



# 17.2.5 Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs

Year 2023





## **CONTENTS**

7.2.5 Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs	4
Volunteering Programmes	4
1.1. A Successful Beach Cleanup by FACT Club	4
1.2. AU Celebrations of the National Environmental Day 2023 in Collaboration with the EEG	4
1.3. The Office of Community Engagement Joins Forces with Food ATM	5
1.4. Mangrove Planting Project	6
1.5. Ajman University and Al Zorah Golf Club Launch Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour Initiative	6
1.6. AU Contributes Towards Planting of 10,000 Mangrove Trees on World Environment Day	7
1.7. Ajman University Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation on Greening Communities Initiative	7
1.8. Ajman University Organizes an Awareness Visit to the Flag Park	8
1.9. AU Mobile Dental Clinic	8
1.10. AU Students Join Climate Ambassadors Program with MOCCAE	9
1.11. Ajman University Organizes Blood Donation Campaign	10
1.12. Ajman University Hosted Al Ihsan Champions 2023 Event for Orphaned Children	10
1.13. Ajman University Students Volunteer in "Clean the Land" Campaign	11
1.14. Office of Community Engagement	11
Research programmes	12
2.1. AU and Hikvision Collaborate to Promote Student Employability, Research, and Knowledge Sharin	1g12
2.2. Ajman University and Cairo University Forge Strategic Partnership	13
2.3. Ajman University Launches the International Arab Conference on Information Technology	13
2.4. Dana Binmahmood Contributes to Masfoot Health Resort Research Project	14
2.5. College of Pharmacy Participated with a Novel Project in the Sharjah Sustainability Award	14
2.6. Emerging Media Talent: Students Showcase Diverse Graduation Projects on Sustainability and Technology	
2.7. AU Students Emerge as Winners at the American University of the Emirates Research Competition	n 16
2.8. CBA Students Place 2nd in National Undergraduate Research Competition	16
2.9. CAAD Student Awards 2023 Recognize Excellence in Architecture and Interior Design	17
	Volunteering Programmes

	2.10. Successful Graduation Project Discussions in the Department of Psychology at CoHS	. 17
	2.11. CBA Professor is a Distinguished Speaker at COP-28	. 18
	2.12. Prof. Asma Al Arab Wins Second Place in Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award	. 18
	2.13. Dr. Muna Salameh Earns Elsevier Recognition for Impactful Research	. 19
	2.14. Alaa Al Amiry Presents Groundbreaking Emergency Response Research at Arab Conference	. 19
	2.15. Prof. Kamran Arshad Presents Cutting-Edge Drone Detection Research at IEEE CICN 2023	. 19
3.	Development of Educational Resources	.20
	3.1. Sustainability Lifelong Learning	. 20
	3.2. AU Heads Towards a More Sustainable Future with COP 28 Roadshow	. 20
	3.3. Volunteering Opportunities with INJAZ-UAE	. 21
	3.4. BEEAH Education and Ajman University Recognize Students' Innovations for a Sustainable Future	. 21
	3.5. Pharmacy Students are Active Participants in the 23rd Inter College Environmental Public Speaking	_
	Competition	
	3.6. CBA and INJAZ UAE Facilitate Engaging Sustainability Workshop	. 22



#### 17.2.5 Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs

Ajman University collaborates with NGOs, private, and government agencies to tackle the SDGs through student volunteering programmes, research programmes, and the development of educational resources.

## 1. Volunteering Programmes

#### 1.1. A Successful Beach Cleanup by FACT Club

More than 30 students from Ajman University's Finance & Accounting Club (FACT) demonstrated their commitment to environmental stewardship through 'EcoWave Revive,' a beach cleanup at Ajman Corniche on November 23rd. The event was a collaborative effort between the club, Ajman Municipality & Planning Department, and BEEAH Group, a leading NGO focused on sustainability. Under the guidance of Mrs. Mona Mohammed and Mr. Saleem Derbas, students removed significant waste and contributed to preserving the Ajman Corniche ecosystem, emphasizing their dedication to environmental health and responsible citizenship.











