



UNIVERSITY OF OUM EL BOUAGHI

*Report on the United Nations
Sustainable Development Goal 15:
Life on Land*

ABSTRACT

This report highlights the University of Oum El Bouaghi's endeavors in pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 15: Life on Land.



Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 15 (SDG 15) focuses on the protection, restoration, and sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems. It calls for the responsible use of forest resources, the prevention of desertification, the halting and reversal of land degradation, and the preservation of biodiversity.

Aligned with these global objectives, the **University of Oum El Bouaghi** demonstrates a strong institutional commitment to environmental sustainability through its policies, research initiatives, and partnerships. The university's actions reflect its dedication to the sustainable management of natural resources, the conservation of biodiversity, and the promotion of environmental awareness at both local and national levels.

15.1 Biodiversity Conservation

15.1.1 Policy and Commitment

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has established a comprehensive policy to identify, monitor, and protect endangered and threatened species, including those listed on the IUCN Red List. This policy is aligned with international standards for sustainable development and emphasizes the preservation of natural habitats, regulation of ecosystem access, and the implementation of awareness campaigns.

The university actively works to safeguard existing ecosystems, enhance biodiversity, and protect fragile environmental systems. This is achieved through initiatives such as **tree planting campaigns**, **field activities**, and **environmental awareness programs** that promote ecological stewardship among students and the local community.

15.1.2 Research and Training Projects

Research and training projects at the University of Oum El Bouaghi focus on biodiversity conservation and the study of ecological resilience under environmental stress. These projects, carried out by specialized research teams, aim to deepen understanding of local ecosystems and propose practical strategies for their sustainable preservation.

Furthermore, the university offers academic programs such as the **Bachelor's in Environmental Science** and the **Master's in Biodiversity and Environment**, which strengthen national capacity in biodiversity research and environmental protection.

15.2 Sustainable Campus Development

15.2.1 Integration of Local Biodiversity

Through the Directorate of Development, Supervision, and Guidance, the University of Oum El Bouaghi ensures that biodiversity protection is an integral part of all

campus planning and development projects. Every construction or renovation project is carefully evaluated to safeguard local plant life and ecological balance.

The university also maintains its commitment to sustainable campus greening by planting and preserving fruit-bearing trees such as **mulberry, apricot, grapevines, and carob trees**, which contribute to local biodiversity and create a healthier campus environment.

15.2.2 Ecosystem Preservation and Community Outreach

The university actively collaborates with the **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development** and the **Directorate of the Environment** to protect regional ecosystems and promote environmental education. It also conducts **outreach programs** that engage both students and local communities in activities supporting sustainable land management for agriculture and tourism.

A notable example is the **Awareness Campaign on Forest Fire Prevention and Environmental Conservation**, organized by the **Student Union of Free Algerian Students (REAL)**, which highlighted the importance of protecting ecosystems as a foundation for sustainable land use and tourism development.

15.3 Mitigation of Alien Species

15.3.1 Policy and Legal Framework

The University of Oum El Bouaghi has adopted a clear policy to mitigate the impact of alien and invasive species on campus. This policy is implemented in compliance with both international and national standards, particularly **Law No. 10-03 of July 19, 2003**, concerning environmental protection within the framework of sustainable development, as well as the **Convention on Biological Diversity** and the **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**.

The policy prohibits the introduction of exotic species without prior authorization, ensures regular monitoring and impact assessment, and includes awareness campaigns to prevent ecological disruption.

15.4 Responsible Waste Management

15.4.1 Waste Disposal Policy

The University of Oum El Bouaghi enforces a strict policy for waste management and hazardous material handling in accordance with national environmental regulations. The policy ensures that all hazardous waste is properly stored, treated, and disposed of to prevent pollution and protect human health, wildlife, and ecosystems.

15.4.2 Plastic Reduction Policy

In line with national environmental directives, the university has adopted a policy to reduce plastic usage across campus. This initiative promotes eco-friendly alternatives, minimizes plastic consumption, and encourages recycling. Regular reporting to relevant authorities ensures compliance and continuous improvement in reducing plastic waste and its environmental impact.

15.5 Water Quality and Environmental Protection

The University of Oum El Bouaghi adheres to national water quality and drainage standards to safeguard the environment and promote the well-being of its academic community. This commitment is reinforced through the implementation of national laws, executive decrees, and ministerial guidelines aimed at protecting both surface and groundwater systems essential for ecosystem health.

15.6 Institutional Collaboration and Community Engagement

The university actively collaborates with governmental and environmental institutions to protect shared ecological land systems. Partnerships with entities such as the **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development** and the **Directorate of the Environment** strengthen its role in regional ecosystem preservation. These partnerships facilitate joint projects, knowledge exchange, and coordinated conservation efforts for sustainable land use.

Conclusion

The **University of Oum El Bouaghi** plays a pivotal role in advancing **Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land)** through its integrated policies, scientific research, and active community engagement. By promoting biodiversity conservation, sustainable campus development, mitigation of invasive species, responsible waste management, and collaboration with environmental authorities, the university contributes significantly to the preservation of terrestrial ecosystems.

Its ongoing efforts reflect a strong commitment to sustainability and position the University of Oum El Bouaghi as a model institution in Algeria and beyond – one that demonstrates how academic institutions can effectively align their operations with global environmental goals to ensure a greener and more sustainable future.