



جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



17.4.4

Sustainability Literacy

Year 2025



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17.4.4 Sustainability Literacy

Ajman University systematically develops, measures, and strengthens sustainability literacy among its students through an integrated framework combining certified learning opportunities, direct knowledge assessment, and participant feedback.

The University's principal initiatives include the [Sustainability Lifelong Learning Program](#), the [AU Climate Action Learning Program](#), [UCN Decarbonization Academy](#), and the University-developed **Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge (ASK)**. These are complemented by satisfaction surveys that evaluate participants' perceptions of sustainability-focused learning activities and support continuous improvement.

Through the AU Climate Action Learning Program, students and other members of the community can access certified courses developed or hosted by international organizations and learning platforms, including UN CC, UNITAR, EAUC, Coursera, GIZ, and PAGE. Many of these courses require participants to complete quizzes, achieve prescribed passing scores, or fulfil other assessed requirements before receiving certification. These assessments provide evidence of participants' acquisition and retention of sustainability-related knowledge and competencies.

AU complements these external course assessments with ASK, its institutional sustainability-literacy assessment. The satisfaction surveys administered by the Office of Sustainability provide an additional quality-assurance mechanism by evaluating the relevance, delivery, and perceived value of sustainability learning experiences. Together, these mechanisms enable the University to assess sustainability knowledge, monitor learning outcomes, and use the findings to strengthen its sustainability education programmes.

The three principal components of AU's sustainability-literacy framework are presented below:

1. [Empowering the Community for a Sustainable Future: Climate Change Training Courses](#)

In a world facing the escalating threat of climate change, Ajman University stands as a beacon of knowledge and action, offering comprehensive resources for training courses to equip individuals and communities with the skills and understanding necessary to address this pressing global challenge. Our diverse range of programs caters to a wide audience, from students and educators to professionals and concerned citizens, empowering each participant to become an agent of positive change.

AU 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.

The courses cover a wide range of topics such as Climate Change (SDG 13), Sustainable Finance (SDG 8, SDG 12, SDG 13), Green and Circular Economy (SDG 9, SDG 12, SDG 13), Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action (SDG 5, SDG 10, SDG 13), Renewable Energy (SDG 7, SDG 13), Preventing E-waste (SDG 12), Food Waste Prevention (SDG 2, SDG 12, SDG 13), Human Health and Climate Change (SDG 3, SDG 13), and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 4, SDG 17) and more.

- [Environmental Sustainability Training up to 2025](#)
- [Social Impact Training up to 2025](#)

Sample Training and Course Certificates

- Training Provided by the Office of Sustainability through it UCN Decarbonization Academy



- Training Organized by the Office of Sustainability and Delivered by an NGO [INJAZ UAE](#)

Ajman University's [Green Entrepreneurship Program](#) empowered students to develop innovative sustainability ventures. Projects included Planet Pioneers, which converts desalination brine into eco-friendly concrete bricks, and Green Visionaries, which proposed an AI-powered waste-recycling facility supported by a mobile application and e-mobility trucks. The program promotes youth entrepreneurship and practical solutions for a greener UAE.



1.1. Courses Available through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Platform

1.1.1. Becoming a Climate Champion

Becoming a Climate Champion is a self-paced online course developed by UN CC:Learn and UN Climate Change's Youth4Capacity. Open to students, entrepreneurs, professionals, government personnel, NGO workers, and the wider community, it strengthens participants' capacity to develop effective and inclusive climate-action initiatives.

The three-hour course covers leadership, project management, resource mobilization, inclusive and gender-responsive action, and communication. Learners who complete all five modules and achieve at least 70% in the final assessment receive a certificate of completion.