#### 1.2. AU Celebrations of the National Environmental Day 2023 in Collaboration with the EEG

On February 4, the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University participated in National Environment Day alongside the <u>Emirates Environmental Group</u>, an NGO. The special edition of the "Clean Emirates" campaign, launched under the patronage of the Ministry of Community Development and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, took place along Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road. The event drew over 6,000 participants who contributed approximately 24,000 volunteer hours, successfully cleaning 25 square kilometers.



Ajman University's involvement supports its 2022-2030 Climate and Sustainability Strategy and aligns with the UAE's commitment to environmental sustainability, particularly in light of the upcoming COP28 conference. This participation highlights the university's dedication to environmental excellence and collaborative efforts with various entities to advance sustainability.

#### 1.3. The Office of Community Engagement Joins Forces with Food ATM

The Office of Community Engagement partnered with Food ATM **Distribution** to enhance food security for lower-income groups in the UAE, highlighting a commitment to vital humanitarian efforts. Volunteers, including staff and students, contributed their time to food preparation, packing, and distribution, embodying the spirit of volunteerism. This initiative addresses immediate needs while promoting social responsibility and strengthening community bonds.





#### 1.4. Mangrove Planting Project

AU mobilized volunteers from the internal community—including students, faculty, and staff—as well as local schools, neighboring organizations, and other institutions for the mangrove planting initiative. This collaborative effort significantly contributed to environmental sustainability, fostering community engagement and enhancing local ecosystems. AU is an active partner with several key stakeholders, government and non-governmental organizations in the UAE for planting mangroves at the emirate of Ajman. These partners include:

- Ministry of Climate Change and Environment
- Quest for Adventure
- Al Zorah Golf Club
- Goumbook A social enterprise in UAE promoting sustainable living and environmental protection.
- Abdullah Al Ghurair Foundation A non-profit, philanthropic organization.
- Al Zorah Development Private Company

#### 1.5. Ajman University and Al Zorah Golf Club Launch Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour Initiative

Ajman University, in collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club, launched the "Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour" initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club in Ajman. This initiative supports the UAE's goal to plant 100 million mangrove trees by 2030 and Al Zorah City's commitment to doubling the mangrove forest in the Al Zorah Natural Reserve.

Beginning on January 16, 2024, and running for 13 weeks, the initiative has garnered enthusiastic participation from the University, local schools, and other groups. Over 70 individuals have actively participated, contributing to the planting of approximately 1,000 mangrove trees. This effort highlights the community's dedication to environmental stewardship and aligns with the University's 2022-2030 climate and sustainability strategy.













#### 1.6. AU Contributes Towards Planting of 10,000 Mangrove Trees on World Environment Day

On World Environment Day, June 5, Ajman University participated in the National Mangrove Planting Project, contributing to the planting of 10,000 mangrove trees across the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to advance sustainability efforts.









# 1.7. <u>Ajman University Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation on Greening Communities Initiative</u>

In support of the UAE's strategic initiative to achieve climate neutrality by 2050, AU's Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Goumbook and the Abdullah Al Ghurair Foundation, organized an awareness event as part of the Ministry of Education's Greening Communities Initiative. The event engaged around 70 participants who collectively planted approximately 75 mangrove trees.











#### 1.8. Ajman University Organizes an Awareness Visit to the Flag Park

Students from the College of Law, in collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University, organized an educational visit to Flag Park in Ajman to raise awareness about climate change and the significance of agriculture. This initiative, part of the 'Environmental Protection Law' course taught by Dr. Khaled Al Jasmi, involved distributing approximately 50 Ghaf trees, a local species well-suited to the UAE's arid climate.



Visitors also participated in an awareness campaign related to the COP28 conference by scanning a QR code for further information. The students explained the impact of greenhouse gases on global temperatures, emphasizing the need for effective measures to mitigate environmental effects and maintain ecological balance. This initiative underscores the importance of collaboration in promoting sustainability and carbon offset efforts while also enhancing educational resources. Ajman University's commitment to developing educational tools and campaigns reflects its dedication to social responsibility and nurturing a generation focused on environmental conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.

