



UNIVERSITY OF OUM EL BOUAGHI

*Report on the United Nations
Sustainable Development Goal 13:
Climate Action*

ABSTRACT

This report illuminates the University of Oum El Bouaghi, Algeria's efforts in working towards the realization of SDG 13: Climate Action.

13 CLIMATE
ACTION



Introduction:

Climate change represents one of the most pressing global challenges of our time, affecting all nations and communities regardless of their level of development. In alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13 (SDG 13), titled “*Climate Action*,” the University of Oum El Bouaghi is committed to promoting environmental sustainability, reducing carbon emissions, and strengthening resilience against climate-related hazards through education, research, partnerships, and institutional initiatives.

The university’s contribution to SDG 13 is reflected through measurable actions in energy management, environmental education, cooperation with local authorities and organizations, and its long-term commitment to achieving carbon neutrality.

13.2 Low Carbon Energy Use

13.2.1 Measuring Low-Carbon Energy Use

The University of Oum El Bouaghi regularly monitors the amount of low-carbon energy used across its facilities. This process is conducted in collaboration with *Sonelgaz Company*, the national energy provider, using classical measurement methods based on total energy consumption. The results of monthly assessments indicate that between **30% and 40%** of the university’s total energy usage is derived from low-carbon sources such as natural gas and renewable energy inputs.

This approach reflects the institution’s strategic orientation toward energy efficiency and sustainability. By systematically tracking low-carbon energy use, the university ensures continuous improvement in its energy management and contributes to Algeria’s national strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

13.2.2 Energy Consumption Data

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

The data above demonstrate that a significant proportion of the university’s energy consumption is aligned with low-carbon practices. Continuous monitoring of these figures supports the goal of improving efficiency and minimizing environmental impact over time.

13.3 Environmental Education and Climate Awareness

13.3.1 Climate Change Education and Training Programs

The University of Oum El Bouaghi actively integrates climate change and environmental topics into its educational and training programs. These initiatives are

designed to enhance understanding of climate change risks, impacts, mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning mechanisms.

13.3.2 University Climate Action Plan and Local Collaboration

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has established a comprehensive **Climate Action Plan** in cooperation with the local government and community organizations, including the *Provincial People's Council*. This plan serves as a guiding framework for advancing environmental sustainability and mitigating the adverse effects of climate change.

Key components of the plan include:

- **Introduction:** Raising awareness of climate change impacts and the need for collective mitigation and adaptation.
- **Current Assessment:** Evaluating the university's environmental footprint and the regional climate risks that may affect academic and operational continuity.
- **Plan Objectives:**
 - Increase awareness of climate change among university members and the wider community.
 - Strengthen the university's role in achieving sustainability and minimizing environmental impact.
 - Integrate climate change education and research into academic programs.
- **Initiatives and Actions:**
 - Organize awareness campaigns and workshops.
 - Integrate climate topics into university curricula.
 - Conduct local research on the effects of climate change.
 - Collaborate with local authorities for community-based adaptation efforts.
- **Collaboration:** Partnership with the *Ministry of Environment and Renewable Energies* through the *Environmental Directorate* of Oum El Bouaghi.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establishment of a system to assess progress, evaluate outcomes, and report achievements to stakeholders.

The Rector of the University, **Professor Zohir Dibi**, actively participates in the sessions of the *Provincial People's Council*, demonstrating institutional commitment to environmental dialogue and policy alignment with local authorities.

13.3.3 Participation in Cooperative Planning for Climate Change Disasters

The University of Oum El Bouaghi takes part in cooperative planning to manage climate change-related disasters, including internal displacement caused by environmental degradation. This participation is formalized through **two strategic agreements**:

- An agreement with the **Center for Scientific and Technical Research on Arid Regions (CRSTRA)**.
- An agreement with the **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development**.

These partnerships aim to enhance knowledge sharing, strengthen regional resilience, and improve early preparedness for climate-related disasters. Through these collaborations, the university contributes to national efforts addressing climate-induced challenges such as drought, desertification, and population displacement.

13.3.4 Support for Local and Regional Governments on Climate Risks

The University of Oum El Bouaghi plays an advisory and supportive role to local and regional authorities in developing climate risk monitoring systems and early warning mechanisms. This engagement is demonstrated through the university's **membership in the association Energy Cities Algeria**, a national network promoting sustainable energy and local climate action.

Energy Cities Algeria works to raise awareness of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and environmental protection while fostering cooperation among local governments. The association's mission includes capacity building, information exchange, and the implementation of energy transition projects across Algeria's 48 provinces.

Professor Amel Ferial Boudjabi, a faculty member at the University of Oum El Bouaghi, represents the university within this national association, ensuring that the institution contributes actively to discussions and initiatives on energy transition, climate monitoring, and local sustainability.

13.3.5 Collaboration with NGOs on Climate Adaptation

The University of Oum El Bouaghi maintains partnerships with both governmental and non-governmental organizations to enhance regional climate adaptation capacity.

Two key partnerships highlight this commitment:

1. **Agreement with the Directorate of Environment of Oum El Bouaghi** – A governmental institution that collaborates with the university to design and implement environmental and climate adaptation programs.

2. **Agreement with the Conservation des Forêts of Oum El Bouaghi** – A non-governmental organization focusing on forest preservation, biodiversity protection, and sustainable resource management.

Through these collaborations, the university contributes to the development of joint initiatives aimed at mitigating the effects of climate change, promoting environmental education, and supporting local adaptation strategies.

13.4 Commitment to Carbon Neutrality

13.4.1 Carbon-Neutral Target and Greenhouse Gas Protocols

In accordance with international and national climate frameworks, the University of Oum El Bouaghi has set **the year 2035** as its target to achieve **carbon neutrality**, following the *Greenhouse Gas Protocols*. This strategic goal is formalized through the university's **Net-Zero Emissions Commitment** and its ongoing **Carbon Emissions Reporting** initiatives.

This long-term vision emphasizes the university's responsibility to reduce its carbon footprint, transition toward renewable energy sources, and promote a culture of sustainability across all operations.

Conclusion

The University of Oum El Bouaghi demonstrates a comprehensive and results-oriented approach to addressing climate change through education, research, and institutional practices. By measuring low-carbon energy use, integrating climate awareness into academic curricula, developing a formal Climate Action Plan, and fostering partnerships with governmental, non-governmental, and local authorities, the university exemplifies a strong institutional commitment to environmental stewardship.

Its goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035 reinforces this dedication to sustainability, aligning the university's mission with both national priorities and global climate objectives. Through continuous collaboration and innovation, the University of Oum El Bouaghi continues to play a vital role in promoting climate action and contributing to a more sustainable future for Algeria and beyond.