sensitive areas, monitoring ecosystem conditions, and enhancing biodiversity protection.

Moreover, the university has introduced specific measures to **identify, monitor, and safeguard species** listed on the **IUCN Red List** and Algeria's national conservation list, particularly in regions influenced by its operations. These initiatives are supported by **research and academic programs** dedicated to the protection of endangered species and the promotion of ecological sustainability.

The institution also collaborates closely with **governmental bodies**, such as the **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development** and the **Directorate of the Environment**, to strengthen efforts in land conservation and ecosystem management at both local and national levels.

Regarding **waste management**, the university complies with **national water quality regulations** and standards for water discharge, ensuring that all practices safeguard ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. It has also enacted **plastic reduction policies** to minimize environmental pollution, encouraging the use of sustainable materials and recycling initiatives.

In addition, the university enforces strict **waste disposal protocols** for hazardous materials, in full compliance with national laws, to ensure proper handling and disposal procedures that protect both the environment and public health.

In conclusion, the University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a strong institutional commitment to **SDG 15** through its active engagement in ecosystem conservation, biodiversity protection, sustainable land management, and environmentally responsible waste practices – reinforcing its role as a model of sustainability and environmental stewardship in Algeria.

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

Introduction

In alignment with **Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16)**, titled *"Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions,"* the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** has implemented a comprehensive set of initiatives aimed at promoting good governance, stakeholder engagement, academic freedom, and institutional transparency. These efforts demonstrate the university's strong commitment to building a just, equitable, and peaceful society. The following report outlines the university's key contributions and achievements in advancing SDG 16 across governance, policy-making, community engagement, and education.

1. University Governance Measures

1.1 Elected Representation on Governing Bodies

The university organizes **regular democratic elections** to ensure equitable representation of academic staff, administrative personnel, and students within its key governing structures, including the **Management Board**, **Scientific Council**, and **University Services Committee**. This inclusive governance model promotes **transparency, accountability, and shared decision-making**.

1.2 Recognition of Independent Student Organizations

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** officially recognizes and collaborates with **legally established student organizations**, acknowledging their essential role in the academic community. Regular consultative meetings with these organizations encourage student participation and collective responsibility in institutional development.

1.3 Policies for Engaging Local Stakeholders

The university has **formal written policies** that define procedures for identifying and engaging **local stakeholders**, such as civil society, local authorities, and community groups. These policies ensure **effective collaboration, information sharing, and mutual transparency** between the university and its surrounding community.

2. University Engagement with Government and Policy-Making

2.1 Stakeholder Participation in Decision-Making

The university adopts a **participatory governance framework**, enabling local stakeholders—including residents, government representatives, and civil society—to participate meaningfully in **university board meetings, scientific events, and community activities**.

2.2 Ethical Commitments Against Organized Crime, Corruption, and Bribery

The institution upholds a **strict code of ethics and integrity**, reinforcing its **zero-tolerance policy** toward organized crime, corruption, and bribery. These principles are aligned with national laws and are embedded in the university's administrative and academic conduct.

2.3 Policy Supporting Academic Freedom

Academic freedom is a **core institutional value**. Faculty members, researchers, and students enjoy the right to freely **choose their research areas, express academic opinions**, and participate in diverse **national and international conferences**, reflecting the university's open intellectual climate.

2.4 Transparency in Financial Data

To ensure **accountability and public trust**, the university **publishes annual financial reports** detailing revenues, expenditures, and institutional activities. These reports are

accessible to internal and external stakeholders, strengthening fiscal transparency and oversight.

3. Outreach and Capacity Building

3.1 Expert Support to Government

The university provides **expert advice and evidence-based recommendations** to **local, regional, and national government bodies**. Through collaborative projects, it contributes directly to the **formulation of public policies and governance reforms**.

3.2 Training, Outreach, and Capacity Development

The university regularly conducts **training programs, awareness campaigns, and capacity-building workshops** on topics such as **economics, governance, law, technology, migration, and climate change**. These programs aim to **empower policymakers, civil servants, and community leaders** with updated knowledge and practical skills.

3.3 Policy-Oriented Research in Partnership with Government

Collaborative research initiatives between the university and government agencies address key national challenges. These projects provide **scientific evidence and strategic recommendations** to improve governance effectiveness and institutional performance.

3.4 Neutral Platform for Dialogue

As a **neutral and inclusive venue**, the university facilitates **dialogues and debates** among political, academic, and civil society actors. These forums promote **peaceful exchange of ideas, conflict resolution, and civic engagement**, reinforcing democratic values.

4. Contribution Through Education and Graduates

4.1 Graduate Contribution

The university produces **highly qualified graduates** who play a pivotal role in promoting **justice, peace, and good governance** across various sectors. Their contributions strengthen public institutions and foster social harmony.

4.2 Graduates in Law and Civil Enforcement

Through specialized programs in **law and civil enforcement**, the university contributes to **building a robust justice system**. Its graduates support **legal institutions, public administration, and civil protection**, enhancing the resilience and integrity of national governance frameworks.

Conclusion

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** exemplifies its commitment to **SDG 16** through initiatives that promote **transparency, academic freedom, participatory governance, and institutional collaboration**. By fostering peace, justice, and strong institutions, the university not only strengthens its internal governance but also contributes significantly to **Algeria's sustainable development and national stability**. Through ongoing outreach, research, and education, it continues to build the foundations of a **peaceful, equitable, and resilient society**.

17. Partnership for the Goals (SDG 17)

Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnership for the Goals underscores the critical role of international collaboration, cooperation, and partnerships in achieving all other Sustainable Development Goals. This report highlights the active engagement of the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** in Algeria in fostering partnerships and initiatives that advance sustainable development and support the global SDG framework.

Partnership for the Goals

The University of Oum El Bouaghi serves as a key contributor to the promotion of the SDGs through its comprehensive institutional strategy and annual reports that document its commitments to all 17 goals. Its integrated approach to sustainability is reflected in a wide range of initiatives, including:

- **Strengthening Local and Regional Cooperation:** The university participates in national scientific research programs and regularly hosts national and international conferences dedicated to sustainable development.
- **Engaging in Cross-Sectoral Dialogue:** It contributes to multidisciplinary discussions on sustainable economic growth and takes part in televised and radio programs to promote awareness of sustainability issues.
- **International Collaboration for SDG Data:** The university engages in international partnerships for data collection and monitoring, ensuring transparent and accurate reporting of SDG progress.
- **Comparative Curriculum Development:** Through international cooperation agreements, the university reviews and enhances academic curricula to integrate sustainability principles and share best practices.

- **Partnerships with NGOs:** The institution collaborates with non-governmental organizations to address pressing sustainability challenges, fostering community-based solutions and inclusive participation.
- **Education for Sustainable Development:** Principles of sustainability are embedded across multiple disciplines, preparing students to contribute meaningfully to sustainable development.
- **Community Outreach and Awareness:** The university organizes public education and awareness programs accessible to students, alumni, and local communities—including vulnerable groups—on environmental and social sustainability topics.

The University of Oum El Bouaghi's dedication to **SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals** is evident in its broad engagement with national and international stakeholders, collaborative research initiatives, curriculum innovation, and public outreach. Through these efforts, the university actively strengthens cooperation networks and reinforces its role in promoting sustainable development both locally and globally.