#### 1.9. AU Mobile Dental Clinic

The AU Mobile Dental Clinic addresses the significant global public health challenge of oral diseases, particularly for individuals facing geographical, financial, or mobility barriers. Launched by Ajman

University in 2018, this innovative mobile unit brings comprehensive dental services directly to underserved communities, especially benefiting the elderly and those with mobility issues.

Equipped with advanced dental technology, including chairs and x-ray units, the self-sufficient clinic provides high-quality care while traveling across the country. It offers a range of services, including oral health education, dental examinations, preventive treatments like cleanings and fluoride varnish, restorative care such as fillings, simple extractions, and emergency root canal treatment, with referrals to university clinics as needed.

Our mission is to enhance oral health and overall well-being by providing primary and preventive dental services, promoting good hygiene practices, and raising awareness of the importance of regular dental care. Target beneficiaries include labor camps, charity school programs, residential care facilities, People of Determination centers, senior citizens, and penal institutions.



#### 1.10. AU Students Join Climate Ambassadors Program with MOCCAE

AU students took part in the Climate Ambassadors program, organized by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE) in partnership with the Expo School Programme. This initiative aimed to provide students with a practical understanding of climate change challenges, simulating the dynamics of a COP conference in preparation for COP28, which will be hosted in the UAE. Forty students from Ajman University, representing 40 nations, acted as ambassadors, focusing on issues like carbon emissions and greenhouse gas mitigation. They worked collaboratively with international counterparts to address their assigned countries' specific challenges, engaging in negotiations to develop solutions for emissions reduction and global cooperation.

The Climate Ambassadors program effectively raised awareness and deepened students' knowledge of climate change, fostering their active involvement in global efforts to combat this critical issue. AU, through its Sustainability Office, continues to promote student participation in sustainability initiatives, highlighting the importance of environmental conservation and sustainable practices within the university community.





#### 1.11. Ajman University Organizes Blood Donation Campaign

The Community Engagement Office at Ajman University, in partnership with Emirates Health Services, organized a successful blood donation campaign with 91 participants, including students, faculty, and staff. The event aimed to raise awareness about the critical need for blood donations and the challenges faced by patients.



This campaign supports community healthcare initiatives by increasing the blood supply and promoting the benefits of regular donations. Ajman University remains dedicated to enhancing social responsibility and supporting humanitarian causes to foster a healthier community.

#### 1.12. Ajman University Hosted Al Ihsan Champions 2023 Event for Orphaned Children

The OCE and the Office of Student Life at Ajman University organized "Al Ihsan Champions 2023," a special event for orphaned children from Al Ihsan Charity. Held at the AU Sports Complex's multi-purpose hall, the event aimed to bring joy to the children. Thanks to the efforts of Captain AbdulHamid, Captain Manal Al Katalbi, and Captain Hany Othman, the day was a success, featuring engaging sports activities and games that delighted the children.



#### 1.13. Ajman University Students Volunteer in "Clean the Land" Campaign

The Office of Student Housing at Ajman University participated in the "Clean the Land" community event organized by the Happiness Association Volunteer Team, Ajman Municipality & Planning Department, and Ajman Police. Fifteen female resident students volunteered to clean up litter in Ajman, contributing to environmental awareness and community responsibility.



This initiative helped students build resilience, enhance their knowledge, and foster a sense of responsibility, provide opportunities for relationship-building and promoting sustainable leadership.

#### 1.14. Office of Community Engagement

At AU, social responsibility is a core value, underscored by our recognition of 5 QS Stars for Social Responsibility. The Office of Community Engagement (OCE) is dedicated to making a meaningful impact by leveraging educational expertise, logistical support, and moral guidance. Through the OCE's Unit of Community Service, AU enhances its involvement in community initiatives with active participation from faculty, staff, and students, collaborating with local government, non-governmental organizations, and community leaders to create beneficial opportunities for both students and society. Annual reports on Community Service Activities are published online, and a detailed account of CSU's activities for AY 2022-2023 can be found in the Achievement File.