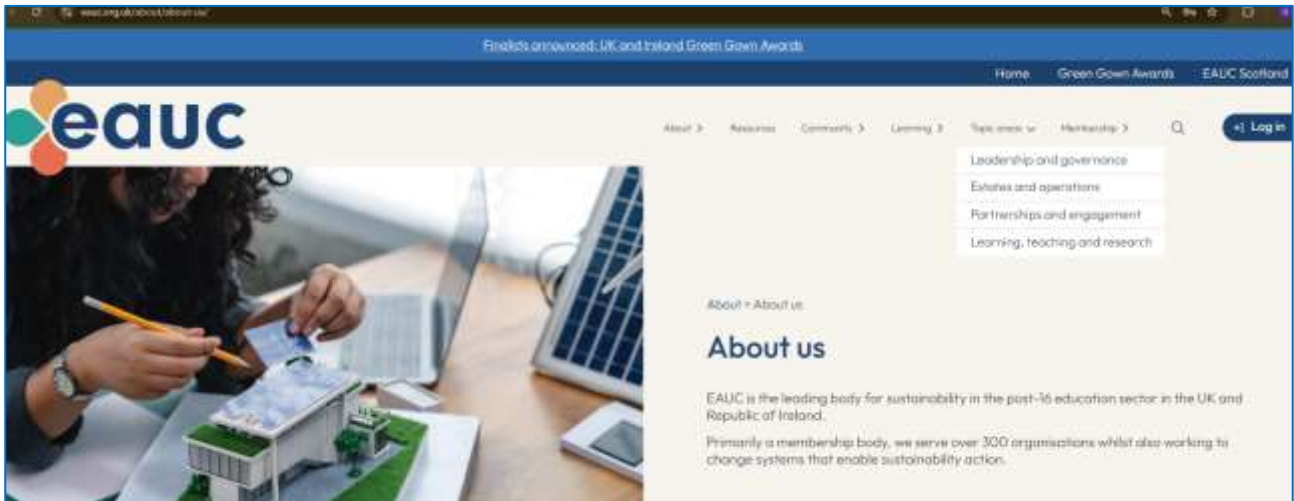
1.1.2. Introduction to Sustainable Development in Practice

The course explores the relationship between poverty and the environment and explains the importance of an integrated approach to sustainable development. It covers policy drivers, global and regional trends, implementation challenges, enabling conditions, and opportunities for addressing poverty and environmental issues together. Participants complete four modules and a final assessment to receive a certificate of completion.



- Courses accessible through [Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges \(EAUC\) Platform](#)

[Ajman University's membership](#) in the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) connects the AU community with a global network advancing sustainability in education. Free membership is available to all AU students, faculty, and staff, providing access to specialized resources, events, best practices, and opportunities for collaboration with sustainability leaders. The partnership strengthens sustainability learning, institutional practices, and collective action aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



In addition to certified sustainability training courses, Ajman University has developed its own assessment tool — the Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge (ASK), modeled after Sulitest, to evaluate and enhance the community's sustainability literacy.

2. Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge (ASK)

Building a Sustainability-Literate AU Community

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability developed the **Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge (ASK)**, a 30-question institutional tool designed to directly assess and strengthen sustainability literacy among students, faculty, and staff. By evaluating knowledge rather than relying solely on participant perceptions, ASK enables AU to examine participants' understanding and retention of key sustainability concepts.



The assessment covers four principal areas:

- **Sustainability Basics:** Assesses understanding of the foundational concepts and principles of sustainability.
- **Environmental Principles and Solutions:** Examines knowledge of environmental challenges, their causes, and potential solutions.
- **Social and Economic Impacts:** Evaluates awareness of the social and economic dimensions of sustainable development.
- **UN Sustainable Development Goals:** Assesses knowledge of the SDGs and their application within local and global contexts.

2.1. Use of Assessment Results

ASK serves two complementary purposes:

1. **Programme Evaluation:** Aggregated results enable the Office of Sustainability to evaluate the effectiveness of its training sessions, programmes, and initiatives; identify areas requiring improvement; and ensure that learning activities respond to the needs of the AU community.
2. **Learning-Outcomes Measurement:** Instructors teaching SDG-aligned courses may use ASK as a consistent tool for assessing student learning outcomes. The results provide insights into students' comprehension of sustainability concepts and can inform improvements in teaching content and approaches.

All AU students, faculty, and staff are invited to complete [ASK](#) and evaluate their sustainability knowledge. The assessment recorded **436 responses**. Selected screenshots from the ASK results dashboard are presented below to demonstrate the response distributions across the sustainability knowledge items.

Figure 2.1. Selected results from the Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge dashboard.