## 2. Research programmes

AU places research at the heart of its 2022-27 strategic plan, aiming to foster innovation and tackle global challenges. Led by the <u>Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies (DRG)</u>, the strategy promotes a strong research culture, infrastructure, and international collaboration, aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

AU actively involves both undergraduate and graduate students in research, offering opportunities like **graduate assistantships** and funding through the **Ajman University Innovation Centre (AUIC)**. AUIC supports students and faculty in turning ideas into market-ready products or services, aligning with **SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure)**.

Additionally, centres like the <u>Healthy and Sustainable Building Research Centre</u> contribute to **SDG 11** (Sustainable Cities) and **SDG 13** (Climate Action), fostering sustainable development and addressing global challenges through interdisciplinary collaboration.

A number of examples of research programs support and implementation in academic year 2023 are provided below:

#### 2.1. AU and Hikvision Collaborate to Promote Student Employability, Research, and Knowledge Sharing

AU's partnership with Hikvision supports SDG 4 - Quality Education and SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth by enhancing students' employable skills and fostering research opportunities. The collaboration features a 16-week internship at <u>Hikvision</u>, offering students practical industry experience and skills that align with job market needs. This initiative also facilitates direct employment pathways through job opening insights provided by Hikvision.



Additionally, the partnership includes webinars, seminars, and workshops to equip students with both hard and soft skills. Hikvision will serve as an advisory partner in curriculum development, ensuring it reflects current industry standards. The collaboration also involves research initiatives and knowledge sharing, with Hikvision consulting on solution design, digital transformation, and machine learning. Special discounts on products and solutions will be offered to the university community, further supporting research and innovation.

#### 2.2. Ajman University and Cairo University Forge Strategic Partnership

Ajman University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Cairo University to enhance collaboration in training and media production, benefiting students by developing their skills and preparing them for the job market. The agreement, signed by Dr. Hossam Salama, Dean of the College of Mass Communication at AU, and Dr. Hanan Guneid, Dean of the Faculty of Mass Communication at Cairo University, emphasizes fostering partnerships in research and academics.



The MoU includes adopting the latest training programs and workshops focused on strategic challenges in media and communication, all supervised by specialists in the field. The signing ceremony was attended by key representatives from both universities, highlighting Ajman University's commitment to building strong partnerships and facilitating the exchange of experiences among students and faculty. This collaboration supports AU's mission to enhance educational opportunities and improve career prospects for its students.

#### 2.3. Ajman University Launches the International Arab Conference on Information Technology

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Humaid Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi, Ajman University hosted the 24th edition of the International Arab Conference on Information Technology (ACIT'2023) from December 6 to 8, 2023. The event was organized in collaboration with the Colleges of Computer and Information Society, affiliated with the Association of Arab Universities, and in partnership with the IEEE - UAE Section. It brought together 140 researchers from 25 countries, with over 140 research papers presented in 24 scientific sessions. Notable attendees included Prof. Khaled Assaleh, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Ajman University, Prof. Amr Ezzat Salameh, Secretary General of the Association of Arab Universities, and Prof. Muhammed Hassan, Secretary General of the Colleges of Computing and Information Society.





The conference emphasized the importance of partnerships between educational institutions and leading technology companies to drive digital transformation and sustainable progress across sectors like health, education, and the economy. Discussions covered key innovations in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and the Internet of Things, with a focus on preparing students for the evolving job market by offering advanced educational programs and developing specialized human capital in IT and AI.

#### 2.4. Dana Binmahmood Contributes to Masfoot Health Resort Research Project

Dana Binmahmood, a distinguished senior student at Ajman University, is making significant progress in a collaborative research project with Ajman Municipality focused on a health resort in Masfoot, Ajman. Guided by Dr. Arar and organized by Eng. Noor Al Yafei, Eng. Nashwa Shiqwarah, and Eng. Maryam Alhumrani, project merges architectural innovation with wellness. Dana's work, set to be unveiled in the upcoming second reflects the university's



commitment to addressing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and delivering impactful solutions for community health and well-being.

#### 2.5. College of Pharmacy Participated with a Novel Project in the Sharjah Sustainability Award

Doaa Rafik and Mira Samir, students from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at AU, under the supervision of Dr. Nihal Ibrahim, participated in the 11th cycle of the <a href="Sharjah Sustainability Award">Sharjah Sustainability Award</a> with an innovative project. Their project, shortlisted by evaluators, focused on "Human and Environmental Health Protection."

With support from the Ajman University Innovation Center, the students designed a smart drug disposal technique that ensures safe disposal of medical waste, protecting both the environment and community health by preventing environmental hazards.



2.6. <u>Emerging Media Talent: Students Showcase Diverse Graduation Projects on Sustainability and Technology</u>

AU's College of Mass Communication showcased 11 student graduation projects as part of its research program, emphasizing sustainability and aligning with UN SDGs, particularly SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 15 (Life on Land). Under the supervision of Dr. Amal Badr, 27 media projects were presented, including music videos, advertisements, and documentaries. These works highlighted the consequences of unsustainable practices, promoted environmental preservation, and addressed contemporary challenges like cybercrime and Al. The session demonstrated the students' creativity in producing impactful media content focused on real-world issues.





#### 2.7. AU Students Emerge as Winners at the American University of the Emirates Research Competition

A team of students from AU's College of Medicine (AUCOM) secured first place in the 'Medical Disciplines Projects' category at the 6th Annual Student Research Competition (AUESRC) 2023. Their research, titled "Hand Hygiene – Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) among University Students in the UAE Amid and Post Covid-19," provided valuable insights into hygiene practices during and after the pandemic. This project aligns with UN SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by promoting health awareness and hygiene.



Supervised by AUCOM faculty, the students outperformed 29 teams from across the UAE and the Arab region, showcasing AU's commitment to research excellence.

#### 2.8. CBA Students Place 2nd in National Undergraduate Research Competition

The 10th edition of the Undergraduate Research Competition (URC) took place on May 18th, 2023, at Abu Dhabi University under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi, UAE Minister of Education. The URC promotes scientific research among undergraduates in the GCC and MENA regions, aiming to integrate research into university education, enhance career prospects, and foster innovation. In 2023, over 400 research



projects from more than 1,100 students across 14 countries were submitted, with 59 teams receiving prizes in 19 categories. AU's CBA team, comprising Malak Elbagalaty, Rahaf Amjad, and Ayshagul Mustafa, won 2nd prize in the Management category for their project on diversity management's

impact on employee performance in the UAE. The team was supervised by Dr. Maher Itani and mentored by Dr. Rekha Pillai.

#### 2.9. CAAD Student Awards 2023 Recognize Excellence in Architecture and Interior Design

On March 20, 2023, Ajman University's College of Architecture, Art & Design (CAAD) hosted its third annual CAAD Student Awards, highlighting research and innovation in sustainable design.

 Hisham Ihab Moustafa won Best Architecture Project for his innovative use of shipping containers, which promotes sustainability by



transforming waste materials into adaptable, eco-friendly buildings.

- Jayizha Pilachery earned Best Generative Design for her research-driven parametric towers
  designed with Autodesk Dynamo, showcasing how generative design can enhance material
  efficiency and sustainability.
- Hadil Mahrous, awarded Best Architecture Graduation Project, presented a socially and environmentally sustainable housing design that blends cultural and historical influences, demonstrating the integration of research and innovation in addressing both cultural and environmental needs.

These projects underscore the vital role of research and innovation in advancing sustainable architectural practices.

#### 2.10. Successful Graduation Project Discussions in the Department of Psychology at CoHS

The Department of Psychology at the College of Humanities and Sciences recently hosted graduation project discussions supervised by Dr. Alaa Al-Sharif, attended by Dean Dr. Mohamed Al-Taher and Head of Department Dr. Rasha Abdel Rahman. Α distinguished committee, including Dr. Ahmed AlZubi, Dr. Marai Ahmed, and Dr. Abdel-Rahim



Benlahsen, evaluated the impressive research presentations, which attracted notable figures from the mental health and special education sectors, along with parents and fellow students.