3. Office of Sustainability Activities

Complementing the direct measurement of sustainability literacy through ASK, the [Office of Sustainability](#) advances sustainability learning by engaging the AU community in workshops, courses, volunteering activities, and field-based initiatives. To monitor the quality and perceived effectiveness of these learning experiences, the Office systematically collects participant feedback. During Academic Year 2024–2025, surveys covering 17 sustainability, climate-action, and student-engagement activities generated **770 responses**, with a reported **100% response rate** and a response-weighted average of **4.51 out of 5 (90.16%)**. The findings support continuous improvement by informing the refinement of activity content and delivery and the expansion of sustainability-learning opportunities for students and the wider community.

3.1. Office of Sustainability Activities Satisfaction Survey Analysis Report (Academic Year 2024–2025)

The Activities Satisfaction Survey collected **770 responses** across a range of sustainability, climate action, and student engagement activities. The results indicate a consistently high level of participant satisfaction, with an **overall average rating of 4.51 out of 5 or 90.16%**.

Sustainability Activities Satisfaction Survey Analysis Report (AY 2024–2025)

Activity Name	Responses Received	Mean Score	Satisfaction Rate
Climate Fresk Workshop- AU Winter Study Tour Program 2025	56	4.68	93.57%
Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability and Climate Action (2024)	46	4.72	94.35%
First Aid Awareness Session	126	4.56	91.27%
Green Entrepreneurship Program 2025	21	4.81	96.19%
Green Entrepreneurship Program 2025 Pitch Day	23	4.35	86.96%
Greening Communities_ Mangrove Planting	50	4.70	94.00%
Industrial Visit (Emirates RDF)- AU Winter Study Tour Program 2025	19	4.37	87.37%
Mangrove Champions - Planting by UAE Year of Sustainability (2024)	21	4.62	92.38%
Mangrove Planting and Cleanup (2024)	22	4.86	97.27%
National Day Recycled Sustainability Booth (2024)	36	4.61	92.22%
Sustainable Agriculture Session- AU Winter Study Tour Program 2025	33	4.67	93.33%
Sustainable Handcrafting Workshop- AU Winter Study Tour Program 2025	35	4.31	86.29%
UCN Decarbonization Academy	86	4.42	88.37%
UCN Decarbonization Academy - Consideration for Improving energy efficiency	70	4.36	87.14%
UCN Decarbonization Academy - Drafting a Climate Action Plan	48	4.31	86.25%
UCN Decarbonization Academy - Introduction to Climate and Carbon Literacy	29	4.24	84.83%

Activity Name	Responses Received	Mean Score	Satisfaction Rate
UCN Decarbonization Academy - Navigating Data Collection & Emission Calculation	49	4.24	84.90%
Total Average	770	4.51	90.16%

3.2. UCN Decarbonization Academy

Ajman University launched the [UCN Decarbonization Academy](#) in collaboration with the American University of Sharjah and New York University Abu Dhabi. Through expert-led workshops, the Academy develops participants' knowledge and practical skills in climate-action planning and carbon literacy (**SDGs 4 and 13**), emissions data collection and calculation (**SDGs 12 and 13**), and energy efficiency (**SDG 7**). Recordings and presentation materials are also made available to extend access to sustainability learning. The initiative strengthens inter-university collaboration and supports the transition towards institutional carbon neutrality (**SDG 17**). The initiative strengthens inter-university collaboration and supports the transition towards institutional carbon neutrality (**SDG 17**). Moreover, AU also collects attendee feedback following each session to evaluate its perceived relevance and quality and to inform the continuous improvement of the Academy.



UCN Decarbonization Academy
Be the change. Decarbonize your institution.
Free | Online | Monthly starting February 2025

Dates & Topics:
Monday, February 24 - Drafting a Climate Action Plan
Monday, March 31 - Introduction to Climate and Carbon Literacy
Monday, April 28 - Navigating Data Collection & Emissions Calculation
Monday, May 26 - Considerations for Improving Energy Efficiency

Make Real Change - Gain practical skills, connect with experts, and lead the movement towards a carbon neutral community!
Open to all learners, educators, professionals, and sustainability advocates.
Don't miss this chance to be a sustainability leader in your community!
Certificates of attendance will be provided

3.2.1. UCN Decarbonization Academy Survey and Certificate

All sessions are offered free of charge. Following each session, attendees complete the relevant survey, after which a certificate of participation is generated automatically.



3.2.2. Sample UCN Decarbonization Academy Survey Report