The projects demonstrated remarkable depth, tackling relevant issues such as "Psychological Hardiness and its Relationship to Professional Burnout among Abu Dhabi Government Employees" and "Basic Psychological Needs and their Impact on Forming Some Patterns of Thinking among University Students." The discussions were rich and engaging, garnering unanimous praise from academic professionals and industry leaders for the high quality of work. This event not only showcased academic excellence but also facilitated valuable exchanges in the mental health and education fields, highlighting the significance of fostering a culture of achievement and innovation within the Psychology Department.

#### 2.11. CBA Professor is a Distinguished Speaker at COP-28

Dr. Gyanendra Sisodia, Professor of Strategic Management, was an invited speaker at the COP-28 summit, which brought together a global community of policymakers, academics, and practitioners to address ongoing environmental challenges. He presented on 'Business Valuation Strategy for New Hydroponic Farm Development' at the Innovation@UAE Majlis, a series organized by the UAE Ministry of Education to highlight important research. Prof. Gyanendra is a noted researcher on sustainability, with publications in



leading journals such as Renewable Energy and Sustainable Cities and Society.

#### 2.12. Prof. Asma Al Arab Wins Second Place in Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award

Prof. Asma Al Arab, from the College of Humanities and Sciences, Department of Sociology, has secured second place in the 40th Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award. Her impactful research focuses on critical aspects of food security and sustainable green cities. This achievement reflects Professor Asma's deep commitment to addressing vital societal issues and significantly enriches academic discourse.



#### 2.13. Dr. Muna Salameh Earns Elsevier Recognition for Impactful Research

Dr. Muna Salameh, Assistant Professor at the College of Architecture, Art and Design, was recognized by Elsevier for her open-access paper. Her research supports UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 8 (economic growth and employment) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), addressing global challenges and offering solutions for critical social, economic, and environmental issues.



#### 2.14. Alaa Al Amiry Presents Groundbreaking Emergency Response Research at Arab Conference

Alaa Al Amiry's innovative research, "Economic Insights to Optimize Chain of Survival in Emergency Response," garnered acclaim at the 1st Arab Council Scientific Resuscitation Conference in Dubai. Collaborating with Dr. Sahel Alrousan, integrated economic principles into emergency response studies enhance decision-making and training life-saving procedures. interdisciplinary approach represents significant advancement emergency response strategies.



#### 2.15. Prof. Kamran Arshad Presents Cutting-Edge Drone Detection Research at IEEE CICN 2023

Prof. Kamran Arshad, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, recently represented University at the prestigious IEEE Conference International on Computational Intelligence and Communication Networks Bangkok. He presented a research paper titled "Pre-trained Deep Learning Networks for Advanced Visible Imagery Drone Detection and Recognition," a collaborative project with the Center of



Excellence in Intelligent Engineering Systems at King Abdulaziz University and the Artificial Intelligence Research Center at Ajman University.



## 3. Development of Educational Resources

#### 3.1. Sustainability Lifelong Learning

AU is committed to sustainability education, ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills to build a sustainable future. Sustainability education is mandatory for the AU community and encompasses a wide range of topics. The Climate Action Learning Program offers a series of training courses in collaboration with Coursera, the United Nations Climate Change Learning Partnership, and the UN Institute for Training and Research. These courses cover essential topics such as Climate Change, Sustainable Finance, Green and Circular Economy, Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action, Renewable Energy, Preventing E-waste, Food Waste Prevention, Human Health and Climate Change, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Environmental sustainability training also includes critical areas like resource conservation, energy efficiency, transitioning to renewable energy, decarbonization, and Net-zero strategies. Social impact training addresses social responsibility, diversity, equity and inclusion, and community engagement. Participants receive sustainability training annually, with sustainability integrated into the curriculum, workshops, and initiatives, empowering the AU community to contribute to Net-zero goals and positive social change.

To view a detailed list of all previous trainings, please follow the links below:

**Environmental Sustainability Training Click Here** 

Social Impact Training Click Here

#### 3.2. AU Heads Towards a More Sustainable Future with COP 28 Roadshow

AU's Office of Sustainability successfully organized the "COP28 Roadshow" under the slogan "Greening Our Youth, Our Campus, and Our Skills Towards a More Sustainable Future." This initiative, in alignment with AU's participation in the Universities Climate Network (UCN), engaged the AU community in climate-related issues in preparation for the COP28 conference.



The roadshow featured interactive activities, workshops, and research initiatives centered on environmental education and the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, incorporating a gamification approach to enhance learning and engagement. Highlights included the "Climate Call Hackathon," in collaboration with UAE Independent Climate Change Accelerators (UICCA), which challenged students to develop innovative solutions for climate issues such as water scarcity and clean energy. Additionally, the "Climate Fresk" workshop by Goumbook emphasized community involvement in climate action. AU demonstrated its commitment to sustainability and support for the UAE's COP28 preparations through active leadership and participation in these initiatives.







#### 3.3. Volunteering Opportunities with INJAZ-UAE

AU actively promoted volunteering opportunities in collaboration with <a href="INJAZ-UAE">INJAZ-UAE</a>, an NGO, recruiting 30 volunteers for the "Youth Entrepreneurs Competition" held in Dubai from October 30 to November 3, 2022. Volunteers took on leadership roles, guiding teams from over 13 countries.

This initiative supports UN SDG 4 (Quality Education) by providing participants with hands-on experience while contributing to the personal and professional development of young entrepreneurs. The collaboration



between Ajman University and INJAZ-UAE underscores their shared commitment to education and fostering entrepreneurship among the youth.

#### 3.4. <u>BEEAH Education and Ajman University Recognize Students' Innovations for a Sustainable Future</u>

BEEAH Education, a leading Sharjah-based NGO established in 2007 as a public-private partnership, and Ajman University recently celebrated the winners of the 'Sustainability for Entrepreneurship & Innovation' competition, a joint initiative by the Institute of Environmental Management and Sustainability (IEMS) and the College of Business Administration (CBA). The four-day event included workshops and practical insights, with IEMS offering courses on sustainability, circular economy, and innovation. Participants also toured BEEAH Group's advanced waste management facility, which boasts a 90% landfill waste diversion rate.



Hind Al Huwaidi, Chief Education Officer at BEEAH Group, highlighted the competition's role in empowering youth for a sustainable future. At the finale, three winning ideas were selected, including 'GREENSIP,' an eco-friendly beverage bottle with a plantable seed, and 'BIOFAB,' a bio-machine turning



cooking oil into biodiesel. Supported by IEMS Academy's training, the event equipped students with the tools to develop innovative sustainability solutions, aligning with the UAE's development goals.

# 3.5. <u>Pharmacy Students are Active Participants in the 23rd Inter College Environmental Public Speaking</u> Competition

A dedicated team from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Ajman University, including Nazanin Ajam, Shahad Tayseer, and Maha Naeem, under the supervision of Dr. Nihal Ibrahim, represented the college at the Inter-College Environmental Speaking Competition hosted by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), an NGO. The competition's topic, "Rising Energy Demands: Satiable with Renewable Energy or Oil Indispensable?"



provided a platform for exploring global energy challenges.

The students delved into the complexities of energy demands and refined their public speaking skills, discussing the environmental, economic, and long-term implications of renewable energy versus conventional oil. This experience not only enhanced their ability to communicate complex ideas but also contributed to the development of educational resources on sustainable energy.

The event supports UN SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) by fostering dialogue on sustainable energy solutions and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), reflecting Ajman University's collaboration with EEG through an MOU to advance environmental and educational objectives.

#### 3.6. CBA and INJAZ UAE Facilitate Engaging Sustainability Workshop

In partnership with **INJAZ UAE**, a non-profit organization dedicated to youth development and sustainability, the CBA Management Department organized a dynamic workshop on sustainability for students. Led by seasoned sustainability professional Ms. Khulood Hindiye, the interactive session covered a wide range of topics, including climate change,



entrepreneurship opportunities, and the Middle East's performance in waste management. Ms. Hindiye emphasized potential careers in sustainability and shared insights on integrating CSR into private sector strategies. Her expertise and commitment to volunteerism enriched the session, aligning with the university's vision of developing socially responsible business leaders.